

# Regional Member Guide:

Information for MCCA Members Located Outside of Winnipeg



## Manitoba Child Care Association

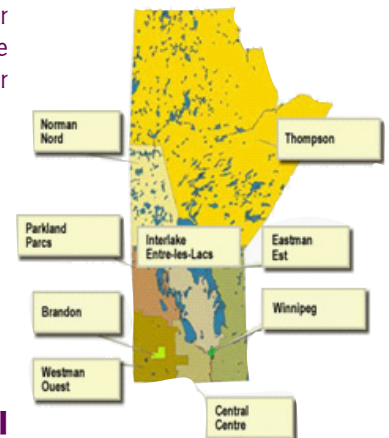
MCCA members who live outside of Winnipeg can access many of the same services, resources, and information about early learning and care as urban members. Regional members can attend professional development events that are planned and promoted by MCCA's regional branches and offered in a central location within the region. Members are welcome to attend professional development events offered in any other region and in Winnipeg as well.

### What is a regional branch?

A regional branch is formed by local MCCA members who volunteer their time to carry out MCCA's mandate in the region. There is a Regional Board elected by the members in the region, who arrange professional development, communicate member concerns and needs to the Provincial Board, and lead advocacy activities in the region. Active branches are eligible to receive a rebate of 7.5% of membership dues paid by local members to help fund activities for members in the region.

### Current active branches are located in:

Central Region      Interlake Region      Parklands Region  
South Central Region      Thompson Region      Westman Region



*(note that Central & South Central Regions are combined)*

### I live in a region that doesn't have an active branch. Who organizes professional development for me?

MCCA head office will arrange at least one professional development activity annually for members in inactive regions. Information will be included in the workshop brochure in each fall and winter issue of Child Care Bridges magazine, and may also be sent by email to your child care centre. A minimum number of registrants must participate in order for the professional development activity to be held.

### Who is your local contact on the MCCA regional branch board?

Names of Regional chairpersons are listed at [www.mccahouse.org](http://www.mccahouse.org) under "Contact Us" or you can call MCCA at 1-888-323-4676 and ask for the contact information. Call your regional branch chairperson to ask about workshops, conferences, volunteering, or to learn more about what the branch can offer you.

### How are you notified when there is a workshop or member event in your region?

- Most regional branches notify your child care centre; some branches send information directly to individual members.

- You can look on the Regional Branch Page at [www.mccahouse.org](http://www.mccahouse.org)
- You can read the regional news page in each issue of Child Care Bridges.
- You can read about upcoming workshops in the fall and winter issues of Child Care Bridges.

## **Do regional branches have resources to lend to members in their region?**



Some do, and that information is available on the Regional Branch Pages on our website [www.mccahouse.org](http://www.mccahouse.org)

### **How you borrow books, videos, or curriculum kits from MCCA's resource library in Winnipeg?**

Go to our website [www.mccahouse.org](http://www.mccahouse.org), click on Professional Development, then Lending Library and review the list of resources available for borrowing. We will mail books and video's to you. You can return the books using the postage paid return mail labels we will provide to you.

We will ship curriculum kits to you by bus however you are responsible for shipping costs.

For more information or to book resources, contact Lisa at 1-888-323-4676 or [lmaloney@mccahouse.org](mailto:lmaloney@mccahouse.org)

## **How do you find out what's happening in child care in Manitoba and what's new at MCCA?**

MCCA's website has all the latest information and is accessible to all members 24/7 via the internet. [www.mccahouse.org](http://www.mccahouse.org)

If you need help finding something, use the Google Custom Search located right on the homepage.

## **What if I have questions and want to talk to someone at MCCA?**

You can talk to any MCCA employee by calling toll-free 1-888-323-4676 or if your question is about a local issue, call your regional branch chairperson.

## **What do you need to do to get maximum benefit from your MCCA membership?**

- Read each issue of MCCA's Child Care Bridges and the CCCF Interaction magazines from cover to cover!
- Visit the MCCA website weekly for recent updates and new information. Make [www.mccahouse.org](http://www.mccahouse.org) your homepage!
- Be sure to notify MCCA immediately if your contact information changes!
- Contact the regional branch chairperson if you have questions, ideas for professional development, or if you would like to volunteer for your regional branch!
- Attend the professional development workshops and events offered by your region! Cancelling workshops due to low enrollment is very discouraging for the volunteer organizers!
- Plan to travel to Winnipeg for our annual provincial conference, held at the end of May annually. MCCA provides travel subsidy for rural members and the Minister of Family Services allows centres to close for either the Thursday or Friday of conference if they remain open on Easter Monday.
- If you are enrolled in MCCA's group benefits plan with Health Source Plus, use the wellness resources offered at [www.healthsourceplus.com](http://www.healthsourceplus.com) and by Ceridian at [www.lifeworks.com](http://www.lifeworks.com). Management assistance is available for plan members at [www.posactionplus.com](http://www.posactionplus.com)
- If you are enrolled in MCCA's Simplified Money Purchase Pension Plan with Industrial Alliance, monitor your investments and use the retirement tracker resources online at [www.inalco.com](http://www.inalco.com)
- Associate members and those that provide licensed family child care are welcome to join the regional branch board and to participate in all workshops offered by the regional branch.