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## USCC Children's Orchard Preschool

Hello, my name is Iryna Mykhaylova and I am excited to be the new educator at Children's Orchard Preschool in the coming school season. I recently successfully completed my Early Childhood Education studies and practicum at Selkirk College. I was born and raised in Ukraine, immigrated to Canada in 2008 and became a Canadian citizen of this beautiful country. I have two wonderful children who attended the Orchard preschool and, at



that time, I was very impressed with the program. I love working with children and was motivated to attain my ECE certification. I plan to continue my studies toward a full diploma in the next 2 years.

I believe that each child deserves to have the best education they can and I am very passionate about this. I truly think that all children are bright and curious from the moment they are born and each of them is a unique person and will bring something new and special to the program. I am looking forward to the opportunity to work, guide and motivate children to go beyond and above their interests and to enjoy this fun adventure with all of you.

## Meet Your Teachers

Hi there! My name is Dawn Hadikin and I am delighted to have the opportunity to meet you and your wonderful children and to be a part of the Children's Orchard Preschool. I grew up in Castlegar and although I've done quite a bit of travelling, the Kootenays have always called me back home. You may recognize me from other programs in the community including Blueberry Play to Learn Preschool, CBAL's Mother Goose, after school care and family nights, or the Canskate ses-

sions. I have a BSc. In Psychology with an English Minor and CELTA certification for teaching ESL, as well as many other certifications pertaining to child care work. I have worked in Child & Youth Care for over a decade in various facilities and locations. I even worked as a youth staff on RCCL cruise ships in their award winning Ad-



venture Ocean program, and as an assistant manager in kids club at a top rated resort in the Maldives. Travel, exploring, nature, crafting, singing, writing, reading, and practicing the Russian language are all interests and hobbies of mine. I like to stay active, and enjoy hiking, skating and scuba diving. I hold a great respect for

for my Doukhobor heritage and enjoy learning about the history and preserving the culture through language, singing and carrying on traditions. I am a strong advocate for children to have exposure to other languages, time in nature and learning through free play and exploration with gentle assistance and guidance when needed. I am a proud Tyota (Auntie) and love spending as much quality time as possible with my niece Nevay and nephew Onyx!