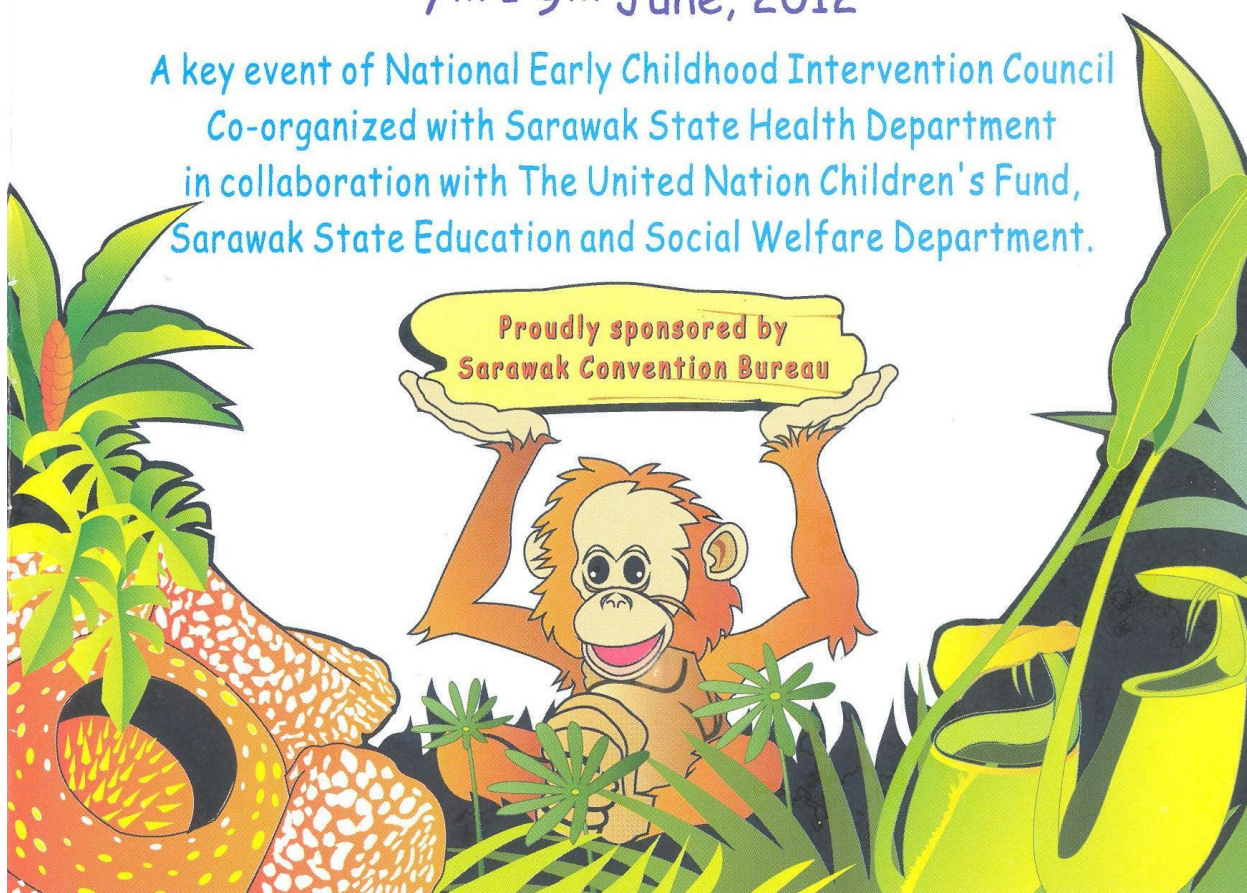




Theme: Family-centered Practices -  
early childhood intervention and beyond  
Kingwood Hotel, Sibu, Sarawak

7th - 9th June, 2012

A key event of National Early Childhood Intervention Council  
Co-organized with Sarawak State Health Department  
in collaboration with The United Nation Children's Fund,  
Sarawak State Education and Social Welfare Department.





Dear colleagues, friends and parents,

We are delighted to invite you to attend the 4<sup>th</sup> National Early Childhood Intervention Conference (NECIC) at Kingwood Hotel, Sibu, Sarawak, Malaysia, from 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2012. This date coincides with the Sarawak's Gawai or Harvest Festival.

NECIC is a unique opportunity to meet experts from this field, attend high quality sessions and gain updates on evidence-based practice as well as practical advice related to early childhood intervention. We are proud to have attracted a number of outstanding and prominent speakers, both international and local, to speak at this conference centering on the theme: "Family-centred practices - early childhood intervention and beyond".

Participants will be exposed to different opinions as well as novel interventions and practices. They will also benefit from meeting and interacting with world-renowned specialists and establish international collaborations. This is also a good opportunity to hear parents and families sharing their life experiences first hand.

We have tried to make the conference as interactive as possible. The sessions will include plenary lectures, concurrent seminars, practical workshops, parents-sharing, meet-the-expert sessions and free paper presentations. We are delighted to introduce the tentative programme proposed by our Scientific Programmes Committee and the speakers.

Thus far, we have received more than 200 registrations from all over Malaysia, as well as those from Singapore, Brunei, Sri Lanka, Iran, USA, UK, Indonesia, Pakistan and Australia, as well as calls from Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and Indonesia. Among the registrants are both the professionals and families/carers of special needs children. We believe that the charm of Sibu and the challenge of a dynamic scientific program will create a memorable experience for all.

*SELAMAT DATAI KE SIBU ! ( WELCOME TO SIBU ! ).*

With Warm Regards,  
The Local Organizing Committee  
1 March 2012

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#### Who should attend?

- Parents of children with special needs
- Early childhood education teachers and early childhood intervention workers
- Medical and education professionals caring for children with special needs
- Social welfare officers and community rehabilitation centre workers
- Policy-makers, ministry officers, community leaders involving in planning and implementing early childhood intervention programmes

#### Important dates to remember:

Registration (regular)	1 January - 31 March 2012
Late Registration	After 1 April 2012
Deadline for Submission of Full Papers	30 April 2012





## **Programme at a Glance**

Time	4 <sup>th</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> June, Tue	6 <sup>th</sup> June, Wed	7 <sup>th</sup> June, Thurs	8 <sup>th</sup> June, Fri	9 <sup>th</sup> June, Satur	10 <sup>th</sup> June, Sun
0800	Pre-conference Workshop	Pre-conference Workshop	Registration (For all Participants)	Meet the expert	Concurrent Session	One-day Social Tour (optional)
0830				Plenary 1		
0900						
1030				Tea & visit exhibitions		
1100				Concurrent Session / Children Colouring Contest	Plenary 2	
1230					Closing ceremony	
1300				Key Plenary	Lunch break	
1400		Registration (outstation participants only)	Opening Ceremony	Free papers	Half-day Social Tour (optional)	
1430				Posters viewing		
1530				NECI Council AGM		
1600		Social tour counter open	Tea & visit exhibitions			
1800			Concurrent Session	Free time Family takes the lead		
1900			Free Time	Dinner (optional)		
2100			Fellowship Dinner	Concurrent Session		

### OPENING CEREMONY (7<sup>th</sup> June, 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm)

- Welcoming Speech: Co-Chairs of LOC, Dato' Janet Lau Ung Hie and Kapitan Wong Hie Ching
- Keynote Address: President of National Early Childhood Intervention Council, Dato' Dr. Amar Singh HSS
- Opening Speech by Guest of Honour: YB Datuk Hajah Fatimah Abdullah, Sarawak State Minister in Welfare, Women and Family Development cum Chairman of Sarawak Children's Early Education Development Council

### KEY PLENARY (7<sup>th</sup> June, 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm)

- All children, the asset of our society (UNICEF)
- Building family-centred approaches in early childhood intervention: from principles to practice (Prof. Barry Carpenter)

### PLENARY SESSION 1 (8<sup>th</sup> June, 9:00 am - 10:30 am)

- The challenges of adopting a family-centred approach in Malaysia (Khor Ai-Na)
- Delivering appropriate services in rural and remote areas (Prof. Michael Churton)

### PLENARY SESSION 2 (9<sup>th</sup> June, 11:00 am - 12:30 pm)

National Key Result Areas for Special Needs Children

- Health (To' Puan Dr. Safurah bte Jaafah)
- Education (TBC)
- Social Welfare (TBC)

### MEET-THE-EXPERTS SESSION (8<sup>th</sup> June, 8:00 am - 9:00 am)

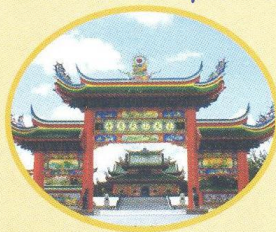
- Prof. Barry Carpenter & A/Prof. Koay Teng Leong - The roles of father and professional - Confused "kah"?
- Dr. Rick Jarman & A/Prof. Winnie Goh - Why increasing number of children, is it our air or "air"?
- Dato' Dr. Amar Singh HSS & Dr. Wong Woan Yiing - From paediatricians to children advocates
- A/Prof. Chuang Chiung-Hui and Mr. Lin Chao-Chen - 台湾的早期儿童疗育情况怎么样? (Early childhood intervention, what is it like in Taiwan?)



## General Information about Sibu!



Sibu, located in the heart of Sarawak on the island of Borneo, is the largest town along the mighty Rejang River, the longest river in Malaysia. Sibu is a multiracial town with a mix of Chinese, Iban, Melanau, Malay and other Sarawak indigenous peoples endowing it with a rich culture and varied local cuisine. Among the interesting landmarks in Sibu are Wisma Sanyan, a 28-storey shopping-cum-office complex and Sarawak's largest wet market. A few well established museums in the town display Sibu's history, including ethnic collections. The Lau King Howe Hospital Memorial Museum is a medical museum, the first of its kind in Malaysia.



### Important Information

- **Official Language:** English, unless otherwise specified. Please email or call us if you need **assistance with language** during the conference. 如果您在大会期间需要翻译或语言协助，请尽早电邮或致电联络我们。 Sila emel atau hubungi kami secepat mungkin jika anda perlu bantuan bahasa semasa konferens.
- **Group registration:** 10% discount for group registration (6 or more international delegates).
- **Child care service:** free for registered children, during the main conference period only.
- **Banks:** Banks are open every weekday (9am-4pm), and ATMs are common in Sibu town, where the banks are.
- **Currency:** The unit of currency is the **Ringgit (RM)**. US dollars and euros are easily changed at **exchange bureaus**, available at International Airports (Kuala Lumpur, Kuching and Kota Kinabalu) and Sibu town.
- **Credit cards:** Most hotels, car-rental, shops and restaurants accept Visa and MasterCard; Amex and Diner's are not as widely accepted. Budget hostels and hotels, and basic eateries usually accept cash only.
- **Climate:** In June, Sarawak is quite dry. Average temperature ranges between 25-32°C.
- **Time zone:** Malaysia is eight hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time and shares the same time zone as Singapore, Brunei Darussalam, Hong Kong, Beijing, Taipei and Perth.
- **Sibu Airport:** 24 KM away from the town and Kingwood Hotel. Taxi is available but they accept ringgit only. NECIC Organiser's reception counter operates between 10 am on 6<sup>th</sup> June and 1 pm on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2012.
- **Liability:** The organisers accept no liability for personal injuries sustained, or for loss of or damage to property belonging to delegates, incurred either during or as a result of the conference.

**Contact Information:** [NECIC2012@gmail.com](mailto:NECIC2012@gmail.com)



<http://agapesibu.org/about-us/necic2012/>

Tel: 60-84-217912 Fax: 60-84-213902