

## STUCKNESS - the condition underlying most problems

Not everyone grows up as they get older. The immaturity rampant among adults illustrates this fact. Kids who get stuck are prone to a diverse array of problems and disorders, which in turn, distract us from the root problem. After years of dealing with most every kind of difficulty and disorder, Dr. Neufeld has come to the conclusion that the construct of stuckness holds the most promise for making sense of troubled children as well as for opening doors for change.

Whether the presenting problem is aggression, impulsivity, depression, hyperactivity, bullying, resistance, anxiety, separation problems or chronic misbehaviour - or whether the diagnosis is autism, Aspergers, attentional deficit, fetal alcohol syndrome, attachment disorder, Tourettes, conduct disorder, oppositional defiant disorder, obsessive compulsive disorder - the best bet for understanding the dynamics involved and for effecting lasting change is through the construct of stuckness. Even in cases where the problem cannot be cured, resolving the stuckness can often lift the ceiling on development significantly.

In fact, most adult problems are extensions of this stuckness. Hence, understanding the dynamics of stuckness can greatly enhance one's effectiveness as an adult therapist as well, whether one is working with individuals, couples or families.

*For those who have never been exposed to Dr. Neufeld's material or have only had brief encounters through evening presentations or one-day seminars, here is a unique opportunity for a more extensive experience of education and interaction. In this WEEK INTENSIVE, Gordon shares his working model with us, enabling us to benefit from his years of conceptual integration and professional experience.*

### Location:

This course will be held in the conference facilities in the Vancouver Museum/Planetarium complex in Vanier Park, situated on beautiful waterfront grounds at the southern end of the Burrard Bridge. The conference room is truly a "room with a view" and conducive to contemplation. The grounds and seawall walk provide ample opportunities for strolling and reflection. There is plenty of free parking available for those with cars.

### Lodging:

We will be glad to provide information about hotels and B & B's that are in the vicinity or within easy access to the Planetarium. The Planetarium is about a four-block walk from the transit system and a five minute walk from the False Creek mini ferry system that connects to Granville Island and downtown.

### Lunches:

There are a number of interesting restaurants and eating places within a short-walking distance of the Planetarium, including the famous Siegal's Bagels, the popular Bread Garden Cafe and Kibune's for sushi. For those who wish to bring their own lunches, there is a fridge available for the participants to use. We will break for an hour and a quarter to allow for eating and walking.

### Schedule:

9 pm – 4 pm with a lunch break of an hour and a quarter. Coffee and muffins will be available from 8:30 am and nutrition breaks provided in the morning and afternoon.

### Registration will be limited:

To ensure quality interaction and maximum benefit from the experience, registration will be limited to 45 persons.

### Fees:

Tuition is \$695 (includes refreshments and course material). A 20 % discount is available for graduate students. Tuition fees will be fully refundable if cancellation is prior to two weeks before the course begins. A \$100 deposit is required to hold a space and the remainder is payable by June 15th. Tuition may be paid with credit card via PayPal if registering if paying the full amount immediately.

### Registration and information:

Register online at [www.GordonNeufeld.com](http://www.GordonNeufeld.com). Consult Dr. Neufeld's website for additional information. Enquiries can also be directed to [info@gordonneufeld.com](mailto:info@gordonneufeld.com).

### Brochures:

Brochures may be downloaded off Dr. Neufeld's website or ordered by phone.

### University Credit:

Can be arranged through Vancouver Island University. Consult the website for details.

## about Dr. Neufeld



Neufeld is a Vancouver-based developmental psychologist with over 35 years of experience with children and youth and those responsible for them. A foremost authority on child development, Dr. Neufeld is an international speaker, a bestselling author (*Hold On To Your Kids*) and a leading

interpreter of the developmental paradigm. Dr. Neufeld has a widespread reputation for making sense of complex problems and for opening doors for change. While formerly involved in university teaching and private practice, he now devotes his time to teaching and training others, including educators and helping professionals. He appears regularly on radio and television and is currently developing a series of video-courses for parent education. He is a father of five and a grandfather of three.

Dr. Neufeld's unique synthesis of the developmental literature and his exceptional ability to make children understandable has made him much in demand as a speaker. His style is dynamic, his approach is refreshing, and his effect is to affirm intuition. Dr. Neufeld consistently receives outstanding ratings for his courses and seminars.

More information about Gordon and his work is available on his website:

[www.GordonNeufeld.com](http://www.GordonNeufeld.com)

### **about Dr. Neufeld's approach**

In a world of fragmented knowledge, esoteric terminology, strategies divorced from their philosophical moorings, and a smorgasbord approach to treatment, Dr. Neufeld is a breath of fresh air. His comprehensive model has evolved from years of synthesis and distillation. The result is an integrated developmental approach rooted in depth psychology, grounded in the developmental paradigm, saturated in attachment theory, congruent with current neurological research and honed by thirty years of professional practice, parenting and personal reflection.

Gordon educates in a most engaging way, speaks with passion and compassion, and makes difficult concepts easily understood, regardless of one's degree of exposure to the psychological literature. Those who have heard him present, inevitably comment on how the material resonates with their deepest intuitions.

His developmental model provides a refreshing alternative to the current cognitive behavioural fare, as well as to the medical 'disorder' approach. His conceptual model has clear implications for practice and treatment, regardless of one's arena of involvement - child, adolescent, adult, marital or family.

### **Words from colleagues and participants in response to his presentations ...**

"Dr. Neufeld's originality, passion and commitment in forging a complete and comprehensive theory are refreshing."

"Blinding clarity! Some moments transcended knowledge and spoke directly to instinct."

"Finally, something I can relate to. I could feel it in my bones. The most refreshing material I have been exposed to in years and years of workshops and seminars. "

"I found it incredibly inspiring. Both the material and presentation are exciting and convincing. I came for answers and I got them."

*"The uniqueness of Gordon is that in a time of focusing on the superficial and specializing in the specifics, he goes for depth and the big picture. He leads us to a way of thinking and seeing that penetrates to the very essence of things and then opens doors for change."*

*Dr Neufeld unravels a perplexing array of problems to reveal a single underlying theme - stuckness - and a singularly effective approach to reversing the condition.*

### **Some topics to be covered:**

- the role of *attachment* in personality and behaviour
- the developmental paralysis that underlies a multitude of symptoms and problems in both children and adults
- the condition of being *defended against vulnerability* and the impact on functioning and behaviour
- *stuckness* as the most common problem of childhood.
- a three-pronged approach to effecting deep and lasting change
- the foundations of an attachment approach
- the problem with using consequences and sanctions with stuck kids
- a developmental analysis of aggression problems, counterwill problems and alarm problems
- the role of emotion in personality & behaviour
- ways to soften defenses against vulnerability
- three core interventions that prime the maturing processes
- developmentally friendly strategies for dealing with problems that result from stuckness
- problems with and alternatives to, separation-based discipline for stuck kids
- how to grow into effectiveness as a therapist

# **VANCOUVER 2009 WEEK INTENSIVE LEVEL ONE**

**Gordon Neufeld, Ph.D.**  
Developmental & Clinical Psychologist

## **MAKING SENSE of Kids**

The conceptual foundations of  
Dr. Neufeld's attachment-based  
developmental approach

**August 3 – 7**

(Level Two on *Challenging Childhood Problems* is being offered August 10 – 14, see website for details)

**The Vancouver Museum  
(in the Planetarium complex)  
Vancouver, B.C.**

This intensive is for those who would like more training in the attachment-based developmental paradigm Dr. Neufeld has developed. These courses are appropriate for all those who work with children or those responsible for them, as well as adults who are interested in parent coaching or consulting or applying this paradigm in the school setting.