

## ACT's 11th Annual Focus on Research Event

### ESSENCE

*What research is telling us about the need for inter-disciplinary collaboration to meet the needs of children with a range of neurodevelopmental conditions*

*Christopher Gillberg, MD, PhD*

*Director, Gillberg Neuropsychiatry Centre, University of Gothenburg, Sweden*

**Friday, March 27th, 2015**  
**SFU Harbour Centre, Vancouver, BC**  
**8:30 - 3:30**

#### About the Presentation (9:00 - 2:30)

Professor Christopher Gillberg, an internationally recognized researcher, has identified a major frustration of clinicians and families. Despite our attempts to draw firm diagnostic boundaries, many disorders (including ASD, attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder, oppositional defiant disorder, tic disorder, developmental coordination disorder) share symptoms — indeed, this is the rule rather than the exception in child psychiatry and developmental medicine.

The acronym ESSENCE (Early Symptomatic Syndromes Eliciting Neurodevelopmental Clinical Examinations), coined by Dr. Gillberg, refers to the reality of how children (and their parents) present in clinical settings. He draws on international research to make a compelling case that child symptoms, in at least one ESSENCE domain before age five, often signals major problems in later years. Over focus on ASD in young children could be a big mistake, especially as it may not be the major risk factor for issues including academic failure and adult/adolescent/adult social exclusion. Very few of these children will see more than one specialist, when they need the input of two or more to identify and treat overlapping symptoms. Given this reality, Dr. Gillberg makes a compelling case that if we want to achieve best outcomes, we need to recognize this reality: "There is no time to wait; something needs to be done, and that something is unlikely to be just in the area of speech and language, just in the area of autism or just in special education."



#### About the Presenter

**Christopher Gillberg, MD, PhD** is Professor of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at the University of Gothenburg, Sweden where he heads the Gillberg Neuropsychiatry Centre. He is also visiting or honorary Professor at the Universities of London, University College London (Institute of Child Health), University of Glasgow, University of Edinburgh, and Kochi University, Japan. For more information about Dr. Gillberg and the panel below, see the event details on the ACT website: [www.actcommunity.ca](http://www.actcommunity.ca).

#### Panel Discussion (2:30 - 3:30)

- Moderator: Vikram Dua, MD, FRCPC, Clinical Associate Professor, UBC
- Christopher Gillberg, MD, PhD
- Robin Friedlander, MD FRCPC, Clinical Head Neuropsychiatry Clinic, BCCH
- Kavita Kamat, MSW, MEd., BCBA, Clinical Director, posAbilities
- Alisa Lipson, MD, Clinical Assistant Professor, UBC; Developmental Pediatrician
- Charmaine Miranda, Ph.D., R.Psych., Clinical Instructor UBC
- Marilyn Noort, M.Sc., RSLP: Professional Practice Leader SLP, BCCH; Clinical Instructor, UBC
- Michelle Schmidt, PhD, District Principal Education Services, Surrey School District

# REGISTRATION FORM

## Focus on Research 2015: Essence



Please confirm your registration before booking your flight – cancellation insurance is recommended.

Name:	Home or Cell Phone:	
Organization:	Work Phone:	
Address:		
City:	Province/State:	Postal/Zip Code:
Email: (if you do not receive an email confirmation within a week, call ACT)	I wish to: <input type="checkbox"/> Receive periodic updates by post <input type="checkbox"/> Join ACT's confidential email list*	
Registration Type: <input type="checkbox"/> Professional (please specify): _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Para-Professional (please specify): _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Full-time Student (please include copy of student ID) <input type="checkbox"/> Person with ASD or other Special Need <input type="checkbox"/> Parent/Family Member of a person with ASD or Special Need	

\* We do not share personal information with any other organization or individual. See [www.actcommunity.ca/privacy-policy](http://www.actcommunity.ca/privacy-policy).

## Payment

**Payment Amount** (total of "My Cost" amounts below): \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **Date registration submitted:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Method of Payment:**  Cash     Cheque     MasterCard     VISA    To use your AFB funds for event payment, please call our office.

ACT is a not-for-profit society and is not required to charge HST or GST for live events.

Name on Card:	Signature:	
Card Number:	Expiry Date:	CVV Code:

In addition to registering online, you may also register by telephone using a credit card or fax to (604) 205-5345. Registrations are accepted only when accompanied by payment. Refunds for registration, less a \$25 handling charge, are available if ACT is informed in writing one week before the workshop date. Details of the cancellation policy are available at [www.actcommunity.ca](http://www.actcommunity.ca). Cheques that are not honoured will result in a loss of registration status. Bank charges incurred by ACT as a result of a NSF cheque are the responsibility of the registrant. Cheques or money orders should be made out to: ACT – Autism Community Training. Mail to: Suite 150, 2250 Boundary Road, Burnaby, B.C., Canada V5M 3Z3. If you have questions, email [info@actcommunity.ca](mailto:info@actcommunity.ca) or telephone 604-205-5467, toll-free 1-866-939-5188.

## Cost

**Many of ACT's events sell out – book early to ensure your spot!**

Event	Parents, Para-Pros & Students	Professionals	My Cost
<b>11th Annual Focus on Research Event: Essence Friday, March 27, 2015 – Vancouver *A light lunch will be provided</b>	Early Bird rate ends Feb 25 <input type="checkbox"/> \$65	Early Bird rate ends Feb 25 <input type="checkbox"/> \$80	
	Regular rate Feb 26 - Mar 18 <input type="checkbox"/> \$85	Regular rate Feb 26 - Mar 18 <input type="checkbox"/> \$100	
	Late rate begins Mar 19 <input type="checkbox"/> \$115	Late rate begins Mar 19 <input type="checkbox"/> \$130	

**Bursaries:** Bursaries for low-income participants and/or those travelling from outside their home regions to an event are available for B.C. residents. Call ACT's office for more information or email [info@actcommunity.ca](mailto:info@actcommunity.ca) with your request prior to registering. ACT provided \$24,000 in bursaries in 2014 and gratefully accepts donations to our bursary fund. See [www.actcommunity.ca/bursaries](http://www.actcommunity.ca/bursaries).

**Autism Funding:** Parents who receive Autism Funding may use 20% of the total for equipment, books, training and travel costs. ACT's live events are considered eligible expenses by the Autism Funding Branch. [www.actcommunity.ca/education/funding-invoice-option/](http://www.actcommunity.ca/education/funding-invoice-option/)

**Group Registrations:** Those who are not receiving other discounts may receive 20% off if three or more register with one payment.

**Are you receiving our emails?** Please telephone if you do not receive a confirmation email.