

INFANT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM OF BRITISH COLUMBIA  
REPORT TO THE PROVINCIAL STEERING COMMITTEE

NORTH REGION  
May 28<sup>th</sup>. 2009

It has been a very, very busy time in the North region, as I am sure it has been for all of you!

**April 1:** Regional conference call

**April 8:** BCEHP- meeting of the assessment protocols committee.

Discussion of working with interpreters, we were able to reference materials written for the IDP Policy and Procedure Manual.

**April 14:** Infant and Child Network.

**April 20:** Continuing to work with Lara and Mari on the SDPP course.

**April 23 and 24<sup>th</sup>:**

Regional Inservice in Prince George.

This was a wonderful inservice.

We completed training on the Period of Purple Crying.

Annie Wolverton did an excellent afternoon presentation on Infant Mental Health issues and all the consultants commented that we need to spend more time with her. Annie was able to address specific questions as they arose from the group and also provided us with excellent provincial resources.

Friday morning, Sue Gawne from CDBRA, outreach worker for the north, (actually she provides services and support to all children outside the lower mainland.) guided us through a very powerful simulation which created lots of discussion amongst the consultants.

Dana spent Friday with us as well and brought us up to date on Provincial issues and projects.

We welcome new consultant: Lynn Clark in Vanderhoof.

Consultants in the north are very actively pursuing continuing education. Patti and Penny from Quesnel are traveling to the states to learn more about Infant Yoga.

Several consultants are attending Summer Institute.

Friday afternoon we celebrated the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Prince George/ AimHi Infant Development Program. It was an exciting celebration with many community partners attending and a guest of honor was a young woman who was one of the first infants on the program! Congratulations to Lisa, Shelley, Judie and Honorine for providing a celebration that acknowledged the development of not only your own program but the evolution of the Infant Program across the north region.

**May 6<sup>th</sup>:** Regional conference call.

We are now planning the regional conference calls in collaboration with MCFD, Maureen DePellegrin and AIDP staff. We will continue to have our monthly calls but will have additional time every 3 months for MCFD items and issues.

We are also discussing the possibilities of having regional trainings to include AIDP/IDP/ASCP and SCDP.

Maureen also introduced a new team: the Aboriginal Early Services Regional Team. I have circulated the brochure. This is a strong and experienced consultation team to offer aboriginal guidance and support for all programs in the North, Yvette Hepburn (ASCD), Diane Gabrielson (AIDP) and Anita Zakresky (AECD) are the contacts.

**May 12:** MCFD Executive Director call.

The North region is rolling out an Infant Mental Health Plan that outlines the role of CYMH clinicians and their responsibilities to provide services to children under the age of 6. All programs have been encouraged to have conversations with their CYMH clinicians and share the extensive resources, skill and knowledge that many of the ID consultants have developed in this area.

On the last regional call, Role out of the CYSN (Child and youth with Special Needs) framework was discussed. It will be important to have ongoing conversations at community, sub-regional and regional planning tables to ensure the needs of children with disabilities and their families are heard.

**May 19-20:** Gesell Assessment training

**May 21:** Presentation on screening and assessment at the UBC Assessment Day.

A powerful parent panel started our day reminding us that time is of the essence and that early identification, appropriate intervention and support are critical.

**May 23:** Make the Connection presentation at the ECEBC conference.

**May 24:** Continued work on the Early Years Planning committee.

**The Rights of the Child.** Mark your calendars for February 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> in Victoria.

Congratulations to Shelley Anderson for completion of the IDP/SCDP Diploma.

We were able to celebrate with Judie Smith, who also completed the Diploma in 2008 and Lisa Engstrom (in progress) on Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. Shelley attended her convocation, May 21<sup>st</sup>. and was happy to receive her diploma from Dr. Dana Brynelsen.

Wishing you all relaxing and lazy days this summer!

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Stewart