

Report to the Provincial Steering Committee
Infant Development Program of British Columbia
June 18, 2007
Respectfully Submitted by Annie Wolverton
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The IDP /Supervisors from the Lower Mainland Programs have been meeting monthly to share new information and resources, support each other and discuss common issues. Many valuable discussions take place during these meetings and the Supervisors help each other with problem solving and new perspectives on situations occurring in individual programs.

Bonnie Barnes, the Regional Advisor for the Vancouver Island/Coastal Region and I have been organizing training for Infant Development Consultants (IDC). We initially planned the training to be for new IDC's, however as it has turned out, the training has been very useful for staff who have been working in the Infant Development Program for a while as well as new staff. We have invited the local Aboriginal Infant Development Programs to attend all of the training.

The training has included what I mentioned in my last report as well as two presentations by Lynn Rogers on motor development and prematurity, motor development and disabilities, the Neonatal Follow-up Clinic, and interventions IDC's can provide, how to support the physiotherapists' suggestions, what red flags to be aware of in vulnerable infants and the complexity of the feelings in the parents who have infants who were born prematurely or who have disabilities. Two staff from the Deaf Children's Society came and spoke about hearing loss in infants, the choices of interventions and the programs available to children who are deaf or have a hearing loss. Michelle Graham from the Visually Impaired Program gave a tour of the resources the Program has in their offices at Sunny Hill Health Centre for Children and then gave a presentation on visual impairment in children and interventions that are helpful.

There have been tours of British Columbia's Children's Hospital, including the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, the Family Resource Library and the Child Life Program, a tour of Sunny Hill Health Centre for Children, and a tour of the Canadian National Institute for the Blind.

Bonnie and I want to thank many of our colleagues from other professions and agencies for their generosity in providing the excellent, important and very useful information and help during each one of the workshops and tours. I want to thank Bonnie Barnes and the staff from the Vancouver IDP for their help in hosting many of the workshops.

The Gesell training on May 22 and 23, 2007, was well attended with fifty participants. The staff who attended the training asked interesting questions and actively joined in the training activities. The Gesell training was followed by an informative series of talks and workshops during the Social-Emotional Assessment conference at UBC. I appreciate being invited to the day as a guest and am grateful to have had the privilege of attending the day.

The many orders for Gesell Assessment kits I received are waiting for the last items to be finished and added to the kits before they are sent. I apologise to the people who are waiting for their kits and hopefully they will be ready to be shipped soon.