

INFANT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM OF BC
Report to the Provincial Steering Committee
North Region
November 30, 2006

October 2 -3 attended the Alberta Early Years Conference. This is an excellent networking opportunity and we had more staff from BC attending this year than in previous years. I attended workshops on “Fostering secure attachment thru Home visitation.”, “Children grieve too.” and “Reflective supervision.” If anyone is interested in more information on any of these sessions I would be happy to provide you with my notes and power point handouts.

October 4-6th, Invest in Kids Master Trainer for Home Visiting with High Risk Families in Toronto. The instructor was Shawna Seneca from Bent Arrow in Edmonton, and it was one of the most valuable learning experiences I have ever had addressing adult learners, group facilitation etc. We are still working out the logistics and the working relationship I have both provincially and with Toronto but the learning experience was excellent.

October 23 to 27th Fall Inservice went very well. Thanks to Sandi at SCDP for organizing the registrations and thanks to Amelia for organizing our photocopying, name tags, refreshments etc. Dr. Veronica Smith spoke to “Joint attention: development and disability”. Monty Montgomery spoke to, “Social Services and Early Intervention Services: Working Together with Families” and Dr. Vanessa Lapointe spoke to “Supporting Infant Mental Health for Infants in Care”

Regional meeting on the Thursday afternoon and about 12 consultants attended. We talked about what is happening in our communities, shared resources and planned for the spring regional meeting. There is a high request for Make the Connection training as well as AEPS.

I have been in contact with a number of programs with a variety of issues such as staffing, training and/or clinical information. Questions are arising regarding the data collection and hopefully some of these will have been addressed at the Nov. 29th. meeting

Nov. 3rd- Great meeting with Anita Zakresky of the Prince George Aboriginal Infant and Family Development Program. Anita is also the AIDP Regional Advisor for the North . We discussed strategies to work together with the programs.

I had a lunch meeting with one of the Prince George IDP staff.

I also had a very productive meeting with Richard King of MCFD. We discussed the allocation of the new funding for AIDP in the North region. Richard also very generously offered to facilitate conference calls for consultants as they are very productive in the Interior Region. Richard brought to my attention the need to update our policy and procedure manual with job descriptions etc. It was a very productive day.

We are working hard on preparing for the AEPS training December 1st, as this is being requested all over the province, this will be good preparation when we present elsewhere.

We will also be meeting on Saturday to look at the Home visiting curriculum, attending the training in Toronto will be very helpful for me in terms of preparing for this.

I wish everyone a peaceful Christmas season and health and happiness in the New Year.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Stewart