

MAKE Children First

Newsletter

KAMLOOPS

Volume 4
Mar 2010

Investing in Young Children benefits Everyone

Working Groups

2010...up and running:

Hi everyone, 2010 is well underway and spring is here already! We have already accomplished a lot this year and have some great new projects in the works. Read on for more information on how we launched our year and for some of the exciting things yet to come.

Steering Committee

We try hard to find new ways for parents and caregivers to get the information they need and to stay informed about all the things going on in our community. To do this better, we've relaunched our website with a whole new look. If you haven't already, check it out at www.makechildrenfirst.ca for up to date information. If you notice anything missing or out of date, please contact Sue Lissel to make changes. We're also on Twitter! Follow us at www.twitter/mcfkamloops. This is the place where we post links to other websites, current events going on in Kamloops and other good information we think might be useful.

Public Awareness Committee

Research Team

Celebrate ABC Family Literacy Day
Saturday January 23, 2010
9:00am - 12:30pm
Henry Grube
(245 Kitchener Cres., off Fortune near the Overlander Bridge)

We partnered with the KELLI group to put on the 4th Annual Family Literacy Event on January 23rd at The Henry Grube.

HEAP THE HONDA Children's Book Drive
To support ABC Family Literacy Day January 23, 2010

Early Identification Committee



It was a tremendous success with over 350 children and families in attendance!



Childcare Action Team

Guest MC
Steve Ayres with B100!

Special Guests:
Lee's Little Rocker's,
Djembe Django & "Young Drum"
Singer Roxanne Hall,
Blazers, Storm, TRU Athletes,
Jo Berry and the Boogie Team,
Tracey Pellizari, Bill O'Donovan
Mother Goose,
Coffee and crafts with Starbucks
...and so much more!!

We also helped launch the community's first Honda sponsored bookdrive with LINK and collected thousands of books for families to read with their children.
Incredible work everyone!

Kamloops Honda and the Family Literacy Day Committee are collecting new and gently used children's & teen's books so all families have good books to read together!

Drop your books off at participating locations:

Kamloops Honda
All Starbucks coffee locations
3 YMCA/YWCA locations
Kamloops Downtown & North Shore Libraries
Kamloops Museum & Archives (207 Seymour St)



For more information, please call 250-554-3134 local 582

MCF serves as an advisor to the Kamloops Early Learning and Language Initiative (KELLI)



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Children's Charter - April 2010

Make Children First is starting the process to develop a Children's Charter and a Youth Charter in April. Practicum nursing students have already conducted over 500 surveys with youth and we will continue to survey the voices of young children in the coming months. We will be gathering a group together at the end of April to share information about the process, receive community input and develop a working group for this project. Interested? Contact Sue Lissel for more info: slissel@interiorcommunityservices.bc.ca 250-554-3134.

creating a caring community where all children thrive

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Contact Us

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Public Awareness Committee

The public awareness committee is working on a new social-emotional campaign this year which will include a new poster (which will then become next year's bus shelter), a new TV ad and a new bus advertisement.

Believe it or not it's also that time of year to start work on next year's calendar which will feature the Rights of the Child, a perfect link to the Children's Charter project.

Childcare Action Team

The CAT hosted their second workshop on March 6th, 2010 with 60 caregivers attending. The "Empower Yourself Within Your Profession" event brought facilitator Chris Gay back to Kamloops and provided networking and educational opportunities for childcare providers.

Working Smarter for Child & Youth Health— Held March 17 –50 attendees

This event, co-sponsored by Make Children First, Small Cities CURA at TRU, BC Child and Youth Health Research Network, and BC Healthy Living Alliance was an interactive workshop facilitated by Chris Corrigan in Open Space format. Regional leaders were invited to share expertise and engage in a dynamic discussion integrating cutting edge research with innovative practice.

Business Engagement Breakfast II Held March 19– 71 Biz Community Attendees

In partnership with Success by 6, MCF hosted our second business breakfast this spring. We welcomed economist Paul Kershaw of HELP (Human Early Learning Partnership) as the keynote speaker for the event and the response to his work was outstanding. He truly brought the economics of early child development to life for the business community and we look forward to this committee's next steps. The business toolkit was also launched with lots of businesses requesting further information.

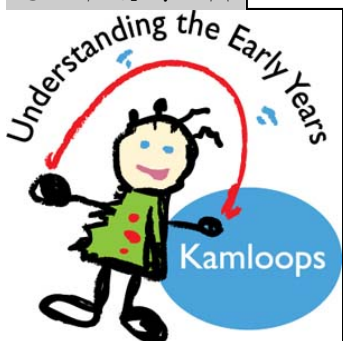
Early Identification Committee

The Social Emotional Learning Stories Book is complete and printed! Contact Val or Sue to get the copies you requested. This committee is busy working on this year's Child Development Guide which will be available in June and is based on the Early Development Instrument development domains.

Kamloops State of the Child Report—New and coming this fall.

This report will provide the community with a snapshot of how our children are doing and what all of us working to support children and families are doing to provide the best opportunities possible.

Look for the report to be full of information on childcare, child health, our City, early learning, family wellbeing and economics, EDI data and much more.



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