

Message from the Provincial Manager.....



It's hard to believe that fall is here again with another summer past. For many it was a glorious summer, while for others worries of nearby forest fires gripped your communities in fear. I hope this newsletter finds all of you well and adjusting to the chill in the air and the only fires close to you are those in your fireplace keeping you warm.

Fall is an especially important time for our United Way partners. Across BC and Canada local United Ways are busy with kick off events and campaign activities, fundraising on behalf of many important community services

We are very grateful for the support of the local United Ways and for the leadership of the United Way of the Lower Mainland. I'm sure I speak for our regional coordinators as well, when I send out a heartfelt thank you to all of the United Way staff and board members for your commitment to Success By 6.

What follows in this issue of Visions, are examples of some of the exciting projects United Ways in BC are involved in with Success By 6. This is just a sampling of the wonderful partnerships that have developed. Thank you United Ways of BC!

Stories from the regions.....

■ HELPING Enderby

The Enderby and District Community Resource Centre's motto states that "the most precious gift we can give our children is our time". To help us meet this vision, the Enderby Family Place Program has been supported by the North Okanagan Columbia Shuswap Success by Six regional initiative for the past five years. The local United Way plays a very important role in this partnership by assisting with the HELPING funds (Healthy Eating for Life Influencing the Next Generation).



The Family Place program runs every Wednesday and welcomes many young children, infants and expectant parents along with their families. United Way is a resource both as a donor from the community funds raised in our region and as a believer in assisting community programs; like Family Place through the community development lens.

Together Success by Six and the United Way of the North Okanagan Columbia Shuswap are working hand in hand for this successful project.

■ **Central Okanagan - United Way CEO Sings to Children**

In Central Okanagan you will find Harry Grossmith, United Way's CEO, showing up at children's events with his guitar in hand and a children's song that is close to his heart. He has provided entertainment at our Success By 6 Milk & Cookies events getting children up to dance as parents look on in amazement as their child starts grooving to rock 'n roll tunes Harry has written.

Harry also performed in a video that supported Success By 6 in the Juicy Give contest. The Juicy Give contest was a radio promotion that engaged listeners in a discussion to identify the most important issues in the Central Okanagan. Although we did not win the contest, Harry's efforts were successful in raising awareness around the importance of early childhood education and educating the community around the important projects that Success By 6 is involved in.



Hats off to Harry (better known as "Mr. Harry" when he is on stage), his amazing singing talent and his dedication to the children of his community!

■ **An innovative partnership – United Way of the Lower Mainland working with ECD stakeholders**

No one agency or individual can achieve social change on its own. To help create more child and family-friendly communities that support all children developing to their full potential, United Way of the Lower Mainland (UWLM) is working with local, regional, and provincial stakeholders to research, plan, invest in, and evaluate early childhood development (ECD) initiatives.

These partnerships help to leverage dollars, seek out coordinated solutions, and support streamlined decision-making. The result is the development of actions focused on sustaining the greatest positive change for young children, their families, and the communities in which they live.

An example of this is the partnership that has developed in the Tri-Cities. As a result of UWLM investing staff time, knowledge, and money in the Tri-Cities ECD Funding Committee, a new opportunity emerged in early 2009. UWLM has partnered with the Ministry of Children and Family Development (Tri-Cities area) to design and implement an innovative, three-year pilot project.

This project integrates funding from the ministry and UWLM for early childhood development in the Tri-Cities. Two funders, one pool of funds – and agencies accessing these funds require only one application, one agreement, and one reporting form. The goal is to reduce the administrative burden, improve cost-effectiveness and service delivery, achieve greater funding alignment for optimum impact on young children and families, and strengthen relationships among committee members.

Based on some early success, an additional model of integrated funding has been designed and is in the process of being implemented in Langley. Over the course of these three year pilot

projects, UWLM and MCFD will be working to learn from and evaluate the impact of such integration.

There is already expressed interest in this model of integration at both the regional and provincial levels.

By bringing together and engaging a wide range of stakeholders in early childhood planning partnerships, UWLM is helping to build collaborative relationships that can best support children and families.

■ Fort Nelson – Preschool Health Roundup

The first annual Preschool Health Roundup was held on June 24, 2009. Organizers were thrilled with the response from the community – 88 children and 71 adults attended. The Roundup was an outdoor event that was held in a neighbourhood park and included six activity stations, a healthy snack table and a supervised play area.



The event was organized by community professionals from a number of organizations including Fort Nelson Family Development, Fort Nelson Community Literacy, North Peach Savings & Credit Union, Northern Rockies Aboriginal Women Society, Northern Health, Fort Nelson First Nations and Success By 6.

As always, the business community of Fort Nelson contributed to the success of the day. The event was a success thanks to these businesses: the Phoenix Theatre, Northwestel, Overwaite, Northern Store, Nexen, Fort Nelson Stuff, the Fort Nelson Chamber of Commerce, IGA, Down to Earth, CAT Rental, Northern Rockies Recreation Department, and Fort Nelson Fire Rescue.

Provincial SB6 Updates.....

■ Granny & Grampa Connections Box

The Connections Box, which is currently being piloted in a number of sites in BC, is an interactive cultural resource designed to engage parents and caregivers directly with their children. The use of Granny & Grampa puppets and other cultural items helps to reinforce the importance of the traditional ways of early learning. The Connections Box will be available for distribution in the spring of 2010.



Success By 6 Celebration Feast

Have you registered for the upcoming Celebration Feast? The feast will be held on November 9, 2009 at the UBC Longhouse and will include an honoring ceremony to recognize contributions made in the creation of two Aboriginal Early Years resources. Entertainment will be provided by folk singer Art Napoleon and hoop dancer Dallas Arcand. Get your tickets today from www.successby6bc.ca.

■ Credit Union Sponsored Grants Program

The Credit Union Sponsored Grants Program has officially launched and coordinators are busily planning uses for the funds provided by the program. The objectives of this grant program are twofold:

1. Provide one-time funding to ECD programs across the province
2. Raise awareness of Success By 6 provincially, and highlight the work of credit unions within the initiative

Five ECD projects across the province will be funded by the grant program, all of which will be tied together by the theme "Family Friendly Business". An accompanying promotional campaign will highlight the contributions Success By 6 is making to the ECD landscape throughout the province, providing significant profile to the initiative as well as to credit unions.

The five projects to be funded will be announced later this year. Stay tuned!

■ Helping Me Grow T-Shirts

The popular "Helping Me Grow" T-shirts are available for order through Success By 6. These T-shirts have proven to be very popular with many community programs because of their cultural messages and can be ordered for a cost of \$10.00 per t-shirt.

Helping Me Grow...

Sing with Me
Drum with Me
Dance with Me
Tell me Stories
Play with Me

Helping Me Grow...

My Culture
My Traditional language
My Family
My Elders
My Community



Visit www.successby6bc.ca to place your order.



More photos from the Pre-School Health Roundup in Fort Nelson.....courtesy of Lorraine Gerwing, SB6 Coordinator North Peace/North Rockies



4543 Canada Way
Burnaby, BC V5G 4T4
T: 604-294-8929 F: 604-293-0010
www.successby6bc.ca

