



AN OVERVIEW OF INITIATIVES AFFECTING EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT IN BC

September 2008

With funding support from:



An Overview of Initiatives Affecting Early Childhood Development in BC

This compilation provides an overview of recent major initiatives that are affecting Early Childhood Development (ECD) in British Columbia, Canada. Most comments are excerpts from the relevant web sites. This is a work in progress as the initiatives are continually changing. Please contact First Call at info@firstcallbc.org with any suggested additions.

First Edition: 2002 Tina Holden

Revised: March 2005

Revised: September 2008

Published by: First Call: BC Child and Youth Advocacy Coalition
202-1193 Kingsway, Vancouver BC V5V 3C9
E-mail: info@firstcallbc.org
Website: www.firstcallbc.org

Graphics & editing: Deborah Strong, [Cat 'n' Mouse Designs](#)

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INTERNATIONAL

ORGANIZATION FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT (OECD)

www.oecd.org/dataoecd/14/32/37425999.pdf

An OECD report on early childhood policy, *Starting Strong II*, (2006) shows that more countries are making early childhood education and care a priority, with greater attention paid to service quality. Increasingly, it shows, the early years are viewed as the first step in lifelong learning and a key to successful social, family and education policies.

Attitudes to education are deeply embedded in country contexts, values and beliefs, and the 20 countries reviewed—Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Korea, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States—all have diverse strategies in this field. Their variations reflect differing attitudes and cultural and social beliefs about young children, the roles of families and government and the purposes of early childhood education and care.

Starting Strong II provides a comparative analysis of policy developments and issues, highlighting innovative approaches and proposing policy options that can be adapted to different national contexts.

In October 2004, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) released a report: *Early Childhood Education and Care Policy - Country Note for Canada*. The Country Note for Canada is an output of the Thematic Review of Early Childhood Education and Care Policy, a project launched by the OECD's Education Committee in March 1998. Prior to the visit a Background Report on ECEC policy was commissioned by Human Resources Development Canada (now Social Development Canada). Both the report and the backgrounder are available on the OECD website.

The *Country Note for Canada* is an intensive review of early childhood policies and services in Canada centered on the provinces of Prince Edward Island, British Columbia, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. The study identifies strengths but notes that overall significant energies and funding will need to be invested in the field to create a universal system in tune with the needs of a full employment economy, with gender equity and with new understandings of how young children develop and learn.

2002 “A WORLD FIT FOR CHILDREN”

www.unicef.org/specialsession

The United Nations Special Session on Children, attended by 190 country delegations, including Canada, adopted a World Fit for Children in May 2002. This session on Children was convened to review the accomplishments since the 1990 World Summit for Children and the entry into force of the *UN Convention on the Rights of the Child*, and to formulate an action plan for the first decade of the 21st century.

Principles and Objectives of the Declaration:

1. Put children first
2. Eradicate poverty; invest in children
3. Leave no child behind
4. Care for every child
5. Educate every child
6. Protect children from harm and exploitation
7. Protect children from war

8. Combat HIV/AIDS
9. Listen to children and ensure their participation
10. Protect the Earth for children

Five articles specifically reference ECD: Article 36e, Article 37.10, Article 37.15, Article 39a and Article 40.14. These articles call for the development and implementation of national early childhood development policies and programs to enhance children's holistic development and to provide services and supports to parents. Article 40.14 clearly recognizes the importance of early childhood educators.

- The Canadian government's report to the Special Session, *National Report of Canada: Ten-Year Review of the World Summit for Children, September 2001*, can be found at: www.unicef.org/specialsession/how_country/edr_canada_en.PDF
- The alternative report submitted by the Canadian Coalition for the Rights of Children, entitled *How Does Canada Measure Up?* and their 2003 update can be found at: www.crin.org/resources/treaties/list.asp?ID=39&type=ctry
- Countries at the Special Session committed to develop national and regional 'Plans of Action' over the following two years and to allocate the additional national and international human, financial and material resources required for implementation. *A Canada Fit for Children*, www.sdc.gc.ca/en/cs/sp/sdc/socpol/publications/2002-002483/page00.shtml released in April 2004, is Canada's plan.

2000 WORLD EDUCATION FORUM (DAKAR FRAMEWORK)

www.unesco.org/education/efa/wef_2000/index.shtml

In April 2000, 1,100 participants, from 164 countries including heads of state, adopted the Dakar Framework. The World Education Forum in Dakar, Senegal was held to examine the progress made since 1990 on Education for All (EFA) and to reaffirm international commitment to achieve EFA by the year 2015. Six educational goals were agreed upon, the first specifically focused on ECD: "expanding and improving comprehensive early childhood care and education, especially for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged children." Countries were urged to have national EFA plans developed by 2002. The most recent update for Canada can be found at: www.campaignforeducationcanada.org/en/index.php

1989 UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD (UNCRC)

www.unhchr.ch/html/menu3/b/k2crc.htm

In November 1989, the Convention was adopted by the UN General Assembly and signed by 191 countries, including Canada. The Convention spells out the full range of human rights of children worldwide—civil, political, economic, social, and cultural. It describes three categories of rights:

- rights of provision, e.g. the right to adequate education and health care
- rights of protection, e.g. the right to be protected from abuse and neglect
- rights of participation, e.g. the right to be heard in matters affecting the child

WORLD BANK

www.worldbank.org/children

The World Bank has joined the international community in recognizing the importance of ECD as “an investment in a country’s future workforce and capacity to thrive economically and as a society”. The Bank has publications entitled: *From Early Childhood Development to Human Development (2002)*, *Early Childhood Development: Investing in the Future (1996)*, and *The Benefits of Early Childhood Development Programs, An Economic Analysis (no date)*. The international meeting *Measuring Early Child Development*, organized by the Centre of Excellence, took place from April 26 to 28, 2006 in Vaudreuil, Quebec. More than 20 speakers from around the globe took the opportunity to share their experiences and discuss best practices and evidences concerning measurement in early child development. The speakers’ presentations are online at:

web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/TOPICS/EXTCY/EXTECD/0,,menuPK:344945~pagePK:149018~piPK:149093~theSitePK:344939,00.html

2008 WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION REPORT ON HEALTH INEQUITIES

“Closing the gap in a generation: Health equity through action on the social determinants of health.”

http://whqlibdoc.who.int/hq/2008/WHO_IER_CSDH_08.1_eng.pdf

One of the report’s overarching recommendations is to “improve the well-being of girls and women and the circumstances in which their children are born, put major emphasis on early child development and education for girls and boys, improve living and working conditions and create social protection policy supportive of all, (...)”

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION: KNOWLEDGE HUB FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

Housed at UBC’s Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP)

<http://www.earlylearning.ubc.ca/globalknowledgehub/>

The Human Early Learning Partnership, led by Dr. Clyde Hertzman, has been designated the [World Health Organization’s](#) Knowledge Hub for Early Child Development. The World Health Organization has set up a global [Commission on Social Determinants of Health](#) in order to promote better health and greater health equity for all. The Knowledge Hub will inform the Commission on Social Determinants of Health of opportunities for fostering leadership, policy, action and advocacy needed to create positive change for children in a range of country contexts.

FEDERAL - GOVERNMENT

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA’S UNIVERSAL CHILD CARE PLAN

www.sdc.gc.ca/en/cs/comm/sd/news/agreements_principle/index.shtml

www.socialunion.gc.ca/news/feb11.html

In 2003, the federal government dedicated \$900 million over five years in federal funding for early learning child care programs. In 2005, funding was increased through budget commitments and bilateral agreements. The provinces agreed to develop and implement plans to advance the four principles of early learning and child care, referred to as “QUAD” (Quality; Universally Inclusive; Accessible; and child care with a Developmental focus).

The Conservative minority government elected in 2006 announced the termination of these bilateral agreements effective March 31, 2007 creating, instead, the **Universal Child Care Plan for Canada**. www.gardedenfants.ca/en/about.shtml

The **Universal Child Care Plan** consists of two parts:

- **The Universal Child Care Plan** provides parents with a taxable \$100 per month payment for each child under six and came into effect July 1, 2006.
- **Child Care Spaces Initiative**. The Budget for 2007 stated that \$250M will be transferred per year to provinces and territories to support their priorities for child care spaces. Funding began through the Canada Social Transfer, in 2008-2009, following discussions with provinces and territories. Transition payments totaling \$250 million were made on a per capita basis to each province and territory at the end of June 2007, for fiscal year 2007-2008. www.gardedenfants.ca/en/spaces/intro.shtml

RECENT HISTORY

FEDERAL PROVINCIAL TERRITORIAL AGREEMENTS¹

Since 2001/02, three agreements between the previous federal government and the provincial and territorial governments (FPT agreements) resulted in substantial new federal funds transferred to provinces and territories specifically to advance services and supports for young children and their families. In 2005-06, the provinces and territories were expected to receive \$1.2 billion in federal funding for early childhood development, including child care. This was an increase of \$375 million from the previous year. Below is a summary of the FPT agreements and resulting federal funding assured to the provinces and territories for 2005/06 (\$ millions):

1. First Minister's Early Childhood Development Agreement (ECDA) \$500m

www.socialunion.gc.ca/ecd_e.html and www.ecd-elcc.ca

Signed in 2000, this agreement provided federal funding to provinces and territories for a range of early childhood development programs and services for children under six, including child care. While provinces and territories determined their own priority areas, they agree to:

- work together in four areas (promote healthy pregnancy, birth and infancy; improve parenting and family supports; strengthen early childhood development, learning and care; and strengthen community supports);
- develop shared guidelines to track progress; and
- report annually to the public.

Federal/Provincial/Territorial ECD reports are available at www.socialunion.gc.ca/ecd_e.html

2. Multilateral Framework on Early Learning and Child Care (MLF) \$225m

www.socialunion.gc.ca/elcc_e.htm and www.ecd-elcc.ca

Building on the ECDA, this 2003 agreement specifically directed previous federal government funds to improve access to affordable, quality, regulated early learning and child care for children under six years of age.

3. Agreement-in-Principle on Early Learning and Child Care (Bi-lateral) \$500m

www.sdc.gc.ca/en/cs/comm/sd/news/agreements_principle/index.shtml

In its February 2005 budget, the federal government committed \$5 billion over 5 years towards a national child care system, working in cooperation with provinces and territories. Since May 2005, bi-lateral agreements were signed between the federal government and some

¹ Adapted from *Making the Connections* Fact Sheet #1, Child Care Advocacy Association of Canada, 2005.

provincial/territorial governments. While there are variations between each of these agreements, to date all build on the Multilateral Framework requirement to invest in regulated child care. Further, these agreements commit the provinces and territories to develop Action Plans that are based on four principles for child care called the QUAD principles.

Bi-lateral Agreement Cancelled January 2006

www.firstcallbc.org/earlyChildhood-resources.html

The Conservative minority government elected in January 2006 advised the provinces that they would not honour the bi-lateral agreements past March 31, 2007. As a result, BC lost \$455.7 million in federal transfer payments for ECD funding.

ECD Presentation Toolkit. First Call

Federal government reports available at:

www.socialunion.ca/ecdelcc_ae/2007/en/index.shtml

Early Learning and Child Care Activities and Expenditures, Government of Canada Report 2004-2005 and 2005-2006. September 2007

THE SOCIAL UNION FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT (SUFA)

www.socialunion.gc.ca/news/020499_e.html contains a copy of the agreement.

In February 1999, the federal, provincial and territorial governments (except Quebec) signed SUFA. SUFA is an agreement about how the governments will cooperate on new social programs in Canada—including social programs for children. In addition to setting the rules for how the federal and provincial governments should work, (it requires the consent of a majority of provinces to initiate a new program in an area of provincial jurisdiction like child care), the Agreement also lays out principles of equity and fairness in social programs; codifies rules for the federal spending power; and promises collaboration, accountability and transparency. Agreed upon principles included:

- guaranteeing access to reasonably comparable services for all Canadians
- helping those in need
- respecting the 5 principles of Medicare:
 - universal/accessible/comprehensive/portable/non-profit administration
- promoting the active participation of all Canadians in social and economic life
- ensuring adequate, stable, and sustainable funding for social programs
- respecting Aboriginal treaty and other rights
- ensuring Canadians have meaningful input into social policies and programs
- a review of SUFA by the end of the third year

THREE YEAR REVIEW SOCIAL UNION FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT (SUFA)

www.socialunion.gc.ca/sufa/toc/toc.html contains the Three Year Review.

In June 2003, after broad consultation and review, the Federal/Provincial/Territorial Ministerial Council on Social Policy Renewal submitted its Three Year Review of SUFA. Overall, the review found that SUFA continues to provide a useful framework for governments in their efforts to respond to the social policy needs of Canadians. The Council's view is that governments have demonstrated a commitment to SUFA and its undertakings:

- to improve mobility;
- to inform Canadians through public accountability and transparency;
- to work in partnership to improve social programs for Canadians; and
- to avoid and resolve disputes.

At the same time, the Review's recommendations include repeated calls for improvement in governments' reports to the public on their social programs.

The report is divided into sections that follow the same order as SUFA. Each section summarizes the undertakings of governments, reviews the progress made to date in meeting the provisions of that section, and provides recommendations on best practices or improvements to the implementation of the Agreement.

NATIONAL CHILDREN'S AGENDA (NCA)

www.socialunion.gc.ca/nca_e.html

In May 1999, federal, provincial, and territorial governments (except Quebec) agreed to work together to develop a strategy to improve the well-being of Canada's children. The NCA sets out a broad vision, values and goals for Canadian children along with six policy areas in which governments could cooperate to better support children. Enhancing early childhood development was one of the six areas identified.

The shared vision is:

- that children be loved and thrive
- that children be valued and have the opportunity to develop their unique capacities
- that children be respected and protected and in turn respect and protect others
- that children belong and contribute to caring and sharing communities

Key goals are:

- physical and emotional health, including strong self-esteem, life skills, and healthy lifestyles
- safety and security, such as meeting basic physical and emotional needs, and protecting children from abuse, neglect and other harmful situations
- success at learning, including physical, emotional, and social development, language skills, literacy, numeracy and general knowledge
- social engagement and responsibility, such as forming stable attachments and supportive relationships, valuing diversity and understanding the rights and responsibilities of a citizen

NATIONAL CHILD BENEFIT

www.nationalchildbenefit.ca

Starting in 1998, the National Child Benefit (NCB) initiative is a partnership among the federal, provincial and territorial governments (except Quebec) and First Nations that aims to help prevent and reduce the depth of child poverty for children in working families, support parents as they move into the labour market and reduce overlap and duplication of government programs. The National Child Benefit includes the Canada Child Tax Benefit (CCTB) and the National Child Benefit Supplement (NCBS).

Under the NCB, the Government of Canada has increased the benefits it pays through the NCB Supplement to low-

Community Concerns about the NCB

Groups such as First Call, Campaign 2000 and the National Council of Welfare argue that all children, including children in families on social assistance, should benefit financially from the National Child Benefit Supplement. Families on social assistance live significantly below the poverty line and have mostly seen decreases in their buying power over the past several years. See:

- First Call
www.firstcallbc.org/economicEquality-resources.html
- Campaign 2000
www.campaign2000.ca/rc/
- National Council of Welfare
www.ncwcnbes.net/en/publications/pub-125.html
in *Welfare Incomes 2005 Report* (revised summer 2006)

income families with children, regardless of their source of income. In turn, most provinces, territories and First Nations, including BC, have lowered social assistance benefits provided on behalf of children by the full or partial amount provided under the NCB Supplement. These social assistance “savings” have allowed provinces and territories to pay for new and enhanced benefits and services for low-income families with children.

A CANADA FIT FOR CHILDREN

www.hrsdc.gc.ca/en/cs/sp/sdc/socpol/publications/2002-002483/page00.shtml

In April 2004, Canada published a plan of action in response to the May 2002 United Nations Special Session on Children. *A Canada Fit for Children* contains a declaration of Canada’s commitment to children.

HUMAN RESOURCES AND SOCIAL SKILLS CANADA

(renamed in 2008)

www.hrsdc.gc.ca/en/home.shtml

In February 2006, the Departments of Social Development Canada (SDC) and Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC) were joined together to form Human Resources and Social Development Canada (HRSDC). The department’s mission is to build a stronger Canada, to support Canadians in making choices that help them live productive and rewarding lives, and to improve Canadians quality of life. The department is responsible for the following programs that impact ECD:

Understanding the Early Years

www.hrsdc.gc.ca/en/hip/sd/300_UEYInfo.shtml

This is an initiative that enables communities to research and map the needs of young children and families in order to determine the programs and services to best meet those needs. This neighbourhood-specific information can then be used by communities to design and implement policies, programs and investments to support the development of young children.

The first five pilot UEY sites ended in 2005 and the next grouping of seven sites in March 2007. Twenty-one communities across Canada began their UEY projects in fall 2005. Sixteen sites were added across Canada in 2007. All UEY projects were funded for three years. Once those three-year terms are completed in 2010, funding for the UEY will end. The BC sites are Abbotsford (ending March 2007), Greater Victoria, Mission, Okanagan Similkameen, Sunshine Coast, Campbell River and North Shore (North and West Vancouver). The six latter projects were funded in 2005 and will end in 2008.

The **Aboriginal Human Resource Development Agreements (AHRDAs)** include a component that provides funding for the First Nations Inuit Child Care Initiative (FNICCI). The Initiative provides access to quality child care services for First Nations and Inuit children of parents entering the labour market or who have entered into a training program.

http://srv119.services.gc.ca/AHRDSInternet/general/public/HomePage1_e.asp

In 2006 **Service Canada** was formed and is responsible for the delivery of many HRSDC programs and services. Service Canada integrates services from a number of federal departments to form a single service delivery network. It brings federal services and benefits together to make it easier for Canadians to get the help they need in one place, whether by phone, Internet or in person. Additional information about Service Canada can be found at:

<http://servicecanada.gc.ca/en/home.html>

Federal Employment Insurance Act of 2001

www.hrsdc.gc.ca/en/ei/types/special.shtml

Employment Insurance Maternity and Parental Benefits are paid to individuals who are pregnant, have recently given birth, are adopting a child or are caring for a newborn. Remunerated parental leave for up to a maximum of 35 weeks has been enacted. To receive parental benefits you are required to have worked for 600 hours in the last 52 weeks. Although this benefit is not yet extended to all nursing mothers/parents, the federal Employment Insurance Act of 2001 is a very important contribution to both equal opportunities for women, and for infant well-being and development.

Universal Child Care Plan

www.gardedenfants.ca/en/about.shtml

For details see page 7.

Child Care Spaces Initiative

www.gardedenfants.ca/en/spaces/intro.shtml

For details see page 7.

FEDERAL MINISTRY OF HEALTH

www.hc-sc.gc.ca/index-eng.php

The Ministry of Health is responsible for a number of health bodies including “Health Canada” and the “Public Health Agency of Canada”. Under a Minister of State (Public Health), the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) was established in September 2004. The previous Population and Public Health Branch of Health Canada was transferred to the new Agency.

Health Canada

www.hc-sc.gc.ca/home-accueil/search-recherche/a-eng.php

Health Canada’s Community Programs Directorate works in partnership with First Nations and Inuit to deliver a range of programs in key community health sectors. The Directorate has a Children and Youth Division with the following programs: Canada Prenatal Nutrition Program (CPNP); Aboriginal Headstart on Reserve; Fetal alcohol syndrome and fetal alcohol effects; and, maternal health.

Public Health Agency of Canada

www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/ch-se-eng.php

The main focus of the Public Health Agency of Canada is disease and injury prevention and to respond to public health emergencies and infectious disease outbreaks. However, one of the components that make up PHAC is the Centre for Healthy Human Development (CHHD). Within this Centre, the Division of Childhood and Adolescence is a focal point for policy development, research, and strategic analysis of trends regarding broad determinants of health regarding children and youth in Canada.

The Division of Childhood and Adolescence includes:

- The Centres of Excellence for Children’s Well-Being
- Aboriginal Head Start
www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/dca-dea/programs-mes/ahs_main-eng.php
- Community Action Program for Children (CAPC)
- Canada Prenatal Nutrition Program (CPNP)
- The CAPC/CPNP National Projects Fund
- Fetal Alcohol Syndrome / Fetal Alcohol Effects (FAS/FAE) Initiative

The Public Health Agency of Canada has identified 4 national priorities for which they are working on developing resources that will support CAPC and CPNP projects across the country. These include infant attachment, family violence and young parents.

The Well-Being of Canada’s Young Children: Government of Canada Report 2006 can be found at www.socialunion.gc.ca/well_being/2007/en/well_being.pdf.

Centres of Excellence for Children's Well-Being

www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/dca-dea/main_e.html

In the 1997 Speech from the Throne, the Government of Canada committed \$20 million over five years for the creation of Centres of Excellence for Children's Well-Being. Part of the federal contribution to the National Children's Agenda, the centres' mandate is to enhance our understanding of, and responsiveness to, the physical and mental health needs of children and youth and the critical factors for their healthy development.

The four Centres of Excellence for Children's Well-Being are:

- The Centre of Excellence for Early Child Development
www.excellence-earlychildhood.ca
- The Centre of Excellence for Children and Adolescents with Special Needs
www.coespecialneeds.ca
- The Centre of Excellence for Youth Engagement
www.tgmag.ca/centres/index.html
- The Centre of Excellence for Child Welfare
www.cecw-cepb.ca

The centres bring together front line health care practitioners with academics and researchers to address issues of national significance affecting the health and well-being of Canadian children. A consortium of organizations, networked together to share information, carries out the work of each centre.

The **Centre of Excellence for Early Child Development (CEECD)**, under the administration of the University of Montreal, works to improve our knowledge of the social and emotional development of children and the policies and services that influence this development by providing information on the development of children from birth to age five. Their products include:

- CEECD's **bulletins**, cover child development from the time of conception to age five.
- CEECD's **encyclopedia** contains research evidence on issues pertaining to early childhood development. The encyclopedia is posted on the CEECD website.
- A **directory** of Canada's foremost researchers specializing in the field of early childhood development is provided.

The **Centre of Excellence for Children and Adolescents with Special Needs**, under the administration of Lakehead University in Thunder Bay, Ontario, investigates the most appropriate ways to diagnose and treat young people with special needs in rural and remote communities. The goal is to ensure a future where children and adolescents with special needs can combine the riches of life in rural, remote and northern communities with the best services Canada has to offer.

The **Centre of Excellence for Child Welfare**, under the administration of the University of Toronto's Faculty of Social Work and the Child Welfare League of Canada, works to identify the most effective prevention and intervention options for children who have entered or are at risk of coming into contact with Canada's child welfare system.

National Child Day

www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/ncd-jne/index-eng.html

National Child Day, November 20, marks the day of the adoption of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. By ratifying this Convention in 1991, Canada made a commitment to ensure that all children are treated with dignity and respect. Site hosts resources on various child rights and themes.

FEDERAL - COMMUNITY

The following are some national organizations involved in major initiatives for ECD. There are numerous other organizations that are active in ECD. (For additional community groups see “Other Community Initiatives” page 28.)

CANADIAN COALITION ON THE RIGHTS OF CHILDREN

www.rightsofchildren.ca/

This Coalition’s mandate is to ensure a collective voice for Canadian organizations and youth concerned with the rights of children as described in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and the World Summit for Children Declaration. They prepared the alternative non-governmental report on Canada’s compliance with the Convention in 1999 and 2003 and produce toolkits and briefs for monitoring the rights of children.

ABORIGINAL CHILDREN’S CIRCLE OF EARLY LEARNING (ACCEL)

www.accel-capea.ca

Launched in November 2004, the Aboriginal Children’s Circle of Early Learning (ACCEL) is a web portal clearinghouse on Aboriginal early childhood development. You can consult the site to review research and discuss best and promising practices; to exchange information with a highly engaged network of Aboriginal ECD practitioners and researchers; and to keep in touch with the emerging needs of Aboriginal communities across Canada.

The ACCEL is developed by and for Aboriginal communities in partnership by two national non-profit organizations –the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society (FNCFCFS) and the Canadian Child Care Federation (CCCCF).

THE CHILDCARE RESOURCE AND RESEARCH UNIT (CRRU)

www.childcarecanada.org/

The CRRU is a policy and research oriented facility that focuses on early childhood education and child care (ECEC) and family policy in Canada and internationally.

CAMPAIGN 2000

www.campaign2000.ca

Campaign 2000 is a coalition of over 120 national, regional and local partner organizations united in calling for the end of child poverty in Canada. The implementation of a universal system of ‘Quality, Affordable Early Childhood Education and Care services for All Children’ is seen as one of the core strategies for addressing the needs of young children disadvantaged by poverty. Campaign 2000 produces annual reports on child poverty in Canada and recommends clear steps for achieving solutions. First Call is the BC partner for Campaign 2000 and produces an annual report on child poverty in BC

CANADIAN CHILD CARE FEDERATION

www.cccf-fcsge.ca/home_en.html

CCCF is a national organization comprised of over 20 provincial/territorial affiliates representing approximately 11,000 early learning and child care practitioners, academics, parents and policy makers across Canada. The focus of this group is on best and promising practice, capacity building, networks and partnerships.

CHILD CARE ADVOCACY ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

www.ccaac.ca/home.php

CCAAC is a voluntary, non-profit advocacy organization calling for a publicly funded, not for profit, universal, accessible, affordable high quality child care system at the pan-Canadian level. In September 2004 they produced a position paper, *From Patchwork to Framework, A Child Care Strategy for Canada*, which sets out a strategy and agenda for advancing such a system. This document was well received and referenced by key political leaders as a template for action to pursue and achieve this goal. In 2005, the CCAAC produced *Making the Connections* aimed at supporting communities and the federal, provincial and territorial governments better understand and analyze early learning and child care policy and investments. View their Fact Sheets at: www.ccaac.ca/home.php

CHILD CARE HUMAN RESOURCES SECTOR COUNCIL: CHILD CARE

www.ccsc-cssge.ca

This organization brings together representatives from business, labour, education and other professional groups to focus on human resource issues in the workforce. The Child Care Human Resources Sector Council focuses on key issues which include recruitment, retention, recognition and respect. In 2005, the Sector Council released a document entitled *A Snapshot of the Child Care Workforce*.

The information in this backgrounder comes from the 2004 labour market update study *Working for Change: Canada's Child Care Workforce* which profiles those who work in regulated child care and recommends eight solutions to address wages, working conditions, training, and labour shortages in the sector.

COUNCIL FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

www.councilecd.ca

Founded by Dr. Fraser Mustard in 2004, the Council for Early Child Development is based on the recommendations of the Early Years Study 2 Putting Science into Action (McCain & Mustard, 1999). The Council is now based at the University of BC and hosts teleconferences on ECD issues.

PROVINCIAL - GOVERNMENT

REPRESENTATIVE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

www.rcybc.ca

In February 2002, Cabinet approved the establishment of a new Office for Children and Youth, and the concomitant elimination of the Children's Commission and the Office of the Child, Youth and Family Advocate, as recommended in the core review report.

In April 2006, the Ted Hughes report was made public and the provincial government agreed to implement all 62 recommendations including the appointment of an independent children's advocate. A copy of the review can be found at: www.childyouthreview.ca

April 1, 2007, a year after the Hughes review of British Columbia's child welfare system, the doors opened at the new office of the representative for children and youth, Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond.

In April 2007 Ms. Turpel-Lafond assumed responsibility for advocating for children receiving services from child welfare agencies and for monitoring services provided by those agencies to children and youth in BC.

For a full list of reports produced by the office of the Representative for Children and Youth go to: www.rcybc.ca/Content/Publications/Reports.asp

MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT (MCFD)

www.gov.bc.ca/mcfd

The Ministry of Children and Family Development works to promote and develop the capacity of families and communities to care for and protect vulnerable children and youth, and support healthy child and family development. The Ministry is responsible for regional and province-wide delivery of services and programs. In order to effectively and efficiently deliver services and programs, the Ministry is organized into five regions: North, Interior, Fraser, Vancouver Coastal and Vancouver Island www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/regions/index.htm

The Ministry's responsibilities include family development, early childhood development, services for children and youth with special needs and their families, child care, child protection, residential and foster care, adoption for children and youth permanently in care, community child and youth mental health, programs for at-risk or sexually exploited youth and community youth justice services. In addition, the Ministry is responsible for a number of provincial services, such as services for children and youth with special needs and their families, youth custody, youth forensic psychiatric services, services for deaf and hard of hearing children and youth, and the Maples Adolescent Treatment Centre.

MCFD - Interim Aboriginal Authorities

In 2007, two Interim Authorities (Vancouver Island Aboriginal Transition Authority and Fraser Region Interim Aboriginal Authority) were established to support the further development of models of service delivery for Aboriginal children and families.

www.viatt.ca, www.fraa.ca

MCFD - Annual Service Plans

www.bcbudget.gov.bc.ca/2007/sp/cfd/default.html#1

Annual Service Plans outline the Ministry's goals, strategies and financial resources to achieve them. See above link for Service Plan 2007/2008 and 2008/2009. For a comparative table of spending on BC Child Care, including Supported Child Development see: www.earlylearning.ubc.ca/documents/2007/ELCCRU%20R%20&%20P%20Highlights%20June%202007.pdf

MCFD - Early Childhood Development

www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/early_childhood

In early 2008 MCFD produced a report 'Strong, Safe and Supported a Commitment to BC's Children and Youth. This report presents the BC Government's commitment to providing healthy developmental outcomes for children and youth and outlines the 5 pillar approach to these services. The 5 Pillars are Prevention, Early Intervention, Intervention and Support, The Aboriginal Approach, Quality Assurance. For the full report see:

www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/about_us/pdf/Strong_Safe_Supported.pdf

BC reports regularly on an agreed-to set of indicators of child well-being. *Indicators of Early Childhood Health and Wellbeing in British Columbia, Third Report.*

www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/early_childhood/pdf/early_indicators_third_report.pdf

MCFD - Funding for Child Care Spaces Initiative

In October 2007 the BC government announced it would be investing \$12.5 million in major capital funding for new child care spaces. For the first time, capital funding will also be available to all child care providers, which include non-profit organizations, private sector and licensed family child care providers.

MCFD - Changes to Community Living BC: Services for Adults and Children

www.communitylivingbc.ca/

On June 23, 2008 the BC Government announced changes in ministry responsibilities. Community Living BC will now report to the Minister responsible for Housing and Social Development. Under this Ministry, **adults with disabilities** have access to a wide range of supports – including financial, shelter, medical and employment supports. Services for **children and youth** with special needs and their families are to be transferred from CLBC to the Ministry of Children and Family Development

MCFD - Grant to Improve Special Needs Services: Announced July 2008

The Province is providing a \$300,000 grant that will be used to help improve delivery of government services for children and youth with special needs. The project is part of a cross-ministry initiative to make it easier for families to access services and supports. The BC Association of Child Development and Intervention (BCACDI) will use the grant to form a cross-sectoral project steering committee and hire consultants to identify what special needs services the Province provides, where those services are located, where there might be gaps or duplication in services, and how to improve delivery.

MCFD - Provincial ECD Advisors

www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/early_childhood/provincial.htm

Four ECD advisors/consultants have been contracted to assist the ministry in developing strategies to ensure services best meet the needs of children and families, and services are provided based on the best evidence and research. They are:

- Provincial Consultant for Pediatric Therapists
- Provincial Child Development Advisor (previously known as Supported Child Care)
- Provincial Advisor Infant Development Program (IDP)
- Provincial Advisor for Aboriginal Infant Development Program (AIDP)

Descriptions of the work of the four advisors can be found on the website.

MCFD - Children First Initiatives

www.bcchildrenfirst.ca

www.earlylearning.ubc.ca/mapping

Children First is a community development initiative. Using a community development approach, local groups work together to understand, address and plan for the unique needs of children aged 0 – 6 in their community. Originally, there were three pilot or “learning” sites in BC. Today, there are 30 distinct Children First initiatives in British Columbia.

There are initiatives in 46 communities around BC and several other communities are currently developing initiatives. The objectives of Children First Initiatives are:

- increased community capacity,
- increased service delivery effectiveness,
- engaging “hard to reach” families,
- increased opportunities for early identification and screening, and
- improving outcomes for children and families.

Children First is not a program that delivers services directly to children and families. It can allocate initiative funds, however, to support service delivery priorities identified by community planning. Children First Initiatives are community driven. Each initiative will develop in a way that is unique to its community. Key to the development of the initiative is this community ownership. Some activities, though, are core to the process and are undertaken in each initiative.

MCFD - Child Care

www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/childcare/index.htm

Responsibility for child care programs and services were transferred from the former Ministry of Employment and Income Assistance to the Ministry of Children and Family Development and includes the following:

- Child Care Subsidy
- Child Care Programs and Services Branch
- Child Care Policy Branch
- Early Childhood Educator Registry
- Child Care Resource and Referral
- Provincial Child Care Council

In September 2005, the province signed the 2005 Early Learning and Child Care Agreement in Principle. Under this agreement BC was to receive \$633.3 million over five years. In order to seek advice on the priorities for investment under the agreement, the

ministries of Education and Children and Family Development embarked on a series of province-wide consultations during the fall and winter of 2005/06. To review the results of the consultation, please refer to www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/childcare/consult.htm.

In February 2006 a new federal government was elected and the ELCC Agreement in Principle was subsequently cancelled. BC received \$92 million in federal funding in 2005/06 for the first year of the agreement and a further \$86 million in 2006/07.

MCFD - 2007/2008 Expenditures

www.gov.bc.ca/mcf/mediaroom/childcare/newsletter/archive.html

In the February 2007 “Reid Report” the Minister of State for Child Care outlined how the remaining federal funds would be expended:

- \$126M Child Care Subsidy Program
- \$54 M Supported Child Development Programs
- \$9M for reframed Child Care Resource and Referral Programs
- \$40 M for current Child Care Operating Funded Centres for quality improvement investments in professional development, minor capital improvements, equipment and supplies.
- \$20M was disbursed in March 2007 through the ‘Child Care Quality Enhancement Fund’ administered by BC Council for Families

MCFD - Early Years Annual Report

www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/about_us/service_plan.htm

Reports on BC’s early years activities and spending are required by the federal government. Projected expenditures for ECD for 2008-2011 can be found at:

www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/about_us/budget.htm

MCFD - Child and Youth Mental Health Plan

www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/mental_health/mh_publications/cymh_plan.htm

In February 2003, the BC government approved the BC Child and Youth Mental Health Plan. The Plan proposes to develop coordinated approaches over the next 5 years in the following areas:

- timely and effective treatment and support services for children with serious mental illness
- programs to reduce risk by preventing and reducing the effects of mental illness
- building community and family capacity to prevent and/or overcome the negative impacts of mental illness in children and youth
- better systems to coordinate services, monitor outcomes, and ensure public accountability for policies and programs.

Community Concerns about Cuts/Expenditures

In January 2006 MCFD announced significant cuts to a wide spectrum of child care services as a result of the cancellation of the ELCC Agreement.

For community response to these cuts see

www.advocacyforum.bc.ca; Coalition of Child Care Advocates of BC: www.cccabc.bc.ca and BC Government Employees Union Child Care information www.bcgeu.bc.ca/campaigns/child_care. In early February 2007 some funding was restored to the Child Care Resource & Referral Programs

A Summary of One-time Funding Grants from the Ministry of Children and Family Development and Ministry of Education, 2006/2007

In early 2007 the BC Government announced a number of one-time-only funding grants to child and family serving agencies, professional associations and other organizations. As of March 31, 2007, the BC Government stated that it will have spent \$86M in one-time-only early learning and child care related expenditures. These expenditures were tracked by First Call and details are available at:

www.firstcallbc.org/earlyChildhood-whatsNew.html

The Plan includes few references to Early Childhood Development. It is assumed that the value of attention to the early years would come under risk reduction.

Each of the five MCFD Regions in the province is working on a Regional Child and Youth Mental Health Plan. Resources and funding have been allocated to the regions starting in the 05/06 fiscal year.

‘The Child and Youth Mental Health Plan for BC Progress Report 2008’ was published in May 2008: www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/mental_health/.

BC MINISTRY OF HEALTH SERVICES

British Columbia Health Authorities: www.healthservices.gov.bc.ca/socsec/index.html

BC’s health governance structure consists of six governing health authorities—a Provincial Health Services Authority and five geographic health authorities: Northern, Interior, Vancouver Island, Vancouver Coastal and Fraser. Within these five health authorities are 16 health service delivery areas. Maps and websites for each authority are at www.healthservices.gov.bc.ca/socsec/provmap.html

MOH - Community Care and Assisted Living Act

www.qp.gov.bc.ca/statreg/stat/C/02075_01.htm

In May 2004, the *Community Care and Assisted Living Act* replaced the *Community Care Facility Act*. The Community Care Facilities Branch is part of the Health Protection Division of the Ministry of Health Services, and is responsible for the development and implementation of legislation, policy and guidelines to protect the health and safety of children being cared for in licensed child care facilities.

The process to review and renew the *CCLR* began in the fall of 2004, shortly after the proclamation of the *Community Care and Assisted Living Act*. The first step in the process was to establish an Inter-Ministry Steering Committee, which included representation from all ministries involved in child care. This committee reviewed the 2004 Regulation and examined research and trends, as well as policies and practices in other jurisdictions as part of the change process.

Details of the changes made to the regulations as a result of these consultations are available at the following website:

www.health.gov.bc.ca/library/publications/year/2008/Child_Care_Licensing_Regulation.pdf

MOH - Child Health Core Review

The intention is to build a system of health programs and services across BC that has been shown to be effective and needed through research. The evidence papers that will be used in the area of ‘Healthy Infants and Early Child Development’ were first presented at the Healthy Child BC Forum, November 8, 2004:

- *Preliminary Review of the Evidence Base for Healthy Infant and Early Childhood Development in BC*. This document constitutes a *preliminary* review of the available evidence pertaining to healthy infant and child development. It is designed to serve as a mechanism for stimulating discussion and gaining feedback from experts in the field regarding “best practices”; and
- *Review of Best Practices in Canada and Internationally For Healthy Child Development: Key Legislation*. This report highlights different approaches to healthy child development identified from a review of key health legislation in identified jurisdictions. These are both available at www.earlylearning.ubc.ca/pub_map.htm

For further information contact: Dr. Trevor Hancock

Population Health and Wellness Division, Business Operations and Surveillance, Ministry of Health Services. Phone: 250-952-1794, trevor.hancock@gov.bc.ca

BC MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

www.bced.gov.bc.ca/

Ready, Set, Learn

www.bced.gov.bc.ca/early_learning/rsl/

In 2004, *Ready, Set, Learn* events were held in schools around BC. The Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Children and Family Development, and the Ministry of Health Services cosponsored this series. Families and their three-year-olds who attended received a book and information about child development and community resources. These events have continued in subsequent years.

StrongStart

www.bced.gov.bc.ca/early_learning/strongstart_bc/

In December 2006 the Premier of BC announced *StrongStart BC*. StrongStart is a free, drop-in early learning program located in public schools for preschool-aged children, accompanied by a parent or caregiver. Qualified early childhood educators lead learning activities, including stories, music and art to help children get ready for success in kindergarten. Parents and caregivers attending StrongStart BC centres can expect to participate in organized sessions with story time, play activities, and a healthy snack.

The Province has committed \$38 million in 2008 to expand the StrongStart BC program. StrongStart BC centres are also intended to use underutilized school district space as centres to deliver early-learning services.

British Columbia's Early Learning Framework

www.bced.gov.bc.ca/literacy/early_learning/early_learning_framework.pdf

Published in 2008 this Early Learning Framework is intended to guide and support early childhood educators, StrongStart BC facilitators, early years professionals, service providers, communities and governments in providing early learning experiences for children from birth to kindergarten.

The Early Childhood Learning Agency (ECLA)

www.bced.gov.bc.ca/ecla/

The formation of the ECLA was announced in the Speech from the Throne in February 2008. It is situated within the Ministry of Education and works in close cooperation with the Ministry of Children and Family Development. The ECLA has been tasked with exploring the feasibility of expanding early learning programs in British Columbia into the public school system. Public consultations took place during summer and it will report back to government decision makers by the end of 2008.

MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

(Formerly Employment and Income Assistance (MEIA))

Now housed in Ministry of Housing and Social Development: www.gov.bc.ca/hsd/

A major responsibility of the ministry is to provide financial assistance to people in need. In addition they provide other benefits under the Healthy Kids program:

www.mhr.gov.bc.ca/factsheets/2005/healthy_kids.htm

PROVINCIAL - COMMUNITY

The following coalitions are intersectoral and provincial. There are numerous other BC Provincial organizations and regional and community coalitions that are active in ECD. In addition, young children and families are served by a variety of community based programs and Provincial organizations throughout BC, such as BC Council for Families, BC Association of Family Resource Programs and Federation of Child and Family Services of BC. Many of these organizations are First Call Coalition partners. See the First Call website for links: www.firstcallbc.org. For additional community groups see “Other Community Initiatives” in this document.

BC ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE SOCIETY

www.acc-society.bc.ca

The BC Aboriginal Childcare Society was established in 1995 to administer the BC share of the of the federal government’s First Nations/Inuit Childcare Initiative. The Society exists to help Aboriginal communities develop high quality, integrated, community child care services and to build an Aboriginal childcare network.

See their publication *An Environmental Scan of Aboriginal Early Childhood Development Programs in BC: The Winds of Change*, written by Kathleen Jamieson, edited by Karen Isaac, January 2007

www.acc-society.bc.ca/files_new/pdf_documents/ACCSscan28feb07.pdf

THE DIETITIANS OF CANADA, BC REGION

www.dietitians.ca/resources/resourcesearch.asp?fn=view&contentid=1944

Produced a 2007 report, *The Cost of Eating in BC*, in partnership with the Community Nutritionists Council of BC demonstrating that those living on a low income, including families with young children on income assistance, have difficulty accessing safe and healthy food.

FIRST CALL ECD ROUNDTABLE

www.firstcallbc.org

First Call’s ECD Roundtable is a provincial network of representatives from a wide variety of community organizations, funders, government agencies, research groups, and others committed to early childhood development.

They identified a “strong commitment to early childhood development” as one of the ‘Keys to Success’ for BC’s children and youth.

Members of the ECD Roundtable share information, track trends in ECD supports and programs, discuss policy options and are committed to ongoing action in support of ECD in BC.

Community Concerns about Income Assistance Rates

First Call: the BC Child and Youth Advocacy Coalition at www.firstcallbc.org/economicEquality-resources.html and SPARC BC at www.sparc.bc.ca/resources-and-publications/category/44/income-assistance/ have noted that families on assistance do not receive enough money to cover their basic living expenses. SPARC BC also describes the great difficulty single mothers have in receiving income assistance. The BC Branch of the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, found at www.policyalternatives.ca/bc_office_publications/ notes the challenges of poverty on BC’s families in several articles. In addition, the Dietitians of Canada have produced a report “[The Cost of Eating in BC](#)”. In the report, BC dietitians call for practical and achievable solutions to poverty. See left.

Communities can join the meetings by teleconferencing. Meetings are held every second month.

The Roundtable developed the document *Early Childhood Development in BC: First Call's Framework for Action*, re-published in 2007. A copy can be obtained by contacting First Call at info@firstcallbc.org or downloaded from the website: www.firstcallbc.org/pdfs/EarlyChildhood/1-framework%202008.pdf.

An ECD Presentation Toolkit was developed to assist individuals when speaking to decision-makers and other influential groups and individuals about the importance of the early years and the need for community-based family and early childhood education and care services that are supported by effective social and fiscal policies: www.firstcallbc.org/earlyChildhood-resources.html

First Call conducted a survey of recruitment and retention issues in the ECE field in October/November 2007. The results of this survey can be found at: www.firstcallbc.org/earlyChildhood-whatsNew.html

HEALTHY CHILD BC FORUMS

www.childhealthbc.ca/bchcda/index.php

On November 8, 2004, this forum addressed the question, “What should we do in BC, as a matter of policy, if we want to give our kids the healthiest possible start in life?”

It was sponsored by government, academic, and community partners and included speakers from Sweden, UK, New Zealand, Canada, USA and Australia. The products of the forum are available on the HELP website above. These include the Working/Evidence Papers that are being used by the Ministry of Health to identify Core ECD Programs. The text and video presentations of the keynote speakers are also available on this site.

The **BC Healthy Child Development Alliance (BCHCDA)** was developed as a result of the forum and is currently chaired by Dr. Robert Peterson.

BCHCDA hosted a second Forum in November 2007. ‘Moving Forward Together: How Do We Make It Happen?’ (proceedings on the website).

Documents produced by BCHDA are:

- *Improving the Mental Health of Young Children: A Discussion Paper Prepared for the British Columbia Healthy Child Development Alliance*, by Charlotte Waddell, November 2007, www.vch.ca/population/docs/BCHCDA.pdf
- *A Broad Framework for the Early Years in British Columbia*, December, 2005, www.jillhoubc.com/wp-content/uploads/2008/09/bc_early_years_framework.pdf
- *Principles, Policy and Practice: Supporting Children with Special Needs in British Columbia*, by Jayne Pivik Human Early Learning Partnership University of British Columbia, www.earlylearning.ubc.ca/documents/2008/Principles-Practice-and-Policy-for-Children-with-Special-Needs-in-BC.pdf

HUMAN EARLY LEARNING PARTNERSHIP (HELP) ECD MAPPING

www.earlylearning.ubc.ca/mapping/

HELP is an interdisciplinary research partnership that facilitates the creation of new knowledge, and helps apply this knowledge to the community by working directly with government and communities.

One of HELP's major initiatives is the Early Child Development (ECD) Mapping Project that aims to understand early child development in neighbourhoods across BC. By mapping information by neighbourhood, researchers can better understand how various factors influence children's development and health. Policy makers and community members can use this information to develop effective policies and programs to help children get the best possible start in life. Data is now available for every community in the province.

A detailed overview of the ECD Mapping Project, the Early Development Instrument, and additional research projects sponsored through HELP and lists of community resources are available at www.earlylearning.ubc.ca. Neighbourhood and provincial maps can be viewed and downloaded from the "British Columbia ECD Mapping Portal":

www.earlylearning.ubc.ca/mapping/mapping_portal.htm

SUCCESS BY 6®

www.successby6bc.ca

Success By 6® is an initiative dedicated to ensuring that children ages 0 to 6 have access to programs that support their healthy growth and development. Success By 6® builds community through engaging all sectors in early childhood development and funding programs that strengthen services for young children and families.

In BC, Success By 6® is a unique partnership among credit unions, United Ways and the provincial government through the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD). Since April 2003, the Provincial Partnership has successfully facilitated the development of Success By 6® initiatives that reach over 150 communities across the province, bringing together hundreds of key leaders from all sectors (business, labor, health, education, social services, Aboriginal communities, etc), and raising millions of dollars worth of contributions, including cash and in-kind donations. Funds raised in local communities will stay in the community to support identified early childhood development priorities.

ECD RESOURCE DIRECTORIES

CHILD CARE SEARCH TOOL

childcareinfo.gov.bc.ca/childcaresearch/search.aspx

This search tool enables you to locate licensed child care facilities in your City/Town/Community.

CHILD CARE RESOURCE & REFERRAL PROGRAMS

- www.childcarechoices.ca provides child care information and a list of community services for the North, Interior and Fraser Valley Regions.
- www.childcareresource.ca provides child care information for Vancouver Coastal Region.

IN YOUR GRASP

www.inyourgrasp.bc.ca

This on-line resource for BC families covers a wide range of topics and has been developed by the Adoptive Families Association of BC, BC Federation of Foster Parents and Federation of Aboriginal Foster Parents (FAFP).

ECD COMMUNITY COALITIONS

CHILDREN FIRST

The provincially-funded initiative for building ECD community capacity, discussed earlier on page 21, can be found at www.bchildrenfirst.ca and provides links to many communities who maintain their own local Children First website.

SUCCESS BY 6® WEBSITES:

- Success By 6® BC
www.successby6bc.ca
- Success By 6® Fraser Valley, BC
www.uwfv.bc.ca/successx6.htm
- The Calgary Children's Initiative
www.childreninitiative.ca
- Success By 6® Edmonton's Children
www.unitedthisistheway.com/successby6.htm
- Success By 6® Ottawa
www.successby6ottawa.ca

Links to BC Community ECD Framework Documents/Strategic Plans and Memoranda of Understanding

- Making a Commitment to Early Childhood Development: The **Fraser Region** Strategic Framework:
www.fraserhealth.ca/News/Publications/EarlyChildhoodDevelopment/Documents/FrameworkBookWeb125.pdf
- A Memorandum of Understanding between Make Children First Initiative of **Kamloops** and School District SD #73 (Kamloops/Thompson):
www.makechildrenfirst.ca/cms/index.php/committees/steering-committee/memorandum-of-understanding.html
- Early Childhood Development Plan for the **Central Okanagan**. A Report On The Process Of Generating Community Priorities For Young Children. June 2007:
www.catchcoalition.ca
- Advancing an Integrated Neighbourhood Based System of Early Childhood Development, Learning and Care Services in **Vancouver**. MOU June 2006
www.vsb.bc.ca/NR/rdonlyres/004CB8A7-84E7-41FA-A23C-3CB6E00EF6BE/0/ECDMOUsigned.pdf
- Building Together: A Model for the Community-Based System of Services for Early Childhood Development. Vancouver Island
www.playvictoria.org/assets/who-are-we/pdf/community_reports_model.pdf

- Success By 6® Kingston
www.successby6ofkfla.com/index.html
- Success By 6® Stormont, Dundas & Glengarry
www.uclc.ca/success/
- 123 Go - Montreal
www.centraide-mtl.org/centraide/static/where/default.htm
- United Way of American Success By 6®
www.national.unitedway.org/sb6/

COALITION OF CHILD CARE ADVOCATES OF BC

www.cccabc.bc.ca

A voluntary organization of interested citizens—parents, child care providers, community organizations, and unions—that support development of a comprehensive, accessible and affordable community based non-profit child care system in BC and across Canada.

OTHER COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

There are numerous community groups and organizations that are actively contributing to Early Childhood Development. Only major community initiatives are included in the outline above.

Thanks to HELP, a comprehensive list of ECD related websites is available at:

www.earlylearning.ubc.ca/links_comm_nat.htm

A shorter annotated list is available at: www.earlylearning.ubc.ca/resources_comm.htm

Please consult these sites for additional community initiatives.