



Coordinator's Report

February 2014

January has been a busy month, which means there's lots of good things happening with the CYC.

We're growing! I had the privilege of doing three CYC orientations with new members Ken, Kathy and Nathan. It is fabulous to have their energy and insights included at this table.

This month I had opportunity to meet with MLA Laurie Throness and MP Mark Strahl. I was able to explain some of the ways the CYC is currently moving its strategic plan forward, the importance of our annual Consultation and some of the ongoing issues in our community, in particular poverty and mental illness. Neither knew very much about the CYC and were amazed at the work being accomplished by the CYC committees and sub-committees. Both were very interested in our "Every Door is the Right Door" initiative, and were impressed that we had buy in from the agencies. Laurie Throness has agreed to attend a portion of our Consultation and Mark Strahl has given me permission to leave CYC flyers and information in his waiting area.

I have been part of all the aspects included in planning our 2014 Consultation. I am very excited about our keynote speakers and feel what they have to share will be relevant to both professionals and community members attending our annual event. As part of moving the CYC strategic plan forward I have been part of the 'Every Door is the Right Door' working group planning and facilitating our Administrative Professional Day. The first Pro-D Day was January 31 and was well received. Our next one takes place this Thursday, February 6. I will have a full report on these training events for our March CYC meeting.



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Next week is Sexual Exploitation Awareness week. I have been working with the Community Action Team to organize and publicize the events we have planned; February 11, 7:30 pm Merlyn Horton, February 12, Rally at the Courthouse, 11:00 am and workshop later at 1:00 pm.

To help move the Early Years Strategic Plan forward, I have been working with Charlotte Debryun, the School District Early Year's coordinator and with Glenda Hemminger from CCRR on planning a Childhood Expo at Cottonwood Mall called "All 4 Kids". In response to Chilliwack's children showing high levels of social and emotional vulnerability, the Early Year's Committee is planning an information blitz with the hope of reaching parents, preschool and daycare workers with messages on the importance of play and how to promote healthy development. This month I had the privilege of doing an Early Years Orientation with Tami Quinn from Sto:lo Health. We look forward to her contribution to our committee. I have received final updates for the Parent Resource Guide and hope to have it uploaded to the CYC website by the end of the week.

This past month I met with the website steering committee. Traffic on our website continues to grow. We would like to increase the research component and discussed ways we could continue to fund childandyouth.com.

This past month the Eastern Regional CYC met. We discussed common issues in our communities and how we could collaborate through joint training and pooling of resources. Early Years Social and Emotional vulnerability will be one of the things we focus on for our next meeting. We were also told of some fantastic grant opportunities for youth initiatives that will come to our community through VYPER.



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I was able to take part in January's "Lunch and Learn" at Sto:lo; time well spent. Last week I took part in the Aboriginal Family Gathering at Central Elementary Community School and was able to give out information regarding resources as well as make connections with other agencies.

This afternoon the Middle Year's Committee will reconvene. I look forward to working together with the interested members in determining a plan to help us move forward and create awareness around the specific needs of the Middle Years.

I continue to be grateful for the interesting and talented people I get to work with and meet. I see your passion for the children, youth and their families in our community and count it a privilege to represent you by way of the CYC.