



**When:** March 8, 2018, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm  
**Where:** Room 102, Central Elementary

**Recorder:** Annette Williams

**Co-Chairs:** Nicole Driscoll and Karen Steegstra

**ATTENDANCE:**

Cathy LaHayes	High Road Academy	<a href="mailto:CLaHaise@highroadacademy.com">CLaHaise@highroadacademy.com</a>
Christy Brown	Chilliwack Community Services (CCS)	<a href="mailto:brownc@comserv.bc.ca">brownc@comserv.bc.ca</a>
Clara Penati	Ann Davis Transition Society	<a href="mailto:cpenati@anndavis.org">cpenati@anndavis.org</a>
Debbie Denault	Chilliwack Learning Society (CLS)	<a href="mailto:debbied@chilliwacklearning.com">debbied@chilliwacklearning.com</a>
Etienne Nemanishen	Public Health Dietitian, Fraser East	<a href="mailto:Etienne.nemanishen@fraserhealth.ca">Etienne.nemanishen@fraserhealth.ca</a>
Jennifer Fletcher	Fraser Health	<a href="mailto:jennifer.fletcher@fraserhealth.ca">jennifer.fletcher@fraserhealth.ca</a>
Karen Steegstra	Child and Youth Committee Coordinator	<a href="mailto:chwkchildandyouthcoord@gmail.com">chwkchildandyouthcoord@gmail.com</a>
Karin Rempel	Sardis Doorway	<a href="mailto:sardisdoorway@shaw.ca">sardisdoorway@shaw.ca</a>
Kiran Sidhu	FV Child Development Centre (FVDCDC)	<a href="mailto:ksidhu@fvcdc.org">ksidhu@fvcdc.org</a>
Krystil Choy	Fraser Health	<a href="mailto:Krystil.Choy@fraserhealth.ca">Krystil.Choy@fraserhealth.ca</a>
Leanne Bishop	Fraser Health	<a href="mailto:Leanne.Bishop@fraserhealth.ca">Leanne.Bishop@fraserhealth.ca</a>
Mark Klassen	Chilliwack School District	<a href="mailto:mark_klassen@sd33.bc.ca">mark_klassen@sd33.bc.ca</a>
Michelle Vandaele	Fraser Health	<a href="mailto:Michelle.Vandaele2@fraserhealth.ca">Michelle.Vandaele2@fraserhealth.ca</a>
Monique Goerzen	UFV	<a href="mailto:monique.goerzen@ufv.ca">monique.goerzen@ufv.ca</a>
Nicole Driscoll	Chilliwack School District	<a href="mailto:nicole_driscoll@sd33.bc.ca">nicole_driscoll@sd33.bc.ca</a>
Nicole Misura	FVDCDC	<a href="mailto:nmisura@fvcdc.org">nmisura@fvcdc.org</a>
Shannon Carmichael	Central Gateway for Families/ Community School Coordinator	<a href="mailto:ccecss@gmail.com">ccecss@gmail.com</a>
Sheila Cayer	Fraser Health	<a href="mailto:Sheila.cayer@fraserhealth.ca">Sheila.cayer@fraserhealth.ca</a>
Sheri Josephson	YMCA	<a href="mailto:sheri.josephson@vanymca">sheri.josephson@vanymca</a>
Tami Quinn	Sto:lo Nation	<a href="mailto:Tami.Quinn@stolonation.bc.ca">Tami.Quinn@stolonation.bc.ca</a>

**REGRETS:**

Dan Bibby	MCFD	<a href="mailto:daniel.bibby@gov.bc.ca">daniel.bibby@gov.bc.ca</a>
Jane Elliott	Chilliwack School District	<a href="mailto:jane_elliott@sd33.bc.ca">jane_elliott@sd33.bc.ca</a>
Jenn Carmen	Sto:lo Nation	<a href="mailto:Jenn.carman@stolonation.bc.ca">Jenn.carman@stolonation.bc.ca</a>
Jody Elliott	FV Child Development Centre (FVDCDC)	<a href="mailto:jelliott@fvcdc.org">jelliott@fvcdc.org</a>
Kari Penner	FVDCDC	<a href="mailto:kpenner@fvcdc.org">kpenner@fvcdc.org</a>
Mandy McMahon	Bowls of Hope	<a href="mailto:admin@chilliwackbowlsofhope.com">admin@chilliwackbowlsofhope.com</a>
Tara Cummings	YMCA	<a href="mailto:tara.cummings@gv.ymca.ca">tara.cummings@gv.ymca.ca</a>
Trish Ackland	Child and Youth Mental Health	<a href="mailto:trish.ackland@gov.bc.ca">trish.ackland@gov.bc.ca</a>



**1. Welcome and Introductions**

[#onegoodbook](#), a Chilliwack Learning Society social media sharing campaign, has launched. Please participate by posting on Facebook your story about a great read, or when/how reading ventured into your life and affected it. Make the post public on the post settings, and use #onegoodbook. Please send your post to Chilliwack Learning Society (@ChilliwackLearning) via Facebook or [info@chilliwacklearning.com](mailto:info@chilliwacklearning.com), for them to share. Invite your clients to do the same, if suitable. Please help spread the word.

**2. Approval of Agenda – Approved**

**3. Approval of Minutes of last meeting – Approved**

**4. Business Arising from the minutes**

**a. Let's Play updates**

The next event will be March 14<sup>th</sup> at Sto:lo, Building 10, from 10:00-noon. Samoyan dancers will dance with the children, there will be storytelling, crafts, snacks, perhaps a game, and an outdoor scavenger hunt.

June 5<sup>th</sup> has two outdoors events, a morning one at the Blue Heron (hosted by Sardis Doorway) and an afternoon one at the Community Forest (hosted by Public Health and the YMCA).

**b. Aboriginal Implementation Funds**

Jenn Carmen completed an Aboriginal Implementation Funds application for Sto:lo's Early Childhood programs, and submitted it to the Early Years committee for review/endorsement.

**ACTION:** Tami will talk with Jenn to gain clarification about the application, request more details, and email a revision to Karen for disbursement.

**IDEA:** For next year's application, at an Early Years committee meeting, discuss which organizations may be offering Aboriginal content in their programming and use the funds to support those programs.

**c. Child Development Guide**

Karen has emailed the designer the updates. MCFD reduced the sponsorship amount from \$6,000 to \$4,000 but community funding has made up the shortfall.

**d. Circle of Security**

Sessions have been going great, the participation level has been very good (about 12 people/session), and parents are interested in more sessions.

Once the YMCA re-opens they will be able to offer their premises for sessions and provide childcare options.

**e. Conversation April 26 Event**

Kiran has agreed to be the keynote speaker.

**5. New Business/Other Business**

**a. [Imagination Library](#) Fraser Valley – Sharon Blaker**

The program will cover from Hope to Langley, starting first in Chilliwack. The Optimist Club of Chilliwack is the non-profit partner. Sharon Blaker from Rotary Club of Chilliwack is on the advisory committee.



Imagination Library has distributed 100,000,000 books around the world, in participating communities such as the U.S., Belize, Australia, Great Britain, and Canada. The books are distributed directly from Random House through post. Books are for children 0-5 years of age, culturally appropriate for the country being shipped to (for example, books to Canada have Canadian content).

There is a cost to “sponsor”, but funding is available if needed. It is \$215 for 5 years of books or \$43/year. Chilliwack wants to ensure children have the books until their 5<sup>th</sup> year. The program will ship to a community only if there are 6 months of book fees committed and in hand.

Children will be sponsored according to when they registered, not according to need.

The Fraser Valley program is looking for volunteers for a variety of responsibilities. One of these is educating parents. A meeting would be scheduled with the family once the first book has been received, to talk about the importance of reading to children. There would also be follow up a few months later.

The goal is for the Fraser Valley program to be operational by September 2018. Funds, infrastructure, and people need to be in place prior to that occurring.

Rotary International partners with the initiative.

For more information contact [sblaker@shaw.ca](mailto:sblaker@shaw.ca), 604-703-8087

**b. Nobody’s Perfect – Susan Foster**

This attachment-based parenting program is for parents of children aged 0-6 years.

Training is provided through the BC Council for Families. It is not a curriculum-based approach, but rather the facilitator structures the course content based on what the parents who attend want to discuss, drawing on their strengths and helping each other to come up with parenting solutions. There are facilitator training sessions 3-4 times a year for four days each. A foundational principle is to address the why before addressing the child’s behavior.

The targeted participant should meeting two risk factors from the following:

- Under 25 years of age;
- Incomplete education;
- Low income;
- Social/cultural geographical isolation;
- A single parent.

Agencies may be able to receive funding for snacks, transportation child-minding, and/or parent sponsorship. The total course cost is \$5,000-6,000. The desired number of participants is 10-12 people. More registrations than that maybe accepted, given the possibility that a percentage will not be able to commit.

The program is not intended to be mandated, but instead voluntary. Parents should not currently be in crisis; it is more of a prevention program, not a high level intervention program.

There is a series of five books, written at a low literacy level.



Facilitator training occurs primarily in Vancouver over a four day period, at a cost of \$500/person. Custom trainings are possible, if there are enough people in a community waiting to be trained and the venue is arranged by the community. This can be a cost effective approach if there are 12-20 people being trained.

Ruby Banga ([rubyb@bcccf.ca](mailto:rubyb@bcccf.ca)) arranges training.

There are materials on the [BC Council website](#).

**c. Outdoor Study Tour – Monique Goertzen**

The following is a summary of study tour that Monique attended in Scotland.

The range of free movement of children has decreased dramatically over the past few decades, though the risks to the child are lower than in previous generations.

Licensing circulated a Risk/Benefit analysis to be used when evaluating activities which may carry risk. In some cases the risk result is unarguable, but the benefit is considered to be impactful enough to proceed with the activity.

Something as simple as adding a hill to a playground can increase the amount of play opportunities and number of steps taken by the children who use the playground.

Safe Playgrounds have been studied and the result is that they aren't safer than other playgrounds. In some cases they're more dangerous.

As an aside comment, in northern Canadian communities Monique observed that children did not exhibit difficult behaviours in the outdoors as compared to indoors.

**d. Success By 6/ Office of the Early Years Provincial Conference Review**

Karen and other Early years coordinators attended. One of the items discussed was use of funds for programs rather than for coordinators. The coordinators voiced that program delivery is difficult when there is no coordinator to network the deliverers and answer to deliverables.

**6. Agency Updates**

**YMCA** – Will talk about the Provincial Childcare Advisory Council & Rollout will be added to the April 5<sup>th</sup> Early Years meeting. In the cases of childcare cost reduction, providers need to ensure that the reduction is passed down to the guardians as cost savings. Annual fee increases of about 2% are fine.

**ACTION (aside conversation):** Rob Lees's NLC speaker sessions are coming to an end. Let Karen know if you have any topics that you would like to learn more about, so that sessions can continue. FVCDC is interested in receiving a list of new sessions to include in an environmental scan of programs being offered in Chilliwack.

**8. Next Meeting:** April 5, Central Elementary.

**9. Adjournment:** 3:05 pm

MAKE  
Children  
First

