



## Minutes of the Early Childhood Development Roundtable

Wednesday, September 16, 2015, 9:30 am – Noon

United Way of the Lower Mainland, 4543 Canada Way, Burnaby

### In Attendance:

Alison Bledsoe, Consultant (chair)  
Carrie McLellan-Haqq, Richmond  
Society for Community Living  
Crystal Janes, Westcoast Child Care  
Resource Centre  
Debbie Jackson, Family Resources  
Programs BC  
Dorla Harris, MOSAIC  
Emily Mliczko, Early Childhood  
Educators of BC  
Graham Giles, BC Aboriginal Child  
Care Society  
Jan Waldbillig, Westcoast Family  
Centres  
Joan Beaty, University Women's  
Club Vancouver  
Joseph Dunn, Success By 6  
Karen Sadler, Windows of  
Opportunity

Kathy Pitlar, MCFD - Aboriginal  
Service Innovations, Early Years  
Mab Oloman, Coalition of Child Care  
Advocates of BC (recorder)  
Mary Burgaretta, BC Aboriginal  
Child Care Society  
Pam Preston, Westcoast Child Care  
Resources  
Penny Coates, Surrey/White Rock  
Children First  
Robin Diakiw, Langley ECD  
SFU student  
Sofia Joensuu, Canadian Red Cross  
Sue Irwin, CCRR – Vancouver  
Coastal Region  
Terri Russell, Health Sciences  
Association, student  
Tessa Graham, Provincial Office for  
the Early Years

### Phone:

Gayle Holtom, Coca Schau &  
Rosemary Craig, Skeena Child Care  
Resource & Referral  
June Stewart, Shuswap Children's  
Association  
Lynell Anderson, Consultant  
Sharon Gregson, Coalition of Child  
Care Advocates of BC/Collingwood  
Neigh. House  
Wendy McMahon, MCFD  
Adrienne Montani, First Call

### Regrets:

Jennie Hoffman, Frog Hollow  
Neighbourhood House  
Mandy McMahon, Discovery  
Playhouse Children's Society

*Please note: Due to the different set-up for this meeting the tape recorder was not able to accurately pick up the voices of those on the phone.*

## 1. Welcomes and Agenda

- Introductions and regrets.  
Alison Bledsoe in the chair first acknowledged the privilege of meeting of unceded Coast Salish Territory.
- Agenda adopted with the addition of a First Call Update.

## 2. Previous Meeting Minutes - May 20, 2015

- Reviewed and approved.
- Suggested actions arising
  - Compile 1-pager illustrating spending on the many small initiatives being undertaken – under consideration
  - Letter to federal Minister Ambrose et al re CAPC – decision to wait until after the federal election but the issue is covered in the Federal Election Kit.
  - Commercial child care discussion – deferred to next meeting
- Some changes at MCFD:



- Joan Easton is moving on and we thank her for being a liaison. Joan informed Adrienne that the child care survey results are not yet available.
- Teresa Butler is also moving on and we thank her for her contributions.
- Wendy McMahon is replacing Teresa. Welcome Wendy.
- Jonathan Berry will give update on child care registry at the next meeting.

### 3. ECD Sector Updates and Presentations

- ***MCFD – Provincial Office for the Early Years, Tessa Graham – Review of local early years planning in BC and discussion of this document***

Tessa Graham shared her early observation of the review to date and after the meeting provided the following summary for the minutes.

Information was shared by the Provincial Office for the Early Years regarding the early years planning consultation underway from May-Sept 2015. The consultation includes three prongs: an online consultation seeking feedback from the document "help us plan to plan"; targeted consultation with a Number of provincial organizations and key groups; and a small think tank occurring in mid-October. It is anticipated that a summary of the consultations will be shared in a public document. It was noted the importance of being as transparent as possible. Early feedback shared included observations about weak governance: no accountability at tables, especially from public partners; not decision-makers; too many tables leading to duplication and frustration; Regions and school districts have many tables to attend; current structure lends itself to competition for funding between tables and there is a need and desire for structures that support collaboration and accountability.

Questions and comments arising from and in response to Tessa's presentation...

- How is input being acquired about ECD from refugee and immigrant community perspectives and the related federal government authorities? Public partner decision-makers don't reflect the diversity among populations to be served; but expertise exists at the ground level.
- Who are the individuals that will be invited to the small think tank in October and what will their task be?  
A: Alison Bledsoe is one of the participants in the think tank. They will work through some internal documents and come up with some models.

Comments related to the involvement of public partners:

- School districts have different issues based on size and capacity.



A: Maureen Dockendorf, Ministry of Education Superintendent of Early Years will do a scan of school districts to eventually derive policies for the early years. They will be looking to build something for large school districts that will likely be different from small districts and they are looking to where MCFD can work with the Ministry of Education.

- It should be noted that Municipal parks and rec people are often involved in early years programming and should be consulted and many communities do not have a social planner.

Other comments/questions:

- Child care is a great local need but coordination and integration will not address this need.
- Early childhood educators try to get to the tables but it is difficult... what about a focus group of ECE ... they have valuable insight on the needs of families and children.

A: That is a good suggestion.

- Where do supports and services for children with special needs fit in?

In conclusion Tessa said her plan is to target people who can make change, to strengthen the model. For example when she meets with local leaders and decision makers (Health, School, MCFD) she has found that they may not have even known each other but once connected they may start problem solving.

In response participants' noted that with respect to the child care sector problem solving at the local level is not a panacea. There is no structure, no decision maker(s) or community development vehicle for child care. No matter how much collaboration and integration there is at the local level it will not address high parent fees and ECE wages or increase supply. While MCFD may be relying on the Provincial Child Care Council for child care input, the voice of ECE's who work directly with children and families and understand their community needs are not reflected in the Council's membership.

Tessa responded that the Provincial Child Care Council is the Minister's advisory group and therefore hers. She also said that other initiatives are developing but details are not yet available.

- **MCFD – Child Care Survey results**

Issue deferred as results are not yet available.

- **MCFD Updates – Aboriginal Service Innovations – Early Years (ASI-EY) Kathy Pitlar**

ASI-EY supports the goal to build a sustainable and accountable funding approach to enhance direct early years services for Aboriginal children ages 0-6 and their families. Ongoing funding of \$6 million dollars is available starting in the 2014/15 fiscal year.



In the fall of 2014 there were 120 applications for funding that resulted in 36 signed contracts with 31 Aboriginal agencies.

A summary of Kathy's presentation and the July 2015 ASI-EY Newsletter with more detail on projects funded are attached to these minutes.

Questions and comments arising from and in response to Kathy's presentation...

- Identification of Aboriginal children has come up as an issue for identifying need. Also, at the rumour level, word is that new computer system (ICM?) has created a drop in identified Aboriginal children. Are stats about need available?

A: Maybe someone from SERF can respond to those questions.

- As the deliverables and outcomes are being monitored will there be an attempt to share evaluation results and can they inform the provincial early years evaluation? The evaluation tool has been critiqued for lacking cultural competence.

A: Good questions/points – at this point unable to comment or commit.

- Will there be any expansion in the next round of applications?

A: This depends on the amount of funding made available.

- Are on- and off-reserve applications treated the same? A: Yes.
- First Call's ECD Roundtable could consider writing a letter to government about the need for a proper funding formula that responds to the evidence of need among Aboriginal children and families.

- **Correspondence with MCFD re child care registry:** First Call letter and MCFD [response \(http://firstcallbc.org/publications/mcfd-response-to-first-call-roundtable-on-child-care-registry\)](http://firstcallbc.org/publications/mcfd-response-to-first-call-roundtable-on-child-care-registry)

Jonathan Berry has agreed to participate in the next meeting to provide an update and for further discussion. Tessa noted that since the letter there has been a shift in Ministry thinking about the registry and what they are talking about is an enhanced child care search map... more robust than the current map.

A small group comprised of Pam, Crystal, Emily, Penny and Bev will brainstorm a set of questions for him.

- **Child care capital grants to commercial operators.** Discussion deferred.
- **BC government response to First Call's Early Years *Call to Action* letter**  
Response from Minister Cadieux (<http://tinyurl.com/qxtb25w>) was basically a summary of the early years strategy - here is what we spent and here is what we are doing. It was a pro forma interchange of letters.



Discussion:

Participants considered how to profile and promote the *Call to Action*. Suggestions included: taking the Call on the road; train the trainers activities; translation of some of the material. There has been a special appeal to First Call members for funds to help promote the Call.

- **First Call's Federal Election Toolkit**

(<http://firstcallbc.org/publications/2015-federal-election-toolkit/>)

Federal Election tool kit will be available soon. It covers CAPC, parental leave, Aboriginal Head Start, ECE and Care, Tax Policy, immigrant/refugee settlement, children of incarcerated parents, FN child welfare services, and many other issues.

- **First Call's provincial budget brief to be presented September 21<sup>st</sup>.**

(<http://firstcallbc.org/publications/2016-provincial-budget-submission-will-bcs-2016-budget-put-children-and-youth-first/>)

- **Policy changes from MSDSI for single parents**

Any questions about the roll-out of the child support policy changes or the new Single Parent Employment Initiative (SPEI)– please follow-up with Adrienne (running out of time at this meeting). Earnings exemption were also raised again and the federal CPP Orphan's Benefit will no longer be clawed back. The referral of multi-barriered welfare recipients to the SPEI is complex.

4. **Member Updates (Individuals and Organizations):** Time ran out. No member updates this meeting.

5. **Future Meeting Dates:**

2105: Wednesday, October 28 9:30 am to noon

2016: all 9:30 am to noon:

Wednesday, January 20

Wednesday, March 16

Wednesday, May 18

Wednesday, September 7

Wednesday, October 26

## Aboriginal Service Innovations – Early Years (ASI-EY)

### Background:

- In the fall of 2014, the Ministry signed 36 contracts with 31 Aboriginal agencies to provide direct early years services to First Nations, Métis and Urban Aboriginal children, aged 0-6, and their families. These contracts offer services both on- and off-reserve under the *Aboriginal Service Innovations – Early Years Initiative*.
- The key priorities of the Call for Applications was to:
  - Support new and emerging Aboriginal Early Years services that provide direct service to Aboriginal children, ages 0-6, and their families.
  - Enable existing organizations to expand and increase innovative and culturally appropriate Aboriginal Early Years programs and services.
- The contracts are effective until March 31, 2016.

### ASI –EY Programs and Services Funded:

- Include outreach and home visiting, family literacy, developmental screening, speech-language development, pre-kindergarten school readiness, teaching circles for parents and children, elder support, welcome baby ceremonies, language and cultural activities, programs to support fathers and daycare.
- The following services/types of programs were also supported:
  - Enhancement to Aboriginal Early Years Programs (17/36 contracts)
  - Enhancement to Aboriginal Infant Development Programs (7/36 contracts)
  - Aboriginal Supported Child Development (8/36)
  - Speech and Language Therapy (11/36)
  - Physiotherapy (2/36); and
  - Occupational Therapy (6/36)
- 22/36 contracts are with First Nations communities on-reserve
- From January to March 2015, ASI-EY contracted agencies provided 25829 direct service hours and 4114 Aboriginal children were served. This was an increase from 9064 direct service hours and 1523 Aboriginal children served during the first quarter.
- Narrative reports indicate that culturally appropriate programs and services are well-received by families.

### Next Steps ASI-EY:

- Continue to monitor deliverables and outcomes
- By late fall determine the 2015/16 ASI-EY Application process

# ASI-EY

Aboriginal Service Innovations – EARLY YEARS

Newsletter and updates | July 2015

Contents:

1 | Program descriptions

7 | Map and communities

8 | Suggested resources



**Aboriginal Service Innovations – Early Years** provides funding to 31 agencies across British Columbia. Each program provides **direct services targeted at Aboriginal children** ages 0-6 and their families.

## Ayas Men Men

*Department Head:*  
Kelley McReynolds

Ayas Men Men (Squamish Nation) has implemented the **Shewaynewas Family Program**, an expansion of existing services offered by the organization.

Since the beginning of the ASI-EY initiative, the program model has shifted from drop-in to an intake-based model.

Shewaynewas provides literacy, occupational therapy, language and culture, speech pathology and ECD programming

From January 2015 to March 2015, ASI-EY funded agencies provided **25829 direct service hours**, and **4144 children** were served.

This was an increase from **9064 direct service hours** and **1523 children** served during the first quarter.

## Carrier Sekani

*ECD Manager:*  
Dawne Persson

Carrier Sekani Family Services offers the **Best Beginnings Outreach Program (BBOP)**.

This program utilizes mobile units throughout the service area, for children ages 0-7.

BBOP increases the accessibility to assessment, diagnosis and early intervention services while providing support to Aboriginal ECD programming.

## Circle of Indigenous Nations

*Executive Director:*  
Kris Taks

Circle of Indigenous Nations (COINS) provides services to Aboriginal children ages 0-6.

The program also coordinates and provides support to non-Aboriginal Early Years programs to increase integration and outreach of cultural programming and activities in ECD.



## FVACFSS

*Supervisor:*  
Janice Olson

FVACFSS - Fraser Valley Aboriginal Children and Family Services Society offers **Raising Up a Family** program, and provides direct services to children ages 0-6 within the Abbotsford area.

Secure attachment, healthy environments, education success and positive discipline programming are offered, and all programming is based upon the Medicine Wheel and 7 Sacred Teachings.

## Gitanyow Human Services

*Health Director:*  
Wanda Good

Since the beginning of the ASI-EY initiative, Gitanyow Human Services has expanded their Community Health Team with the addition of an Early Years support worker and an Early Years Prenatal support worker.

Programming includes **Welcoming Babies Ceremonies**, traditional feasts and various traditional seasonal activities aimed to revitalize cultural connections among community members and children.

## Kw'umut Lelum

*Program Manager:*  
Thea Hitchcock

Kw'umut Lelum's **Four Seasons Early Years** (FESY) provides programming focused on positive parenting, language and culture, traditional craft, storytelling and drumming, dancing and singing.

FSEY has also implemented a Community Kitchen program, a Toy Lending Library and provides access to parental support groups.

*“A more cultural approach to parenting has given our families a sense of belonging and self-esteem. Families have expressed an interest in learning more about their culture & traditions.”*

## Lake Babine Nation

*Executive Director:*  
Garry Klugie

Lake Babine Nation Daycare **Skakhatsin Lee Bey Yign/Woyenne** is an infant to K4 facility delivering Early Years programs. Lake Babine Nation has provided increased hours of operation and accessibility to programming through ASI-EY funding.

The program offers a coordinated and supportive Early Years transportation system, outreach and home visiting as well as inter-program collaboration. Elders also provide weekly language and culture lessons

## Laxgalts'ap Village Government

*LLELP Coordinator:*  
Liza Haldane

Laxgalts'ap Village Government offers the **Lisims Early Learning Partnership** (LELP) program, which delivers programming for Daxgadim Anluuhlkw, Ready Set Learn, Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, Welcome Baby Bags, Speech and Language Screenings, Auditory Screenings, Literacy Borrow Bags, Elder support and ECD curriculum.

All of the programs and curriculum are specifically developed for the Nisga'a Nation.

## Lii Michif Otipemisiwak

*ECD Manager:*  
Jana Stewart

Lii Michif Otipemisiwak Family and Community Services offers the **Sharing Michif Teachings** program and provides culturally based prevention and support services including AIDP and ASCD programming.

Lii Michif offers Michif Baybee Circle, Traditional Feasts, Sashing Ceremonies and the Father's Trading Post program that offers support specifically for Aboriginal Fathers.



## Little Shuswap

*Daycare Manager:*  
Dorothy Munro

Little Shuswap Indian Band has launched the **Early Literacy – Love of Books** program to ensure children 3 months to 6 years old are prepared to enter the elementary school environment.

The program focuses on development of skill through one-on-one and group interactions, activities and games as well as stories and poems.

Support services for caregivers of children in the program are also offered.

## LFVACS

*President:*  
Christine MacIntosh

Lower Fraser Valley Aboriginal Children's Society offers five programs: **Bringing Tradition Home**, Occupational Therapy, Speech and Language Therapy, **Little Voices** and **Little Feathers Family Resource**.

Group sessions are provided within Kwantlen First Nation, Aldergrove and Langley City.

Group activities include an Elder, cultural components; home visiting is also provided.

## Métis Community Services of BC

*Executive Director:*  
Kelly L'Hirondelle

Métis Community Services of BC holds two contracts with ASI-EY and provides services through the **Peetigway Early Childhood** program and the Aboriginal Fathers Engagement Program – **CATCH**.

The Peetigway Early Childhood program offers AIDP services for a number of communities in the region.

The CATCH program provides an ECD program as well as support and guidance for young fathers.



## Nanaimo Aboriginal Centre

*Executive Director:*  
Chris Beaton

Nanaimo Aboriginal Centre has implemented the **Aboriginal Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngers (HIPPPY)** program, and is an Aboriginal Outreach Program to urban Aboriginal and Métis families in the city of Nanaimo.

The program features outreach work done in collaboration with a resident Elder to ensure "school readiness" in the community.

This program includes assessment, speech therapy, literacy and referral services.

## NRAWS

*Executive Director:*  
Vina Bhen

Northern Rockies Aboriginal Women's Society (NRAWS) has expanded their current programming through adding additional staff hours for their AECD Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) support worker, AECD Pregnancy Outreach worker and ECD Cultural Support worker. They have also added a 1.0 FTE Clinical Supervisor Position.

The program provides early intervention services as well as oversight and supervision to all Aboriginal Early Years programming to ensure quality and appropriate services are delivered.

ASI-EY provides funding for services both on and off-reserve. Of the 36 total contracts, **twenty programs provide services off-reserve and twenty-two programs provide services on-reserve.**

### Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council

Manager:  
Lynette Lucas

Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council has expanded their AIDP programming for children 0-6 and their ASCD programming for families in Kyuquot.

They offer BDI - Battelle Developmental Instrument screening for all fourteen communities in the region.

Additionally, a **Moe the Mouse** program is offered for families in Ehattesaht, Nuchatlaht and Zeballos.

### Nzen'man'

Executive Director:  
Romona Baxter

Nzen'man' Early Years provides early years drop in programs, community outreach activities, home visits and the Nlak'pamux Early Years Table to children 0-6 and their families.

These services aim to increase the accessibility and scope of ECD programming within the communities the organization serves.

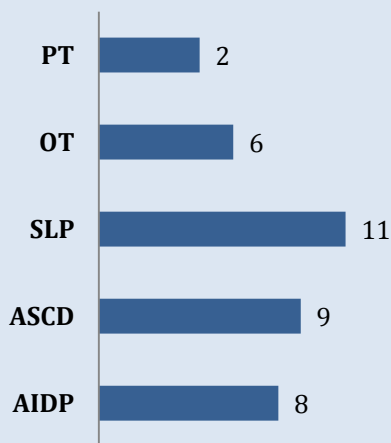
### Okanagan Nation Alliance

Manager:  
Jennifer Houde

Okanagan Nation Alliance's **Syilx Aboriginal Early Childhood Education Development Strategy** works with already existing AECD programs.

The program aims to fill gaps in the existing AECD programs by providing Early Intervention and Traditional Parenting Outreach Services to children 0-6 within the region

The various ASI-EY programs offer a range of services all across British Columbia. These services include **Aboriginal Supported Child Development, Aboriginal Infant Development, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy and Speech and Language Pathology.**



Programs offered by ASI-EY contractors

### Osoyoos Indian Band

Executive Director:  
Irene Greene

Osoyoos Indian Band currently provides ASCD programming for children within the region. With the implementation of ASI-EY funding waitlist issues have been addressed as well as gaps of service.

Expansion of service has included observation, assessment, referrals, individual service plans, support services and integration of language and culture to existing programs.

### Pauquachin First Nation

HeadStart Coordinator:  
Bernice Smith

Pauquachin First Nation offers the **Tsisum, tul sus ta'ult,tul** (Little Hands – Growing Together and Learning Together) for children 0-6 and their families.

Aboriginal Preschool, Infant Development/Early Years and parental programming is offered in an attempt to address gaps in programming and expansion of services within the surrounding community.

## Port Alberni Friendship Centre

Executive Director:  
Cyndi Stevens

Port Alberni Friendship Centre offers the **Teaching the Young Ones** program. This program includes Baby Welcoming Ceremonies, accessible and quality Aboriginal Early Years Services for children and families, **Enhanced Eating in Balance** sessions focusing on nutrition and traditional foods and **Nayi?ii** – cultural programming intended to strengthen connection to community and cultural teachings.

## Prince George Native Friendship Centre

Coordinator:  
Kim Chernenkoff

Prince George Native Friendship Centre holds two ASI-EY contracts; one ASCD focused program and an **Infant Toddler Day Care**.

The Day Care provides a culturally safe and culturally enriched environment that draws upon the wisdom of Elders and cultural advisors.

PGNFC also offers ECD programming, assessments and screenings.

## Seabird Island

Health Director:  
Carolyne Neufeld

Seabird Island's **Ey Qual** Program provides a Speech and Language program for children 0-6 within the surrounding communities.

The ASI-EY funding has allowed the program to expand its capacity and to provide clinical and intervention services, and to support those with identified communication delays in programs, during drop-in sessions or at home.

## Secwepemc Child and Family Services

Supervisor:  
Kathie McKinnon

Secwepemc Child and Family Services Agency provides Early Intervention services and Infant Mental Health Programming.

The Agency also provides Aboriginal Supported Child Development programs and Direct Support Services for children ages 0-6.

## Southern Stl'atl'imx

Coordinator:  
Jeanne Leeson

Southern Stl'atl'imx has expanded the direct services delivery hours for their existing ECD programs through the ASI-EY funding.

The Society also offers preschool services, speech and language therapy and Infant Development programming.

## Spirit of the Children Society

ECD Program Manager:  
Denise Lacerte

Spirit of the Children Society offers strength based programs for Early Years, ages 0-6.

The programming features Welcome Baby Ceremonies, Family nights, Elder Support and Aboriginal Infant Development Programs and Aboriginal Supported Child Development Consultation services.

*“Elder involvement during the 4 week summer program established the spiritual and cultural foundations of the program.”*



## Splatsin Society

*Executive Administrator:*  
Deanna Cook

Splatsin Tsm7aksaltn Teaching Centre Society holds two ASI-EY Contracts – an ASCD contract and an SLP contract.

The ASCD program ensures inclusiveness and integration of Aboriginal children with all ability levels in the child care programs.

The SLP program serves children both on and off-reserve.

Many programs bring together family groups. This little boy gets so excited to see Grandma that his legs start kicking wildly and he lets out a screech of excitement as soon as he hears his name called. He plays with Grandma during group time and they enjoy a meal together. Grandma and grandson are sad when they have to part, but they know that they will see each other again in only a few days.

## Stó:lō Nation Health

*Supervisor:*  
Tami Quinn

Stó:lō Nation Health Services provides a variety of services to children 0-6 and their families.

These services include access to Aboriginal Infant Development programs, Aboriginal Supported Child Development, Aboriginal HeadStart, Preschool, Daycare, Parent Child Assistance and Community Health programs.

## Tillicum Lelum

*Executive Director:*  
Grace Elliot-Nielsen

Tillicum Lelum has implemented the **Qec College** program.

The Qec College program is a pre-kindergarten school readiness program that is intended to close achievement gaps for Aboriginal children aged 0-6.



## UIWONA

*Executive Director:*  
Bill Musto

Upper Island Women of Native Ancestry (UIWONA) holds three ASI-EY contracts – Speech and Language Pathology, Cultural programming and Outreach programming.

UIWONA provides ECE programming with an Aboriginal focus, and targets Aboriginal children ages 0-6 on waitlists for services including vulnerable children and children not currently connected to AEY programming. Services offered include parental coaching and mentoring, the **Culture Makes My Family Strong Program**, and SLP collaboration with Comox Valley Child Development Association.

## Wachiay Friendship Centre

*Executive Director:*  
Michael Colclough

Wachiay Friendship Center offers the **Story Box** program and the **Circle of Support** program. Both programs are available for children ages 0-6 within the Courtney-Comox area.

Story Box focuses on cultural literacy, delivered through outreach ECE programming

Circle of Support is designed to increase weekly parental participation in wellness programming.

## Westbank First Nation

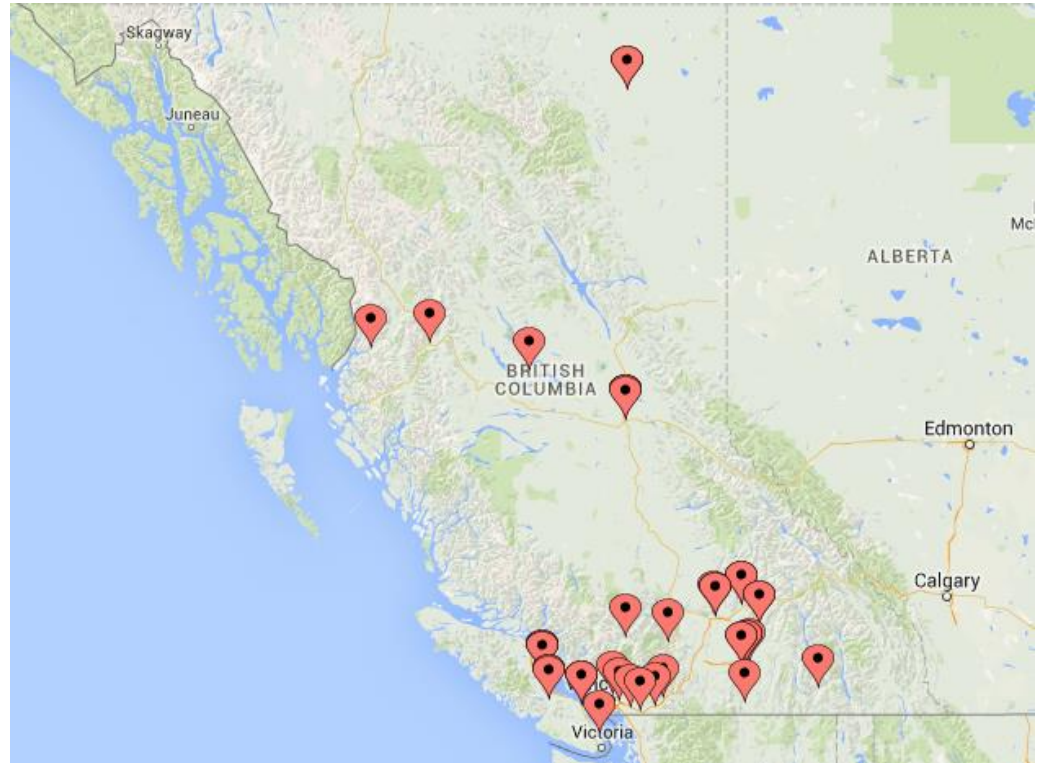
*Early Years Manager:*  
Margaret Eli

Westbank First Nation Early Years program aims to increase accessibility of Early Years programming and enhancing development of children ages 0-6 years in daycare/preschool.

The program provides Speech and Language therapy and incorporates language and culture in to curriculum.

# COMMUNITIES AT A GLANCE

- |                       |             |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| Squamish              | Kyuquot     |
| Comox Valley          | Ehattesaht, |
| Stellat'en            | Nuchatlaht  |
| Yekooche              | Zeballos    |
| Vanderhoof            | Kanaka      |
| Burns Lake            | Siska       |
| Nee Tahi Buhn         | Skuppah     |
| Skin Tyee             | Lytton      |
| Wetsuwet'en           | Nicomén     |
| Lake Babine           | Oregan      |
| Fort Babine           | Jack Creek  |
| West Kootenay         | Okanagan    |
| Boundary              | Penticton   |
| Abbotsford            | Osoyoos     |
| Gitanyow              | Splatsin    |
| Lake Cowichan         | Enderby     |
| Lyackson              | Stó:lō      |
| Penelakut             | Courtenay   |
| Qualicum              | Langley     |
| Snaw-naw-as           | Matsqui     |
| Snuneymuxw            | Kelowna     |
| Stz'uminus            | Nanaimo     |
| Gitlaxt'aamiks        | Gingolx     |
| Laxgalts'ap           | Merritt     |
| Gitwinksihlkw         | Katzie      |
| Kamloops              | Halalt      |
| Prince George         | Takla       |
| Lake Country          | Nadleh      |
| Peachland             | Aldergrove  |
| Westbank              | Shuswap     |
| Port Alberni          | Saik'uz     |
| Pauquachin            | Whut'en     |
| Cook's Ferry          | Cheslatta   |
| Seabird Island        | Kwantlen    |
| Upper Nicola          | Malahat     |
| Colville Confederated |             |
| Lower Similkameen     |             |
| Upper Similkameen     |             |



**Locations of the 31 ASI-EY Contracted Agencies**



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## ASI-EY suggested resources and links

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**LearnMichif.com** is presented by the Métis Youth British Columbia (MYBC) and the Métis Nation BC (MNBC). It provides content to “help people connect with their past and future as Métis People”.

<http://www.learnmichif.com/>

**Tiga Talk** is an interactive website that allows children to “explore the world” via videos and games. The website aims at improving speech and language skills, and connecting with cultural activities.

<http://tigatalk.com/>

**BC Aboriginal Funding Conference** hosted by the BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres – September 23-25, 2015. This event will bring together 60 federal, provincial, public and private funders to share their funding opportunities.

<https://funding-conference.bcaafc.com/>

**BC Aboriginal Child Care Society Conference**, November 5-7 2015. The 2015 Conference theme is *Footsteps toward a Brighter Future: Encouraging Healthy Living Practices*.

[http://www.acc-society.bc.ca/files\\_2/annual-conference.php](http://www.acc-society.bc.ca/files_2/annual-conference.php)

**Provincial Office for the Early Year’s** application for BC Early Years Centre funding – deadline October 28, 2015. Application process and applicable resources can be found in the following link.

[http://www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/early\\_years/index.htm](http://www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/early_years/index.htm)

**BC Early Years Centres initial evaluation.** Public webinars will be set up in the fall focussing on specific lessons from the report.

[http://www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/early\\_years/pdf/eyc\\_lessons\\_learned.pdf](http://www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/early_years/pdf/eyc_lessons_learned.pdf)

