

**Infant Development Program of British Columbia
Report to the Provincial Steering Committee
April 19, 2007
Vancouver Island Region
Submitted by Judith Oldfield**

March 12th-15th: Infant Massage Training in Victoria

I organized this 4 day training again this year as I have had many requests from consultants in this region and from consultants in other regions. Sylvie Hetu is an excellent trainer and all of us came away with a deeper understanding of the importance of the caregiver/infant relationship. There were 24 participants which included consultants from both AIDP and IDP from around the province in attendance.

March 10th FASD Conference in Victoria

I was only able to attend one day of this conference. It was impressive that researchers and participants were represented from countries around the world. Of particular interest was the workshop presented by Brenda McKnight on Understanding the Needs of the Caregiver: Therapeutic Intervention and Treatment. The information provided is helpful to anyone working with families who have a child with a disability. I have made available the sessions that I have attended and the Conference Syllabus for consultants in this region.

May 3-4th Regional meeting in Powell River

We are thrilled to be having our regional meeting in Powell River this year. Thank you to Winnie and Sandy for organizing this.

The focus will be on Infant Mental Health. I will be facilitating the ASQ: SE training on the afternoon of May 3rd. A surprise tribute dinner and celebration for Sarah Jepson is planned for the evening of May 3rd. On May 4th we will have Dana share an overview of IMH services that the IDP provides and Marilyn Carey will present on Infant Mental Health-a provincial perspective. We will have some time set aside in the afternoon for a "self care" activity and we will have opportunity to share resources and discuss training and education needs in the area of IMH. Our regional MCFD (CYSN) consultant Julia Rose has been invited as well as the AIDP consultants.

Teleconference Calls

Our next regional teleconference call will be scheduled in early June.

Regional News

I have been in contact with programs by email and by phone this month.

We have several new consultants in this as region. They are from programs in Victoria, Port Hardy, Port Alberni and Nanaimo. We are looking forward to seeing them at the Gesell training in May.

The Mount Waddington Child and Youth Committee which is a collaborative interagency group offering programs and services to children 0-19 years of age has approved a 6 month pilot project in the North Island for an interagency referral package. The funding was provided by the Ministry of Child and Family Development, Vancouver Island Health

Authority, School district # 85 and agency sponsors. The North Island IDP feels this will assist parents and encourage collaboration amongst professionals.

Serena Rata, a physiotherapist from Port Alberni has expressed an interest in volunteering for the Regional Physiotherapy Advisor position

I have had requests for Gesell, AEPS, ASQ, and ASQ: SE training. I am providing the ASQ: SE training at our regional meeting in May and ASQ training in Port Hardy in June. I was pleased to hear from Jackie Watts that her position as Regional Advisor for AIDP has been funded for another year.