

**Update**  
**August 25, 2006**

**We are winding down our email distribution updates and going to a full newsletter format via the website, we encourage you to register as a member on our website as early as possible to receive updates and notices in lieu of this current format. Thank you!!**

<http://www.playvictoria.org/signup.aspx>

## **News**

### **1) MAPPING EARLY CHILDHOOD ASSETS for GREATER VICTORIA WORK SESSION** **September 13th, 9:00am to 12noon**

PLAY and the Understanding the Early Years project invite you to a workshop to begin to identify community assets that are important to inventory and map in the Capital Region.

To find out more, visit the PLAY website News and Events at: [www.playvictoria.org](http://www.playvictoria.org)

Send RSVP and any questions to: Stephanie Gabel

[stephanie@playvictoria.org](mailto:stephanie@playvictoria.org)

Tel: 385-0716

### **2) The Health Council of Canada has just released a report titled *Their future is now: Healthy choices for Canada's children and youth.***

The report provides data on several health issues, including immunizations, injuries, obesity and mental health. It also highlights innovative programs across Canada that effectively addresses the well-being of children and youth.

Many of the report findings reinforce the approaches being undertaken by children's initiatives supported by United Ways / Centraides, including the effectiveness of:  
collaborative approaches involving many players in the community;  
undertaking a mix of strategies, including policy, service delivery and public education;  
adapting programs to meet community needs, based on the active involvement of parents and youth;  
outreach activities and strategies to address access issues; and soliciting and maintaining political commitment.

The report also recommends that community partners should establish local goals, strategic targets and meaningful indicators specific to children, youth and family health; and monitor and track progress in achieving goals.

[Accompanying video \[Windows Media Player required\]](#) features Healthy Child Manitoba.

The report and video are also available in French: <http://www.healthcouncilcanada.ca/fr/>

### **3) "From Restless Communities to Resilient Places", by the Federal government.**

<http://tamarackcommunity.ca/> (for report)

This report recommends a stronger role for communities, including *"All orders of government should work together to support community efforts to pursue their own visions for their future."*

## 4) Centre of Sustainability

### What is the Centre for Sustainability?

The Centre for Sustainability is a not-for-profit organization formed in 2003 to develop the capacity and organizational effectiveness of other not-for-profits across British Columbia. By helping to improve governance and management practices in the sector, we strengthen the ability of not-for-profits to deliver their vital programs and services to their communities.

### How can the Centre for Sustainability help your organization?

- Through our "Partners in Organizational Development" program, we offer grants for not-for-profits to do activities such as board development and strategic planning.
- Through our "TAP" program we offer grants to Aboriginal not-for-profits to improve organizational effectiveness.
- Our website offers an on-line resource centre that provides links to organizational development tools and information.
- Our monthly E-News offers updates on our programs and services, introduces new tools and resources we've discovered and highlights developments in the field of building organizational effectiveness.

For more information please visit our website: [www.centreforsustainability.ca](http://www.centreforsustainability.ca)

## 5) RESOURCES ON PRESCHOOLER HEALTH

The **Dieticians of Canada** and nine other partner organizations have developed **Healthy Start for Life**, a web site designed to help parents and child care providers learn more about the nutrition and physical activity needs of preschoolers. The site offers [online resources](#) with helpful strategies to ensure that young children eat well and keep active on a daily basis, as well as an [online course](#).

**GUIDE FOR CREATING SAFE HOMES FOR CHILDREN** **Safe Kids Canada** has developed an online resource called [Safer Homes for Children: A Guide for Communities](#), designed to provide parents and community professionals with current information on the scope of unintentional injuries in the home among young children from birth to age five, as well as proven prevention strategies and tools to reduce these injuries.

**IMPACT OF AUTISM ON CHILD DEVELOPMENT** The **Centre of Excellence for Early Childhood Development** has added an [online section on the impact of autism](#) on young children's psychosocial and emotional development and the effects of autism interventions to its [Encyclopedia on Early Childhood Development](#).



## 6) Announcement to Community Groups and Networks on ECD:

The Council for Early Child Development is pleased to offer our 2nd Community Champions' teleconference to interested community groups: Community teleconference on Toronto First Duty, a model of seamless access to child and family services

**Date: Tuesday, September 19th, 2006**

**Time: 1:00 – 2:30PM (EST)**

*A promising demonstration model .... Can it transform the current hodge-podge of child care, family support programs, kindergarten, preschool, prekindergarten and early identification and intervention services?*

During this community teleconference, the final research findings on Toronto First Duty, an innovative early childhood demonstration model, will be reviewed by leading American early childhood expert, Dr. Joan Lombardi.

First Duty is a new concept in providing services for families with young children. It blends traditional kindergarten, child care and parenting supports, into a single program, with a common and flexible access point for families.

Research, led by Dr. Carl Corter at OISE/UT, captures the cost effectiveness of the strategy and changes in child outcomes, family participation levels and program quality. Dr. Lombardi has reviewed the research report and will comment on the findings and their implications for policy and programs. She will discuss the viability of adapting the First Duty model in other communities.

Teleconference participants will be invited to join the conversation, ask questions about the model and the research and speculate on what next for First Duty.

Teleconference panel participants will include:

*Moderator:*

Dr. Robin Williams

Vice-Chair, Council for Early Child Development, Medical Officer of Health, Niagara Region

Kerry McCuaig

Communications Advisor, Toronto First Duty, Atkinson Charitable Foundation

Dr. Joan Lombardi

Former Deputy Assistant Secretary, Children and Families, of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Author of *Time to Care: Redesigning Child Care to Promote Education, Support Families and Build Communities*

To register for this event, fill in the attached sign-up form and send it back to the Council.

(See attached)



## 7) CCL Early Childhood Learning: Request for Proposals

The Canadian Council on Learning has just issued a request for proposals for research projects in early childhood learning in Canada.

[http://www.ccl-cca.ca/CCL/Research/RequestforProposals/RFP\\_ECL\\_EN.htm](http://www.ccl-cca.ca/CCL/Research/RequestforProposals/RFP_ECL_EN.htm)

## 8) CCL Health & Learning RFP: Reviewers Needed

The much anticipated Canadian Council on Learning RFP for research in the area of health and learning will hopefully be released next week. In the meantime CCL is looking for reviewers. Each reviewer will be responsible for up to 10 peer reviews. They will have approximately two weeks to complete the reviews. Reviewers will be reviewing based on the criteria in the RFP. They will be expected to make comments as well as assign an overall score. \*They must not have been involved in submitting any proposals for consideration under the RFP\*. We anticipate reviewers will be paid \$50-00 for each completed review.

If you would like to be a reviewer or know someone who would make a good

Reviewer, please submit the names and contact details directly to Doug Smart at the CCL's Research Offices in

Vancouver: [dsmart@ccl-cca.ca](mailto:dsmart@ccl-cca.ca)

## 9) Public Health Association of BC Conference Announcement and Call for Abstracts

**When: November 27-29th, 2006**

**Where: Vancouver, BC**

**Abstracts Due: September 12, 2006**

The Public Health Association of British Columbia is pleased to announce its annual conference, November 27 to November 29, 2006 at the Coast Plaza Hotel in Vancouver, titled Towards a New Public Health: An Ecological View. The purpose of this conference is to explore the connection between ecology and public health practice, focusing on the broad pattern of relationships between people, their environments, and health.

Webster's dictionary defines ecology as "the totality or pattern of relationships between organisms and their environment". Canadians have led the way in recognizing the complexity of population health and the necessity of taking an ecological perspective through such internationally recognized documents as the "Ottawa Charter for Health Promotion", published by CPHA and the WHO, and Evans, Barer, and Marmor's "Why are Some People Healthy and Others Not", published by Aldine de Guyter.

For more information, including registration and the call for abstracts, please visit: <http://www.phabc.org/conference>.

## 10) Research and Policy Highlights

The Early Learning and Child Care Research Unit at HELP is pleased to provide the attached *Research and Policy Highlights* for August 2006. When Walking Hasn't Worked, It's Time to Run explains why a targeted approach to child care hasn't worked in Canada, and **provides the evidence for moving towards universal, quality child care services**. Please see attached PDF: "Research and Policy Highlights Aug 06"

## 11) Colloquium Series

Please refer to attached PDF: "Colloquium Series" for a complete list of series till May 2007.

\*\*All information provided in the HELP Weekly Update is provided for information purposes only. Any links to external websites and/or non-HELP information should not be construed as an endorsement by HELP of the content or views of the organizations.

**Web site:** [www.earlylearning.ubc.ca](http://www.earlylearning.ubc.ca)

**Mapping Portal:** <http://ecdportal.help.ubc.ca>



12) **University of BC-HELP: Post Doctoral Research Fellowship in Parenting, Parenting Education and Support**  
(See attached for details).