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# ASCDP

## Connections

SUMMER  
2014

*A NEWSLETTER CONNECTING ABORIGINAL SUPPORTED CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS ACROSS THE PROVINCE*



### *Message from Provincial Advisor:*



As we head into the summer months, I wanted to take this opportunity to touch base with the ASCD programs and wish you well. As most of you know by now I have stepped into the ASCD Provincial Advisor role, replacing Danielle Smith as she moves to the Early Years office. Her commitment to ASCD at the Provincial level has not gone unnoticed.

These last few weeks have been exciting, as I begin my own journey and learning as your Provincial Advisor. This year my goal is to continue to advocate for early intervention supports for Aboriginal communities. My commitment is guided by my firm belief that Aboriginal children deserve access to quality, culturally appropriate ECD services regardless of where they reside in our Province. There is still so much work to be done in the field and I commend you for your dedication to our children and families.

My priorities as we move ahead will be to focus on securing funding for on-going professional development, ASCD policy development & data collection, moving the Partnerships Project forward, as well as continuing to strengthen our collaboration with SCD programs. I look forward to working with the Provincial office, Regional Advisors and the Provincial Steering Committee. If I haven't connected with your programs yet, I will soon and look forward to speaking with you. Enjoy your summer!

All my relations,

Nadine Gagné-L'Hirondelle  
ASCD Provincial Advisor

P.S. I am just completing my second Aboriginal children's CD titled "Wrapped in Daisies" and will circulate it to all the ASCD and AIDP programs in the fall once finished.



## Data Collection:

### 1st Annual ASCD Information Gathering Questionnaire

Thank you to the ASCD programs that participated in the 1st Annual ASCD Information Gathering. The information shared was beneficial in giving the Provincial office a broader perspective of ASCD services in BC. Out of the 45 ASCD program initiatives being delivered across the province 25 programs participated. Some highlights of the information gathered are:

TYPE OF ASCD SERVICES	NUMBER OF PROGRAMS
ASCD FUNDED INITIATIVE	3
ASCD CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM	7
ASCD CONSULTANT ONLY PROGRAM	13
ASCD FULL SERVICE DELIVERY	22

The average length of time ASCD programs have been in operation in BC is approximately 7 years. Of the programs that reported on this questionnaire, the longest running ASCD program has been in operation for 11 years and the youngest program in operation for 1 yr. As of January 2014, the landscape of Aboriginal Supported Child Development Programs in BC was as follows:

Region	On Reserve ASCD	Off Reserve ASCD	Total ASCD Programs
North	4	4	8
Vancouver Island	1	3	4
Coast Fraser North West	9	2	11
Coast Fraser South East	2	3	5
Interior	8	9	17
<b>Total</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>45</b>

At this time, the distribution of host agencies for ASCD programs are as follows:

- ◆ 22 programs hosted by First Nations or Band Affiliated On Reserve Agencies
- ◆ 13 programs hosted by an Urban Aboriginal organizations
- ◆ 6 programs hosted by Friendship Centres
- ◆ 3 programs hosted by a Métis organization
- ◆ 6 Non-Aboriginal agencies hosting ASCD programs or positions.
- ◆ No programs hosted by an Inuit organization

## ASCD Data Collection 2013/14



- *There are approximately 906 children between the ages of 0-12 years (some programs providing services to 19 years) accessing ASCD in BC. 60% of the children accessing ASCD services are under the age of 5 years.*
- *There are a variety of reasons children are referred to ASCD, with the top reasons for referral being due to children experiencing communication difficulties, behaviour concerns in the home or community child care setting, and families seeking further assessment and support for their child.*
- *Children are receiving a range of ASCD supports, however many programs have limited funding base and therefore the majority of the children (55%) accessing ASCD services receive Consultant only services.*
- *The vast majority (96%) of ASCD programs offer group services. The group services focus primarily on providing cultural programming for children on the caseload as well as educational and training opportunities for families and community child care settings.*
- *Providing the services within ASCD across BC, are approximately 147 ASCD Consultant and Support Worker staff*
- *The need for professional development continues to be significant for ASCD programs across BC. Approximately 44% of the ASCD who participated reported experiencing some type of turnover in staffing, and 1/3 of the ASCD programs identify having no budget to support professional development opportunities.*
- *Inadequate funding to support the operation of the program continues to be ASCD's greatest hurdle. With less than half of the ASCD programs provided the funding capacity to offer the full complement of services*

**Despite the challenges with inadequate staffing and funding, many programs strong in their cultural foundations share a variety of success stories assisting children and their families in obtaining the supports and training the families' desire for their children.**

For the full "ASCD 2014 Report go to: <http://ascdp.bc.ca/consultants/data-collection/>

# Upcoming Conferences & Workshops

*Here is a list of a few upcoming training opportunities. Please note: some fees may apply to participate. If you would like to share information about upcoming training opportunities in this newsletter or on our ASCD website please email information to: [advisor.ascdp@bcaafc.com](mailto:advisor.ascdp@bcaafc.com)*

UBC SUMMER INSTITUTE - Aug 24th to 27th, 2014

Topics include: Universal Design For Learning, & Positive Behavior Supports

For more information visit: [www.bcinclusivelearning.com](http://www.bcinclusivelearning.com)

North Shore Early Childhood Conference—To learn, to wonder!

September 27th 2014—Capilano University, North Vancouver

[www.nsececonference.com](http://www.nsececonference.com)

Social Emotional Enhancement and Development (SEED) Conference

October 20th-22nd 2014 Marriot Pinnacle Hotel, Vancouver

[www.frpbc.ca](http://www.frpbc.ca)

4th Health & Wellbeing in Children, Youth, and Adults with Developmental Disabilities Conference Oct 22nd – 24th, 2014 – Coast Plaza Hotel, Vancouver, BC

<http://interprofessional.ubc.ca/HealthandWellbeing2014/default.asp>

BCAACS 17th Annual Provincial Training

Hand in Hand: Health & Wellness for all Quality Care

November 7th-9th 2014 at the Pinnacle Pier Hotel-North Vancouver

Early Bird opens July 28th/14 - [www.acc-society.bc.ca](http://www.acc-society.bc.ca)

Celebration of Play and Learning Conference

November 8th 2014

<http://www.liberationlearning.ca/early-learning-conferences>

Childcare 2020: From Vision to Action

November 13th –15th 2014 Fort Garry Hotel, Winnipeg, Manitoba

[www.childcare2020.ca](http://www.childcare2020.ca)

Children at the Heart of the Matter Conference

January 16th-17th 2015 Surrey, BC

# Partnerships Project



The BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres (which houses the AIDP and ASCD Provincial office) is excited to announce that they have become the new host agency to the Partnership Project. This important training initiative was previously managed by the Comox Valley Child Development Association, where Lorraine Aitken was instrumental in moving this project forward. We wish her well in her retirement. BCAAFC would also like to thank Tanya Brown who was the previous Partnership Coordinator for all of her hard work over the years.

The Partnership project will now be managed by the AIDP and ASCD Provincial office under the guidance of the ASCD Provincial Advisor. Elaine Zamardi who is the AIDP and ASCD Project Officer will now also be overseeing the Partnership Project as the Partnership Coordinator.

The Partnerships Project Training Modules are a community based training delivery model for practitioners and parents in communities who serve children birth to six with special needs and their families. One of the goals is to create natural partnerships between the service providers who support children and families. The training is for early childhood service providers with a target audience of early childhood educators, child care and family day home providers, lay home visitors, IDP/AIDP, SCD/ASCD consultants, social workers, public health nurses, parents, SEA, teachers, family support workers, and key workers.

Given that many ASCD programs are still fairly young in service delivery, ASCD has had less than 5% of staff participate in Partnerships Project training and therefore we have yet to take the full advantage of the opportunity. Some of the Partnership modules include:

- Partnerships in Communication
- Creating Inclusive Child Care Settings
- Family Centred Practice
- Partnerships in Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder
- Positive Approaches to Behaviour
- Promoting Participation and Functioning

If you want to learn more, check out the website: <http://www.partnershipsproject.bc.ca>

# Partnership Project Training Module

## “Creating Inclusive Settings for Young Children and Their Families”

Partnerships in Creating Inclusive Settings is for ECD service providers including IDP, AIDP, SCD and ASCD staff, child care providers, parents, family resource programs, preschool and staff in community settings that provide services for children from birth to six. This training module introduces an approach that supports participants in developing more inclusive early years settings. It focuses on the attitudes, values and principles of inclusion, the importance of using inclusive language, an exploration of the key elements of inclusive and family centered practice and the benefits to all, of including all children in early learning settings. It highlights strategies for making adaptations and modifications to the environment and the program in order to support the inclusion of all children. Participants are introduced to the collaborative, trans-disciplinary team as the best way to include children in childcare settings.

### **Session 1: What is Inclusion? Goals for this session are:**

- To define inclusion
- To illustrate appropriate language when speaking about individuals who need extra support
- To provide participants with an understanding of the key elements of inclusive practice and the benefits of inclusion for all children and families

### **Session 2: Family-Centred Practice Goals for this session are:**

- To assist participants to understand the importance of explaining to all families, at the outset, how the program's inclusion philosophy links to inclusive practice.
- To assist participants to communicate effectively with parents To assist participants to understand the meaning of a family-centred approach
- To explore ways of including parents of children with special support needs in the children's setting

### **Session 3: Preparing the Environment Goals for this session are:**

- To assist participants to become aware of the ways in which the environment communicates to children
- To look at ways to adapt the environment that leads to the inclusion of all children
- To look at ways to set up the environment to encourage children to interact and play

### **Session 4: The Inclusive Program Goals for this session are:**

- Participants understand how the early years program contributes to inclusion
- Participants analyze their practices and their programs and learn to adapt aspects of their programs to facilitate inclusion of specific children
- Participants learn to facilitate interaction among children

### **Session 5: Working with the Team Goals for this session are:**

- To provide participants with an understanding of what is meant by a collaborative, trans disciplinary team approach
- To provide participants with an understanding of the way in which the team determines goals for a child who needs extra support
- To provide participants with an understanding of the way in which a goal-setting plan is used in early learning settings
- To provide participants with an understanding of ways to embed children's goals in the daily routines and activities of the care setting



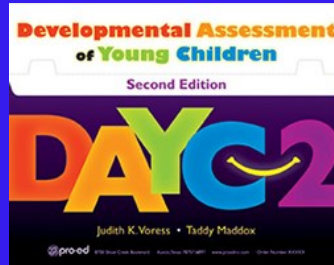


What's New:



ASCD and AIDP Photo Contest

# WIN a DAYC2 Assessment Kit



Currently the ASCD and AIDP Provincial Office are working on updating the ASCD and AIDP Provincial websites to ensure key information is added and also to improve the look.

It would be wonderful if we could include pictures from our ASCD and AIDP programs that captures children and staff doing amazing work together. A picture tells a thousand words and we are sure you have some beautiful pictures out there to share. Pictures can be of children and parents, AIDP home visits, outdoor play, children connecting with culture, etc. For every picture provided, your ASCD or AIDP program's name will be placed in a draw to win a DAYC2 Assessment Kit.

Draw will take place on October 1st 2014

Please email photos to: [advisor.ascdp@bcaafc.com](mailto:advisor.ascdp@bcaafc.com)  
and include your program information.

We will email you a photo consent form to be signed and returned

## Aboriginal Infant & Supported Child Development Provincial Office

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1-866-338-4881

## UPDATING PROVINCIAL PROGRAM LIST

The AIDP and ASCD Provincial office works to maintain a current and updated Provincial registry of AIDP and ASCD programs. If you have had any staff or program changes, please email them to our Project Officer, Elaine Zamardi at:

[Ezamardi@bcaafc.com](mailto:Ezamardi@bcaafc.com)