

Children and Communities- 0-3 Years EC Task Force
Parent interviews and direct assessments of children survey
June 4, 2008 - 10 – 12 noon - Melfort

Discussion Participants	Myrna Soonias- sooniam@shin.sk.ca Sandi Norum – norum.sandi@nesd.ca Cindy Neigel – Cnieigel@kthr.sk.ca , Florence Lalonde - flanlonde@kthr.sk.ca Janice Wiebe – Wiebe.janice@nesd.ca Linda Barlow – Lbarlow@kthr.sk.ca Lois Preete – lois.neecip@sasktel.net Joan Litzenberger – jlitzen@kthr.sk.ca Brenda Ives – ibves.brenda@nesd.ca Total number = 9
What are the important messages from this report?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - children in the NE have challenges in social competence, emotional maturity – in specific study areas - regional challenge in language and cognitive development, assessments indicated lower scores in receptive language, numeracy and pre- literacy skills - Screen time - more T.V. and video watching (2.1 hours per day compared to 1.6 Can average) - Greater % of self reported maternal depression -
What are the strengths in your community which support young children and their families?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Various strengths

<p>What are some community actions which build on strengths or address challenges in terms of children's readiness to learn and readiness for life?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The issue of screen time could/ should be addressed because it can affect communication, emotional development - Visual stimulation at a young age can affect brain development and possibly harm the brain - Could address this challenge with the “ Screen off – Family On “ Marketing campaign - Language Development – Hanen program should be continued. - continue to offer training opportunities for caregivers and possibly parent groups. There is a 14 session program for parents and we have Cindy Neigel and Cheri Wilson as trained facilitators. - Books For Babies – possibly support initiative in more communities – continue to support the community driven initiative - Community Literacy Network – should be sustained – Rhyme Time program for babies and the Mom's could be marketed - Encourage those that offer programs for children such as Story Hour to offer the program in the early evening so working parents can attend with their children - Telehealth- could be utilized to deliver training for parents or professionals such as Hanen? - We need better connections with: Social Services , First Nations, Marguerite Riel and ER II Metis Nation - Continue with Social Marketing activities - Developmental Assets and Roots of Empathy are 2 frameworks to address Social and Emotional development -
<p>What do we need to follow-up on today's discussion?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Florence will prepare a Screen off – Family On poster for the Captive Audience campaign - Brenda to send out the regional and community specific presentation material to the group. - Linda requested that each 0- 3 Years Early childhood task force member identify top 3 issues challenging children and families , will follow-up as a group to identify actions to address issues - Linda's top three issues for 0-3 Task Force consideration 1. Language and Literacy development 2. Screen off campaign, 3. Parent support