

Children and Communities –Melfort
May 27, 2008 - 1:00 – 3: 00 p.m. and 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. MUCC
 North East Understanding the Early Years Study Results- Presentation by:

<p>Discussion Participants</p>	<p>Peter Waldbillig – peter.walbillig@gov.sk.ca Kathleen Hangs- Khangs@kthr.sk.ca Angela Moser – moser.angela@nesd.ca Randy Steciuk Steciuk.randy@nesd.ca Jill Gendall- Gendall.jill@nesd.ca Karen Hadwen – Hadwen.karen@nesd.ca Brenda Stafford –Josh1234@xplore.net Vicki Malden – myc.vmmalden@sasktel.net Pat Streeton – pstreeton@kthr.sk.ca Myrna Soonias –sooniam@shin.sk.ca Paula Ghiglione - Nazeem Muhajarine - nam Brenda Ives – ives.brenda@nesd.ca</p>	<p>Evening Session: Rodney White - white.rodney@nesd.ca Katie White – white.katie@nesd.ca Renee Durell – rdurell@sasked.gov.sk.ca Shelley Tomlinson- journal@melfortjournal.com Myrna Soonias Brenda Ives Total number = 18</p>
<p>What are the important messages from this report?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Melfort has a high number of at risk families - More support is needed – especially fro new families - A Number of stay at home moms - What affect does this have on their children? - Transience is an issue - Higher rate of T.V. watching is also an issue(for the region) - Maternal Depression is an issue (for the region) – - Lack of parenting skills <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Evening Session - education re/ community school status is important - programming can be strengthened and supported 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - variety of potential factors that are contributing to the outcomes - increase support for 2 areas of challenge – emotional maturity and social competence - we need to explore quality as well as quantity re: programs and services - gets us asking more questions “What are the relationships within the data? “ - We have a high rate of maternal depression compared to Canadian UEY sites – would that be true as compared to other rural areas
<p>What are the strengths in your community which support young children and their families?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parent and tot programs – but - not everyone is involved - Library preschool story hour, Pre K , Daycares - Paddling pool program but funding is cut back - In the West (rural) study area parents do more activities at home and in the community with their children <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Evening session - Increase in programming initiatives – quick speed ie. Community School at Reynolds - Number of recreation and libraries for population base is a strength - Kids have access to a variety of experiences
<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"> - Target parents – establish a place for moms to come to for services within the community such as a Family Resource Centre - School wide- family functions can benefit young ones and school age - The facility – the Palace pool is utilized support/ structure for better utilization could be possible - Respite care centre – single moms can take turns so other moms could have a break - Increase licensed child care spaces especially teen and infant spaces in Melfort - MUCC? AT present there are 0 licensed infant spaces - Address maternal depression, maternal isolations - Newcomers are isolated - Maintain parks and park programs - Books for Babies - Promote Book Tubs from Libraries - More advertising -parent and tot, play and the importance of early childhood - Use the Melfort Community Magazine, the Coffee Mill - Distribute copies of the Early Years and Family Services Guide

What do we need to follow-up on today's discussion?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- We need a “ where do we go from here committee”- To Make action plans, look into resources in the city we could use- Consult with the community to find out what people want rather than just what the committee thinks is wanted or needed- take the issue of maternal depression to Mental Health- work on dev of childcare and respite care spaces
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