

Children and Communities- Northeast RIC

Parent interviews and direct assessments of children survey

June 6, 2008 – 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. Melfort

Discussion Participants	Peter Waldbillig, Fraser Denton, Dwayne McGillivray, Ryan Calder, Andy Siedeman, Julie Cleaveley, Valerie Mushinski, Ron Richardson, Brenda Ives Total number = 9
What are the important messages from this report?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 25% of families with income less than \$30,000 - Large number of people in poverty - 16% unemployed fathers - Low level of education - lowest scores readiness to learn-- language and cognitive development and communication and general knowledge - We also know that there is poor housing fro families at risk - A number of students attending Cumberland College have no place to live - Housing is a huge issue in the northeast - We need to target the highest risk areas and leave the lower risk areas alone - 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"> - It is amazing how useful this report will be – for example addressing maternal depression - This report and the extension will give us time to talk and participate in the action planning - NESD has increased level of services for Pre kindergarten with funding from Sask Learning - Saskatchewan Learning (Ministry of Education) integrated Early Learning and Child Care - This information could support funding for e.g.Kids First in Melfort - Literacy issue – lack of resources on reserves - Action Plan- use materials from our libraries to distribute to First Nations communities to become Community Libraries e.g. Kinistin
<p>What do we need to follow-up on today's discussion?</p>	<p>The challenge for the RIC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To help guide and lead community specific information - We need to set our standards high to develop policy and action