

## Children and Communities – Tisdale and Area

May 21, 2008 – 7:00 0- 9:00 p.m. Tisdale Elementary School

Discussion Participants	<p>Peter Waldbillig – <a href="mailto:peter.waldbillig@gov.sk.ca">peter.waldbillig@gov.sk.ca</a> Myrna Soonias – <a href="mailto:sooniam@shin.sk.ca">sooniam@shin.sk.ca</a> Cheryl Gudmundson- <a href="mailto:gfbbox@sakstel.net">gfbbox@sakstel.net</a> Violet Allan- <a href="mailto:allan.violet@nesd.ca">allan.violet@nesd.ca</a> Shirley DeMarsh- <a href="mailto:demarsh.shirley@nesd.ca">demarsh.shirley@nesd.ca</a> Sandi Norum- <a href="mailto:norum.sandi@nesd.ca">norum.sandi@nesd.ca</a> Trevor Norum – <a href="mailto:norum.trevor@nesd.ca">norum.trevor@nesd.ca</a> Anna Dawn Hewitt- <a href="mailto:adhewitt@kthr.sk.ca">adhewitt@kthr.sk.ca</a> Brenda Gabriel - <a href="mailto:gabriel.brenda@nesd.ca">gabriel.brenda@nesd.ca</a> Heather Turcotte - <a href="mailto:hturcotte@kthr.sk.ca">hturcotte@kthr.sk.ca</a> Ivy Swanke – reporter – Tisdale Recorder Brenda Ives – <a href="mailto:ives.brenda@nesd.ca">ives.brenda@nesd.ca</a> Total number = 12</p>
What are the important messages from this report?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Children are doing generally quite well</li><li>- Results reflect Early Learning curriculum in Saskatchewan</li><li>- Celebrate successes</li><li>- Room for improvement especially in language and cognitive development</li></ul>
What are the strengths in your community which support young children and their families?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- We have good services fro early years but not used by everyone because of factors such as: cost, travel, fundraising</li><li>- Good library services and programming</li><li>- Community recreation opportunities</li><li>- Cultural programs</li><li>- Kid Sport</li><li>- Agencies work together –</li><li>- Student day care spaces – teen day care at TMSS / RECplex</li><li>- Pro-active community –</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Children are valued – good role models</li> <li>- Health personnel</li> <li>- Increased awareness of early childhood development</li> <li>- Pre kindergarten</li> <li>- Good Food Box</li> </ul>
<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"> <li>- Caution: cost is impacting opportunities – barrier to participation</li> <li>- Identify ways to remove barriers</li> <li>- Working poor – we need to consider “How can we help?”</li> <li>- Maybe we need to move to a community –based food bank</li> <li>- Need more pre-school programs</li> <li>- Need language and cognitive development program for children and parents</li> <li>- Early parenting programs</li> <li>- Systematic changes to get all families participating</li> <li>- Assist new moms</li> <li>- Parent mentoring – increase capacity</li> <li>- Parenting groups</li> <li>- Remove ‘stigma’ from receiving services</li> <li>- Child development articles in the newspapers “Invest in Kids” key message</li> <li>- Books for babies</li> <li>- Radio CK 750 – Community awareness campaign</li> </ul>
<p>What do we need to follow-up on today’s discussion?</p>	