



Early Childhood in Abbotsford



"There can be no keener revelation of a society's soul than the way in which it treats its children."

Nelson Mandela



BACKGROUND

- Abbotsford Early Childhood Committee
- Understanding the Early Years \$916,290.84
- Children First \$225,000.00
- School District \$46,900.00
- Success By 6
- Sponsorships





PAST SUCCESSES

- Community events for families
- Collaboration of early childhood
- 6 years of research and planning
- Increased partnerships in community
 - Parks, Recreation & Culture/ City
 - MCFD, SD 34, non-profit organizations, media, businesses, and service clubs
- Opportunity to provide strong planning process for children



PAST SUCCESSES – CONT'D

- Leader in early childhood
 - Across Canada
 - Across province of BC
- Community Mapping Station
- Publications
 - Family Resource Guide
 - 5 Year Action Plan
 - Capacity Research
 - Parent and Child Activity Calendars
 - Family Connect Newsletter





Early Childhood Commission

- Request for fee for service
- City commitment to social issues
 - Perceived dedication to early childhood in a family friendly community
- Promotes our city as a place where businesses and families want to live
- Increased quality of life for children and families



Goals

- To work on behalf of children and families
- Continue to build on events and activities for children and their families
- Be actively involved with the community in developing programs and services for children
- Share children's information and resources with the community
- Increased links between city and children and families
- Links city to early childhood professional community



2007 BUDGET – OPTION 1

- Serving children ages 0 to 6 & their families
 - \$241,500 per year
- Existing Revenues
 - MCFD \$75,000
 - School District \$22,000
 - UEY to March \$24,500
 - Sponsorships \$10,000
- Requires fee for service \$110,000



2007 BUDGET – OPTION 2

- Serving children ages 0 to 12 & their families
 - \$271,500 per year
- Existing Revenues
 - MCFD \$75,000
 - School District \$22,000
 - UEY to March \$24,500
 - Sponsorships \$10,000
- Requires fee for service \$140,000



Strengthening our capacity to ensure the health and well-being of our children and families!



It takes a community to raise a child AND TOGETHER, we can and do make a difference!