

*Celebrating national Child Day is about celebrating children as actors in their own lives and in communities, as active citizens who can and should meaningfully contribute to decision-making as we create a Canada fit for children.<sup>1</sup>*

November is a month when we celebrate the Children in Canada with National Child Day. The celebration of this day ties in with Canada's National Plan for Action with Children. The Child Day Act was enacted in 1993 by the Government of Canada and designates November 20 as National Child Day. This month in Visions, we highlight the various activities that SB6 initiatives have organized around the province in celebration of our children.

In this month's edition:

- Family Day Celebrations Around The Province
- ECD Calendars

<sup>1</sup> From the Public Health agency of Canada website – <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca>

### **A highlight of activities organized in celebration of our children:**

- ✚ Shelley Anderson (Central Vancouver Island) – CVI SB6 and the Ladysmith Early Years Partnership requested that the day be proclaimed and the Council agreed that this day commemorates commitments made by Canada's governments to children through ratification of the UN Declaration of Child Rights in 1959 and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1991. The support received from the Mayor and local municipal government is gratefully acknowledged.
- ✚ Jody Bauche (South Vancouver Island Aboriginal Early Childhood Development Coordinator) – The 'Honoring the Sacredness of New Life' ceremony took place on November 20<sup>th</sup> at the Victoria Native Friendship Centre. This event was an opportunity for the community to come together and honor the new children born in 2008. This event was initially inspired by Danielle Smith, Team Leader for the Aboriginal Early Intervention Team at the Victoria Native Friendship Centre.
- ✚ Duane Jackson (Prince Rupert) – Helped organize a children's fair in Port Simpson. A variety of centres were set up for the children (i.e. rice, blocks, playdough) and service providers from Prince Rupert were invited to meet people from the community! Every child was given a bag full of goodies to bring home with them!

**Honoring the Sacredness of New Life**  
Thursday November 20, 2008

Celebrating babies born November 1, 2007 to November 1, 2008  
To register please contact The Victoria Native Friendship Centre  
Registration deadline is October 31, 2008

Victoria Native Friendship Centre  
231 Regina Avenue  
Victoria, BC (250) 384-3211

- ✦ Heidy Kux Kardos (South Peace) - Child Care Resource Referral hosted an event called the National Child Day Celebration at the Co-op Mall in Dawson Creek. Display tables, games, competitions, and the WOW Bus were on hand to help with the celebrations. SB6 supported this event with games and prizes.
- ✦ Cheryl Jordan (North Vancouver Island) - The children of Campbell River were celebrated at the Campbell River Community Centre with a Cardboard City (sponsored by Success By 6), Activities included a Playdough Centre, Safety Zone, Cedar Weaving, West Coast Family Place, Emergency Helicopter and Ambulance, Shoo Shoo the Clown, Miss Judy and Friends...and much more
- ✦ Carol Quock (North West-Terrace) - Celebrated National Child's Day in Iskut with an evening of fun activities for the children in our community. Centers were set up with crafty projects, tree ornaments, picture frames, face painting etc. Every child in the community was honoured with a certificate. An information booth on SB6 and the importance of the early years was set up. In addition there were door prizes and snacks. Fun! Fun! Fun!
- ✦ Brenda Sissons (North West-Terrace) To celebrate National Child Day, November 20th, Northern Savings Credit Union hosted a Child Appreciation Day. Children's activities, "It's Great to be Me!" art submissions and draws, 2009 Early Childhood Development calendars, juice and cookies were available to community members all day. Success By 6 Northwest also partnered with Terrace Make Children First, the northern branch of the Planning Institute of BC and the City of Terrace to organize and present a two day conference "Cities for Children; Cities for the Future" with Dr. Suzanne Crowhurst-Lennard.
- ✦ Ellen Strelaeff (Boundary) - The local SB6, along with the local Credit Union and Social Development Canada Grant, purchased 7 full page ads to run bi weekly with information on ECD, programs and services offered, what SB6 has funded and accomplished since inception in their community.
- ✦ Cindy Lise (South Central Vancouver Island) - While not scheduled for National Child Day, this event is certainly worthy of a mention. SB6 in SCVI will host their amazing Champion for Children Awards of Excellence on Saturday November 28<sup>th</sup>, a night honouring many outstanding community citizens, businesses and organizations that have made a difference in improving the lives of children and families in the Cowichan area. This event is sponsored by Island Savings Credit Union, The Leader Pictorial, Duncan Cowichan Chamber of Commerce, Cowichan United Way and Cowichan SB6.



Drawings from the Victoria Children's Museum Gallery exhibit. These drawings were inspired by the Ojibwa artist Norval Morrisseau. The young artists are from Oaklands Elementary School in Victoria. For more info visit [www.childrensmuse.org](http://www.childrensmuse.org)



Thank you to Jody Bauche for submitting these drawings from the Victoria Children's Museum Gallery exhibit.

## Provincial ECD Calendars

The Provincial ECD calendars have now been distributed to all community sites. These calendars are being distributed through credit unions and by SB6 coordinators across the Province. An evaluation form will soon be sent out to all distributors of the calendars to help us with future planning.



## What's new.....

- ✚ Cowichan SB6 is excited to announce the launch the new Cowichan Kids Web site. This web site is a joint project with Understanding the Early Years, their 0-6 Coalition and Cowichan Success By 6/Children First. Check it out at [www.cowichankids.ca](http://www.cowichankids.ca)
- ✚ In support of their Early & Often Campaign, Central Vancouver Island SB6 has negotiated a total of 140 spots that will run in Nanaimo & Port Alberni Jim Pattison radio stations during the month of November.
- ✚ On October third the Comox Valley Aboriginal Success By 6 initiative launched its first cultural and literacy program in the Comox Valley. SB6 coordinators can check out the Community News section of the Knowledge Center for more information.
- ✚ SB6 Knowledge Centre – We have launched an information-sharing Intranet site for SB6 Coordinators. Coordinators are encouraged to take a minute to complete the survey on the site and be entered in a draw to win \$300 that can be used to support activities in the winner's initiative area. This is the final incentive draw. Previous winners are Kim Brown and Cheryl Webster.

Questions, Comments & Suggestions are always welcome. Contact [nimmib@successby6bc.ca](mailto:nimmib@successby6bc.ca)