



## First Nations Early Childhood DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL



*December 18, 2012 (Issue #1)*

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### **Welcome!**

Welcome to the first edition of the First Nations Early Childhood Development Council Newsletter! This newsletter is to inform Council members of any upcoming events, news or meetings and to also streamline the amount of information that is distributed to the Council members.

If you would like to offer some feedback on the e-newsletter, please feel free to contact me any time: [vanessab@fnesc.ca](mailto:vanessab@fnesc.ca) T: (604) 925-6087.

### **About the FNECDC**

The First Nations Early Childhood Development Council (FNECDC) was created in 2007, by organizations that were determined to work together to create a province-wide strategy for improving the well-being of First Nations children from prenatal to six years. On March 24, 2010, representatives from over 40 organizations signed a [Memorandum of Understanding](#) and since that time the FNECDC has grown to 60 [members](#). Read more about the FNECDC at <http://fnecdc.ca/>

### **Meeting Updates**

On October 26, 2012, the FNECDC had a full Council in person meeting at the Hilton, Richmond. We had a great turn out for the meeting. The Council has filled one of the vacant spots in the Core Group with Sue Sterling. Welcome Sue! The Council also made a shuffle to

the Steering Committee membership as well. So, Carey Clint will be an alternate member with Sue Sterling transitioning in the near future. We are still looking for a possible 2 – 3 Elders that would like to be on the SC as alternates so that the Elders can participate on a rotating basis. So, if you have any names, kindly forward them to Vanessa Boylan.

The Council also reviewed the Terms of Reference (TOR) and some amendments were made and will be finalized in our next in – person meeting in January. We also had a presentation from Lauren Brown from First Nations Health Authority and she presented provided an update on the First Nations and Aboriginal Maternal and Child Health Tripartite Strategy Area.

We also had a presentation from Karen Isaac from BC Aboriginal Child Care Society on their report: Training and Retention in the First Nations ECE Sector: A Report from the Frontlines.” The report will be released formally in February to coincide with the first-ever Family Day.

## **Website Update**

A new link has been added onto the FNECDC website for Council members only. This ensures that you receive any necessary documents for conference calls, meetings and also can access Core Group meeting Conference call minutes. A link and password will be sent out shortly so that you can access the information.

Once the Agenda for our next meeting is finalized, a copy will be posted onto this site along with necessary documents for our meeting.

## **Next Steps for Communications**

- Part of our draft Communications Plan is to share our research and advocate for our First Nations Early Childhood Development priorities
- We will be developing a news release to be issued just before the first-ever Family Day on February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013. As part of that release, we will also publicly issue one of the First Nations Early Childhood Development Council’s reports, *Training and Retention in the First Nations ECD Sector: A Report from the Frontlines*. A letter template will be sent out to Council members on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013 so that they have the opportunity to send the letter to political representatives to participate in our advocacy work.

## **Steering Committee update**

A Request for proposals for Host Agency for the Steering Committee has been posted by Ministry for Children and Family Development. The information can be found here:

<http://www.bcbid.gov.bc.ca/open.dll/welcome> (Click on Browse Opportunities By Organization. Select MCFD. RFP number 5218.)

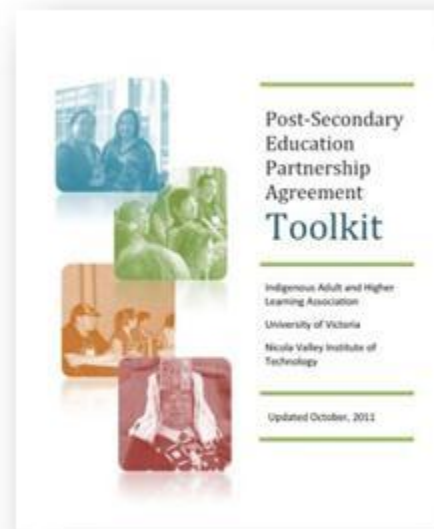
## Member Corner:

### *Meetings, minutes and more!*

- **January 8th, 2013** is the next **Full Council Meeting** at The Coast Plaza Hotel & Suites, Vancouver (<http://www.coasthotels.com>) .
  - Please submit your RSVP form to [vanessab@fnesc.ca](mailto:vanessab@fnesc.ca) or fax it to 604-925-6097
  - When making your hotel arrangements, please mention FNECDC to get the arranged rate (\$102 (single)/\$122 (double) a night + free wireless.)
- Your review of the following resources is invited.
  - October 26, 2012 meeting minutes, FNECDC Full Council meeting
  - October 9<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, 2012 Core Group Conference Call Minutes
  - December 11, 2012 Draft Communications Plan

## PSE Partnership Agreement Toolkit

As discussed at our last in – person meeting, here is a link to the toolkit that is intended to assist with efforts to create and continue the establishment of respectful dialogue and partnership arrangements between Aboriginal institutes, First Nations communities, public post-secondary institutions, industry partners, and the Ministry of Advanced Education. [Find it on the Indigenous Adult and Higher Learning Association website...](#)



## Events & Opportunities

- January 8, 2013 - The next Full Council in person meeting.
- March 5, 2013 – In person meeting. Details to be announced.