



ACE NOTES

PENDER HARBOUR COMMUNITY SCHOOL: KIDS FISHING CLUB

Every Friday, right after school, we greet our Fishing Club Kids at the foot of the stairs of the elementary school, walk across the street (literally) to the Madeira Park Government Wharf and drop fishing lines in off the docks. On a typical day we have 10-15 kids fishing with us, ages 5-12 with it split pretty much evenly between boys and girls.



Back in February, while talking with a mom about different activities she'd like to see her son involved in, the idea of the Fishing Club was born. Our first adventure was to bus the kids up to the Pender Harbour Aquatic & Fitness Centre for a Water Safety lesson. They got to experience swimming in water wearing a lifejacket with all of their clothes on. They loved it and were excited

about how it felt so heavy and how their clothes stuck to them after getting out of the pool. Tommy and Matt at the pool taught the kids to jump in and swim around as well as how to huddle together in a floating group and other safety tips for falling in the water!

After this initiation, we were ready to go fishing! Dave Davies of our local Harbour Authority had contacted Bob Anstead from Bob's Fishing Barn who arrived at our first official fishing day bearing fishing rods and tackle boxes. In addition to teaching the kids the basics of fishing, Bob was keen to share his joy of fishing. As a special treat, he brought a bag of shark's teeth and gave one to each child – you can imagine their excitement! As he was handing them out, Bob explained that fishing is about more than just catching a fish – it's an opportunity to get outside and to enjoy and notice our beautiful surroundings. It's not only a chance to learn about the natural environment (trees, birds, fish and bugs) it's also a way of connecting with the culture of our marine community.

Along with a healthy handful of parents, we have two official leaders, Tom Talarico (continued on p. 4...)



SUMMER 2014

Inside this issue:

<i>Save the Date</i>	2
<i>Board Message</i>	2
<i>Kids Fishing Club (continued)</i>	4
<i>ACEbc Awards</i>	5
<i>Sue Lamb Honoured</i>	6
<i>Rec 'n Read in Vancouver</i>	7
<i>Bringing Community Together</i>	8
<i>Reminders</i>	9

A Message from the ACEbc Board

Greetings from the ACEbc Board!

I'm sure all of you who are in schools and running programs have been dealing with the effects of labour strife between the BCTF and the government. I am confident that you are all making adjustments, stepping into the gaps, and overall, supporting students and families like you have always done. However, I know it has not been easy at all. I encourage you to continue to maintain relationships, keep lines of communication open, and continue to build community even in these tough times.

Despite the stress and uncertainty, the ACEbc Board continues to hear great stories of the work you are all doing around the province. At our May board meeting, we took some time to discuss how these unique programs that you run in your communities are wonderful examples of the connection between community schools and the five key elements of the newly proposed BC's Education Plan (see <http://www.bcedplan.ca/actions/welcome.php>).

At first, it seemed difficult, but then, as we continued to share, more and more examples and connections were made. Following this message are a few (there were too many to list here!) examples from different coordinators around the province. We encourage you to think of how your programs connect to the 5 key elements. I think we put community education in an even better light when we demonstrate our strong link to the educational goals of our districts and province.

Our theme for this newsletter is "Successes". As you read about the successful programs on the next page, and reflect on your own programs, remember that any time you are building community, you are helping students and families to be successful. Wishing you much success and connection in the remaining weeks of the school year and through the summer.

Sincerely,

Lawrence Ryan, Co-President, ACEbc

A Message from the ACEbc Board (continued from page 2)

"Afterschool program at Georgia Avenue Community School, aimed at creating strong relationships with community professionals and introducing youth to a future career."
Partners: SD68, MSDI, MCFD, RCMP, Vancouver Island University, John Howard, Zonta Nanaimo, Nanaimo Foodshare". **Shannon Wilson, Coordinator, Nanaimo**

"My programs would be impossible to provide without the many partnerships I have established. One being Homework Club, a partnership with North Vancouver City Library. A group of students are walked up to the library which is 4 blocks away. Grade 10 students from Carson High school trained by library staff to support elementary students, come to the library for 3:30. We are maxed out at 10 elementary students. 7 of 10 children are new immigrants with 3 [being] very "new". **Maria Morisseau, Community Development Project Coordinator, North Shore Neighbourhood House (SD44)**

Volunteer tradesmen from the community teach and assist students (gr 6 – 12) in the high school in the automotive, metal and wood shops.

*This program happens Tuesday 3 – 8 pm as a skills based program that gives those students that are either not dealing with school well academically or not able to see the purpose in being at school, the ability to find something that excites them. Many students have been offered apprenticeships within the community, giving them the opportunity to stay on the Coast. Many of these students may have dropped out of or drifted through school, graduating with the bare minimums. **Christina Donohue – Coordinator, Gibson's and Elphinstone Community Schools, Sunshine Coast***

"Run and Read is an after school program that was created by an organization called Start2finish (formerly Kidsfest). It has multiple partners and is a wonderful program in which 60 kids participate! It has adult community members as coaches (about 8 or 10 of them), high school students are the junior coaches and then our grade 6 and 7's are the team leaders. The program is designed to offer hope, goals, fitness, and literacy to the kids. It is a two hour program: the first hour is physical activity and the second is a healthy snack, group discussions around the "word of the week" and then reading books alongside one of the adult or youth volunteers. Start2finish pays for snacks every week (juice, fruit or veg and a cereal bar or cheese), each child gets backpack filled with supplies at the start of the season, new running shoes, and a team shirt. The books come from Scholastic, the shoes are from New Balance, the snack is from Superstore, the supplies in the backpacks are from Grand and Toy, the volunteer coaches are from our local high school, and the adult coaches are recruited from our teaching staff, community and also businesses organizations who are involved in or are near our school. This program is FREE to the kids! It runs almost all year long, every Wednesday from 3:00 pm- 5:00 pm." **Gayle Beavil, Coordinator, Burnaby (SD41)**

KIDS FISHING CLUB (continued from cover)



and Ron Ostler both of whom are local characters with extensive fishing experience. It is a true delight to see these men interact with the kids. In our rural community, many seniors do not have their grandchildren close by and many kids do not have their grandparents near, so this is an excellent way to bridge that gap and facilitate the building of these special relationships. Tom and Ron patiently show these young fishing people how to cast and reel in their lines and help them get untangled from various situations! The younger kids seem to really enjoy changing their lures with every cast so it keeps Tom and Ron busy!

Even though our Fishing Club began early in the fishing season (and perhaps a little too early for actually catching fish!) not one child has ever mentioned the fact that we hadn't caught anything! But then, on the 9th of May, we caught our first ever Fishing Club fish! It was truly exciting, everyone jumping up and down cheering; it was a fabulous moment. The fish was small but it was a victory none the less. That fish lived in a bucket for the duration of the class for all to admire and was then released!

Our Fishing Club made their debut public appearance as part of the annual Pender Harbour May Day celebrations on May 17 where we had a float in the parade. The kids decorated the float with fishing nets and cut-out fish and starfish. Handing out gummy worms to the crowd was a hoot! What a great way to celebrate what a Community School is all about!

The Fishing Club has been a true success; you can see it in the smiles on the kids' faces, the easy way it always works out with parents and community members coming out to help, and the real joy that it is bringing to everyone involved. We are having just the best time.

Submitted by Patti Soos & Francine Clohosey: pendercommunity@gmail.com.



2014 ACEbc AWARDS

CATEGORIES:

COMMUNITY RESIDENT

Presented to an individual or family who has rendered exemplary service, support and leadership in the development of community education at the neighbourhood level.

COMMUNITY SCHOOL TEACHER

Presented to an individual or team of teachers who have rendered exemplary service, support and leadership in the development of community education at the school, centre or neighbourhood level.

YOUTH LEADERSHIP

Presented to a person 19 years or younger, who has rendered

exemplary support, service and leadership in the development of community education at the school, centre or neighbourhood level.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION STAFF

Presented to support or professional staff of an organization who have rendered exemplary support and service in the development of community education within their agency, school, centre or neighbourhood level.

AGENCY, ORGANIZATION OR INDIVIDUAL

Presented to the agency, organization, or individual, which has rendered exemplary support, service and leadership in the development and promotion of community education at the school, centre, or neighbourhood level.

Congratulations to the following ACEbc Awards recipients for 2013-2014:

Community Residents

Karen Agabob (Burnaby), Heather Cooper (Bamfield), Mairi Dunn (Nanaimo), Ilona Farkas (Abbotsford), Joyce Ganong (Bowen Island), Debbie Vanderwolf (Nanaimo)

Community School Teachers

Jenny Carcamo (Surrey), Kathy Goldsmith (Nanaimo), Ashley Graham (Abbotsford), Gurshan Johal (Surrey), Laura Magrath (Bowen Island), Wendy Norman (Surrey), Joan Rogerson (Nanaimo), Victoria Wilcott (Bowen Island)

Youth Leadership

Angus Duguid (Bowen Island), Kent MacDonald (Nanaimo), Luke McKenzie (Bowen Island), Willem Young (Bowen Island)

Community Education Staff

Casey Ambrose (Nanaimo), Alita Dancy (Nanaimo), Gregg Halfyard (Nanaimo), Fiona Hawkes (Bamfield), Selena Lee (Nanaimo), Aubin Van Berckel (Nanaimo)

Agencies, Organizations, or Individuals

Big Brothers, Canadian Tire - Jumpstart, Carrie Burton (Surrey), Camp Jubilee, City of Surrey, Sarah Coulter (Surrey), Kelly Ebbers (Burnaby), Charlie Clappis (Nanaimo), Neder Dhillon (Surrey), Pat Horstead (Surrey), HR Macmillan Space Centre (Vancouver), Reni Masi (Surrey), Darren Mumford (Surrey), Nanaimo Foodshare, Nanaimo Loaves and Fishes Community Food Bank, Nanaimo Science & Sustainability Society, Pacific Titans Hockey, Jenn Sergeant (Surrey), SFU Surrey, Andrew Shook (Surrey), James Speidel (Surrey), TD Community Relations and Engagement Centre, Antonio Vendramin (Surrey), Georgia Wiebe (Abbotsford), YWCA

Thank you for all that you do to support Community Schools and Community Education!



SUE LAMB HONOURED WITH ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Sue Lamb (left) is presented with the Frances Fleming Award for inspirational achievement from School District No. 46 board chair Betty Baxter. Photograph By Submitted - See more at: <http://www.coastreporter.net/community/features/sue-lamb-honoured-with-achievement-award-1.1062556#sthash.4yAKOhDz.dpuf>

School District No. 46 (SD46) has awarded Halfmoon Bay's Sue Lamb with the Frances Fleming Award for inspirational achievement.

This is the fourth year that the award has been presented.

The selection committee was comprised of school trustees Lori Dixon and Dave Mewhort, Superintendent Patrick Bocking, Principal Carolyn Spence, community member Linda Smith and Fleming family member Brian Waplington. This is an annual award presented by SD46.

Frances Fleming is described as someone who loved children, was always forgiving and always interested in the next step, was well read, exuded laughter along with her great sense of humour, kept everything in perspective, knew exactly what to say in any situation, understood the "strays," was always prepared, created programs for people in their area of expertise, gave everyone a chance to be supported and nurtured and continued to always be an advocate for change. These character traits and personal attributes were taken into consideration when selecting the 2013-14 recipient of this prestigious award.

The committee unanimously selected Lamb for this honour.

"The Frances Fleming Award for Inspirational Achievement gives us a unique opportunity to celebrate one among our many outstanding community leaders," said school board chair Betty

Baxter. "It is an honour to recognize Sue Lamb for her inspirational actions in our community."

Lamb is a long-time resident of the Sunshine Coast, graduating from Elphinstone Secondary School in 1976. She loved student council and school sports and always felt supported by staff and administration outside the regular classroom. As a new mom, she became involved in the development of the Halfmoon Bay Childcare Centre Society, and her desire to make childcare and early learning a part of our school culture grew.

Since that time, she has been involved in community schools and restorative practices, both of which have blossomed in SD46. As a young adult, Lamb had the good fortune of meeting Frances Fleming, who became an inspiration to her all her adult life.

"I am incredibly humbled and so grateful to be acknowledged with this award," Lamb said. "I share Frances' love of children and of education and am so grateful to have had the opportunity to work with School District 46 and my community."

Excerpted from the Coast Reporter. © Coast Reporter

- See more at: <http://www.coastreporter.net/community/features/sue-lamb-honoured-with-achievement-award-1.1062556#sthash.4yAKOhDz.dpuf>

REC 'N READING IN VANCOUVER



This summer, over 350 grade 1 students in Vancouver will participate in the Rec 'n Reading program. The goal: To increase their Developmental Reading Assessment (DRA) to a solid grade 1 level.

Rec 'n Reading is an early intervention literacy program for children who are in grade 1 and at-risk in their reading development. The program balances literacy instruction with recreational activities. Rec 'n Reading was developed based on sound research using best practices by the Langley School District and piloted in Vancouver by the Killarney Community Schools Team in 2006. Other hubs saw the value in this program and it started spreading in Vancouver. In 2012 the Vancouver Board of Education's Summer School Program joined the Community Schools Teams to help make the program district wide. The program now runs in every hub in Vancouver, with Summer School funding the teacher's salary, and grants and registration fees funding the recreation portion of the program.



The program: The morning consists of literacy centered activities as well as small group and individual guided reading. In the afternoon, participants engage in on-site recreational activities and out-trips to local parks and libraries. The program is designed for children with DRAs between 8-12 and meant to support the work that teachers do throughout the year. Caregivers are requested to participate in guided reading with their children for the final 15 minutes of each day, which supports and encourages summer reading. Registration is by referral from classroom teachers and school principals. Participants are assessed by the instructor at the beginning and end of the program using the DRA. The results: On average, students improve by at least two DRA levels. This program has had overwhelming success and we look forward to another great summer of reading!



For more information, please contact Sarah Mulhall, Community Schools Coordinator, Killarney Community Schools Team, Vancouver Board of Education at smulhall@vsb.bc.ca or 604-713-5887.

BRINGING OUR COMMUNITY TOGETHER



The Bamfield Community School Association (BCSA) is dedicated to offering a wide range of literacy, health and wellness and community development programs, and activities in the communities of Bamfield and Anacla.

This past couple months there has been a large focus on community involvement, sharing life skills and passing on knowledge.

Since the New Year a number of gatherings were held in our community as a continuation of our Life Skills series that began in the fall. The workshops are aimed at teaching community members some of the skills that many of us have stopped practicing. Seniors and Elders lead the workshops attended by community members and teach the tricks and tips that they have learned

over the years. Everyone takes part in the lesson and each participant goes home with a jar of jam, pickles or whatever we did that day. The last three workshops in the series were Wet Felting, Home Maintenance, and Small Motor Maintenance. Each workshop brought a number of people out to learn new life skills and interact with other members of the community.

Another part of the Life series were two slide shows done by the BCSA's Acting Coordinator Marton Jalkcozi. Marton, who is originally from Hungary, has spent a lot of time traveling and was kind enough to talk to our community

about his hometown as well as his time spent in Malaysia. He shared with us various foods and delicacies from the countries he talked about while sharing stories and photos of his travels. The various gatherings that were held inspired our community to be open minded to new and exciting activities as well as the emphasis put on education.

Finally over the last four months our

Community Lunch program has had great success. The lunches had various themes such as celebrating literacy, where we had brochures and information as well as speaker to encourage literacy with the kids and their families. Another lunch celebrated the ending of our Life Skills series and seniors and Elders in the community. We had a fantastic turn out. The lunch was free to all community members and it gave us a chance to thank everyone in our community as

well as show them photos of all the events that had happened. Along the same line as the lunches, we also provided a free community breakfast with the focus being on healthy eating. Everyone who attended had the choice of sampling many different healthy food options. It's events like these that bring our townspeople together and help to contribute to a healthy and cohesive community.

"It's events like these that bring our townspeople together and help to contribute to a healthy and cohesive community."

Submitted by Fiona Hawkes, Bamfield Community Schools Association. Contact Fiona at bcsa.ct@gmail.com or visit the BCSA website at www.bamfield.ca.

SAVE THE DATES



COORDINATORS' CONFERENCE

Camp Elphinstone, Gibsons, Sunshine Coast
Wed. April 8, 2015 (evening) - Thurs. April 9
(all day)

ACEbc AGM &

COMMUNITY SCHOOLS CONFERENCE

Chatlech Community School, Sechelt, Sunshine Coast
(accommodations in local motels and B and B's)
Thurs. April 9 - Fri. April 10 (all day)

*More details soon! Sponsored by SD #46
Sunshine Coast Community Schools and ACEbc.*



PLEASE MAKE A NOTE: Membership and D & O Insurance

Your ACEbc Membership expires on September 30th - now is a good time to renew. September 30th is also the application/renewal date if your organization takes advantage of the ACEbc group rate for Director's and Officer's insurance. Membership and D&O renewal forms will be emailed to our contact lists, but if you need any information, please send us an email at ACEbc2010@gmail.com.

The ACEbc membership form is also posted on our web site at <http://www.acebc.org/#!/membership/ck70>.

Comments, suggestions, feedback?

Or, if you would like to submit an article for our ACEbc newsletter, please contact:



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The next ACEbc newsletter will be in the fall of 2014. We look forward to your contributions!

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join the conversation!

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