

A PROFILE OF
Young Children
Aged 0-5



2010

{ TOWNSHIP OF LANGLEY AND CITY OF LANGLEY }

Prepared by Jennifer Cleathero for Langley Early Childhood Public Partners 2009 - 2010

United Way
SUCCESS BY 6™

Langley

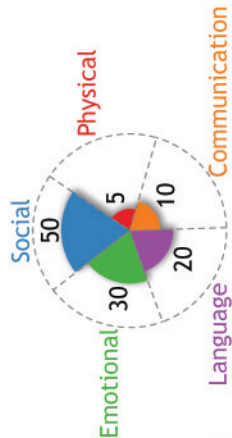
School District 35

2008 - 2009 EDI

Starplot Map

Starplot

Percent vulnerable on each EDI scale



How to Read the Starplot:
Each scale of the EDI is represented by a triangle. Larger triangles represent higher vulnerability & smaller triangles represent lower vulnerability for each scale of the EDI.



School District Starplots

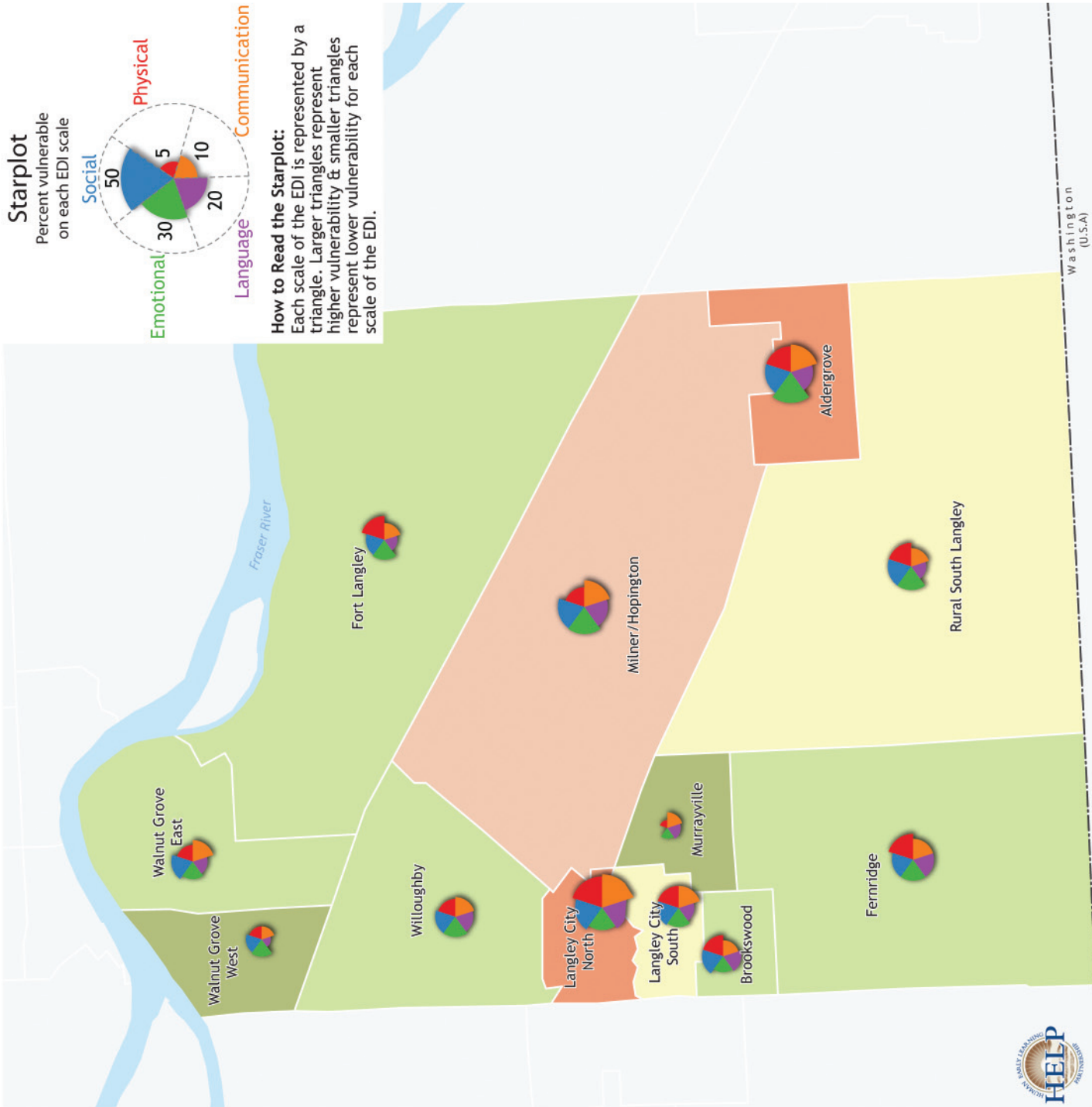


Notes:

The total EDI population for the School District is 1275.

Source: EDI 2008-2009 (includes 2007-2008 EDI results) Human Early Learning Partnership.

CC - August 2009



PROFILE OF YOUNG CHILDREN AGED 0-5 In the TOWNSHIP and CITY of LANGLEY

Executive Summary

Why a Profile of Early Childhood in Langley?

The early years of life are critical in influencing a range of health and social outcomes throughout the life course. Research shows that many challenges in adult society – competence in literacy and numeracy, mental health problems, obesity, criminality – have their roots in early childhood.

This profile sets out important information regarding the state of children under 6 in Langley. It includes current community demographics and services available to children, but most importantly through the inclusion of research data from the 2009 Early Development Instrument (EDI), it shows a growing vulnerability amongst Langley children that has potential to impact these children, their families and the community throughout their lives.

There is a growing awareness of how family and community circumstances can be changed to improve the lives of children. The first step in making these changes lies in understanding more about our children, their families and our community.

Population Demographic

The 2006 census data indicates that there were 7,898 young children aged 0-5 years in the Langleys. The greatest numbers of young children live in the Township 80% (6,352) with the City of Langley at 20% (1,546).

The nature of a child's family environment has a very strong effect on his/her cognitive and behavioural development, and on the prevalence of childhood vulnerability. The demographic section contains information pertinent to a child's family environment:

- Lone parent families
- Immigrant and refugee families
- Aboriginal families
- Housing
- Transience
- Education level of a child's primary caregiver
- Mothers in the workforce
- Children living in poverty

This section of the profile invites us to look for the stories behind the data. How are families managing the stresses of today's world – work/life balance, housing, lone parenting, low income?

Early Development Instrument (EDI)

The EDI research data from Langley's 2008-2009 community profile is located between the demographic and community services sections. The EDI is a tool developed by the Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP) at UBC to collect information on children's development at school entry in every school district in BC. Using geographic maps, HELP displays the EDI results at the level of the neighbourhood, school district, and local health authority. These maps are posted on the HELP website

www.earlylearning.ubc.ca

Langley School District #35 has participated in three data collection waves (Wave one 2001-2004, Wave two 2004-2007, Wave three 2008-2009). There are five scales of the EDI that represent the three broad domains of children's development:

- Language and cognitive development
- Communication
- Social competence
- Emotional maturity
- Physical health and well being.

Langley's EDI profile indicates that overall 24.9% of children were vulnerable on at least one scale of development in 08/09. This is an increase from both Wave 1 (19.5%) and Wave 2 (22.8%).

Please refer to the vulnerability chart on the inside back cover of the Langley Early Childhood Profile for a graphic summary of the vulnerability data.

The EDI section of the profile asks us to look in more detail at what is happening in neighbourhoods where families are raising their young children. What is causing the trends and what do we need to consider as we move forward?

Community Services and Supports

Community programs enable parents to help their children to develop the emotional control, social competence, large and fine motor skills, number awareness, and oral and self-expressive literacy skills to have a successful start when entering Kindergarten.

This section of the profile is focused on the community social service environment and includes:

- Health (pre and post natal services, teen birth rate, low birth rate, immunization, screening)
- Children in care
- Child and youth mental health
- Early childhood services (School District #35, Family Resource Programs, Child Care Resource and Referral, Special needs services, Parks recreation and culture programs, Public libraries)

Connections in the community provide children and their families with a sense of belonging.

Subsequently this helps them to face the challenges of everyday life. The community services section of the profile assists us in identifying what is working and the role that community partners' play in moving Langley's increasing EDI vulnerability curve in an upward direction.

An invitation for both community conversation and action

A 2006 Vancouver Board of Trade report reinforces the human capital investment argument stating that; *Children's learning patterns become set before they begin their formal education. The period from birth to age three is widely agreed upon as the most crucial developmental period of a child's life and it can be greatly affected by many factors.*

Understanding more about children in Langley, along with the community specific strengths and limitations of existing services and supports, allows us to maximize what does exist for children and families and informs us on how to take action for broader systemic change. This information must however be considered within the context of the variety of factors that influence child development: family environment, socio-economic conditions, neighbourhood influences, availability of child development services and policy directions.

The first step in understanding this information is to take time to reflect, as individuals and community members, as to the environmental trends that may be impacting children's development in our community. The Early Childhood Profile can provide a catalyst for both community conversation, and action.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I wish to acknowledge the assistance of planning staff at both the Township and City of Langley in providing census information for this document

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INTRODUCTION

Langley is made up of two incorporated municipalities, the Township of Langley and the City of Langley.

It is bounded on the west by the City of Surrey, on the north by the Fraser River, on the east by the City of Abbotsford, and on the south by the Canada-U.S. boundary. Langley is 316 square kilometres (122 square miles) and is home to 117,000 people.

The Township has the following distinct communities within it: Aldergrove, Brookwood/Fernridge, Fort Langley, Murrayville, Salmon River, Walnut Grove, Willoughby, and a large rural area.

In the City of Langley there are six neighbourhoods: Douglas and Nikomekl in the north and Simonds, Blacklock, Uplands and Alice Brown in the south. For the purposes of this report, however, the City of Langley demographic data is amalgamated under City North and City South.

Most of the data is derived from the 2006 census, for which thanks go to staff at Langley City and Langley Township. It should be noted that the data have not been adjusted for the Census undercount. As a result population figures in this report are lower than would actually have been the case in 2006; however this does not affect overall percentages or comparative statistics.

Readers should also be aware that census data is randomly rounded to prevent the possibility of associating statistical data with any identifiable individual. Under this method, there may be differences in some totals and cell values among various census tabulations.

This profile is specifically focused on information pertaining to the 0-5 population and includes both demographic data and information from various community and government agencies who deliver services to young children and their families in the Langley area.

Key 2006 Census Highlights

Population growth

- The total population of the Township of Langley increased by 5% from 2001 to 2006, while the City of Langley remained relatively unchanged. In 2006 the total population of the Langleys was 117,322.

Children under 6

- In 2006, there were 6,352 children in The Township of Langley and 1,546 in the City of Langley under the age of 6 years, representing 6.8% of the total population in Langley.
- The largest numbers of young children live in Walnut Grove (1,613), Willoughby (1,205), Aldergrove (992), and Langley City North (818).

Families/ Households

- One in four families in Langley City North (25.7%) is headed by a lone parent; the next highest is in Aldergrove (18.5%). Overall in Langley, 13.8% are single parent families.
- Three quarters of all households in the Township are single family households compared to 58% in the City.

Ethnic Diversity/Mother Tongue

- 17% of Langley residents were born outside Canada compared to 40% in Metro Vancouver.
- In Langley four out of five residents speak English as their mother tongue. German is the predominant non-official language in Langley, followed by Korean.
- In Langley, only 10% of the residents were members of a visible minority in 2006.

Mobility

- Approximately 19% of Langley City residents and 15% of those in the Township moved to a different address between 2005 and 2006. In the 2001 census this figure was the same for the City but for the Township it was 13%.

Female Labour Force Participation

- The participation rate for women with children under six was 68% in the Township and 63% in the City.

Low Income

- 7% of economic families in Langley Township and 15.6% in Langley City lived in poverty in 2006. In 2001 it was 7.2% and 17.2% respectively.
- In 2006, 10.4% of children under 6 lived in poverty in the Township, compared to over a quarter (25.6%) in the City of Langley.

1 - POPULATION DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

1.1 - CHANGE IN POPULATION

Why is it important?

Changes in the size and composition of the population of Langley have both positive and negative consequences. Whereas population growth brings greater economic growth and job opportunities, it also increases demand on existing infrastructure and signals potential shifts in community needs with regard to demands for supports and services related to the characteristics of the residents.

What is the situation in Langley?

The population of the province of BC grew by 5.3% between 2001 and 2006 to reach 4.1 million. In Metro Vancouver there was a 6.5% increase to bring the population of the region to just over 2.1 million.

The Township of Langley grew by almost 8% between 2001 and 2006 from 86,896 to 93,726; Langley City, on the other hand, declined slightly from 23,643 residents to 23,606. Together, the Langleys had a joint population of 117,322 accounting for about 5.6% of the total population of Metro Vancouver.

1.2 - CHILDREN UNDER 6 YEARS OF AGE

Why is it important?

The early years of life are critical in influencing a range of health and social outcomes throughout the life course. Research shows that many challenges in adult society – competence in literacy and numeracy, mental health problems, obesity, and criminality – have their roots in early childhood.

Children are considered vulnerable when some aspect of their development is delayed at school entry. There is a growing awareness of how family and community circumstances can be enhanced to improve the lives of young children.

What is the situation in Langley?

Estimates by BC Stats indicate that in 2006 there were almost a quarter of a million children in the province under 6 years of age (N=250,317); in Metro Vancouver the number was 130,463 (approximately half of all children under 6 in BC). In Langley there were 7,898 children aged 0 – 5 years, representing 3.1% of the provincial total and 6.1% of the Metro Vancouver total.

Of those 7,898 youngsters, 80% (6,352) lived in the Township and 20% (1,546) in the City of Langley. This is down slightly from 2001 when there were 8,119 children under 6 years in the two areas (6,388 in the Township and 1,731 in the City).

The following table presents the distribution of these children by Langley communities, extrapolated from the 2006 census.

Population aged 0-5 years for Langley Communities, 2006				
Community	Total population	Total 0-5	% 0-5 within community	% within total 0-5 pop
Aldergrove	11,545	992	8.6%	15.6%
Brookwood/Fernridge	12,980	774	6.0%	12.2%
Fort Langley	2,380	119	5.0%	1.9%
Murrayville	7,840	451	5.8%	7.1%
Salmon River	5,960	282	4.7%	4.4%
Walnut Grove	22,045	1,613	7.3%	25.4%
Willoughby	13,005	1,205	9.3%	19.0%
Total Rural	17,805	886	5.0%	13.9%
Total Langley Twp	93,040	6,352	6.8%	100.0%
City North	14,070	818	5.8%	52.9%
City South	9,260	734	7.9%	47.5%
Total Langley City	23,340	1,546	6.6%	100.0%
Total Langley	116,380	7,898	6.8%	

Source: Statistics Canada, Semi-custom Profiles, 2006 Census. (extrapolated data)

In the Township of Langley a quarter of all children in this age group live in Walnut Grove (25.4%), followed by Willoughby (19%) and Aldergrove (15.6%). Almost 14% live in the rural areas and another 12% in the Brookwood / Fernwood area.

The distribution of young children in the City is evenly divided between the north and south with a slightly larger proportion (52.9%) in the northern end.

1.3 - FAMILY STRUCTURE

Why is it important?

The nature of a child's family environment has a very strong effect on his/ her cognitive and behavioural development, and on the prevalence of childhood vulnerability. The factors within this environment that have been shown to have an impact on child development are parenting skills, the cohesiveness of the family unit, the educational level and mental health of the mother, and the extent to which parents are actively engaged with their children.

The growth in lone-parent families has been one of Canada's most significant social trends and the impact of lone-parenthood on the well-being of children is a critical research and public policy issue facing Canadian society. Children living in lone-parent households exhibit, on average, poorer developmental outcomes over quite a wide range when compared to the outcomes of the child population in general. This strongly suggests there are some factors associated with living in a lone-parent environment that prejudice child development. It does not mean that lone-parenthood per se is the main factor, but that there is most likely a constellation of factors strongly associated with lone parenthood. (Ross, David, Roberts, Paul and Scott, Katherine Scott. *How Do Lone-parent Children Differ from All Children?*, Vanier Institute for the Family)

Families by Type for Langley Communities, 2006							
Community	Total Families	Total Couple Families		Total Lone-parent Families		Lone Parents	
						Female	Male
Aldergrove	3,165	2,580	81.5%	585	18.5%	485	105
Brookswood/ Fernridge	3,890	3,405	87.5%	485	12.5%	380	100
Fort Langley	635	540	85.0%	100	15.7%	65	35
Murrayville	2,325	1,985	85.4%	335	14.4%	245	90
Salmon River	1,750	1,635	93.4%	110	6.3%	90	20
Walnut Grove	6,440	5,700	88.5%	740	11.5%	625	115
Willoughby	3,755	3,290	87.6%	480	12.8%	385	95
Total Rural	5,200	4,655	89.5%	550	10.6%	345	190
Total Langley Twp	26,975	23,610	87.5%	3,360	12.5%	2,630	730
City North	3,700	2,750	74.3%	950	25.7%	770	180
City South	2,630	2,335	88.8%	290	11.0%	205	85
Total Langley City	6,330	5,090	80.4%	1,240	19.6%	975	265
Total Langley	33,305	28,700	86.2%	4,600	13.8%	3,605	995

*Couple families include married couples and common-law families

Source: Statistics Canada, Semi-custom Profiles, 2006 Census.

What is the situation in Langley?

Of the 1.2 million children living in BC families in 2006, 78% lived in two parent families, the same as in 2001. The proportion of children living in one parent families (22%) also remained the same in both 2001 and 2006.

In 2006, 12.5% of all families in the Township of Langley were headed by a lone parent, unchanged from 2001. The City's proportion of lone parent families had decreased slightly from

21.1% in 2001 to 19.6% in 2006. In both communities, 78% of lone parent families were headed by women.

One in four families in Langley City North was a single parent family. In the Township, the highest proportions were in Aldergrove (18.5%), Fort Langley (15.5%), and Murrayville (14.4%).

1.4 - NUMBER OF CHILDREN UNDER 6 LIVING AT HOME

Why is it important?

For children under 6 years of age, nothing has greater influence on their development than their family. Families filter children's experiences with others and provide nurture and care that strongly influences early child development. Families determine the quality of a young child's world and shape the foundations for later development.

What is the situation in Langley?

In the Langleys there were 38,360 children living at home, of whom one in five were less than 6 years of age. There was a higher proportion in this age group (24.3%) in Langley City compared to in the Township (19.1%).

By community, Langley City North and Willoughby had the highest percentage of children in this age group living at home.

Number of Children under 6 years of age living at home in Langley Communities, 2006			
Community	Total children at home	Children under six years of age	% of all children at home who are less than 6
Aldergrove	4,250	980	23.1%
Brookwood/Fernridge	4,485	755	16.8%
Fort Langley	855	115	13.5%
Murrayville	2,585	405	15.7%
Salmon River	1,895	245	12.9%
Walnut Grove	7,775	1,565	20.1%
Willoughby	4,345	1,210	27.8%
Total Rural	5,780	810	14.0%
Total Langley Twp	31,885	6,080	19.1%
City North	3,120	855	27.4%
City South	3,355	720	21.5%
Total Langley City	6,475	1,575	24.3%
Total Langley	38,360	7,655	20.0%

Source: Statistics Canada, Semi-custom Profiles, 2006 Census.

1.5 - HOUSEHOLD TYPES

Why is it important?

Household structures are changing, due to demographic and cultural factors, such as increasing immigration, changing migration streams, increases in remarriages, cohabitation, and blended families, as well as increases in non-relative households.

Households by Type for Langley Communities, 2006							
Community	Total households	Single family		Multiple-family		Non-family	
Aldergrove	4,090	3,030	74.1%	65	1.6%	990	24.2%
Brookwood/Fernridge	4,575	3,625	79.2%	130	2.8%	820	17.9%
Fort Langley	865	600	69.4%	20	2.3%	240	27.7%
Murrayville	2,985	2,165	72.5%	80	2.7%	740	24.8%
Salmon River	2,080	1,630	78.4%	50	2.4%	390	18.8%
Walnut Grove	7,855	6,245	79.5%	95	1.2%	1,515	19.3%
Willoughby	4,745	3,550	74.8%	100	2.1%	1,085	22.9%
Total Rural	6,400	4,860	75.9%	160	2.5%	1,380	21.6%
Total Langley Twp	33,340	25,525	76.6%	715	2.1%	7,090	21.3%
City North	7,435	3,610	48.6%	45	0.6%	3,780	50.8%
City South	3,135	2,510	80.1%	55	1.8%	565	18.0%
Total Langley City	10,570	6,120	57.9%	105	1.0%	4,345	41.1%
Total Langley	43,910	31,645	72.1%	820	1.9%	11,435	26.0%

Source: Statistics Canada, Semi-custom Profiles, 2006 Census.

What is the situation in Langley?

Single family households make up more than three quarters (76.6%) of all households in the Township in 2006, down slightly from 78.6% in 2001. There were higher proportions in Walnut Grove (79.5%), Brookwood/Fernridge (79.2%), and Salmon River (78.4%).

Conversely, only 58% of all households in Langley City were single family households, down slightly from 60% in 2001. 41% of all households in the City are non-family households, up from 38.5% five years earlier. The majority of such households appear in the north of Langley City. Non-family households may either be a person living alone or two persons who share and have no children.

1.6 - ETHNIC DIVERSITY

Foreign Born Population

Why is it important?

Immigration enriches a community but it may also present challenges to immigrant families. The growth of the foreign-born population ensures continued demand for immigrant settlement services as well as the need for community services and supports to consider cultural adaptation and home language.

What is the situation in Langley?

In 2006, the Census enumerated 831,265 foreign born residents in BC, which represents an increase of 92,715 between 2001 and 2006. Metro Vancouver has a culturally diverse population with foreign born residents representing approximately 40% of the total population in 2006 compared to 20% nationally.

In Langley the proportion of foreign- born residents was much lower. In Langley City 18% of the population were born outside Canada; in the Township 17% were born outside of Canada. In 2001 this proportion was the same for Langley City, but for the Township it was 15.4%.

Foreign Born Population for Langley Communities, 2006				
Community	Total population	Non-immigrants	Immigrants	% Foreign Born
Aldergrove	11,540	9,955	1,530	13.3%
Brookwood/Fernridge	12,975	11,395	1,575	12.1%
Fort Langley	2,385	1,965	415	17.4%
Murrayville	7,840	6,325	1,390	17.7%
Salmon River	5,955	5,030	895	15.0%
Walnut Grove	22,045	18,025	3,865	17.5%
Willoughby	12,995	9,865	2,935	22.6%
Total Rural	17,800	14,370	3,345	18.8%
Total Langley Twp	93,035	76,480	15,880	17.1%
City North	14,075	10,850	2,930	20.8%
City South	9,260	8,020	1,240	13.4%
Total Langley City	23,335	18,865	4,170	17.9%
Total Langley	116,370	95,345	20,050	17.2%

Source: Statistics Canada, Semi-custom Profiles, 2006 Census.

Note Total population also includes non-permanent residents not shown here.

In the Township of Langley Willoughby had the highest proportion of foreign born residents at 22.6%, whereas Brookwood/Fernridge had the lowest at 12.1%. In the north of Langley City one in five (20.8%) was born outside of Canada compared to 13.4% in the south of Langley City.

1.7 - LANGLEY EARLY CHILDHOOD REFUGEE PROJECT

The Early Childhood Refugee Pilot Project is tailored to meet the cultural, developmental, parenting and life skills needs of refugees in the community with the ultimate goal of transitioning this population into mainstream services and resources. The project got underway in the Spring of 2009; as a result there is no attendance data available.

The Project includes the establishment of a Welcome Center with intensive early childhood focused settlement, development, and learning support being provided to refugee children ages 0-6 and their families within our community. Our Early Childhood Educators introduce key learning materials and toys that will contribute to their creativity, learning, and language acquisition during the four days that the Center is open.

Healthy living and the development of key life skills are also a focus of the Welcome Center. Both informal and formal instruction in food preparation, storage, and grocery shopping is provided. Instruction in basic gardening techniques in conjunction with the use of community garden beds on site is also a part of our project.

Direct client services include outreach by a family support worker. An initial health/child development screening and assessment is conducted, giving referrals and facilitating accessing services within the community. A network of volunteers who are willing to assist refugee families in integration into the community is established and maintained by a community connections coordinator.

(Christine Palmer, Director of Programs, Langley Community Services Society)

1.8 - PERIOD OF IMMIGRATION

Why is it important?

Recent immigrants face a number of challenges including recognition of educational achievement, securing quality employment, and linguistic isolation. Together these challenges place great stress on children and families. Young children of recent immigrants are also more likely to struggle in school.

Immigrant Population by Period of Immigration for Langley Communities, 2006							
Community	Total immigrants	Before 1991		1991 to 2000		2001 to 2006	
Aldergrove	1,530	940	61.4%	395	25.8%	190	12.4%
Brookwood/Fernridge	1,575	1,195	75.9%	240	15.2%	120	7.6%
Fort Langley	415	310	74.7%	90	21.7%	15	3.6%
Murrayville	1,390	935	67.3%	360	25.9%	90	6.5%
Salmon River	890	690	77.5%	140	15.7%	40	4.5%
Walnut Grove	3,865	2,250	58.2%	740	19.1%	875	22.6%
Willoughby	2,935	1,350	46.0%	810	27.6%	755	25.7%
Total Rural	3,350	2,335	69.7%	745	22.2%	245	7.3%
Total Langley Twp	15,880	10,010	63.0%	3,515	22.1%	2,350	14.8%
City North	2,930	1,625	55.5%	730	24.9%	570	19.5%
City South	1,240	890	71.8%	230	18.5%	120	9.7%
Total Langley City	4,170	2,515	60.3%	955	22.9%	695	16.7%
Total Langley	20,050	12,525	62.5%	4,470	22.3%	3,045	15.2%

Source: Statistics Canada, Semi-custom Profiles, 2006 Census.

What is the situation in Langley?

Almost two thirds of all immigrants to Langley arrived in Canada before 1991. In the communities of Salmon River, Brookwood/Fernridge, and Fort Langley more than 75% of all immigrants came prior to 1991. Willoughby, on the other hand, has experienced more recent immigration amongst its residents with 27.6% arriving during the nineties and another 25.7% coming to the community between 2001 and 2006.

In the City of Langley the south has a more settled immigrant population with almost 72% arriving prior to 1991 compared to 55.5% in the north. Only 28% of south Langley City residents arrived from another country between 1991 and 2006 compared to 44.4% in the north.

Between 1996 and 2006, Vancouver, Surrey, Burnaby, Richmond, and Coquitlam tended to attract the largest percentage of newcomers to the region with 74% of all newcomers settling in these municipalities.

1.9 - IMMIGRATION BY AGE

Why is it important?

The age profile of immigrants to Canada tends to be younger than the age profile of its resident population. Key issues that need to be addressed include the demographic and socio-economic characteristics of immigrant groups, social and cultural differences in the role of children across communities, the organizational abilities of communities to gain access to social services, the significant impact of racism upon recent immigrant groups' abilities to adjust successfully to Canadian society, and the need for public policy initiatives that address the specific needs of immigrants by their age groupings.

Immigrant Population by Age at Immigration for Langley Communities, 2006						
Community	Total immigrants	Under 5 yrs	5-14 yrs	15-24 yrs	25-44 yrs	45+ yrs
Aldergrove	1,530	240	345	310	525	105
Brookwood/ Fernridge	1,575	230	335	395	545	65
Fort Langley	415	60	145	75	120	10
Murrayville	1,390	230	340	330	425	60
Salmon River	890	115	240	265	235	20
Walnut Grove	3,865	460	825	855	1,460	260
Willoughby	2,935	345	565	635	1,195	180
Total Rural	3,345	405	715	885	1,140	175
Total Langley Twp	15,880	2,095	3,515	3,720	5,670	875
City North	2,930	375	535	530	1,175	315
City South	1,240	205	235	245	440	110
Total Langley City	4,170	585	770	775	1,620	425
Total Langley	20,050 100.0%	2,680 13.4%	4,285 21.4%	4,495 22.4%	7,290 36.4%	1,300 6.5%

Source: Statistics Canada, Semi-custom Profiles, 2006 Census.

What is the situation in Langley?

In Langley most immigrants (36.4%) arrived in the 25-44 age category when they were looking for employment and were also forming families. It is understandable therefore that another 34.8% aged 0-14 years are likely the child dependents of their parents. Both groups require special services to help them settle within the school system and the community. Only 6.5% of immigrants to Langley were over 45 years of age.

1.10 - MOTHER TONGUE

Why is it important?

Mother tongue refers to the first language learned at home in childhood and still understood by the individual at the time of the Census. For children, learning one's heritage language in childhood can help promote self-esteem and pride in one's background.

However, children who do not speak English in the home before school entry may experience difficulties in school. Parents may also have difficulty participating actively in their child's education. This affects language supports within the school system and increases demand for services in the community in languages other than English.

Mother Tongue for Langley Communities, 2006							
Community	Total population	English		French		Non-official languages	
Aldergrove	11,500	9,905	86.1%	105	1.1%	1,485	12.9%
Brookwood/ Fernridge	12,885	11,480	89.1%	135	1.2%	1,270	9.9%
Fort Langley	2,385	2,090	87.6%	25	1.2%	265	11.1%
Murrayville	7,775	6,775	87.1%	45	0.7%	955	12.3%
Salmon River	5,940	5,330	89.7%	25	0.5%	585	9.8%
Walnut Grove	21,870	18,575	84.9%	185	1.0%	3,110	14.2%
Willoughby	12,920	10,065	77.9%	155	1.5%	2,700	20.9%
Total Rural	17,750	14,485	81.6%	250	1.7%	3,025	17.0%
Total Langley Twp	92,515	78,255	84.6%	925	1.2%	13,340	14.4%
City North	13,965	11,135	79.7%	235	2.1%	2,590	18.5%
City South	9,215	8,225	89.3%	95	1.2%	895	9.7%
Total Langley City	23,180	19,360	83.5%	330	1.7%	3,490	15.1%
Total Langley	115,695	97,615	84.4%	1,255	1.3%	16,830	14.5%

Source: Statistics Canada, Semi-custom Profiles, 2006 Census.

What is the situation in Langley?

Four out of five residents in almost all communities in Langley speak English as their mother tongue. For those who speak neither English nor French the proportion in the Township is 14%, up from 12% five years previously. In the City of Langley 15% speak a non-official language as their mother tongue which is an increase from 13% in 2001.

The table below looks at the nearly 17,000 Langley residents (only 14.5% of the total population) who speak a non-official language and ranks the top five languages. German is the predominant language, particularly in Salmon River and Fort Langley, whereas Korean is spoken by almost a quarter of the residents in Walnut Grove and Willoughby.

Top Five Non Official Languages in Langley Communities, 2006							
Community	Non official Languages	German	Korean	Dutch	Mandarin	Punjabi	Other
Aldergrove	1,485	285	65	125	15	250	745
	100%	19.2%	4.4%	8.4%	1.0%	16.8%	50.2%
Brookwood/Fernridge	1,270	290	50	210	105	55	560
	100%	22.8%	3.9%	16.5%	8.3%	4.3%	44.1%
Fort Langley	265	100	0	25	45	0	95
	100%	37.7%	0.0%	9.4%	17.0%	0.0%	35.8%
Murrayville	955	190	115	185	70	15	380
	100%	19.9%	12.0%	19.4%	7.3%	1.6%	39.8%
Salmon River	585	235	10	70	20	0	250
	100%	40.2%	1.7%	12.0%	3.4%	0.0%	42.7%
Walnut Grove	3,110	450	740	255	315	105	1,245
	100%	14.5%	23.8%	8.2%	10.1%	3.4%	40.0%
Willoughby	2,700	235	620	85	255	190	1,315
	100%	8.7%	23.0%	3.1%	9.4%	7.0%	48.7%
Total Rural	3,025	715	210	255	55	285	1,505
	100%	23.6%	6.9%	8.4%	1.8%	9.4%	49.8%
Total Langley Twp	13,340	2,475	1,820	1,205	875	905	6,060
	100%	18.6%	13.6%	9.0%	6.6%	6.8%	45.4%
City North	2,590	290	425	125	125	30	1,595
	100%	11.2%	16.4%	4.8%	4.8%	1.2%	61.6%
City South	895	165	30	60	40	0	600
	100%	18.4%	3.4%	6.7%	4.5%	0.0%	67.0%
Total Langley City	3,490	455	455	180	165	30	2,205
	100%	13.0%	13.0%	5.2%	4.7%	0.9%	63.2%
Total Langley	16,830	2,930	2,275	1,385	1,040	935	8,265
	100%	17.4%	13.5%	8.2%	6.2%	5.6%	49.1%

Source: Statistics Canada, Semi-custom Profiles, 2006 Census.

1.1 - VISIBLE MINORITY POPULATION

Why is it important?

Statistics Canada projections suggest that one in three people living in British Columbia will be a member of a visible minority group by 2017. More than half of the population of Metro Vancouver is projected to belong to a visible minority group and almost half (47%) of the visible minority population in the region is projected to be Chinese (Cardozo, A., & Pendakur, R. *Canada's Visible Minority Population 1967-2017*, Metropolis, August 2008)

Although the major part of the growth in visible minority populations will be driven by immigration, at least one million new visible minorities will be born in Canada between now and 2017.

What is the situation in Langley?

Most immigrants to Canada formerly came from Europe but more recently the majority of new immigrants have been members of visible minorities. The following table shows the breakdown within the Township and City of Langley of immigrants who came to the area between 2001 and 2006

Recent Immigrants (2001-6) to Langley by Geographic Origin, 2006				
Geographic Origin	Langley Township		Langley City	
Total recent immigrants	2,350	100.0%	700	100.0%
United States of America	245	10.4%	40	5.7%
Central America	50	2.1%	10	1.4%
South America	50	2.1%	30	4.3%
Europe	370	15.7%	150	21.4%
Africa	140	6.0%	105	15.0%
Asia and the Middle East	1,455	61.9%	305	43.6%

Source: Statistics Canada, Semi-custom Profiles, 2006 Census.

Nearly two thirds of immigrants who arrived between 2001 and 2006 to the Township and 44% who arrived in the City came from Asia and the Middle East.

Due to the number of communities the visible minority population is presented in two separate tables, the first for the communities in Langley Township and the second for Langley City and the combined Langley municipalities.

Visible Minority Population for Communities in Langley Township, 2006									
	Aldergrove	Brookwood/ Fernridge	Fort Langley	Murrayville	Salmon River	Walnut Grove	Willoughby	Total Rural	Total Lang Twp
Total pop	11,545	12,970	2,380	7,845	5,960	22,045	13,000	17,805	93,040
Vis Min Pop	1,170	520	110	565	145	2,500	2,485	1,810	9,280
	10.1%	4.0%	4.6%	7.2%	2.4%	11.3%	19.1%	10.2%	10.0%
Chinese	130	230	50	105	15	775	610	445	2,350
	11.1%	44.2%	45.5%	18.6%	10.3%	31.0%	24.5%	24.6%	25.3%
Korean	60	30	0	120	20	765	650	250	1,900
	5.1%	5.8%	0.0%	21.2%	13.8%	30.6%	26.2%	13.8%	20.5%
Filipino	85	10	0	30	10	85	325	30	580
	7.3%	1.9%	0.0%	5.3%	6.9%	3.4%	13.1%	1.7%	6.3%
Black	120	30	0	110	0	130	80	80	570
	10.3%	5.8%	0.0%	19.5%	0.0%	5.2%	3.2%	4.4%	6.1%
Latin Amer	0	15	0	0	15	130	85	130	395
	0.0%	2.9%	0.0%	0.0%	10.3%	5.2%	3.4%	7.2%	4.3%
South Asian	295	75	15	40	10	215	365	425	1,445
	25.2%	14.4%	13.6%	7.1%	6.9%	8.6%	14.7%	23.5%	15.6%
S E Asian	360	40	0	65	30	115	160	135	895
	30.8%	7.7%	0.0%	11.5%	20.7%	4.6%	6.4%	7.5%	9.6%
Japanese	65	20	30	65	55	140	90	95	565
	5.6%	3.8%	27.3%	11.5%	37.9%	5.6%	3.6%	5.2%	6.1%
West Asian	25	40	0	20	0	55	0	0	140
	2.1%	7.7%	0.0%	3.5%	0.0%	2.2%	0.0%	0.0%	1.5%
Arab	0	15	0	10	0	0	10	115	150
	0.0%	2.9%	0.0%	1.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%	6.4%	1.6%
Other	15	0	0	0	0	0	35	0	45
	1.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.4%	0.0%	0.5%
Multiple VM	10	10	0	0	0	90	65	50	230
	0.9%	1.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	3.6%	2.6%	2.8%	2.5%

Source: Statistics Canada, Semi-custom Profiles, 2006 Census.

Overall in Langley in 2006, only 10% of the residents belonged to a visible minority and this was the case in both the City and the Township. Five years earlier the comparative figures were 8.7% in the City and 7% in the Township.

Within the visible minority population Chinese and Korean were the predominant groups at 21.2% and 18.7% in the City and 25.3% and 20.5% in the Township. Filipino was the next largest proportion in the City at 14% whereas in the Township it was South Asian at 15.6%.

Visible Minority Population for Langley City, 2006				
	City North	City South	Total Langley City	Total Langley
Total pop	14,075	9,260	23,335	116,375
Vis Min Pop	2,065	495	2,565	11,845
	14.7%	5.3%	11.0%	10.2%
Chinese	315	230	545	2,895
	15.3%	46.5%	21.2%	24.4%
Korean	450	30	480	2,380
	21.8%	6.1%	18.7%	20.1%
Filipino	295	60	360	940
	14.3%	12.1%	14.0%	7.9%
Black	230	25	255	825
	11.1%	5.1%	9.9%	7.0%
Latin American	230	25	255	650
	11.1%	5.1%	9.9%	5.5%
South Asian	215	30	245	1,690
	10.4%	6.1%	9.6%	14.3%
S E Asian	180	25	205	1,100
	8.7%	5.1%	8.0%	9.3%
Japanese	50	35	85	650
	2.4%	7.1%	3.3%	5.5%
West Asian	25	15	40	180
	1.2%	3.0%	1.6%	1.5%
Arab	0	10	0	150
	0.0%	2.0%	0.0%	1.3%
Other	10	10	20	65
	0.5%	2.0%	0.8%	0.5%
Multiple VM	50	0	55	285
	2.4%	0.0%	2.1%	2.4%

Source: Statistics Canada, Semi-custom Profiles, 2006 Census.

1.12 - GOVERNMENT ASSISTED REFUGEES

Why is it important?

Government-assisted refugees are Convention Refugees Abroad and members of the Source Country Class whose initial resettlement in Canada is entirely supported by the Government of Canada or Quebec. This support is delivered by CIC-supported non-governmental agencies.

Support can last up to one year from the date of arrival in Canada, or until the refugee is able to support himself or herself, whichever happens first. It may include accommodation, clothing, food, help in finding employment, becoming self-supporting, and other resettlement assistance.

What is the situation in Langley?

In 2007 there were 155 Government-assisted refugees (GARs) living in Langley, accounting for 18% of all GARs in the Lower Mainland. All came from Myanmar. In 2008 there were an additional 85 individuals (10% of all Lower Mainland GARs), making up 23 family units. There were 81 refugees from Myanmar, and they are known as the Karen refugees.

Karen refugees

On World Refugee Day in 2007 (June 20) Canada announced the decision to welcome 810 refugees belonging to the Karen ethnic group. Working with the UNHCR, these individuals were found to have no long term solution other than relocating to a third country. The Karen refugees fled Burma in 1995 after attacks by the Myanmar army. Many faced persecution including torture, imprisonment, forced labour, the burning of villages, and forced relocation. Karen refugees found themselves in camps in Thailand, where they have remained for more than 10 years. After this prolonged state of limbo, the UNHCR identified 13,000 individuals for resettlement (only a few of the 140,000 refugees from Myanmar who are in camps in Thailand) and recommended that Canada and other countries accept these refugees.

In November 2006, 110 Karen refugees arrived in the Lower Mainland to begin a new life and many more arrived throughout 2007 and 2008. Basic skills such as using electricity, public transit, and banking have been a tremendous challenge. At the same time, learning to speak English is equally daunting for the refugees, many of whom are illiterate in their own language.

The *Karen Initiative*, a non-profit society, has been formed to assist Karen refugees as they settle and adjust to life in Canada. Throughout 2007 it has been involved in gathering and distributing donations such as furniture and clothing, as well as assisting with life skills and learning English. Ultimately, the society hopes to provide the newcomers with the resources and tools necessary to successfully integrate into Canadian society. (www.kareninitiative.com)

The following table gives a breakdown by age of the GARs in Langley in 2008.

Government Assisted Refugees in Langley, 2008						
Age breakdown	Total # of individuals	Total %	Female		Male	
			#	%	#	%
5 years and under	18	21.2	11	12.9	7	8.2
6-12	12	14.1	6	7.1	6	7.1
13-18	15	17.6	7	8.2	8	9.4
19-64	39	45.9	20	23.5	19	22.4
65 and above	1	1.2	0	0.0	1	1.2
Total	85	100.0	44	51.8	41	48.2

Source: Immigrant Services Society of BC, GAR Statistics for Langley, 2008

It is known that almost all of these individuals live in the City of Langley rather than in the Township. Over 50% are 18 years and under; 21.2% are under the age of five. All of these individuals arrive with their own set of traumatic experiences and require special attention.

1.13 - ABORIGINAL POPULATION

Why is it important?

The Aboriginal population is much younger, on average, than the non-Aboriginal population. The median age of Aboriginal persons in BC was 28 years in 2006 (higher than the national Aboriginal average of 26.5 years), compared with 41 years for the non-Aboriginal population. In 2006, Aboriginal people made up 5% of BC's working age population (those between the ages of 15 and 64).

One quarter of the Aboriginal population was under 15, compared with only 16% of the non-Aboriginal population. 13% of BC's non-Aboriginal population was between the ages of 15 and 24, compared with 18% of the Aboriginal population. At the other end of the spectrum, 15% of BC's non-Aboriginal population was 65 and over, compared with only 5% of the Aboriginal population.

More Aboriginal peoples choose to live in cities instead of remote rural areas. Across Canada, 54% of Aboriginals in 2006 lived in urban centres, up 4% since 1996. In BC, 60% of the Aboriginal population lived in urban areas while 26% lived on Indian Reserves.

Aboriginal people in Canada face many challenges. They are more likely to have lower levels of education, poorer health, and higher rates of suicide and unemployment than the non-Aboriginal population

BC's total of 196,075 Aboriginal People (representing 4.8% of the provincial population) is second to Ontario's total of 242,495. Overall, BC's Aboriginal population grew by 15% between 2001 and 2006, which was three times the growth rate of non-Aboriginal Canadians and the second highest rate in Canada after Ontario.

There are 40,310 Aboriginals living in Metro Vancouver in 2006 representing an increase of 9.4% over the 2001 figure (35,855). This compares to a 6.5% increase for the region's population as a whole, and an increase of 29.4% over the region's 1996 Aboriginal population (31,140).

There were 3,305 Aboriginal peoples in 2006 in the Langley municipalities, representing 2.8% of the total population. This was up from 2,690 in 2001 and 1,640 in 1996.

What is the situation in Langley?

Aboriginal people in the area live on three different reserves - Kwantlen, Katzie, and Matsqui First Nations - and off-reserve living throughout the community.

The following table presents a breakdown of the Aboriginal population by Langley communities in 2006.

Aboriginal Population for Langley communities, 2006			
Community	Total population	Aboriginal population	
Aldergrove	11,540	470	4.1%
Brookwood/Fernridge	12,980	400	3.1%
Fort Langley	2,385	25	1.0%
Murrayville	7,845	105	1.3%
Salmon River	5,955	215	3.6%
Walnut Grove	22,045	475	2.2%
Willoughby	13,005	350	2.7%
Total Rural	17,800	560	3.1%
Total Langley Twp	93,035	2,455	2.6%
City North	14,075	545	3.9%
City South	9,260	310	3.3%
Total Langley City	23,335	850	3.6%
Total Langley	116,370	3,305	2.8%

Source: Statistics Canada, Semi-custom Profiles, 2006 Census.

The information below comes from a report *Collaborating for the Common Good*, prepared by Fran Haughian, Consultant for the Community Action Program for Children, Data Gathering Project, May 2009 and gives specific detail about services provided to Langley's Aboriginal community.

Lower Fraser Valley Aboriginal Society

The Lower Fraser Valley Aboriginal society was incorporated on September 14, 2000. They are a non-profit society and are comprised of a dedicated group of individuals who recognize a need in our community for services that meet the needs of our Aboriginal families.

Aboriginal Head Start Program

There is an Aboriginal Head Start on Kwantlen First Nation reserve that is open to off reserve registration. The primary goal of this initiative is to demonstrate that locally controlled and designed early intervention strategies can provide Aboriginal preschool children in urban and northern settings with a positive sense of themselves, a desire for learning, and opportunities to develop fully and successfully as young people. Parents are supported in their role as the child's first and most influential teacher, and the wisdom of elders is valued.

Aboriginal Family Gatherings

Aboriginal Family Gatherings are held at Nicomekl Elementary School throughout the year from 6-9pm. There are games and raffle prizes. Dinner is provided, but dessert donations are accepted. Cultural Elders are invited and some entertainment is organized.

National Aboriginal Day Gathering

The School District, Lower Fraser Valley Aboriginal Society, and the National Aboriginal Day Gathering all support an annual family gathering hosted by the Lower Fraser Valley Aboriginal Society at Aldergrove Lake Park during the third week of June to celebrate National Aboriginal Day.

Waceya Metis Society

The Waceya Metis Society works to bring the Langley-area Metis community together. They are a non-profit organization that acts to protect and preserve Metis history, promote and develop Métis culture, plus educate Métis people and the general public about Métis history, culture, and heritage. They host activities throughout the year for Metis families to gather and socialize.

Xyolhemeylh Child and Family Services

Xyolhemeylh is the Halq'emeylem word that describes the special relationship between someone who requires care, and someone who provides care. It describes a relationship based on caring, respect, and love.

In 1998, Xyolhemeylh Child & Family Services received full delegation, allowing Xyolhemeylh the same level of authority as the Ministry of Child and Family Development to work with Aboriginal families from Yale to Langley.

Services provided include both child protection and prevention services: Family Intervention, Family Services Guardianship, Resources, Shxway & Leq'a:mel Family Homes, Sexual Abuse Intervention Program, Traditional Counselors, Elder's Advisory Committee, Sto:lo Youth Council, Community Care Committees, Cultural Camps, Prevention & Awareness Groups, Youth Conference and Family Conference, Community Greeter Program, and Aunts & Uncles Youth Mentorship Program.

Aboriginal Mental Health Liaison Program

This program is administered by Sto:lo Nation Health Services funded by the Fraser Health Region and is available to help all First Nation, Metis, and Inuit people including communities from Tsawwassen to Boston Bar. The overall purpose of this program is to increase the accessibility and acceptability of Mental Health Services to Aboriginal individuals and families living in the Fraser Region.

EAGLE (Enhancing Aboriginal Gains in Literacy Education) information is listed in the section of this profile titled **KINDERGARTEN CHILDREN IN LANGLEY**

1.14 - HOME OWNERSHIP

Why is it important?

The ability to purchase a home provides the opportunity to build wealth and financial stability. In times of economic distress the equity in the home can be drawn upon to provide basic needs, thereby reducing the risk of inadequate income.

Finding affordable housing in the Metro Vancouver area is becoming increasingly difficult, particularly for female-headed households, young people and recent immigrants.

Housing Tenure for Langley Communities, 2006					
Community	Total occupied dwellings	Rented		Owned	
Aldergrove	4,085	815	20.0%	3,270	80.0%
Brookwood/Fernridge	4,570	570	12.5%	4,000	87.5%
Fort Langley	850	140	16.5%	715	84.1%
Murrayville	2,985	360	12.1%	2,625	87.9%
Salmon River	2,055	180	8.8%	1,860	90.5%
Walnut Grove	7,850	715	9.1%	7,135	90.9%
Willoughby	4,750	620	13.1%	4,115	86.6%
Total Rural	5,600	1,220	21.8%	4,370	78.0%
Total Langley Twp	32,745	4,640	14.2%	28,105	85.8%
City North	7,435	3,790	51.0%	3,640	49.0%
City South	3,135	360	11.5%	2,775	88.5%
Total Langley City	10,575	4,150	39.2%	6,420	60.7%
Total Langley	43,320	8,790	20.3%	34,525	79.7%

Source: Statistics Canada, Semi-custom Profiles, 2006 Census.

What is the situation in Langley?

Almost 86% of households in the Township owned their own home in 2006 compared to 61% in the City of Langley. Over half of all dwellings in the north of Langley City are rented; this is up from 42% five years previously. Comparative figures for 2001 and 2006 for the census showed little change (84% owned and 16% rented compared to 86% and 14%).

The allocation of 30% or more of a household's income to housing expenses provides a useful benchmark for assessing trends in housing affordability. (30% is the standard threshold at which the need for affordable housing is defined). In 2006, 39% of renters and 23.5% of owners in the Township of Langley spent more than 30% of their income on housing; in Langley City the comparative figures were 46% for renters and 25% for owners.

1.15 - MOBILITY

Why is it important?

In addition to being socially disruptive, high levels of transience present a huge challenge for community development approaches to child development and to the continuity of care for children with special needs. When children reach school age, frequent moves become a further challenge for educational momentum and continuity. Increasing family residential mobility has been associated with higher levels of behavioural vulnerability in middle childhood. It is reasonable to infer that the high rates of residential transience in inner city neighbourhoods complicate efforts to build social cohesion that impacts children in those areas. (Source: Hertzman et al., *Early Development in Vancouver: Report of the Community Asset Mapping Project*. Vancouver: Human Early Learning Partnership, 2002.)

Mobility Status (Those who moved to a different address from previous year), for Langley Communities, 2006					
Community	Total Pop	Non-movers		Movers	
Aldergrove	11,350	9,725	85.7%	1,625	14.3%
Brookwood/Fernridge	12,870	11,565	89.9%	1,300	10.1%
Fort Langley	2,370	2,155	90.9%	215	9.1%
Murrayville	7,750	6,855	88.5%	890	11.5%
Salmon River	5,910	5,400	91.4%	500	8.5%
Walnut Grove	21,845	18,995	87.0%	2,850	13.0%
Willoughby	12,740	8,775	68.9%	3,955	31.0%
Total Rural	17,645	15,440	87.5%	2,215	12.6%
Total Langley Twp	91,955	78,455	85.3%	13,495	14.7%
City North	13,940	10,480	75.2%	3,460	24.8%
City South	9,160	8,220	89.7%	945	10.3%
Total Langley City	23,100	18,700	81.0%	4,405	19.1%
Total Langley	115,055	97,155	84.4%	17,900	15.6%

Source: Statistics Canada, Semi-custom Profiles, 2006 Census.

What is the situation in Langley?

Neighbourhoods that are made up of a stable residential population help to foster a sense of community. Neighbours are more likely to know one another, participate in community events, and work together to ensure that their community is a safe environment. Residential mobility in low income populations is often not by choice, as residents seek out less expensive housing, try to escape poor quality neighborhoods, or face eviction.

19.1% of Langley City residents and almost 15% in Langley Township changed homes in the year prior to the census. This is unchanged for the City from the 2001 census but up from 13% in the Township. The most transient community in Langley was Willoughby where one in three residents (31%) had moved from the previous year. Second was Langley City north where one in four (24.8%) had moved over the previous twelve months.

1.16 - EDUCATION

Why is it important?

Higher levels of schooling are associated with higher levels of income, which in turn are linked to better health and social well-being. Children's achievement is strongly related to parental education. Low parental education is related to unemployment and lower family income, which are additional risk factors for children.

Higher parental education is positively related to the language development of children. Studies have shown that the education level of the primary caregiver, often the mother, is of particular significance to the child's readiness for school. Mothers with at least a high school diploma talk more often to their children (resulting in higher oral language skills) and provide more enriching learning environments as well as more positive parenting.

What is the situation in Langley?

Educational Attainment of Total Population (25-64 yrs) For Langley Communities, 2006							
Community	Total aged 25 to 64	No certificate, diploma or degree		High school graduation certificate or equivalent		Post secondary**	
Aldergrove	6,230	1,055	16.9%	2,070	33.2%	3,105	49.8%
Brookwood/ Fernridge	7,195	760	10.6%	2,275	31.6%	4,150	57.7%
Fort Langley	1,350	100	7.4%	365	27.0%	880	65.2%
Murrayville	4,050	245	6.0%	1,045	25.8%	2,760	68.1%
Salmon River	3,395	375	11.0%	1,025	30.2%	2,025	59.6%
Walnut Grove	11,540	805	7.0%	3,315	28.7%	7,420	64.3%
Willoughby	7,535	560	7.4%	2,055	27.3%	4,910	65.2%
Total Rural	9,780	1,300	13.3%	2,945	30.1%	5,525	56.5%
Total Langley Twp	50,905	5,130	10.1%	15,070	29.6%	30,700	60.3%
City North	7,365	1,160	15.8%	2,050	27.8%	4,145	56.3%
City South	5,235	510	9.7%	1,510	28.8%	3,210	61.3%
Total Langley City	12,600	1,670	13.3%	3,560	28.3%	7,360	58.4%
Total Langley	63,505	6,800	10.7%	18,630	29.3%	38,060	59.9%

**Post secondary education includes apprenticeship or trade certificate, college or university certificate / diploma / degree
Source: Statistics Canada, Semi-custom Profiles, 2006 Census.

60% in the Township and 58% in the City have some form of post secondary education, be it a trade apprenticeship or a college or university diploma or degree.

10% of the residents of Langley Township and 13% of those in Langley City have no certificate, trade, or diploma, with a low of 6% in Murrayville, and a high of 16.9% in Aldergrove. It is cautioned that this data cannot be aggregated to determine how many individuals have high school graduation or higher. While completion of high school is required for college or university enrollment, the same is not true for apprenticeship and trades programs

1.17 - LABOUR FORCE

Women in the Labour Force

Why is it important?

There has been significant growth in the labour force participation rate of mothers. In the early nineties only 50% of mothers with preschool children were in the workplace; in Metro Vancouver in 2006, 70% were. These high rates mean that most parents must find ways of balancing employment responsibilities with parental ones.

Labour Force Participation Rates of Mothers By Age of Children for Langley, 2006		
Community	With children under 6 years only	With children under 6 and over 6 yrs*
Aldergrove	77.2%	74.2%
Brookwood/Fernridge	61.4%	58.2%
Fort Langley	50.0%	100.0%
Murrayville	59.5%	77.8%
Salmon River	60.9%	92.9%
Walnut Grove	67.9%	70.6%
Willoughby	68.4%	63.9%
Total Rural	60.7%	61.1%
Total Langley Twp	66.7%	67.9%
City North	68.4%	57.1%
City South	72.6%	71.1%
Total Langley City	70.3%	63.0%

Source: Statistics Canada, Semi-custom Profiles, 2006 Census.

*Note that there is no upper age limit on children over the age of 6 with mothers in the workforce. (See Glossary at end of report regarding definition of children)

What is the situation in Langley?

Comparing the rates of labour force participation of mothers by the age of their children shows a decline since the 2001 census. For the Township of Langley, 66.7% of mothers with children less than 6 years were in the labour force in 2006 compared to 71.6% five years earlier. For mothers with children both under and over 6 the comparative figures were 67.9% and 70.8%.

In the City of Langley, the number of mothers with pre-school children remained stable both years at 70%, but for those with children younger and older than 6 years 63% were working outside the home in 2006 compared to 68.8% in 2001.

Place of work

Why is it important?

Commuting to and from work has implications for the time that is taken away from time with family. Adding to the stress of everyday life, commuting also means less time on exercise or recreation.

Place of Work for Langley Residents by Community, 2006											
Community	Total LF 15+ yrs	Within same community		Outside community		Working at home		Outside Canada		No fixed workplace address	
Aldergrove	6,295	1,785	28.4%	3,000	47.7%	415	6.6%	15	0.2%	1,075	17.1%
Brookswood/ Fernridge	6,945	1,470	21.2%	3,735	53.8%	590	8.5%	20	0.3%	1,130	16.3%
Fort Langley	1,395	390	28.0%	635	45.5%	140	10.0%	15	1.1%	220	15.8%
Murrayville	4,280	1,190	27.8%	2,195	51.3%	365	8.5%	20	0.5%	505	11.8%
Salmon River	3,600	1,020	28.3%	1,685	46.8%	330	9.2%	10	0.3%	555	15.4%
Walnut Grove	11,510	2,720	23.6%	6,500	56.5%	840	7.3%	120	1.0%	1,330	11.6%
Willoughby	7,255	1,530	21.1%	4,120	56.8%	595	8.2%	30	0.4%	965	13.3%
Total Rural	10,020	2,380	23.8%	3,790	37.8%	2,350	23.5%	30	0.3%	1,460	14.6%
Total Langley Twp	51,175	12,465	24.4%	25,590	50.0%	5,645	11.0%	250	0.5%	7,230	14.1%
City North	6,960	1,285	18.5%	4,395	63.1%	330	4.7%	15	0.2%	935	13.4%
City South	5,200	870	16.7%	3,330	64.0%	310	6.0%	15	0.3%	675	13.0%
Total Langley City	12,160	2,155	17.7%	7,720	63.5%	645	5.3%	30	0.2%	1,610	13.2%

Source: Statistics Canada, Semi-custom Profiles, 2006 Census.

What is the situation in Langley?

Langley appears to have high rates of commuting with 50% in the Township and almost 64% in the City traveling to a different community for work. A quarter (24.4%) of the Township residents live and work in the same community compared to 17.7% in the City.

11% in the Township work from home; in the rural area this is as high as 23.5%. In comparison, only 5.3% in the City of Langley work from home

1.18 - LOW INCOME

Why is it important?

Low income is related to poorer outcomes in children's health, development, and achievement. Children living in poverty are at greater risk in terms of long term-health and well-being, do less well in school, have to cope with dangerous or unhealthy physical environments, are less likely to graduate from secondary school, and as adults often suffer from job insecurity, underemployment, and poor working conditions. (Vancouver Coastal Health. *Child Health: A Profile of Children under 6 years in the Vancouver Coastal Health Region*. February 2009)

In 2006, BC had the highest child poverty rate in Canada for the fifth year in a row, despite the strong provincial economy. The proportion of children living in poverty in BC was 21.9 %, (estimated at 181,000 children), well above the national child poverty rate of 15.8%. BC is the only province where the child poverty rate was actually higher in 2006 than in 1997 despite increases in child benefits. (BC Campaign 2000, *Child Poverty Report Card*, 2008)

Although Canada does not have an official poverty line, social planning advocates generally use Statistics Canada's Low Income Cut-Offs (LICOs) as a measure of poverty. The LICOs are determined by analyzing family expenditure data, below which families will devote a larger share of income to the necessities of food, shelter and clothing than the average family would. To reflect differences in the costs of necessities among different community and family sizes, LICOs are defined for five categories of community size and seven of family size. This allows for comparisons across jurisdictions as well as the ability to track changes over time.

The 2006 poverty line released by the Canadian Council on Social Development for a family of four in larger urban areas, which would include Langley, was \$39,399.

What is the situation in Langley?

In 2006 in the Township of Langley, there were 26,560 families, of whom 7% were living in or near poverty. In the City of Langley there were 6,335 families and 15.6% were poor. This compares to 17.1% in Metro Vancouver and 13.3% provincially. In 2001 the comparative rates for the Township and City were 7.2% and 17.2% respectively.

Families living in Low Income Situations in Langley, 2006						
	Langley Township		Langley City		Metro Vancouver	
	No.	% LICO	No.	% LICO	No.	% LICO
Total Economic Families	26,560	7.0%	6,335	15.6%	557,270	17.1%
Male lone parent	655	9.2%	235	25.5%	14,420	22.2%
Female lone parent	2,415	19.9%	905	38.5%	64,080	35.0%

Source: Statistics Canada 2006 Census (based on before tax income)

The table also shows the higher poverty rates for single parent families, in particular those headed by women. Almost 20% of female lone parents in the Township and 38.5% of female lone parents in the City were living below the poverty line in 2006.

The poverty rate for BC children living in families headed by lone-parent mothers was 50.3% in 2006, while the poverty rate for BC children in two-parent families was 16.3%. (BC Campaign 2000, *Child Poverty Report Card*, 2008)

Across Metro Vancouver the proportion was 21.5%; for the province as a whole it was 19.6%. As seen in the table below, in the Township 10.4% of children under 6 lived in poverty with a high of 14.1% in Willoughby. In Langley City one in four children aged 0-5 (25.6%) lived in poor families; in the north of the city the proportion was almost 43%.

Children under 6 living in Low Income Situations in Langley Communities, 2006		
Community	Number	% LICO
Aldergrove	995	11.6
Brookwood/Ferridge	760	9.9
Fort Langley	115	0.0
Murrayville	425	5.9
Salmon River	255	0.0
Walnut Grove	1,570	7.0
Willoughby	1,210	14.1
Total Rural	795	6.3
Total Langley Twp	6,170	10.4
City North	855	42.7
City South	725	6.2
Total Langley City	1,585	25.6

Source: Statistics Canada, Semi-custom Profiles (based on before tax income)

Family income is acknowledged as a consistent, significant contributor to child outcomes. While there is a demonstrated relationship between income and vocabulary development, it is important to note that other factors such as parental education, reading habits, and participation in early childhood activities are also important in influencing the vocabulary development of children. Children who live in low-income families at 4 and 5 years of age are more likely to have lower vocabulary skills than their counterparts living in middle- and upper-income families. Because of multiple barriers such as user fees for recreation and camp programs, lack of transportation, and lack of agency capacity to deliver no cost services, low-income families find access to recreation programs, camps, and other early child development programs difficult. Participation in these types of early childhood activities helps build the foundation for core skills and success in school.

Income Assistance

Why is it important?

Income Assistance provides a rough estimate of the level of poverty in an area an indication of the need for income support to alleviate the situation.

Provincial welfare caseload figures from April 2009 show a 53% increase in the ‘expected to work’ category from the same time last year, an increase of 11,137 cases. The number of two parent families in the ‘expected to work category’ rose by 77% or 747 cases, and the number of single parent families rose by 31% or 1,227 cases. The ongoing increase in numbers of people seeking assistance places the caseload well above predictions in the provincial budget for this year.

According to Campaign 2000, the total annual income for a single parent with a four year old on welfare is currently calculated to be \$16,492 a year – or \$11,370 below the estimated before-tax poverty line for a large city. For a couple with children ages ten and twelve on welfare it is \$20,637 – or \$20,951 below the poverty line. (For full details see BC Campaign 2000, *Child Poverty Report Card*, 2008)

The *Cost of Eating in BC 2007* report also demonstrates that income assistance rates are too low for families to pay rent and buy healthy food. Each year, dietitians throughout BC price a basket of food at a number of grocery stores using a standardized food costing tool called the National Nutritious Food Basket (NFB). The basket contains 66 basic foods that require preparation. The cost of the food basket is then compared to disposable income for a number of family scenarios. For those on income assistance, or with a low earned income, shelter and food costs consume an unreasonable proportion of incomes.

Cost of Eating in BC, 2007				
Monthly Costs	Family of 4 on Income Assistance (I.A.)	Single parent, 2 children on I.A.	Family of 4 low earned income	Family of 4 average income
Disposable income	\$1,711	\$1,671	\$2,274	\$4,289
Cost of shelter	\$1,104	\$1,104	\$1,104	\$1,427
% income needed for shelter	65%	66%	49%	33%
Cost of food	\$715	\$521	\$715	\$715
% income needed for food	42%	31%	31%	17%
% income (\$) left for all other costs	-7% (-\$108)	97% (\$46)	80% (\$455)	50% (\$2,147)

Source: Dietitians of Canada, *The Cost of Eating in BC*, 2007

What is the situation in Langley?

The following table shows the breakdown of all children less than 19 years of age in Langley who lived in families on income assistance in December 2008. This represents approximately 445 children in this age group in Langley, most of who are living in single parent families. In all instances Langley was below the provincial figures.

Living Arrangements of Children Under 19 Years of Age Receiving Basic Income Assistance*--December 2008					
Local Health Area	Total Population Under 19	Children on Basic Income Assistance As a Percent of all Children under 19			
		Total	Living in 2 Parent Families	Living in 1 Parent Families	Not Living With Parents
Langley	29,711	1.5	0.2	1.2	0.0
British Columbia	894,237	2.3	0.3	1.9	0.1

Source: Ministry of Employment & Income Assistance Administrative Files and BC Stats. Population Estimates. Prepared by BC STATS. February, 20, 2009.

* These figures include only a subset of those receiving Income Assistance. INCLUDED are those on Temporary Assistance. EXCLUDED are those on Continuous Assistance (Disabled or with persistent multiple barriers to employment), Children in the Home of a Relative, and OAS/Seniors. A recipient is defined in these reports as 'each person living in a family or living alone that is receiving basic Income Assistance'. Data do not include aboriginal people living on reserve.

Unfortunately there is no breakdown about families with children on income assistance to show how many of these families have children in the 0 to 5 years old range. There are approximately 2,500 open income assistance cases in Langley and 394 of those cases are families with children. (MHSD – Ministry of Housing and Social Development communication, July 8, 2009)

1.19 - MAPPING ECD IN LANGLEY (EARLY DEVELOPMENT INSTRUMENT MAPPING)

Please refer to the 2008-2009 EDI information in the front and back covers of this document, or view it on the website: www.earlylearning.ubc.ca

The Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP), operating out of UBC, brings together academic, government, and community partners to better understand early childhood development.

A key component of the ECD Mapping Project is the Early Development Instrument (EDI), a research tool that assesses the state of children's development in kindergarten. This measurement, taken as they enter school, reflects children's early experiences and it can predict their performance later in life.

Kindergarten teachers complete a checklist for each child about six months into the kindergarten year. Five areas of a child's development are measured: physical health and well-being, social competence, emotional maturity, language and cognitive development, and communication skills and general knowledge.

The vulnerability threshold or cut-off is the EDI score that distinguished the bottom 10% of children in the province from the other 90%. Results from the EDI are interpreted only at the level of the group (school, neighbourhood, region, or school district). Results are never interpreted at the individual level. Communities benefit from this research in a number of ways. The research helps show: where there are large differences in children's development; where groups of children are more or less developmentally ready for school across communities, regions, and the province; and how broad socio-economic factors may influence children's early development. This information can help community members become more aware of ways to create environments to help children thrive and to develop programs and policies targeted to those areas most in need.

Langley • EDI Community Summary – Fall 2009

For the purposes of this project, the Langley district has been divided into twelve neighborhoods or areas. Children's scores are mapped by their neighborhood of residence, not where they go to school.

The table on the back inside cover shows the number of children in each neighborhood in each round of data collection. There were a total of 1175 children in Wave 1 (2000-2004), 1121 children in Wave 2 (2005 – 2007) and 1275 in 08/09. The lowest vulnerability areas are dark-green, with increasing vulnerability represented by light green, yellow, light red and finally, dark red for the highest vulnerability areas. This graph shows the distribution of neighborhoods in the Langley School District.

Now that we have at least three data collection points, trends in children's development over the entire period of time can be considered. Many areas show a consistent increase or decrease in vulnerability, while others have had a similar proportion of vulnerability each time. With smaller cohorts, fewer children will influence a larger change in the proportion vulnerable.

Large fluctuations in vulnerability from one data collection year to the next are also important to note. Changes in vulnerability are worth noting if they are larger than 5% or if they represent a quintile (or colour) change in the area.

- District wide, 24.9% of children were vulnerable on at least one scale of development in 08/09. This is an increase from both Wave 1 (19.5%) and Wave 2 (22.8%).
- Although the district vulnerability consistently increased over time, there were different patterns in the vulnerability rates in many of the neighborhoods.
- Murrayville had the lowest level of vulnerability of all of the neighborhoods (8.2%). It was one of two neighborhoods with less than 15% vulnerability in Langley in 08/09.
- Only two neighborhoods, Willoughby and Rural South Langley, had decreases of greater than 5% or representing a shift in quintile colour between Wave 2 and 08/09.
- The neighborhood with the highest proportion of children vulnerable was Langley City North, which had 46.9%, or nearly half, of children vulnerable on at least one scale of development. Langley City North also had the highest vulnerability in Wave 2.
- There were nearly 40% of children vulnerable in the Aldergrove area.
- Five neighborhoods had increases of greater than 5% or representing a shift in quintile colour between Wave 2 and 08/09. The largest of these was in Milner-Hopington where vulnerability increased nearly 20%.

Vulnerability across the Scales

District wide, the largest proportion of children vulnerable was on the Communication Skills and General Knowledge scale (11.4%).

The smallest proportion of children vulnerable was on the Language and Cognitive Development scale (7.7%).

There have been consistent increases in vulnerability in each of the three data collections on the Communication Skills, Emotional Maturity, and Social Competence scales.

What Next? - Taking Action for Change

The EDI provides population-based data about early child development to communities and governments so that it can be used, in combination with local knowledge and additional data (e.g. socioeconomic) to put into place programs and policies to support children's healthy development within the context of their families. Illustrating with data the disparities in children's development inspires action to redress these inequities. Given what we know about the importance of early child development to lifelong learning, health, and behavior, we must take action to reduce vulnerability levels for today's children and for the future of our province. The 08/09 EDI data shows that province-wide 28.6% of children in kindergarten were vulnerable. Between 2001 and 2004 the proportion of all BC children vulnerable was 26%. Between 2004 and 2007, the proportion was over 29%. Consistently, then, over the last 8 years more than a quarter of BC's children have been developmentally behind in kindergarten. The vulnerability rate in Langley has been below the provincial rate in all three data collections, although it has been consistently increasing over time.

The vulnerable children in BC are not spread evenly throughout the province. Rather, EDI research reveals a large "geography of opportunity," one that is much like our topography: some children face steep difficulties, while others do not. The disparity is significant: on the low end, some neighborhoods report rates of child vulnerability below 3%, while others report vulnerability rates of over 60%. In Langley, the range is from 8.2% to 46.7%.

The BC government, as part of their overall strategic plan, has articulated a goal of reducing EDI vulnerability to 15% by the year 2015. In the 08/09 data collection, only 46, or less than 10% of all neighborhoods in B.C., had vulnerability rates below 15%. In Langley, there were only two neighborhoods below the 15% threshold.

Action for change must be a partnership between communities and government and must occur at all levels of the system. HELP has articulated a comprehensive "15 by 15" policy framework designed to reduce child vulnerability to the levels targeted by the government. Central to this framework is the concept that "children thrive when families thrive" and that supporting children's development requires policy to address families' needs for time, resources, and community support in caring for their children.

The five "15 by 15" recommendations for government require action to be taken provincially and federally, but they can also be considered within each local context. Talk to your local MLA or MP to discuss what can be done. Understanding your population, along with the community-specific strengths and limitations of existing early child development services and supports, can allow you to maximize what does exist for children and families and inform you to take action for broader systemic change.

THE 15 BY 15 RECOMMENDATIONS:

Enhance Community Supports

- **Strengthen ECD intersectoral coalitions and local planning functions.** Are you connected to your local coalition? Can the coalition be strengthened through a renewed commitment to local control and collaboration between agencies?
- **Build on ECD programs and services - pregnancy, parenting and early learning resources, screening, and intervention.** What services exist in your community? What are the gaps? How can they be more closely integrated with each other and more accessible to families? Are the services matched with the socio-economic character of the local child and family population?
- **Build on early childhood education and care to provide universal access to quality ECEC, with inclusion, and seamless transitions to elementary school.** Lack of access to quality child care is an acute crisis for families in BC. Substantively responding to this crisis requires public commitment to public funding of the system. There are, however, some local activities that can be undertaken to better support families and raise awareness. How are ECEC services and professionals integrated with the local ECD planning and delivery system? What links exist to the K to 12 education system? What type of child care is most needed in your community? How do parents access information about what is available?

Enhance Family Time and Resources

These recommendations require broad policy change and public investment. Communities can take action by raising the awareness of the issues and understanding the impact on children and families in your area.

- **Build on parental leave,** by working with the federal government to increase duration to 18 months, improve coverage and benefit levels, and reserve time for fathers.
- **Build on income support policies** to reduce child and family poverty and to enhance work/family life balance. EDI results can be used as one tool to guide planning for young children and families in the community. The results must be considered within the context of the variety of factors that influence early child development: family environment, socio-economic conditions, neighborhood influences, availability of early child development services, and policy directions.

The first step in understanding results is to take time to reflect, as individuals and community members, as to the environmental trends that may be impacting children's development in your area. The EDI results will provide a catalyst for both community conversation and action.

This research was conducted by the Human Early Learning Partnership. Community maps created for this project are available on the HELP website: www.earlylearning.ubc.ca

All materials from the project are available to be used liberally in support of activities that assist in early child development.

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1.20 - Glossary

Average income is calculated by dividing the aggregate income of families by the number of families.

Census Family refers to a married couple (with or without children of either or both spouses), a couple living common-law (with or without children of either or both partners) or a lone parent of any marital status, with at least one child living in the same dwelling. The total income of a census family is the sum of the total incomes of all members of that family in 2005.

Children refer to blood, step-, or adopted sons and daughters (regardless of age or marital status) who are living in the same dwelling as their parent(s), as well as grandchildren in households where there are no parents present. Sons and daughters who are living with their spouse or common-law partner, or with one or more of their own children, are not considered to be members of the census family of their parent(s), even if they are living in the same dwelling. In addition, the sons or daughters who do not live in the same dwelling as their parent(s) are not considered members of the census family of their parent(s). When sons or daughters study or have a summer job elsewhere but return to live with their parent(s) during the year, these sons and daughters are considered members of the census family of their parent(s).

Economic Family refers to a group of two or more persons who live in the same dwelling and are related to each other by blood, marriage, common-law, or adoption.

Birth Rate for live births: the crude rate is the number of births divided by the mid-year population and converted to a rate per 1,000 population.

Incidence of Low Income is the percent of the population who fall below the low income cut-offs (LICO) before tax. LICO's are a consistent and well-defined method that identifies those who are substantially economically worse off than the average. They represent levels of income where people spend on average 20% more of their money than most Canadians for food, shelter and clothing. LICO's are calculated based on family size and where they live. Before tax income is used in order that comparisons can be made with other census years.

Median income of families is that amount which divides their income size distribution into two halves, (i.e. the incomes of the first half of families are below the median, while those of the second half are above the median).

Household refers to a person or a group of persons (other than foreign residents), who occupy the same dwelling and do not have a usual place of residence elsewhere in Canada. A non-family household consists either of one person living alone or of two or more persons who share a dwelling, but do not constitute a family (e.g., a couple with or without children). Family households are divided into two subcategories: one-family households and multiple-family households. A one-family household consists of a single family (e.g., a couple with or without children). A multiple-family household is made up of two or more families occupying the same dwelling.

Mobility movers are defined as persons aged one year and up who, on Census Day, were living at a different address than the one at which they resided one year earlier.

Visible Minority Population refers to the visible minority group to which the respondent belongs. The *Employment Equity Act* defines visible minorities as 'persons, other than Aboriginal peoples, who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour.' Categories in the visible minority population variable include Chinese, South Asian, Black, Filipino, Latin American, Southeast Asian, Arab, West Asian, Korean, Japanese, Visible minority, n.i.e. ('n.i.e.' means 'not included elsewhere'), Multiple visible minority, and Not a visible minority.

Aboriginal people refers to those persons who reported identifying with at least one Aboriginal group, i.e. North American Indian, Métis or Inuit, and/or those who reported being a Treaty Indian or a Registered Indian as defined by the Indian Act of Canada and/or who were members of an Indian Band or First Nation.

2 - COMMUNITY SERVICES AND SUPPORTS

Health of young children

2.1- LIVE BIRTHS

Why is it important?

Information about the number of live births in a region allows for the planning of prenatal, perinatal, and neonatal services as well as the future demand for child care services.

Teen mothers are more likely to be lone parents and tend to have less education. In addition, birth outcomes are generally poorer and the incidence of preterm and low birth weight infants is higher. Teen mothers are more likely to live below the poverty level and depend on social assistance. Given these socio-economic challenges, some are at higher risk of abusing or neglecting their children

What is the situation in Langley?

There were 1,454 births in Langley in 2008. The live birth rate per 1,000 females for 2002-6 in Langley was 10.4. In the province the highest rate was 18.4 and the lowest 4.7. (Fraser Health Decision Support Services and Office of Medical Health Officer. *Health Profile 2007*, p. 73, December 2008)

The teen birth rate in Langley was 7.1 per 1000 females ages 15-19 in 2006, compared to 10.5 for BC. From 1997 to 2006 the teen birth rate for the Fraser Health Region has dropped from 15.3 to 7.8. (Fraser Health Decision Support Services and Office of Medical Health Officer. *Health Profile 2007*, p. 80, December 2008)

2.2 - LOW BIRTH WEIGHT

Why is it important?

Low birth weight (less than 2,500 grams) has been linked to infant mortality, physical disability, and long term health problems including heart disease and diabetes. Low birth weight also increases the risk of chronic respiratory problems, learning difficulties, and has long-term health consequences for health and quality of life. Smoking, poor nutrition during pregnancy, and drug and alcohol use all contribute to low birth weight.

What is the situation in Langley?

Over the last 10 years the low birth rate in the Fraser Health Region has remained higher than the BC rate and in the 2002-6 period the rates were 56.2 and 54.7 respectively. The low birth rate in Langley was lower than both at 49.1. (Fraser Health Decision Support Services and Office of Medical Health Officer. *Health Profile 2007*, p. 74-5, December 2008)

2.3 - INFANT MORTALITY

Why is it important?

The infant mortality rate is considered to be an indicator of the level of social and economic development and the level of health care, as well as the preventive care and attention paid to the health of mother and child.

What is the situation in Langley?

The infant mortality rate (the number of deaths among infants under one year of age) has been steadily declining and in BC the 2002-6 rate was 4.2. In Langley over the same period the rate was 3.2. (Fraser Health Decision Support Services and Office of Medical Health Officer. *Health Profile 2007*, p. 82-3, December 2008)

2.4 - IMMUNIZATION RATES

Why is it important?

Vaccination is one of the most effective health procedures for reducing or eliminating illness and death linked to communicable disease. Maintaining immunizations against serious diseases throughout childhood is essential to the prevention of epidemics and small-scale outbreaks.

What is the situation in Langley?

In Langley 68.9% of the two year old population was reported to be fully immunized in 2008. (Anup Samra, Manager, Health Promotion and Prevention Services, Fraser Health Authority)

2.5 - KINDERGARTEN HEARING AND VISION SCREENING

Why is it important?

Hearing is the key avenue with which children become acculturated into our society and learn its language. Significantly better language development is associated with early identification of hearing loss and early intervention. Depending upon the nature and extent of the hearing loss, it may be responsible for deficient or delayed speech and language skills, poorer academic accomplishments, and more problematic psychosocial adjustment.

The importance of screening for visual problems in childhood is based on the recognition that 5% to 10% of preschoolers will have difficulties which, if left untreated, may interfere with the proper development of visual acuity. (Paediatric Child Health 2009;14(4):246-8)

What is the situation in Langley?

Hearing and vision screening is available for all kindergarten students in Langley. Of the 174 youngsters screened for hearing loss, 31 (18%) were referred for further assessment. Late diagnosis of hearing loss is associated with delays in children's speech, language and social-emotional development. Of the 176 kindergarten children in Langley screened for vision problems, 27 (15%) were referred for follow-up.

2.6 - CHILDREN IN CARE/ CHILD PROTECTION

Why is it important?

Under the Child, Family and Community Services Act, the Minister designates the Director of Child Protection, who in turn delegates the provision of child protection services across the province to child protection social workers.

The Act requires that anyone who has reason to believe that a child may be abused, neglected, or is for any other reason in need of protection, must report it to the Director or a delegated social worker. These reports are investigated by social workers, who take the most appropriate action that is least disruptive for the child. These actions may include:

- providing or arranging the provision of support services to the family;
- supervising the child's care in the home;
- protecting the child through removal from the family and placement with relatives, a foster family, or specialized residential resources.

Social workers also have the delegated authority of the Director to approve foster homes for children who come into the care of the Ministry. Resources such as group homes, specialized residential facilities, assessment resources, and respite resources are developed to serve children and youth in care.

Child protection services across the province are provided through 429 Ministry offices in 5 regions and a number of delegated Aboriginal agencies. The child protection staff are supported by the provincial office of the Child Protection Division.

What is the situation in Langley?

The number of children in care in Langley has remained stable from 2005 to 2008, with an average of 172 children in care at any one time.

As of December 2008, there were 173 children in care.

- 27 (15.6%) were under three years of age;
- 27 (15.6%) were 3-6 years of age;
- 119 (68.8%) were between 7 and 18 years.

(Amarjit Sahota, Community Services Manager, MCFD)

Aboriginal Children in Care

As of December 31, 2009 there were 66 aboriginal children in care.

- 3 (4.5 %) were under three years of age;
- 6 (9.1%) were three to six years of age;
- 57 (86.4%) were between seven and eighteen years of age.

(Sonya Halper, Supervisor of Langley Child Protection Team, Xyolhemeylh Child and Family Services)

2.7 - INTEGRATED SCREENING FOR CHILDREN IN CARE

This program is targeted at those children who are 18 months of age and 3 years of age. They are referred to the local health unit by their social worker for vision, hearing, dental, and developmental screening. The intent is to identify, as early as possible, children who may be at risk for delay in development and refer them for further assessment, follow-up, and/or treatment if necessary. It should be noted that the children in care referred to Fraser Health for the screening project may not necessarily be Langley children. They may belong to another community but be placed in a Langley foster home.

Social workers in Langley referred 18 children to the Children in Care (CIC) program from January 1 to September 30, 2008.

- 5 were identified as Aboriginal;
- 7 had known developmental concerns;
- 8 were receiving or had been referred to IDP/ CDC services;
- 1 was receiving mental health services ;
- 4 were receiving Speech/Language services.

Age at screening

14 of the 18 (78%) referred children were screened with wait times ranging from 1 to 3 months. A few children moved and were therefore not screened.

- 8 were screened at 18 months of age
- 6 were 36 months old

Type of screening

- All 6 three year olds were screened for vision problems and 2 were referred to eye doctors.
- 13 children were screened for dental problems with 12 receiving fluoride varnish treatment.
- 9 of 14 children screened were administered the Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ). Note some were referred to more than one service:
 - 2 scored close to cut off and were to be re-screened in 2 months;
 - 3 were “referred”;
 - 2 were referred to IDP/CDC;
 - 2 were referred to speech and language services;
 - 1 was referred to mental health.

- 4 children 18 months of age and one child of three years received immunizations.
- 6 were screened for hearing loss with one referred to the Fraser Health Audiology program for further assessment.

2.8 - OTHER HEALTH SERVICES

A pilot program in Langley to screen 3 year olds has been completed with approximately 70 children screened.

Amongst the Karen refugees in Langley, immunization clinics have been held four times a year for about four hours each and approximately 55 families have been seen. Other services include communicable disease follow-up and prevention.

The complexity of the health needs of the Karen population in conjunction with the limited availability of transportation and translation services makes provision of service challenging. (Anup Samra, Manager, Health Promotion and Prevention Services, Fraser Health Authority)

2.9 - CHILD AND YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH

Why is it important?

Research shows that the average overall community prevalence rate for mental disorders in children and youth is 15%. This means that in BC, approximately 140,000 children and youth experience mental disorders causing significant distress and impairing their functioning at home, at school, with peers, or in the community.

These mental disorders include any anxiety disorder, conduct disorder, attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder, any depressive disorder, substance abuse, pervasive development disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder, schizophrenia, Tourette's disorder, any eating disorder, and bipolar disorder.

Child and youth mental health services are offered throughout British Columbia by the Ministry for Children and Family Development (MCFD). This ministry provides a wide range of community-based specialized mental health services to mentally ill children and their families.

What is the situation in Langley?

In Langley in 2008 there were 288 active Child and Youth Mental Health cases. Of those, 41 were six years and under, and 247 were in the 7 to 19 age range.

This does not include cases or situations in which MCFD provided consultative services (e.g., Supported Child Development, Parent Drop-In Groups). (Amarjit Sahota, Community Services Manager, MCFD, Langley)

2.10 - EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT AND SERVICES

Why is it important?

One quarter of BC's children do not have all the skills they need to successfully transition into kindergarten. Programs such as *StrongStart* and Family Resource Programs enable parents to help their children to develop the emotional control, social competence, large and fine motor skills, number awareness, and oral and self-expressive literacy skills to have a successful start when formal schooling begins in kindergarten.

2.11 - LANGLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT #35

StrongStart is a drop-in program offered 5 days a week for parents/caregivers to bring their children ages 0 – 5 years for play sessions, stories and singing times. Parents/caregivers play with their child and other children and share ideas about parenting. They learn games, songs, rhymes, books, storytelling and reading techniques along with an early childhood educator at the centre.

With regular *StrongStart* attendance, young children will develop good social skills and form trusting play relationships with other children. Over time, children become prepared to successfully learn in a kindergarten setting as they gradually learn to communicate their wishes, listen to others, share toys, and sit and focus at circle or story-reading time. They are involved in a safe and happy environment where they develop self-confidence.

StrongStart Centres are funded by the Ministry of Education and are open to all parents/caregivers in the entire community. This year, Langley School District has operated six *StrongStart* Centres: Nicomekl, Parkside Centennial, Simonds, Langley Meadows, and West Langley Elementary Schools, and at Douglas Park Community School. Langley will have three more centres opening in January 2010 at Wix –Brown, North Otter, and Willoughby Elementary Schools.

Ready, Set, Learn is a program offered in all Langley elementary schools for children 3 and 4 years and their parents/caregivers. Sessions include a focus on vocabulary development, learning with numbers, learning through play, and fine motor skill-building to prepare for writing. There were a total of 157 RSL sessions offered with 443 children participating with one or more parents.

At the sessions, parents/caregivers receive a kit and booklet on the various topics of early childhood development that will be addressed. The ideas in the booklet are expanded upon during the five sessions, and parents/caregivers engage with their children in activities that support learning. At each session, children receive takeaway items, and parents receive excellent handouts that provide ideas and suggestions for activities involving parent and child learning through play.

Kindergarten Children in Langley

In 2008 there were 1,285 children in public school kindergarten classes in Langley up from 1,176 five years earlier. This represents 3.6% of all children in public kindergarten in the province.

- Of the 1,285 students in September 2008, 1,167 students attended a half-day kindergarten program and 118 attended a full day program.
- There were 122 students (9.5%) who were designated as English as a Second Language Learners (ESL).
- There were 30 students with Special Needs (2.3% of population).
- There were 83 Aboriginal students (6.4% of population).

EAGLE (Enhancing Aboriginal Gains in Literacy Education)

The *EAGLE* program is a school district afternoon Kindergarten literacy program for children of Aboriginal ancestry. Currently there are 38 students in the program which is offered at Fort Langley, Nicomekl and Shortreed elementary schools.

The program is based on elements of the highly successful Rec N' Reading and PALS (Parents as Literacy Supporters) programs and includes an Aboriginal literacy focus to build confidence in both early reading ability and cultural pride.

EAGLE students are enrolled in the regular Kindergarten program for the morning sessions in their catchment area school and attend the EAGLE program in the afternoon. Students access free bussing from their catchment-area school to the afternoon Kindergarten classes and a return ride home.

Montessori Kindergarten Program

The Langley School District has one public Montessori program located at Uplands Elementary School. Operating since September 2003 as a district program it has been very successful in the community, attracting families from across the district. There are 32 students in Montessori kindergarten classes and the program is offered in Langley up to grade 5.

“Welcome to Kindergarten”

Under the “*Welcome to Kindergarten*” program, parents, caregivers and their four- and five-year-olds attend an orientation in May/ June at their neighbourhood school. There are currently 8 schools offering WTK sessions. Families receive a Kindergarten Welcome Bag and learn about activities they can do together at home over the summer in preparation for their September school entry. This initiative is in its second year of operation in Langley with 350 students attending.

(Michelle Gill, Vice Principal Early Learning, Langley School District)

2.12 - FAMILY RESOURCE CENTRES AND FAMILY DROP-IN PROGRAMS

Why is it important?

Family Resource Centres provide a place for parents/caregivers and children to interact in a warm, nurturing environment. They provide support and information to young families that enhance parenting skills and literacy awareness as well as information on parenting, child development, and community networking. Some of the programs are also provided at local libraries, schools and churches.

The Family Place Drop-In is a place to meet other parents/caregivers of young children with the possibility for networking and sharing parenting and family ideas. It also gives children a chance to play, interact, and socialize with other children. Parents can enjoy activities with their children, as well as access information and resources.

What is the situation in Langley?

Langley Community Services Society runs two Family Place Drop-Ins. One is located in Langley City and one is located in North Langley. The two Family Places are free drop-in programs for parents with children aged 0-6. They provide structured activities, snacks, circle time, and play in an interactive setting for parents and their children. In Langley 269 families used Langley Community Services Society's drop-in facilities between April and October 2008.

The Parent-Child *Mother Goose* program is a group experience for parents and their babies and young children focusing on the pleasure and power of using rhymes, songs, and stories together. The parents gain skills and confidence which can enable them to create positive family patterns during their children's crucial early years and give their children healthy early experiences with language and communication. Langley Community Services Society, in partnership with the Langley School District, offered four English speaking groups and one Spanish group in 2008-2009. Each group was held at a different elementary school within the Langleys, at different days and times. Each group was always full to capacity.

Until 2009, Langley Community Services Society ran the *Nobody's Perfect* program. This is a free six week parenting program offered to parents with children from birth to five years of age. It provides useful information about children's health, safety, development and behavior, as well as supporting and encouraging confidence in positive parenting. 31 parents participated in the *Nobody's Perfect* program through LCSS in the 2007/2008 year.

Langley Community Services Society has a *Parent Outreach Program* that serves parents in Langley by providing them with a confidential, in-home service. Outreach workers within the program include Family Support Workers as well as Adult, Youth, and Child Counsellors. These Outreach workers provide parents with education, resources, and support to help them achieve their parenting goals. In the 2008/2009 year there were 312 parent outreach visits to clients with children aged 0-6.

Langley Community Services Society (LCSS) offers Parent Education groups and workshops for parents in the Langley's. These groups and workshops focus on relevant parenting topics such as communication, discipline, self-care, and behavioral issues. LCSS also ran a *S.T.E.P. (Systematic Training for Effective Parenting)* 0-6 program, a low cost 8 week parenting program for parents with children aged 0-6. In the 2008/2009 year there were 1238 total visits to LCSS Parent Education groups and workshops for families in Langley.

Langley Community Services Society is in partnership with *Best Babies of the Langleys* and provides a Family Support Worker from the Parent Outreach program to attend Friday Lunch Clubs. The Family Support Worker attends the Lunch Club to offer information and support to new mothers.

Langley Community Services reported that in 2007/08 there had been 157 parents using their Community Kitchens, with 117 children using child minding services during that time. This program is geared to parents with children less than six years of age and is offered one morning and one evening most weeks of the year. In addition, the Langley Community Services Society runs *Harvest Box*, in partnership with the Langley Evangelical Free Church. *Harvest Box* is a bulk buying club for the purchase of fresh, local produce at affordable prices. 1,019 harvest boxes were ordered, which served 835 families.

Langley Community Services Society Programs for Families with Children Aged 0-6 (April 2008-March 2009)		
Family Resource Centre Drop-In Statistics		
Location	# of Recorded Visits	
Total Drop In, North Langley	6,016	
Adults	2,111	
Children	3,905	
Total Drop In, Langley City	3,622	
Adults	1,369	
Children	2,253	
Parent Child Mother Goose Statistics		
	# Registered Families	Average Attendance/Session
Total Mother Goose	193	
Douglas Park Elementary	46	8
Topham Elementary	42	8
Nicomekl Elementary	35	7
Parkside Elementary	31	7
Spanish	39	11
Parent Outreach Statistics		
Total # of Families	49	
Total # of Client Visits	312	
Parent Education Statistics		
Total # of Families	180	
Total # of Client Visits	1238	

Source: Langley Community Services Society, Statistics, April 2008 – March 2009

Aldergrove Neighbourhood Services Society offers family drop-in programs at several locations during the week as well as evening dinners, activities, and field trips. During the summer months Family Place offers *Program in the Park*, held in a different park every Wednesday in July and August from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Aldergrove Neighbourhood Services (ANS) reported that between 2008/09 they had 265 young parent outreach client visits with 145 clients. In addition there were 559 young parent drop-in visits with 560 children attending the drop-in.

Other enhancements to Family Place include the *Loonie Lunch* program, which takes place every second Friday during the drop-in time. Attendees pay \$1 for their lunch. Community kitchens have also been developed, giving people the opportunity to get together to share the cost, planning, and preparation of healthy meals. Participants expand what they know about nutrition, so they can eat better and learn basic kitchen skills that enable them to provide for themselves while saving money.

The Spanish Family Power Group is offered once a week on a drop-in basis for Langley families with Spanish as their first language. The program runs from September to June, and offers parents activities, workshop topics, special events, and time for themselves while their children engage in developmentally appropriate activities in a child care setting.

Best Babies is a program offered by the agency to families that live in Langley City and Langley Township. It offers services to pregnant women such as nutritional support throughout pregnancy and outreach counseling. Weekly lunch clubs are offered for parents with young children.

The Little Readers Preschool Book Club was developed to foster a love of reading within the family. The goal of the community project is to help ensure that all Langley preschool children have books readily accessible to them within their own homes and that children experience the joy of having their own books to read. Parents can donate their used preschooler's books through the elementary schools and books are then re-distributed either to the home, preschool, or through an older sibling's elementary school.

The following table provides an overview of the attendance at some of these programs in 2008/09.

Aldergrove Neighbourhood Services Society, Programs for Young Children and their Families, 2008/9		
Location	Number of Child Visits*	Number of Adult Visits
Family Place Drop In (offered Monday, Thursday and Friday 9 – 1 all year)	1,984	1,358
Wix Brown and St. Dunstan's Satellite Drop Ins (each offered once a week from Sept. – June 2 hrs each session)	368	234
Saturday Family Place Drop in (runs 3 hrs each session from Sept-June)	318	235
Evening Dinner program (free dinner for families one a month)	149	140
Community Kitchens (offered 2 times)	124	88
Program in the Park (2008 summer : offered once a week in July and August)	116	206
Loonie Lunch program (offered every 2 nd Friday during drop in)	219	254
Evening activity for parents/ children (offered 1 – 2 times a month)	79	69
Spanish Family Power	462	328
Young Parents Drop In	560	559
Field Trips/Special Events (offered throughout the year)	283	181

*Note these are number of visits, not number of children
(Karen Custodio, Program Manager, Aldergrove Neighbourhood Services)

Best Babies of the Langleys Drop-in 2008/09	
Prenatal	
Number of Clients	141
Number of Babies Born	81
Number of Outreach & Group Visits	2,745
Postnatal	
Number of Clients	168
Number of Outreach & Group Visits	1,119

2.13 - CHILD CARE

Any facility or location where care is provided to three or more children, not related by blood or marriage, or not a sibling group, is considered a Community Care Facility and requires a license. The types of licensed child care facilities include: Group Day Care (Under 36 Months), Group Day Care (30 Months to School Age), Preschool (30 Months to School Age), Group Child Care (School Age), Family Child Care, Occasional Child Care, Multi-Age Child Care, In-Home Multi-Age Child Care, and Residential Care (child & youth).

Licensed child care facilities are inspected on a regular basis by Fraser Health staff to ensure compliance with the Community Care and Assisted Living Act to determine if minimum standards are being followed with respect to staff qualifications, supervision, staff/ child ratios, programming for physical, intellectual, language, emotional, and social development, as well as furnishings and equipment in the facility. Licensing Officers pay particular attention to ensure that children are cared for in a healthy and safe environment. In addition, follow up is done in response to complaints, allegations of abuse, and reportable incidents.

Fraser Health does not inspect those child care settings where a license is not required.

Child Care Resource and Referral

BC Child Care Resource & Referral Programs (CCRR) offer quality child care referrals, resources, and support to all child care providers and parents in over 170 communities across the Province of British Columbia.

The CCRR program offers free consultation, support, assistance with child care subsidy applications, and referral services to parents seeking child care in Langley. The program supports child care providers through information, outreach, a resource library as well as networking and learning opportunities.

What is the situation in Langley?

In the 2008-09 fiscal year there were 186 child care facilities in Langley; Fraser Health's Child Care Facilities List listed 121 licensed child care facilities in the area at that time. The following table shows the number of spaces in Langley registered with the Child Care Resource and Referral program by type of facility. The total capacity in these facilities was 2,547 children.

Child Care Resource & Referral Program Statistics For Langley, April 2008 – March 2009					
Type Of Facilities	Langley	North Langley	Aldergrove	Total Langley	
				Total Facilities	Total Capacity
Licensed Family Child Care	26	27	7	60	420
Family Child Care, License not reqd.	32	18	16	66	132
Preschool (32 mths – 5 yrs)	9	7	1	17	427
Licensed Multiple	19	7	3	29	1,311
Group Care Over 3 yrs	4	3	0	7	201
In Home Multiple (birth – 12 yrs)	2	4	1	7	56
Total Child Care Spaces for Children	92	66	28	186	2,547

Source: LCSS: Langley Child Care Resource and Referral Program

During the same period, the Child Care Resource and Referral program received 678 requests for referrals.

Langley Families Requests For Referrals April 2008 – March 2009			
Langley	North Langley	Aldergrove	Total
339	203	136	678

Source: LCSS: Langley Child Care Resource and Referral Program

2.14 - SPECIAL NEEDS PROGRAMS

Supported Child Development Program

Why is it important?

In order to be included effectively within a child care setting, it is recognized that some children may require extra support. *Supported Child Development* programs (SCD) serve children from birth to 12 years of age who require extra support and are, or will be, attending a child care setting.

Some children may be identified as needing support due to a delay or difficulty in some area of development. Other children may demonstrate some need for support that has not been identified. In these situations, supported child development works with families and child care providers to meet the individual needs. The SCD consultant will make visits to the child care setting as well as home visits with families. Team meetings are arranged to address individual needs and a range of other supports are also available through the program.

What is the situation in Langley?

The Langley Child Development Centre offers SCD programs not only from birth to age 12 but also to children aged 13 to 18. A child may be referred directly to the program by parents or guardians, Infant Development consultants, early childhood educators, public health nurses, social workers, physicians, therapists, or other community professionals.

From April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009 supported child development services were offered to 211 children, of which 170 (81%) were under 6 years of age.

Since September 2005, Langley Child Development Centre has been responsible for providing the Supported Child Development Program to the Aboriginal children in Langley as a separate program. The same service delivery model is used as for the mainstream SCD Program.

Creating opportunities for Aboriginal families to experience their culture has always been a goal and consultants work with the Elders to provide culturally appropriate programming. Aboriginal SCD was first offered through cultural presentations in the community child care settings, then as Aboriginal Family Nights. Initially, the Aboriginal Family Nights, which are led by the Elders themselves, were offered in six week blocks, three times a year. From September 2008, these evenings have been offered once a month through the school year and will continue on this schedule.

From April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009 Aboriginal Supported Child Development Services were offered to 44 children, of which 36 were under 6 years of age.

(Tina Tomlinson, SCD Supervisor, Langley Child Development Centre)

Infant Development Program

Why is it important?

The Infant Development Program is a family centred, home based service developed for children from birth to age 3 who are at risk for, or who are presenting, a delay in development.

What is the situation in Langley?

The Langley Child Development Centre's *Infant Development Program* offers three drop-in playgroups each week with an additional playgroup offered through the Aboriginal Infant Development Program.

This year, a 0.6 FTE Infant Development Consultant was assigned to provide intake visits and consulting to support the growing waitlist. There is currently an approximate 8-10 month wait for a consultant to be actively assigned to a family. Families do receive an intake visit, phone support, access to resources and therapy referrals, and the opportunity to attend any of our weekly playgroups, at which a consultant is always present.

Infant Development Program (IDP) and Aboriginal Infant Development Program (AIDP), Langley, April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009		
	IDP	AIDP
Total number of children served	286	54
Number of new referrals received	131	24
# of children on waitlist (as of March 31/09)	63	3
# of families discharged from program	116	24

(Cora Boecker, Supervisor, Langley Children's Society)

Due to a change in data collection methods the latest figures for the number of home visits completed for both programs are for the period April 1, 2007 – March 31, 2008. They totaled 787, with an average of 17.4 visits per month per consultant.

(Cora Boecker, Supervisor, Langley Children's Society)

Trends observed through Langley Child Development Centre Programme Stats

- Overall, a one third increase in the number of children served/waiting in the last three years under age five, or an increase of 217 children.
- Increases in the number of females requiring service. Historically, statistics showed 62% of children were male, and 38% were female. Now the participants are 60% male and 40% female.
- 11% of all children served as of March 31st 2009 are Aboriginal (98 children). Comparative data can only be directly compared to Aboriginal children in the Supported Child Development Programme, which shows an increase of 20%.
- In regards to neighbourhoods (the Society uses similar neighbourhoods to those developed through the EDI project), Langley City and Aldergrove caseloads have doubled since 2007. All other neighbourhoods are seeing increases, though not as significant as the two previously reported.

Early Intervention Therapies, The Centre for Child Development - Langley

The Centre for Child Development of the Lower Mainland has been providing services for children with special needs and their families for over 50 years. The Centre provides specialized pediatric medical rehabilitation services and supports to 2,000 children with special needs and their families in Delta, Surrey, South Surrey, White Rock, Langley, and other areas of the Lower Mainland.

In Langley, the Centre provides services in a child-focused, family-centred model of service delivery to children from birth to school age. Therapists work collaboratively with families, caregivers, and other service providers (eg. IDP, SCD) to help provide a comprehensive service to families with children with special needs.

Note: Numbers provided are from April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009 for Langley's Early Intervention Therapy Services unless otherwise indicated

Occupational Therapy

As well as individual therapy, these services provide consultation to the Infant Development Program and Supported Child Development Program. Parent education courses are offered as needed. As well, training programs for early childhood educators are offered on request.

There are two programs available in the Occupational Therapy department. One program accepts referrals from parents who have concerns about their child's development of fine motor, sensory processing, self care, or play skills. In the second program, the child must be receiving services from the Child and Youth Mental Health team and have concerns about sensory processing.

- Number of individual clients seen – 116
- Number of client visits – 483
- Average number of children on the waitlist each month – 93
- As of March 31, 2009 there were 119 children on the waitlist.

Physiotherapy

Registered physiotherapists provide individual assessment and treatment, as well as consultation to Langley Infant Development Program and Supported Child Development Program. Children have access to a therapeutic riding program operated at Pacific Riding for Developing Abilities (PRDA), as well as other gross motor groups at the Centre. The focus of physiotherapy treatment is on any delay or disability which affects gross motor abilities, such as walking, standing, or crawling. Any child with a physical disability or gross motor delay qualifies for this therapy.

- Number of individual clients seen – 146
- Number of client visits – 843
- Average number of children on the waitlist each month – 8
- As of March 31, 2009 there were 20 children on the waitlist.

Communication Therapy

- Number of individual clients seen – 178
- Number of client visits –957
- Average number of children on the waitlist each month – 65
- As of March 31, 2009 there were 82 children on the waitlist.

Registered Speech-Language Pathologists provide Initial Consultations, Speech and Language Assessments, Individual and Group Intervention, and Parent/Caregiver Training Workshops. Intervention services may be provided solely by the Speech-Language Pathologist or jointly with another Early Intervention discipline. Once a child and family is referred and seen for an Initial Consultation, they may choose to access:

- *Now We Begin* – a 4 session parent-child group that provides an introduction to enhancing parent-child interactions to bring about improved communication skills in children with delayed speech and language development.
- *Songs and Rhymes* – an 8 session parent & child program for children with delayed communication skills based on the Parent-Child Mother Goose program.
- *Let's Get Visual* – a parent workshop on using visual language supports to aid communication development.
- *Body Talk* – parent workshop on using gestures, body language and baby sign language to aid communication development.
- *Hanan "It Takes Two To Talk"* – a multi-session parent training workshop to learn how to support communication development through everyday activities at home and in the community.
- *Hanan "More Than Words"* – a workshop for parents/caregivers of children on the Autism Spectrum to learn how to support communication development through everyday activities at home and in the community.
- Additional groups/workshops as developed to meet identified needs.
- A limited number of individual intervention sessions may be provided as clinically indicated.

The Communication Therapy Department provides assessment of alternative modes of communication, including use of voice output devices. An equipment loan program is available for families to borrow a recommended device for their child ("Tell Ito Your Friends").

Specialty Teams (jointly funded by Ministry and fundraised dollars)

The Eating Skills Team provides assessment and consultation support to parents, caregivers, and team members of children with significant swallowing delays, swallowing safety issues, and children who are transitioning from tube feeding to oral feeding. The team is comprised of a speech-language pathologist, occupational therapist, and developmental pediatrician. Services from a registered dietitian and psychologist are available as required.

The Equipment Team provides assessment and consultation for children requiring manual and power wheelchairs. The team is comprised of an occupational therapist and a physical therapist. These therapists liase with the appropriate equipment dealer to ensure the correct piece of equipment is recommended.

The Splinting and Casting Team assesses a child's need for splints for hands and feet in order to prevent deformity and/or position for function. Splints are manufactured on site at no cost to the family. The team is comprised of an occupational therapist and a physical therapist

The Centre for Child Development Fetal Alcohol and Complex Behavioural Key Worker Program – Langley

The centre provides family-centered support services. The nature of the work varies depending on the needs of the family and may include working alongside the child/youth, family members, school and community agencies. The family-centered work is usually short term, about 6 months. Examples of service provided include giving information; assisting with behavioral strategies or life skills; linking the family to services; and helping families to meet their own, as well as their child's, needs.

They also provide educational groups to parents and caregivers of children and youth with FASD, which covers topics such as lifespan development, advocacy, accessing community resources, and self-care. The centre runs a support group which provides a chance to meet with other parents and caregivers who are raising children with FASD and CDBC.

Staff provides training and consultation to government and community agencies about FASD, and work alongside these agencies to enhance the integration, coordination, and accessibility of services for families with a child or youth with FASD/CDBC.

- Number of individual clients seen – 28
- Number of client visits – 766
- Average number of children on the waitlist each month – 9.4
- As of March 31, 2009 there were children on the waitlist—17

Family Services

This program provides short term advocacy and support to families having difficulty accessing services, needing assistance to obtain extra funding, or needing extra support during a time of crisis.

Recreation Services (funded through fund raised dollars and fees)

Two services are available from this program:

1. A therapeutic pool is located at the Surrey site of The Centre for Child Development. Langley clients are welcome to access this pool through family drop in sessions during the day. The pool is heated to 92 degrees Fahrenheit and is particularly useful for children with increased tone. A referral can be made to a recreation therapist for consultation on water activities and floatation devices for children with physical disabilities. Individual swim lessons are also available in order to assist children learning swimming skills if they can not access community based programs due to their disability.

2. A recreation therapist is available to assist families in finding community-based recreation programs that will fit their child's needs. As well, this therapist will assist community programs in adapting their program to accommodate an individual child.

(Karen Edwards, Director of Occupational Therapy, The Centre for Child Development)

Trends observed through The Centre for Child Development Stats

A significant increase in the number of referrals since 2006 (unfortunately this number is not available due to a change in technology) resulting in an increased number of children receiving and waiting for service. For example, Mar 31, 2006 there were 50 children waiting for Early Intervention Occupational Therapy service and Mar. 31, 2009 there were 119 children waiting. In March 2006, 50 children were seen for speech therapy compared to 176 children seen in March 2009.

Langley Association for Community Living

Langley Association for Community Living is dedicated to the delivery of quality services for children with special needs, adults with developmental disabilities, and their families. For children under five the following programs and services are offered.

Respite Care Services

- For Langley families who have a child with identified special needs, a referral to CLBC may result in eligibility for respite services. There are three primary means of funding respite care for families: at home funding, direct funding, and service provided by Langley Association for Community Living's Respite Care for children.
- Parents of younger children assist with designing their respite to reflect how the support meets the unique needs of their family. They will choose the person who will care for their child with a special need, and often with siblings as well, and they will communicate with their caregiver and with the Coordinator of Family Support Services to ensure that the service meets or exceeds their needs as a family.
- An improved sense of family wellness is the desired outcome from LACL's Respite Care Service. Parents and their children should all benefit from this time with a caregiver.
- Most of the children using this program are school age, but this year has included 10 preschoolers. Over the past 3 years, there have been approximately 28 preschool age children, as parents are now very connected to each other in Langley, and younger families draw confidence to use support services to assist them in these early years of parenting.

S.N.I.F.F. (Special Needs Information for Families)

- Parents who have a child with special needs or chronic illness and their brothers and sisters have been invited to participate in a series of workshops providing information to families about sibling issues. These weekly workshops are led by professional counselors, and include a time of sharing, networking, and socializing over a light supper.

These workshops have been affectionately named *SNIFF 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6*. Ten families with 17 children have just completed a most successful session, and all will benefit over the coming years as they refresh themselves of information and resources provided during *SNIFF 6*.

- These groups have been very successful and the outcomes that are reported show that children feel less isolated and parents feel empowered and refocused. Both children and parents speak about the power of the shared experience with the family and with others in the group.
- Over the years, approximately 90 parents and over 100 children have reported that the benefits of their time during these workshops have enhanced the entire family's strength and overall understanding of sibling issues, and this resulted in a renewed sense of well-being.

F.I.T. (Families in Touch)

- Parents are invited to join together each month to network, socialize, and learn about issues and topics that are of interest to them.
- The meeting place is welcoming for mothers as well as fathers with children of all ages; during each meeting, guest speakers share information. An email newsletter keeps families in touch with each other as well as informed of upcoming events of interest.
- This group is run by parents for parents, with the support of a steering committee and assistance from Pivot Point Family Growth Centre.

As with other resources that assist families, this model of parent support groups is what works for Langley, and offers parents of all ages a chance to put forward requests for speakers and information as well as to network with those who are sharing a similar journey.

(Betty Anne Batt, Respite Services Coordinator, Langley Association for Community Living)

REACH Child and Youth Development Society

Positive Behavioural Support

Positive Behavioural Support provides behavioural support to families in Surrey, Delta, and Langley who have children or youth from age 3-19 with special needs and who present with behavioural challenges. Working in partnership with the families, staff use observations and assessments to develop plans and strategies that families can implement to support their child.

Referrals are accepted through Community Living BC. On average, 6-8 families per year are served in Langley.

(Elysa Philip, Reach Child and Youth Development Society)

Reach ABA Program

The Reach ABA program is for children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) living in the Lower Mainland. It is a skill-building program that uses Applied Behavioural Analysis principles to teach young children with ASD the functional skills they need.

An individualized behaviour plan of intervention, covering all child development domains, will be developed by a Behaviour Consultant.

Services include consultation and training from a Behaviour Consultant, Speech-Language Pathologist, and Occupational Therapist. Teams include trained and supervised Behaviour Interventionists (BIs). Families hire their BIs to implement the intervention program.

2.15 – PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURE PROGRAMS

Why is it important?

Parks and recreation services provide many benefits to communities. These include fostering personal health and individual development, building strong families and healthy communities, reducing anti-social behavior, and reducing health care, social service, and justice costs. Both the Township and City of Langley offer these services to the residents.

What is the situation in Langley?

In 2008 in the Township of Langley:

- There were 749 recreational programs offered to 6,737 participants under 5 years of age.
- As well, there were 926 aquatics programs for children under 6, with 3,143 participants registered.
- In 2008 there were 266 applications approved for the leisure access grant; these are not collected by age group.

(Bev Herman, Manager Recreation and Cultural Services, Township of Langley)

In the City of Langley:

- There were 335 classes offered in 2008 for those 5 years and under; this did not include special events.
- 2,000 children participated in programs that ran for preschoolers and a portion of the 4,459 children entrants in swimming would have been 5 and under. The exact number cannot be determined

Financial Assistance and Recreation Programs

Langley residents are able to access leisure opportunities regardless of cost. For those on limited income and who require a reduction in fees for basic recreation and park board programs both the Township and the City of Langley offer financial assistance. The Township offers a subsidy for qualified applicants that are 75% of the program or memberships pass cost to a set maximum per individual. The City will subsidize a percentage of the program (10-100%) depending on the financial needs of each applicant.

The City of Langley offers a leisure access grant and reported that the subsidy for preschool programs for 2008 was about \$1,250; the subsidy amounts increase each year. Since there is no tracking by age, it is hard to determine if the number of those 5 years and under accessing the grant is staying the same or changing.

(Kim Hilton, Director of Recreation, Culture and Community Service, City of Langley)

2.16 - PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Why is it important?

Libraries are unique social organizations dedicated to providing the broadest range of information and ideas to the public, regardless of age, religion, social status, race, gender, or language. Public libraries provide free circulation of books and material, reference services, and other services to all residents of their jurisdiction.

What is the situation in Langley?

The Township of Langley Libraries and the City of Langley Library are part of the Fraser Valley Regional Library (FVRL) system. The Township of Langley libraries consist of the Aldergove Library, Murrayville Library, Brookswood Library, Fort Langley Library, Walnut Grove Library, and the Muriel Arnason (Willowbrook) Library.

Services for children 0-6 include the following:

- Summer Reading Club
- Regular Storytime
- Preschool Storytime
- Library Tours
- *StrongStart* Visits
- Parent Talks
- Author visits
- H.A.N.D.S Together Storytelling Kits
- Ready Set Learn
- Seasonal Craft Programs
- Summer Reading Club
- Langley Book of the Year
- Picture Book Club
- All Aboard for Kindergarten (for parents)
- Welcome to Kindergarten (for parents)
- Books for BC Babies
- CHILD DAY events with community partners
- Librarians sit on the ECD Committee's Communication Working Group and the Family Strengthening Working Group

In 2008 there were 295 programs offered for children 0-6 across the six Township of Langley libraries and the one City of Langley library - with a total attendance of 11,497.

Library programs & services for Langley (Township and City) children 0-6 years and their families, 2008		
Library Name	Number of Programs	Program Attendance
Aldergrove	40	1,800
Brookwood	37	1,133
Fort Langley	9	263
Muriel Arnason (Willowbrook)	41	1,693
Murrayville	42	1,879
Walnut Grove	48	1,906
Langley City	78	2,823
Total	295	11,497

(David Thiessen, Library Manager, Township of Langley and White Rock)

106,790 books for children 0-6 (picture books and board books) were borrowed in 2008 from Langley area libraries (Township and City).

Circulation of picture books & board books (number of 0-6 books lent out) in Langley Libraries, 2008	
Library Name	Number of Books
Aldergrove	16,637
Brookwood	5,404
Fort Langley	1,820
Muriel Arnason (Willowbrook)	22,578
Murrayville	13,340
Walnut Grove	27,387
Langley City	19,624
Total	106,790

(David Thiessen, Library Manager, Township of Langley and White Rock)

The following table shows the many programs offered by each of the branch libraries in the Township of Langley for children under six years and their families. A number of these programs are offered in partnership with child and family serving organizations in the community and can be identified in the table where applicable.

Township of Langley Library Programs	
Program	Description
Aldergrove Branch	
Babytime	An interactive 20 minutes story time for babies, including songs, rhymes, stretches, books, and flannel stories.
Family Storytime at Family Place	A half hour of stories, songs, rhymes and finger plays aimed at children ages 2-5.
PJ Storytime	A half hour of stories, songs, rhymes and finger plays aimed at children ages 2-5.
Welcome to Kindergarten program with Parkside Elementary (In partnership with SD#35)	This program will start in May.
Brookwood Branch	
Fall and spring Toddler storytimes	An interactive 20 minutes storytime for toddlers, including songs, rhymes, stretches, books, and flannel stories
Preschoolers programs	Special Programs as able, usually consisting of crafts.
Fort Langley Branch	
Preschool Storytime	A 30-minute program of puppets, rhymes, finger plays, songs, and stories. This program runs in blocks of six weeks.
Muriel Arnason (Willowbrook) Branch	
Family Storytime	A half hour of stories, rhymes and puppets. Programs are done in blocks (5 weeks on, 3 weeks off, although the number of weeks may vary).
Pajama Storytime (the first Wed of each month excluding Jan & July)	An evening program consisting of stories, songs, puppets, and rhymes.
Babytime (fourth Tues of each month)	A program of rhymes, bounces, stories, and songs for babies and their parents.
Saturday Storytime	A drop-in storytime on the fourth Sat of each month. Held in the library rather than the activity room.
All Aboard for Kindergarten	AA4K is still very popular. Every month there are prize draws for an age-appropriate children's book. Registration is ongoing.
Seasonal Craft Programs	Library hosts a variety of seasonal craft programs each year celebrating Fall Festivals, Diwali, Christmas, Lunar New Year, Multicultural Month, and Children's Day (May). These programs are attended by preschoolers and up.
Diwali – The Festival of Lights	Every year, the library celebrates Diwali and does a number of activities for the children including story times, puppet shows, crafts, and colouring.
The Annual TOL Municipal Awareness Day (in partnership with TOL)	Library staff provide tours throughout the library for students grades 1-4.
StrongStart Visit (in partnership with SD#35)	Staff visit the StrongStart classroom at Langley Meadows to present a storytime.
Welcome to Kindergarten (in partnership with SD#35)	Library staff will host one of the stations at Langley Meadows first Welcome to Kindergarten event for children starting kindergarten this fall.

Library Tours	Library provides tours for preschools, daycares and kindergarten classes. Tour includes a story, a flannel story, and a look “behind the scenes” at our books return bins!
Community Events	Staff also participate in a number of community events providing several activities for children. This includes storytimes and puppet shows at the Langley’s Children Festival and Langley’s International Festival.
Murrayville Branch	
Family Storytime	A half hour of stories, songs, rhymes, and puppets for two to six year olds.
Pajama Storytime	An evening program for two to six year olds, consisting of stories, songs, puppets, and rhymes.
All Aboard for Kindergarten (In partnership with SD#35)	A school partnership program that focuses on literacy skills and library use in 6 year olds.
Read to Me (Summer Reading Club)	Concurrent SRC reading incentive program for preschoolers in association with their caregivers, held mid June to the end of August.
Library Tours	Tours are for daycares, preschools, clubs, etc. The tour includes approximately a 45-minute introduction to library services, facilities, and programs.
H.A.N.D.S. Together (In partnership with the Early Childhood Committee)	Circulating theme-based, developmental resource kits for use by parents and other care providers, containing age-appropriate books, puppets, flannel stories, and recordings.
Community Services	School District 35; <i>PALS</i> (Parents as Literacy Supports); <i>RSL</i> (ready, Set, Learn); <i>Langley Child Days</i> (school-based visits to present storytimes, parent talks, and/or library services to parents and their children.
LEAP BC (n partnership with the Early Childhood Committee)	Facilitating training and access to resources for this Legacies 2010 government initiative that promotes developmental health and education for preschool children.
Langley Literacy Association & Wrap A Read (In partnership with LLA and the Christmas Bureau)	Fundraising and awareness of local literacy needs with major focus at Christmas for donating gift books to families with children.
Early Child Development Working Committees	<i>Birth to 5 Literacy Now</i> – Fact gathering on implementation progress of community plan to improve literacy skills. <i>ECD Communication</i> – Ensuring that our communities are aware of programs/services. <i>ECD Family Strengthening</i> – Examines availability and relevance of community programs/services that support families with 0-6 year olds.
Walnut Grove Branch	
Family Storytimes (ages 2-6)	30-minute interactive program for children to enjoy puppets, rhymes, finger plays, songs, and stories.
Babytime (ages 0 – 23 months)	20-minute interactive program for parents and babies to enjoy rhymes, movement, exploration, music, and stories.
AA4K School Visits (Kindergarten) (In partnership with SD#35)	A visit to the school of monthly contest winners where AA4K is talked about, the prize is awarded, and a story from the 100 Books to Read in Kindergarten list is read.
Pajama Storytime (ages 2 to 6) Evening program	30-minute interactive program for children to enjoy puppets, rhymes, fingerplays, songs, stories and a chance to wear their pajamas.
Preschool Storytimes & Tours	30-minute program for preschool children to enjoy puppets, rhymes, fingerplays, songs, stories, and to learn what the library has to offer for them. We also show them where the

	materials are, how long they get to borrow items, what the library card looks like, how to get a library card, and how to use the self serve check out.
Read to Me	A summer program similar to SRC where children ages 0-5 get reading records to encourage and support their literacy. They enter a contest upon receiving their reading record.
Public Christmas Party	Music, Christmas carols, stories, crafts, prizes, food, and fun for the whole family.
Toddle to the Library	Similar to Read to Me, this new program also gives children ages 2-5 a reading record and stickers to reward them and encourage their literacy. They also get to enter a contest upon receiving their reading record.
Langley Community Services Circle Time (0-5) (In partnership with LCSS)	15-minute special program where staff share puppets, rhymes, finger plays, songs, stories, and a special guest.
Strong Start School Visit (In partnership with SD#35)	20-minute visit to West Langley Elementary Strong Start group where preschool children get to enjoy puppets, rhymes, finger plays, songs, stories and get to learn about the different types of materials and services the library has to offer for their age level.
Township of Langley Joint Programs with Recreation Centre	<i>Storybook Steps</i> : Started for the first time in April as an add-on to our Family Storytimes (ages 2-6) program. We run a joint storytime, which includes our patrons. After the storytime ends, our storyteller and patrons leave the room as the Recreation program continues with dance and music based on the theme of the storytime. This program was set to run from April 2 to May 14. Due to low registration on its inaugural run, it was cancelled halfway through the program. Issues may have included running over the lunch hour, which will be reviewed before running again.
	<i>Multi-Mix Sports Plus</i> : Is a TOL Recreation program that runs Wed's from April 8 – May 27, for homeschool students. There are two age ranges: 3-5 and 6-12 year olds. We have set up two 45 - minute sessions for each age range (four sessions overall) to come to the library for storytimes, tours, and other guided library time.

(David Thiessen, Library Manager, Township of Langley and White Rock)

2.17 - CRIME

Why is it important?

The rate at which serious violent crimes are committed may be an indication of how people in communities relate to one another. Violent crimes can be classed as serious and less serious. Serious violent crimes include homicide, attempted murder, and aggravated and non-aggravated sexual assault, whereas less serious crimes include minor assaults.

What is the situation in Langley?

The Langley School District ranked 45th out of 57 School Districts with a serious violent crime rate among juveniles aged 12-17 of 1.4 between 2004 and 2006. This compared to 2.5 for the province as a whole. Serious property crime was 1.4, lower than the BC rate of 2.0.

Juvenile (Age 12-17) Crime Rate – Average 2004-2006 (Offences per 1,000 pop) Langley School District		
Type of Crime	Langley	BC
Serious Violent	1.4	2.5
Serious Property	1.4	2.0
Total Serious Crime	2.8	4.5
Non-Cannabis Drug Charges	.31	.47

Source: BC Stats, School District 35 – Langley, 2008

A 2006 Vancouver Board of Trade report highlighted some of the risk factors that increase an individual's propensity towards crime.

“Preventative factors can be traced as far back as preparation for the mother's pregnancy period. Educating youth about parenting skills is important. Also important is parenting education during pregnancy. Avoiding unwanted pregnancies is another key – children who are unwanted are at higher risk for involvement in criminal activity.

Immediately after birth, home visits with identification of potential problems and remedial efforts concerning adverse parenting practices can be an effective measure. However, low socio-economic status may offset these efforts. It is the consequences of low socio-economic status rather than poverty itself that contributes to poor development.

Children's learning patterns become set before they begin their formal education. The period from birth to age three is widely agreed upon as the most crucial developmental period of a child's life and it can be greatly affected by many factors. A variety of parent-child activities can provide the best advantage to young children as they move into literacy.

Young children are more susceptible to social problems in neighborhoods where responsibility for parenting falls to parents (usually mothers) who cannot count on a partner for support or respite from caregiving. This vulnerability is correlated with neighborhood characteristics like unemployment rates rather than individual household poverty. Environment beyond the parents and household can play a decisive factor in early childhood development.”

(Vancouver Board of Trade. *Kids 'n Crime, Report on the Development and Prevention of Criminality among Children and Youth*, October 2006)

2.18 - GLOSSARY

MCFD (Ministry of Children and Family Development): The Ministry of Children and Family Development promotes and develops the capacity of families and communities to care for and protect vulnerable children and youth, and supports healthy child and family development to maximize the potential of every child in B.C.

The Ministry is responsible for regional and province-wide delivery of services and programs that support positive and healthy outcomes for children, youth, and their families. In order to effectively and efficiently deliver services and programs, the Ministry is organized into five regions: North, Interior, Fraser, Vancouver Coastal, and Vancouver Island. The Ministry's responsibilities include: family development, early childhood development, services for children and youth with special needs, child and youth mental health, child care, child protection, children in the home of a relative, residential and foster care, adoption for children and youth permanently in care, community child and youth mental health, programs for at-risk or sexually exploited youth, and community youth justice services.

In addition, the Ministry is responsible for a number of specialized provincial services such as youth custody, youth forensic psychiatric services, services for deaf and hard of hearing children and youth, and the Maples Adolescent Treatment Centre.

The Ministry serves children, youth and families either directly or through community service agencies. The Ministry's service delivery partners include: contracted service providers, other ministries, family foster homes, Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities, delegated Aboriginal child welfare agencies, school districts, and health authorities.

The Ministry's legislative mandate includes the *Child, Family and Community Service Act*, *Adoption Act*, *Youth Justice Act*, *Child Care BC Act*, *Child Care Subsidy Act*, and *Social Workers Act*.

Success by 6[®]: Success By 6[®] is an early childhood development initiative dedicated to providing all children with a good start in life. It helps to ensure that children ages 0 to 6 develop the emotional, social, cognitive, and physical skills they need as they enter school.

Success By 6[®] builds and enhances community through engaging citizens in early childhood development, and funding programs that strengthen services for young children and their families. Funded programs include literacy, nutrition, children's play, parenting and family skills development

CAPC (Community Action Program for Children): CAPC provides long term funding to community coalitions to deliver programs that address the health and development of children (0-6 years) who are living in conditions of risk. It recognizes that communities have the ability to identify and respond to the needs of children, and places a strong emphasis on partnerships and community capacity building.

Children First: Children First initiatives support communities to identify and develop an integrated and comprehensive model of ECD service delivery for children 0 to 6 and their families. Children First is not a program that delivers services directly to children and families. It can allocate initiative funds, however, to support service delivery priorities identified by community planning.

Children and youth with special needs – Source A Framework for Action: The term children and youth with special needs refers to children and youth up to 19 years of age who require significant additional education, medical/health, and social/environmental support – beyond that required by children in general – to enhance or improve their health, development, learning, quality of life, participation, and community inclusion.

“At risk” (from Adoption.org): An “at-risk” child is one who, while currently healthy, is at risk of developing learning, emotional, behavioural, or physical disabilities in the future.

HELP'S 15 BY 15 CHALLENGE

A framework for early human capital investment in BC

The BC government, as part of their overall strategic plan, has articulated a goal of reducing EDI vulnerability to 15% by the year 2015. In the 08/09 data collection, only 46, or less than 10% of the neighbourhoods in BC had vulnerability rates below 15%.

In a recently released Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP) report titled *15 by 15 A Comprehensive Policy Framework for Early Human Capital Investment in BC*, there are 6 public policy changes recommended:

Enhance Family Time and Resources:

- Build on maternity and parental leave from 12 to 18 months, reserving additional months for fathers.
- Build on existing employment standards to support mothers and fathers with children over 18 months to work full-time for pay, but redefine full time to accommodate shorter annual working hour norms without exacerbating gender inequalities in the labour market.
- Build on income support policies to mitigate poverty among families with children.

Enhance Community Supports:

- Build on pregnancy, health and parenting supports to ensure monthly developmental monitoring opportunities for children from birth through 18 months, as their parents are on leave.
- Build on early education and care services to provide a seamless transition for families as the parental leave period ends in order to make quality services for children age 19 months to kindergarten affordable and available on a full or part-time basis, as parents choose.
- Build on the work of local Early Child Development (ECD) coalitions in community planning to enhance program coordination between all local services that support families with children from birth to age six.

These six recommendations identify the public policy changes required to reap the dramatic economic returns available from reducing early vulnerability from 29% to 15% by 2015 and to 10% by 2020.

The full report is available at www.earlylearning.ubc.ca.



EDI Data Table

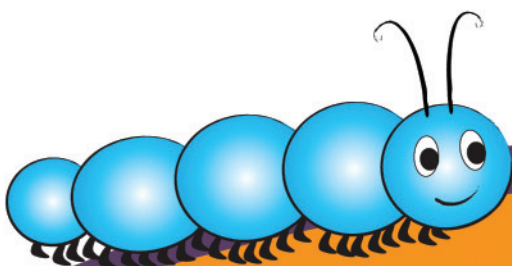
SD 35 Langley



SD 35	EDI Count			Physical Health & Well-being			Social Competence			Emotional Maturity			Language & Cognitive Dvlpt.			Communication Skills			Vulnerable 1+		
	W1	W2	08-09+	W1	W2	08-09+	W1	W2	08-09+	W1	W2	08-09+	W1	W2	08-09+	W1	W2	08-09+	W1	W2	08-09+
	88	61	73	12.5	4.9	1.4	10.2	3.3	0.0	6.9	6.8	2.7	10.3	4.9	4.1	6.9	3.3	5.5	25.0	13.1	8.2
Murrayville	88	61	73	12.5	4.9	1.4	10.2	3.3	0.0	6.9	6.8	2.7	10.3	4.9	4.1	6.9	3.3	5.5	25.0	13.1	8.2
Walnut Grove West	80	42	103	6.3	0.0	3.9	10.1	7.1	5.8	5.1	4.9	6.9	2.6	2.4	1.9	2.6	11.9	3.9	16.3	14.3	10.7
Walnut Grove East	182	172	142	9.9	2.9	6.3	9.9	12.9	10.6	6.7	8.7	7.1	6.3	3.5	5.0	6.8	6.4	10.6	17.0	16.9	16.9
Fort Langley	63	73	77	4.8	4.1	13.0	9.5	4.2	7.8	6.3	7.0	9.1	6.3	4.2	3.9	3.2	9.6	6.5	17.5	11.0	20.8
Willoughby	92	120	258	7.6	11.7	7.4	5.4	10.0	9.3	6.5	6.8	9.4	3.3	15.8	7.4	4.3	19.2	8.9	14.1	30.0	20.9
Brookwood	75	86	68	2.7	7.1	10.3	6.8	5.8	10.3	8.2	4.8	5.9	5.3	3.5	7.5	5.3	5.8	5.9	12.0	15.1	22.1
Fernridge	57	45	40	0.0	6.7	15.4	5.3	2.2	10.3	3.6	11.4	10.3	1.8	8.9	10.0	5.3	4.4	10.0	10.5	20.0	22.5
Rural South Langley	58	60	39	12.1	10.0	12.8	12.1	13.3	12.8	12.1	10.0	12.8	22.8	15.0	5.1	12.1	8.3	7.7	32.8	30.0	23.1
Langley City South	120	123	107	3.3	2.5	11.2	3.4	8.9	10.3	8.6	6.7	8.4	3.3	4.9	5.6	4.2	10.6	11.2	10.8	18.7	25.2
Milner / Hopington	100	87	111	10.0	3.4	9.0	7.0	3.4	16.2	11.0	7.0	17.1	10.1	3.4	12.7	10.0	4.6	16.2	24.0	13.8	33.3
Aldergrove	147	142	150	10.3	13.4	15.3	13.6	13.4	15.3	11.0	13.6	22.0	11.6	15.5	11.3	6.8	14.8	17.3	27.2	31.7	39.3
Langley City North	113	110	107	5.3	20.0	22.4	10.7	18.3	16.8	13.0	18.3	11.7	11.5	21.1	15.0	8.0	14.5	25.5	24.8	44.5	46.7

Notes:
08-09+ includes results from 07-08.

Source:
2008-2009 EDI (HELP - Human Early Learning Partnership)



For more information, please contact:

Aldergrove Neighbourhood Services 604.857.4662
City of Langley
Recreation, Culture & Community Services 604.514.2865
Fraser Valley Regional Libraries 604.514.2850
Langley Child Development Centre 604.534.1155
Langley Community Services Society 604.534.7921
Langley Public Health Unit 604.539.2900

Langley School District 604.534.7891
Ministry of Children & Family Development 604.514.2711
The Centre for Child Development 604.584.1361
Township of Langley
Recreation, Culture, and Parks 604.533.6086
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