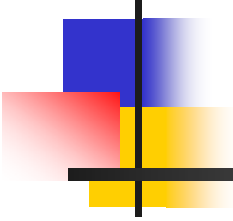


PLANNING FOR PARENTING EDUCATION AND SUPPORT IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

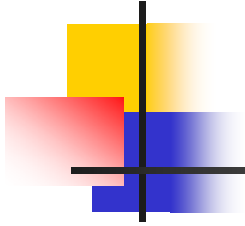


Putting Science Into Action: Equity from the
Start Through Early Child Development

Sackville, New Brunswick

May 13, 2009

Carol Matusicky, PhD



Background

- Document commissioned by the BC parenting vision working group.
- The principles and strategies are intended to align with and compliment those of other BC plans designed to improve outcomes for children and families.



Components of a Parenting Strategy for BC

- Vision
- Guiding Principles
- A population level approach
- Recommended population level strategies



Vision

- All parents and families in BC will have the knowledge, confidence, skills, services and support they need to succeed in helping their children to be healthy and to develop to their full potential.



Guiding Principles

- Parents are the main influence in a child's life
- Parents want their children to be healthy and successful
- Parenting education and support services should be accessible, affordable, effective and optional



Guiding Principles (cont)

- Strategies, processes and delivery of services to support mothers and fathers should be integrated at the provincial, regional and local levels
- Parenting education and support strategies should meet the different and changing needs of families and reflect the local context.



A Population Level Approach

- An approach which aims to increase the prevalence of positive parenting population wide
- Based on the evidence that small changes for many children have a greater effect on the whole population than do major effects on small populations (Bremberg, 2006)



Recommended Population Level Strategies

- Universal, targeted and treatment strategies
- Support along the developmental continuum
- Community based



Recommended Population Level Strategies (cont)

- An ecological approach
- Evidence-based
- Evaluation
- A trans-disciplinary and collaborative approach to training and workforce management



Recommended Population Level Strategies (cont)

- Services that address barriers and encourage access for all families
- Strength-based services
- Services that are culturally safe and appropriate



The Impact of Parenting on Outcomes for Children

- Parenting and education
- Parenting and behaviour
- Parenting and mental/emotional health



The Impact of Parenting on Outcomes for Children

- Parenting and physical health
- Parenting and involvement with the justice system
- Parenting and child protection
- Parenting and socio-economic factors



The Provincial Role in Parenting Education Support

- Acknowledge that parenting education and support benefits families
- Create a cross-ministry provincial team dedicated to parenting education and support



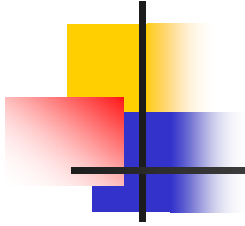
The Provincial Role (cont)

- Clearly define roles, responsibilities and funding and accountability systems for the province, organizations and communities
- Integrate parenting education and support with other systems



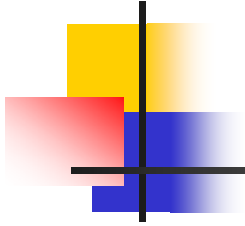
The Provincial Role (cont)

- Identify effective methods of parenting education and support
- Support consistent training across disciplines
- Support research, evaluation and data collection



If a community values its children, it must cherish their parents (Bowlby, 1951, p. 84).

www.psychology.sunysb.edu/attachment/online/inge_origins.pdf



Thank You

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