

WESTCOAST CHILD CARE RESOURCE CENTRE



ANNUAL REPORT APRIL 2012 – MARCH 2013

TRANSITIONS AND CELEBRATIONS



FROM THE BOARD

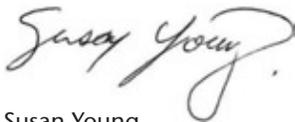
Greetings from the Westcoast Child Care Resource Centre Board of Directors. I am pleased to be able to briefly attest to all that Westcoast has accomplished over the past year. One of the highlights of the year was organizing and celebrating our 25th anniversary with a magnificent and fun gala dinner that helped to raise \$6000 for our organization! 200 friends and supporters of Westcoast gathered to reminisce and commemorate all of the hard work, creativity and community connections that have evolved over the last quarter of a century.

During the gala we also took time to say good-bye and acknowledge all that Dianne Liscumb, our retiring Executive Director of Training and Development, accomplished on Westcoast's behalf for over 20 years. We want to wish Dianne all the best in the next creative phase of her life.

Westcoast continued with our review and revision of the organizational structure and launched into implementation in the Fall of 2012. Three new positions were created. These are the Director of Programs, and two Program Coordinators, one for the Library and one for the Training department. The Mobile Lending program merged with the Library. Funding for the Curriculum room as a stand-alone project ended.

The board began work on strategic planning in the Winter/Spring of 2013 and this work will be finalized in the Fall of 2013. The board also reviewed the following policies: Conflict of Interest, Privacy Issues and Confidentiality. We revised the Board Letter of Commitment and added a Board Code of Ethics policy.

Lastly, I am sad to report that this is my final year as Chair and as a Board member. In my time here, I have had the opportunity to meet and work with some amazing individuals from the Westcoast Board and staff. Over the past 25 years Westcoast has consistently established innovative community programs, original resources and educational options. It is these dedicated and imaginative individuals that made this happen. Words cannot express the admiration that I have for this organization and the people I have met here. I look forward to witnessing the same inventive inspired energy and integrity for the next 25 years!



Susan Young
Chairperson, Westcoast Board of Directors

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We Respectfully Acknowledge our Funders and Donors:

Ministry of Children and Family Development
Immigrant Integration Branch – Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation
City of Vancouver
United Way of the Lower Mainland, Success by 6, Vancouver Windows of Opportunity
Other Foundations and our donors
Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch

Westcoast is a Registered Society, # S-22389; and has Charitable Tax Status, # 121931091RR0001

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Transitions and celebrations! Could there be a better theme for this past year? We experienced transitions in our organizational model – going from two Executive Directors to one Executive Director with the retirement of Dianne Liscumb in June 2012. Another transition and a celebration occurred with the retirement of our long-time Librarian, Kathleen Gray. Westcoast celebrated our 25 year anniversary with a gala dinner in May 2012, and enjoyed going down memory lane with 200 of our supporters and co-celebrators!

Here are a few highlights from 2012-2013:

- The Library continues to review and revise the collection and the way it is presented. Donations of relevant books and resources have been added to the collection this year.
- The Library structure was reviewed and we now have a Library Coordinator and an ECE/Library Assistant. Mobile Lending is now a program of the Library.
- The Curriculum Room has become a part of the Library. Library and Training departments are working together to create an Infant/Toddler environment and demonstration area. Visitors to the room have given us wonderful feedback and enjoy the changes.
- The integration of Mobile Lending as a component of the Library has presented us with the exciting opportunity to integrate program resources (puzzles, toys and games) into the Library collection. This allows all of our borrowers to access both Library and Mobile materials.
- The Lydia Albert Fund for field trips and excursions continued for the third year, thanks to a private donor. Thirteen centres participated and a Field Trip Resource List was created and shared on the website.
- Through funding agreements with the Immigrant Integration Branch – Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation, Westcoast developed 4 Kits featuring multiculturalism themes for 10 locations in BC. The children in the programs were very happy to have these new resources!
- The agreement with Immigrant Integration Branch also enabled us to work on multiple translations of 4 brochures including: Children and Play, Helping Children Learn Language, Knowing about Child Care Choices, and Choosing Child Care. The new resources are on the website.
- In our Child Care Resource & Referral program a Child Care Month caregiver celebration was held. Vancouver CCRR's first Registered Licensed Not Required Family Child Care provider, Rahat Chaudry, was recognized.
- Monthly nature outings continue to be popular with CCRR clients. Outreach staff organized several visits to local parks with care providers and the children they care for.
- Family Info and Referral (FIR) child care listings are now available online and over 3500 lists have been downloaded. Families looking for care often call FIR for additional information once they've downloaded the listings.
- Westcoast staff attended the Wonder of Learning Exhibit in October as professional development. We felt very privileged to be able to take advantage of this exhibit on a local level.
- Training continues to be a core activity at Westcoast and the Short Courses have been particularly popular. Last year over 1260 participants attended training sessions and workshops at Westcoast. The Training program has been reorganized and now has a Program Coordinator and a Registration Coordinator.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Board and Staff at Westcoast for making my first year as a stand-alone Executive Director a memorable one. The transition seemed overwhelming at times and it was only with the support of my colleagues and the community that we were able to accomplish so many of our goals this past year. Thank you.



Pam Preston, Executive Director
August 2013

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CONTACT US

Westcoast Child Care Resource Centre

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General Office Hours:

Monday to Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Saturday 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Phone: 604-709-5661

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www.wstcoast.org

info@wstcoast.org

Visit our website to join our e-list for regular updates.

Find Westcoast Child Care Resource Centre on Facebook and Twitter. Click the links from our homepage.

Library Hours:

Wednesday 12 noon to 8:00 pm
Thursday and Friday 10:00 am to 5:00 pm
Saturday 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

The library is closed on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Statutory Holiday Weekends.

Email: library@wstcoast.org



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