

It's Time to Renew Your Membership!

Dear Friends,

It's once again time to renew your membership with FRP-BC. As a member, you join a large network of programs and resources that support the healthy development of families in BC. You also gain access to a breadth of information, workshops and support specially curated for the needs in our field. Please look at our past and ongoing projects as you renew your membership with us!

Building for the Future

This past year we've been focused on transitioning and forming our building blocks for the future. Our goal is to serve you and the families you work with better than ever before, with clearer objectives, communication and vision. During this process, we have started many new projects while also maintaining our core projects and services.

Converting the FRP Certificate to an Online Format

We're excited to announce that we're working on transitioning our FRP Certificate to an online course! We are currently updating our curriculum to an online friendly interface that is intuitive, accessible and informative while maintaining the learning outcomes of the original curriculum. Our goal is to make this training accessible to everyone working at FRPs in BC. We will be sharing more information later this year, so stay tuned!

Family Violence Prevention Training

We are also developing an online Family Violence Prevention Toolkit. The toolkit builds on current information provided in the FRP Certificate. It will provide updated resources, interactive learning experiences and greater accessibility than we previously provided. Stay tuned for more information on this upcoming project.

Membership Survey Report is Out!

Last year we conducted a survey on our members to get some statistics on how FRPs are run in BC, who they serve, the challenges they face, and so on. A sneak peak at what we found:

- We estimate that FRPs in BC receive over a million visits every year
- Over a third of participants are new to Canada in the past 10 years
- Volunteers contribute over \$800,000 in donated time to FRPs across BC
- The average budget for a BC FRP was \$60,871, or \$115 per participant—very little compared to other similar programs
- Sustainable funding was overwhelmingly reported as the most significant challenge facing FRPs

The full report is now on our website (www.frpbc.ca/resources). Thank you very much to everyone that participated! It will help us advocate on behalf of the field and we think it will be useful to you in your own program planning.

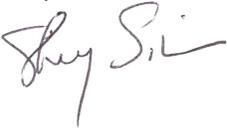
Joint Membership Opportunity!

We're excited to once again offer a Joint Membership option with FRP Canada at the same price as a stand-alone FRP Canada Membership. You receive a breadth of curated resources, information, updates and more from us and FRP-Canada, including access to their online program evaluation platform "e-Valuation". Opt for joint membership on our form and we'll take care of remitting payment to them on your behalf—you don't need to complete FRP-Canada's membership form or submit a separate payment.

Let Us Support You!

We would also like to thank you for another year of all the wonderful work you do. Your work truly makes an impact in supporting families, and helping BC foster healthy families and healthy communities across BC. As always, feel free to contact the office for anything you need and we'll do our best to help!

Sincerely,



Sherry Sinclair,
Executive Director

Summary of Achievements: October 2015 – September 2016

Building for the Future

1. **Sustaining BC's Family Resource Programs** – we presented a survey and report on FRP funding issues to MCFD and the Office of the Early Years.
2. **Research** – “Monitoring Family Resource Programs in BC” describes how FRPs operate in BC, the participants they serve, and how they are funded. It's useful as an advocacy tool for funding applications.
3. **Gaming Grants** – Supported applications to Gaming Grants by providing webinars for applications and paragraphs including research on how FRPs lead to improved outcomes for families

Training

1. **FRP Trends** – a day for staff from around the province to gather together, network, and be informed of relevant trends including the Family Strengthening model, and the Heart-Mind index.
2. **FRP Foundations** – a day for staff on foundations of the Family Resource Program model.
3. **Brain Architecture Workshop** – co-sponsored a two-day event with HIPPIY Canada focused on healthy brain development led by Dr. Judy Cameron, neuroscientist.
4. **Infant Mental Health Promotion** – At more than a 90% discount, we made a 15-part training available to 80 agencies.
5. **Communicating with Vulnerable Families** – provided this one-day workshop at the Vancouver Public Health Agency of Canada Regional training event.
6. **Catalyst of Change conference** – in partnership with HIPPIY Canada, delivery of a 2-day provincial conference, comprised of 22 separate learning opportunities, showcasing programs, emerging trends, and practices within the Family Support field.

Standards of Practice

1. **2nd Edition of the Standards of Practice** – we are revising the Standards process to align with international trends and research, and developed a streamlined electronic process for member agencies.
2. **Working to Make a Difference** – Guidelines for Promising Practices in Family Resource Programs -access from our website is now available.
3. **Six Promising Practices Videos** – They're now on YouTube!

Promotion of FRPs

1. **Stories of Resilience** – this qualitative study documents the impact of FRP participation for families who are newcomers to Canada or who face mental health issues. Our report identifies key aspects of programs that make a positive difference in the lives of families engaged in these challenges.
2. **Within Our Grasp** – this social policy paper recognizes that BC's FRPs play a role in reducing social and emotional vulnerability in young children. The paper reviews relevant literature and policies. It recommends that FRPs receive sustainably funding.
3. **Catalyst of Change Awards** – recognized individuals who exemplify the best of family support programs.
4. **Public Health** – we partnered with Fraser Health and Public Health Nurses to establish the link between FRPs and healthy family outcomes.
5. **Participation** – Ensuring the importance of supporting families is recognized, we brought the FRP voice to a number of committees, forums and conferences ensuring that family resource programs are represented. These groups included First Call and BC Healthy Child Development Alliance.

Your Feedback: What We Heard and What We're Doing

In our survey last year, we asked you what you would like to see more of from FRP-BC. We've seen the results, and we heard you loud and clear! You told us you would like FRP-BC to focus on: **funding, training, and advocacy.**

Funding

We knew funding was an issue for many of our members, but some of the budget statistics are surprising. We're going to focus on getting funding for members by:

- 1. Increasing the number of programs receiving Charitable Gaming grants from 46% to 75%.** Our strategy is to: increase member awareness of these grants by encouraging agencies that are not receiving gaming grants to apply; give training on the application (we've already had two free webinars this past year!); and support applications by offering to help to write or edit applications as requested.
- 2. Supporting the CAPC Society campaign to increase CAPC funding.** Our strategy is to encourage community members to endorse their local CAPC projects and emphasize the efficacy of CAPC programs to the public through our publications.
- 3. Working with MCFD to increase funding.** Our strategy is to: hold meetings with MCFD about FRP funding (we've had two already in the past year!); make the vulnerable funding position of BC FRPs clear through effective publications and statistics.

Training

We heard a clear desire for training options that were affordable, so we're going to:

- 1. Continue to provide accessible training** by increasing the amount of training we do through webinars.
- 2. Make existing training available** at a reasonable cost. Check out the Infant Mental Health training program we've arranged for our members to at a significantly reduced rate.
- 3. Work to bring back the FRP-BC certificate.** We've stopped offering it because of funding but we're currently in talks with various educational institutions to bring it back. We're also converting it to an online format to make it more accessible to FRPs across the province.

Advocating

We heard that you want us to continue to advocate for our family resource programs, so that your programs are sustainably funded and you are given credit for the important work you do. Our strategy is to:

- 1. Effectively communicate the contribution of FRPs to BC** through our "Monitoring Family Resource Programs in British Columbia" report.
- 2. Emphasize that FRPs lead to improved health outcomes** in families in addition to education and other outcomes. We're working with Fraser Health to coordinate some pilot projects with public health nurses that will increase the link between FRPs and health.
- 3. Develop a comprehensive case for FRPs** based on high quality research, and make it available on our website.