About the First Nations Special Education Toll-free Resource Line:

You can learn more about special needs resources by contacting

Karen Horner at the First Nations Special Education Resource Line:

Toll-free 1-877-547-1919
Monday to Thursday
12:30 - 4:30 p.m.
11011 Taylor Way
Delta, BC V4C 4K2
khorner@uniserve.com

back issues of Connections are available from http://www.firstnations-schools.bc.ca/karen.htm

The First Nations Special Education Resource Line is a collaborative project of the First Nations Education Steering Committee and the First Nations Schools Association, made possible by financial assistance from the Department of Indian Affairs.

Important Dates and Resources

April 4 – Kelowna. Setting and Using Criteria in Assessment with Caren Cameron - Learning Assistance Teachers Association (LATA) Spring Conference 2003, Grand Okanagan Hotel. This practical workshop will focus on classroom assessment practices that support learners (K-8) who struggle in school. Topics covered include:

- setting criteria for behaviours, performances and key assignments with your students;
- offering specific, concrete, descriptive feedback;
- involving all learners in self-assessment in ways that help them recognize and build upon their strengths; and
- teaching students how to set specific and possible goals, monitor their progress, and celebrate achieving goals.

Registration for BCTF Members: $140 before March 1st, $180 after March 1st, Non-BCTF Members: $150 before March 1st, $190 after March 1st. For specific information, contact Brenda Bell at email: bellbg@shaw.ca, F: (250) 860 9064

May 2-4, 2003 - Victoria. It Takes a Village - Family Focus Conference sponsored by the Family Focus Society, Victoria Association for Community Living, and Variety Club-The Children’s Charity of BC. This conference brings together families, caregivers and professionals who work with children and adults with special needs. Those support needs can be physical, developmental, emotional or neurological. Topics include: post-secondary education, sibling support groups, inclusive life in school and community, behaviour as communication, paternal support, individualized funding. As well as the conference for adults, there will also be conferences for children and youth, childcare providers, self-advocates at the same time at the Victoria Conference Centre. A variety of registration prices are available. For more information, contact the Family Focus Society at P: 250-477-7231 ext. 36 or F: 250-477-6944 or e-mail: info@familyfocus2003.com. Download the entire brochure and registration form from their website www.familyfocus2003.com. Contact Karen Horner at the First Nations Special Education Resource Line if you do not have access to the Internet.

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May 15-17 - Burnaby. **Canadian Down Syndrome Society (CDSS) Annual National Conference: Explore Beyond.**
Hilton Vancouver Metrotown. Educational techniques for people with Down Syndrome. Keynote speaker Norman Kunc (*Everything Worth Knowing, I Learned from Being Disabled*).
Visit their website: www.ldmss.com. For more information contact Edwina Jeffrey P: (604) 597-9639, e-mail: edwina-jeffrey@shaw.ca, or Lynne Perreault P: (604) 271-8170, e-mail: lynneper@adsl.intergate.ca.

*May 23-24 – Vancouver. **Caring Together: Early Childhood Educators of British Columbia 32nd Annual Conference,**
University of British Columbia, sponsored by the Early Childhood Educators of British Columbia (ECEBC). Keynote by Kathy Lynn, pre-conference workshop on *Understanding, Describing and Assessing Children’s Development.* This conference offers a variety of sessions that are valuable for staff training and development. Some workshop topics include: The Dream Keepers: Promoting Resiliency in Children, Child Discipline... Steps to Success, Sound Awareness: First Steps to Literacy, Involving All Children in All Play and Activities, How to Advocate for the Child with Behavioural Problems, Transitions: Tips for Those In-Between Times, It’s Not a Plot to Drive you Crazy! - A Toolbox of Practical Parenting Skills for Everyday Use, and much more!
Registration for 2 days - $350 before April 30th, $375 after April 30th. Reduced registration is available to ECEBC members or students. One day rates available. For more information or a registration package, contact 1-800-797-5602 or e-mail: ecebc@direct.ca

*May 26-29 - Vancouver - 17th Pacific Institute on Addiction Studies at UBC. Plenary: Integrating the Four Pillars:
Searching for a Common Ground - Mark Haden & Inspector Kash Heed. Other confirmed topics are:
**Three-Day Morning Mini-Courses:**
- Native Healing
- Substance Use Mental Health
- Acquired Brain Injury/Multiple Disabilities
**Two-Day Afternoon Courses:**
- Alternative Healing through the Wisdom of the Ages
**One-Day Afternoon Courses:**
- Peer Education & Building Developmental Assets
- Seniors and Addictions
- Violence Prevention Awareness
- Grief & Loss Issues & Their Relationship to Addiction
- Preparing Children for Today’s Scene
- New Strategies for Preventing FAS/E Targeting Postpartum and Parenting Issues

Administration dates for the **Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) 2003** are May 12 - 23.
Participation information is now available as a PDF:
For more information about FSA, visit:

**STEPS Forward - Inclusive Post Secondary Education Society,** a group formed by parents of children with intellectual disabilities, has advocated for and achieved increased inclusion in elementary and secondary schools. The group is also dedicated to ensuring greater access to university and college for adults with intellectual disabilities. The student will follow a course of study for 4-5 years and participate fully in typical campus life with its associated rights and responsibilities. Any interested student can apply to the project. The selection is based on motivation, study goals, level of family or other support, and interests. Prior academic performance is not a criterion. The University of UBC will accept five such students with intellectual disabilities in September 2003 as part of a pilot project. The students will audit courses, which means they won’t write exams and won’t be on a path to a degree. Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design has also accepted one student. For more information, visit their website: [http://stepsforward.homestead.com](http://stepsforward.homestead.com)
P: 604-444-7407 e-mail: StepsForward@shaw.ca
This much-awaited skill building training institute will close with a plenary presented by Terri-Lee Seeley on “Drug Treatment Courts of Vancouver”. Registration: Full-time Delegates, including four-day full time courses, keynote plenaries, refreshments and social evening banquet. Regular $490  Earlybird $440 (before April 25, 2003) Website: www.ades.bc.ca.

Here are some interesting articles from Teaching Exceptional Children (TEC) magazine. To request any of these articles, contact Karen Horner at the First Nations Special Education Resource Line for a copy.

**Summer Sound Camp - Involving Parents in Early Literacy Intervention for Children with Speech and Language Delays** by Stephanie Al Otaiba and Susan M. Smartt

**Weekend Study Buddies: Using Portable Learning Centres** by Harristina Stephens and Veda Jairrels – This article is about extending children’s daily learning over the weekend and encouraging parental involvement. Using a cloth or paper bag to carry home a variety of activities all based on the same content area such as math facts, reading comprehension, writing, phonics and measurement.

**Consistent, Coherent, Creative: The 3C’s of Graphic Organizers** by Brad W. Baxendell. Graphic organizers are wonderful instructional organizational tools for teachers to use with students. They show key content ideas visually for students who have difficulty organizing information. This practical article provides lots of ideas for teachers of students with students of all ability levels.

**High School Peer Buddies - A Win-Win Situation** by Susan R. Copeland, Jennifer McCall and others. This article outlines how to organize students to support their classmates with disabilities. You can also use this as a basis for general peer support for all students.

**Key Words Make the Difference! - Mnemonic Instruction in Inclusive Classrooms** by Heather Zrebiec Uberti, Thomas E. Scruggs and Margo A. Mastropieri. This article describes how to introduce and evaluate the keyword method of instruction to teach vocabulary.

”**R U Ready?” Helping Students Assess Their Readiness for Postsecondary Education** by Beatrice C. Babbitt and Carol M. White. This is a study of the transitional needs of students with disabilities as they relate to higher education, the challenges those students face, and a tool that is being used to address areas of concern.

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If you are a B.C. resident and have a permanent disability, reduced fares are available for BC Ferries if you have a BC Ferries Disabled Status I.D. Card. For more information, call 1-888-BCFERRY (1-888-223-3779). In Victoria call 386-3431.

Passengers requiring an over height vehicle equipped with a wheelchair lift or ramp may travel at the posted under height vehicle (or car) tariff. Show your BC Ferries Disabled Status I.D. Card and inform the ticket agent of your vehicle’s special status. If you would like an application form, contact BC Ferries directly or contact Karen Horner at the First Nations Special Education Resource Line.
Emerging Literacy Through Assistive Technology, by Jennifer Beck, describes how preschool children with multiple disabilities can develop literacy skills using technology.

Reading’s SLiCK With New Audio Texts and Strategies by Elizabeth A. Boyle, Shari Gallin Washburn and others. CD-Rom audio recordings of texts make it easier for students to access their textbooks and other books. SLiCK was developed as a way to enhance the use of CD-ROM Materials. It stands for Set it up, Look ahead through the chapter, Comprehend, and Keep it together.

EBooks and Accommodations - Is this the future of print accommodations? by Terence Cavanaugh. This article describes the use of EBooks and how they can be used to provide accommodations for students learning needs.

“I’ve Got a Palm in My Pocket” - Using Handheld Computers in an Inclusive Classroom by Ann M. Bauer and Mary E. Ulrich. This article examines how elementary students (both general and special needs) can use Palm Pilots to enhance their success at school. It discusses various classroom uses of Palm Pilots.

The Ontario Literacy Coalition publishes three adult literacy handbooks of interest in their Best Practices and Innovations series. The books are free and you only have to pay $7.49 for shipping/handling and GST. For an order form, contact Karen Horner at the First Nations Special Education Resource Line or download an order form from their website at: http://www.on.literacy.ca/research/pubform.htm

The BC Family Hearing Resource newsletter, Reaching Out, November/December 2002 issue includes an article called Sound Advice for Parents. It is written to assist parents as they seek an appropriate classroom environment for their hearing impaired child. For educators, the article contains some handy tips on how to improve classroom acoustics for all students. For a copy of this article, contact Karen Horner at the First Nations Special Education Resource Line.
Focus on ADHD

ADHD is used as a catch-all term for a variety of behaviour challenges students face. Many children are misdiagnosed with ADHD because the criteria for ADHD are so similar to other disabilities. In this issue of Connections there is a list of websites, resources and articles.

- The Family Resource Library at BC Children’s Hospital provides resources to anyone in British Columbia. Their goal is to help people become better informed about children’s conditions and treatments. They have books, articles, pamphlets, videotapes, and interactive computer programs all in non-technical language, which are loaned out free of charge. The Resource Library is located in Room 3D23 at Children’s Hospital. Contact them at: P: 604-875-2345 ext. 7644. They have an Annotated Listing on ADHD. Contact Karen at the Resource Line for a copy.

- Strategies for the ADHD Child by Stacey Burnard, Special Education Resource Teacher and Counsellor in Port Alberni. Published in the Special Education Association’s Crosscurrents magazine, Winter 2003 issue. This article provides a synopsis of ADHD and a description of the life of an individual who lives with this disorder. Educators are encouraged to apply the suggested strategies in the educational setting and parents will appreciate the strategies for the home setting.

Professional Resource Books

Nearly all of these resource books and videos are available for purchase from Odin Books in Vancouver. Contact 1-800-223-6346 or F: (604)739-8874 e-mail: staff@odinbooks.bc.ca or visit the website: www.odinbooks.ca

ADHD in the Classroom - Strategies for Teachers or Taking Charge of ADHD (revised) by Russell Barkley

Parent’s Guide To ADD or Parent’s Guide To Early Childhood ADD by Stephen McCarney

ADD Hyperactivity Workbook for Parents/Teachers or All About ADD Book by Thomas Phelan

Videos

A New Look At ADHD, ADHD in Adults, ADHD in the classroom, ADHD: What Can We Do?, ADHD: What Do We Know?, Managing the Defiant Child and Understanding the Defiant Child - all by Russell Barkley

Adults With ADD and All About ADD and Medication for ADD all by Thomas Phelan

Teaching Math to Students with Disabilities is an article in the Council for Exceptional Children’s (CEC) Today newsletter Vol. 9 No. 5 January 2003. The article discusses the new developments in teaching math to this population, such as techniques to help students problem-solve, move from computational math to conceptual math, and ensure that students with disabilities are prepared for advanced subjects such as geometry and algebra - even if they haven’t mastered all the elements of mathematics. For a copy of the article, contact Karen Horner at the First Nations Special Education Resource Line.
Websites
Children and Adults with Attention Deficit Disorders (CHADD) - National Organization - [http://www.chadd.org](http://www.chadd.org)


Articles

The following are copies of articles from *Teaching Exceptional Children* and the Internet on a variety of ADHD issues. To request any of the articles, contact Karen Horner at the First Nations Special Education Resource Line.

50 Tips on the Classroom Management of Attention Deficit Disorder

An ADHD Success Story - Strategies for Teachers and Students by A.K. Yehle and Clark Wambold (TEC)

How to Help Inattentive Students Find Success in School Getting the Homework Back from the Dog by Evonn N. Welton (TEC)

Targeting Home-School Collaboration for Students with ADHD by Candace S. Box, Maria L. Nahmias, and Magda A. Urban (TEC)

What Teachers and Parents Should Know about Ritalin by Christina Pancheri and Mary Anne Prater (TEC)

Background Information on ADHD - working with ADHD and ADHD Medications - a handout compiled by Dr. Art More

ADHD/ADD - An Outline for Patients and Their Families - Internet article

The Use of Stimulant Medications - Ritalin, Cylert and Dexedrine - Internet article

Tourette Individuals Can Succeed - A workbook for parents and teachers of children with Tourette Syndrome, Attention Deficit Disorder, Obsessive Compulsive Disorder and all other Associated Disorders. This handout has a lot of good basic strategies related to inattention.

First Nations Special Education Connections aims to provide teachers, administrators and parents with links to quality materials and services. Due to the large quantity of available resources, however, some of the listed materials and services have not been assessed for quality. The First Nations Special Education Resource Line is a non-profit service and it receives no payments from the above-listed companies.