



Working Together Hand-in-Hand

*Fraser Heights Secondary School
Parent Advisory Council*

New Letter # 2

Of interest to Parents/Guardians

Please take the time to read about the "**Presentations for Parents**" workshops being offered to PACs by the Surrey Teachers' Association. The topics are very current, the workshops are free to PACs and available during regular PAC meeting times.

If any of the presentations catch your interest, please make a request at the General PAC Meeting so that if there is enough interest, PAC can proceed with booking a free session for our community.



**Surrey Teachers'
ASSOCIATION**

November, 2007

The Surrey teachers' Association in collaboration with the British Columbia Teachers' Federation is offering "Presentations for Parents" during this school year.

The workshops are provided by Surrey teachers. They are free to PACs. They are of an hours' duration, and are developed to coincide with a nightly PAC meeting.

The presentations allow parents to learn strategies, gain knowledge and share concerns. They are available from January to May 2008.

Topics include:

Supporting your child's learning

Parents play a critical role in their child's education in so many ways; one very important way is by guiding their learning at home. This practical session will present strategies that can help your child develop effective homework and study skills and promote lifelong learning. Parents will also learn natural ways to include additional reading and math activities at home.

Anti-bullying-updated 2007

Bullying behaviours are no longer acceptable in our society and schools are attempting to do something about them. This introductory session on anti-bullying will include: the definition, the bullying traid, the cycle of bullying, and the signs to watch for if your child is being bullied. Participants will also learn and share strategies for bully-proofing children and schools.

Raising confident boys (and girls)

Some parents have noticed their boys falling behind the girls in marks and interest in school. Are boys, on average, falling behind girls in academic achievement? Are boys' and girls' brains hard-wired differently? In this session, we will examine some of the issues around boys' academic achievement, link some of the differences to brain research, and explore male and female role models. Parents will have an opportunity to share stories and strategies what will help raise confident boys and girls.

Born to buy

Do your children ask for brand names when you're shopping with them? This presentation examines increasing pressures on teens and "tweenies" (0- to 14- year olds) by marketing companies who are targeting them to buy their products. Billions of dollars are at stake. Find out about the negative effects of relentless consumerism on your children and gain practical tips to deal with it.

Bugs, drugs, and rugs: student health and safety

Do you ever wonder if something at school could be making our child sick? Is your child safe at school? In this presentation, parents will learn about some health and safety issues in BC schools, such as indoor air quality, toxic substances, general cleanliness, and emergency preparedness. Take away practical ideas to make your school a healthier and safer place.

Captive mind – captive market?

Are schools a marketing place or a learning community? This presentation examines corporate sponsorship and exclusive sponsorship agreements school districts undertake in the face of an underfunded public school system. Find out what corporate leaders say about this and why parents should be concerned. You'll come away with useful information and tips to assist you in your parent advocacy role.

To book a free session, call Barb Preus, at the BCTF offices 604-871-1868.

Quote "The Surrey Parent Project".

Yours truly,

Signed by

Kelly Shields

First Vice President

YOURS FOR THE ASKING (Teacher October 2007, Volume 20, Number 2)

Here is an excellent idea that our school may wish to embrace and participate in as part of the our “Adopting a Global Issue Project”



**Thinking globally, acting locally,
20 years of love**

CODE, the Canadian international literacy agency that manages *Project Love*, has shipped more than a million and a half kits of school supplies to students in Africa and the Caribbean.

Project Love has been adopted by hundreds of thousands of Canadian teachers, who recognize the project and its accompanying curriculum-based educational resources as an opportunity for their students to learn about international issues and assist their peers in the developing world.

Tanzania, where only 69% of youth can read or write, and Senegal, where only 30% of the population is literate. Resources for education in both these countries are limited and such school supplies are beyond the means of most families.

For more information on CODE visit www.codecan.org or contact Jana McDade at jmcdade@codecan.org, 613-232-3569 ext. 252.

CODE partners with local educational-based organizations in the countries where it works. Professional support is given to teachers who are often accustomed to teaching with few resources.

This year *Project Love* kits – each containing a pencil, an eraser, a ruler and a notebook – will be sent to primary school students in

72 hours Is your family prepared?

Why 72 hours?

Experience has shown that it can take 72 hours or more to mobilize a significant relief effort during an emergency. The 72 hour preparedness message is commonly used across North America by first responders (fire, police, paramedics), governments and relief organizations.

Canadians are encouraged to be prepared to cope on their own for at least the first 72 hours – that's 3 days – of an emergency. This lets emergency workers focus on people in urgent need. To support their efforts, the rest of us need to be prepared to look after ourselves.

Why prepare your family?

While governments at all levels are working hard to keep Canada safe, individuals also have an important role to play in emergency preparedness. By being prepared to take care of yourself, you allow community resources to be used more effectively during an emergency – and you help keep your own family safe too. Simply put, emergency preparedness begins at home.

Start today. Prepare your emergency kit. Prepare your family – so in the case of a major emergency like a flood or blackout – you are ready to take care of yourself and your loved ones for at least 72 hours.

Learn how to prepare a [home emergency kit](#) and a [car emergency kit](#) by checking out www.getprepared.ca/index_e.asp

Where to buy an emergency kit



You can buy an emergency kit online and in many stores across Canada. The Canadian Red Cross kit is available at www.redcross.ca and the St. John Ambulance and The Salvation Army kit is available at www.sja.ca. Also, St. John Ambulance and Salvation Army have jointly prepared an emergency kit that can be purchased from a variety of Canadian retailers. Click on your province or territory to find out which retailers carry the kits in your area.

British Columbia

Canadian Tire
Foods
Depot (in-store and on-line)

London Drugs
Value Drug Mart

IGA
Pharmasave

MarketPlace
Shoppers Drug Mart Home

Thrifty