



The annual Early Development Instrument— or EDI—data collection was completed for the 2003/2004 school year this past April.

*Many thanks to all of the WSD Kindergarten teachers for their committed efforts in supplying the Winnipeg Understanding the Early Years site with annual information on our community's children.*



## EDI Update

Using the EDI results from the 2002/2003 school year, many EDI reports were developed and shared with:

- The WSD school board and administrators
- The Parent Child Coalitions (Downtown, Inkster, Elmwood, River Heights/Fort Rouge, Point Douglas)
- Service providers and stakeholders
- Community members and parents
- Researchers and policy makers

## UEY in the news...

*'...to help communities identify children whose readiness to learn is at risk, the Government will extend its successful community pilot project, Understanding the Early Years, to at least 100 communities.'*  
(Speech from the Throne, February 2, 2004)

## Community Updates

Understanding the Early Years works closely with community groups called *Parent-Child Coalitions* (PCCs). With their annual funding from *Healthy Child Manitoba*, PCCs collaborate with community members and stakeholders to determine the most effective community-based programs to enhance the development of children. These decisions are based, in part, from the EDI data, collected by Kindergarten teachers.

*See page 2 for a detailed look at the programs facilitated or funded by the PCCs.*

## Communities TAKE ACTION for Children...

UEY works closely with 5 of the province's Parent-Child coalitions—Elmwood, Inkster, Fort Rouge/River Heights, Downtown, and North End Point Douglas. These PCCs use EDI data to assist them in making decisions regarding the child and family programs they wish to fund or facilitate. Here is a look at their community initiatives...



### Downtown

Based in part by the EDI data which identifies **'physical health and well-being'** as a community *need* for the Downtown area the Downtown PCC has developed a children's program called 'Wiggle and Giggle and Munch'—a Program designed to promote healthy living, nutrition and recreation for children and families. The program is located at the Isaac Brock Community Centre and John M. King School.

The Downtown PCC has funded many community-based programs for children and parents. Some of the projects they've funded include:

- Toys, craft supplies, nutritious food and equipment for family centres
- Resource materials for literacy and parenting programs
- Supplemental program funding for child care centres, school programs, community centres and faith organizations

For further information please contact Ingrid or Genny at 475-5755 or [dpccoalition@shaw.ca](mailto:dpccoalition@shaw.ca) or visit their website: [Http://parentchild.cimnet.ca](http://parentchild.cimnet.ca)

### Inkster

The Inkster PCC has developed and facilitated the following projects:

- Safe and Sound, an assertiveness and violence prevention program for teens
- An Inkster family resource guide, distributed to every family in the Inkster community
- A quarterly newsletter called 'Nor'West News', which highlights community events and programs available to Inkster families
- Quit 4 Life, a smoking cessation program for youth
- Books for kids, a huge give away of children's books for families living in the high needs areas of Inkster

Based on EDI data that shows Inkster's children have a *need* in the developmental area of **'physical health and well-being'**, the Inkster PCC is planning to hold a healthy living field day in the Blake Gardens housing complex. This event on July 8th will kick off a summertime children's recreation program.

For more information on these projects, contact Lisa or Caprice at 940-2106

## North End Point Douglas

Based on the EDI data which identifies 'physical health and well-being' as an area of *need* for the children of the Point Douglas community, this PCC has supplied each of the 14 elementary schools within the Point Douglas community with nutrition funding to supplement the school's breakfast or snack programs. The North End Point Douglas PCC has also decided to target child literacy—another identified *need* for the area—by supplying books and literacy materials to many children and families in the Point Douglas community. This PCC has also funded many community-based programs for children and parents. Some of these projects include:

- Safe and Sound, a program that promotes personal safety and anti-bullying for youth
  - Resource materials and nutritious food for child care centres, parenting programs, and literacy programs
- For more information on these projects, contact Greg at 927-2336

## Fort Rouge/River Heights

The Fort Rouge/River Heights PCC has made decisions, based on part by the EDI data for their community, to fund the following projects:

- Books and materials for literacy centres, homework clubs, and school-based literacy programs
- Parenting books, videos and resource materials for parenting centres and community centres
- Nutrition funding for healthy living programs and snack programs
- Recreational and fitness equipment for healthy living and physical health programs

For more information on these projects, contact Sandy at 791-0956

*For more information on UEY, contact us at 789-0494*



## Elmwood

The Elmwood PCC, working in close partnership with the Elmwood Community Resource Centre, has facilitated many programs. Some of these include:

- Parenting and literacy programs such as *Mother Goose*, *Nobody's Perfect* and *Rock n' Read*
- Community kitchen program, Homework clubs, and Anger Management programs for youth
- A 'Take Pride Elmwood' week from May 23-30th
- And an ESL bookmates literacy and life skills program for ESL families will begin soon

As well, the new Elmwood Home Learning Assistant Project (funded and developed as a result of the EDI data for the Elmwood area) reports great success in its first year of implementation. For Further information on these projects, contact Ingrid or Carol at 982-1720