

SCHOOL DISTRICT #72 CAMPBELL RIVER

DISTRICT LITERACY PLAN



July 2010

Jointly Submitted by:

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DISTRICT CONTEXT

Campbell River is located on the east coast of central Vancouver Island extending north to Sayward and south to Oyster River. The district also includes the outer islands of Read, Cortes and Quadra.

Serving a population of just under 6,000 students in 20 schools, the district administers a budget of approximately \$47 million. Although the community population has remained stable, an aging demographic has led to a steady decline in student enrolment.

The district has maintained its focus on gains in student achievement and providing its students with a broad array of high quality programs and services.

COMMUNITY DEMOGRAPHICS:

- Population of 30,000 with a trading population in the region of 60,000.
- An aboriginal population of 3,470 – increasing.
- 1.75% of homes are non-English speaking
- 83% dual parent families
- Average family income \$53, 350.
- 25% of population below \$30,000 in family income

DISTRICT PROFILE:

- 15 elementary schools
- 2 middle schools
- 2 secondary schools
- 1 alternate program
- 2 provincial resource programs (Oasis and Head Start)

LITERACY IN SCHOOL DISTRICT 72:

Campbell River has been recognized for many years as a leading district in the province for its work in literacy and early literacy initiatives. The district has been heavily involved in the literacy initiatives developed jointly with the Island Network and Island Literacy. Campbell River was also a lead player in the development of the DART assessment which is becoming a standard of assessment in the region and across the province.

Long term data exists in the district, which will allow for careful consideration of cohort data over time. The district's association with Faye Brownlie and Leyton Schnellert in conjunction with a well established Professional Development program has lead to widespread excellence in best practices instruction and collaborative cultures in schools.

A. PROGRESS IN YEAR 1:

The number one goal of the SD72 achievement contract is to improve the reading and writing levels of all students in the district. This goal is supported by many initiatives in the district and aligns well with the pillars of ReadNow BC. Some examples of these initiatives are:

Improving the Number of Children who read successfully: *

- Maintaining the Literacy support teacher to directly support the spread of best practice instruction across the district.
- Developing a planning guide to support the Assessment for learning of the DART Assessment.
- Supporting teachers and schools in planning instruction based on early assessments
- Implementing 6 week check-ins with all schools to monitor progress of students
- Literacy teacher leaders will be supported in district schools.
- Staff teams from schools focusing on writing will be supported by attending the Leadership Academy sessions with Faye Brownlie this year.
- Promote best instructional practices in developing strategies for literacy in IEP's for special needs students.
- Expand the use of AVID strategies across school staffs.

- Develop exemplars of student writing that can be shared with schools and posted on the district website so that it is accessible to the community as well.
- District wide writing assessments at Grades 2,5,and 8 with an emphasis on developing cohort data that will indicate relative success of interventions and instructional plans
- Begin Oral language screening in Kindergarten and provide interventions as necessary through SLP's.
- Provide inservice in schools on oral language curriculum.

Improving the number of Aboriginal students who read successfully: *

- Continue the operation of the three extended day kindergartens – providing rich environments for language development and exposure to literacy experiences.
- Schools through formative assessments will identify at-risk aboriginal students and develop intervention plans for improving the achievement of identified students.
- Literacy and Aboriginal support teachers will visit all schools together to assess suitability and availability of resources to support aboriginal student reading.
- Continue extensive support for Aboriginal Literacy through ESD programs in all schools.

- Staff schools with proportionate teaching assignments targeted to aboriginal learners.

*** Each of these strategies and structures are found in the SD.72 Achievement Contract.**

CAMPBELL RIVER LITERACY NOW:

The remaining two Pillars of the Read Now BC are also evident within the district and the community; the number of children entering school ready to learn and the number of adults who have literacy and essential skills necessary to compete in today’s labour market and to function in everyday life. The district supports these two pillars in the following ways:

- SD. 72 is a full partner in the development of Literacy Now Campbell River – a local Literacy Program with the Vision statement:

Campbell River Literacy Now is dedicated to providing quality inter-generational literacy experiences to enable all citizens to reach their goals.

Literacy Now Campbell River is a vibrant and exciting group in our community. Active since September of 2004, the organization has taken responsibility for moving the community literacy agenda forward in the community. Creating links to numerous community organizations including the School District, Literacy Now has developed the Community Literacy plan. Inside the community plan is an excellent overview of the work done by this organization leading up to the completion and recently the implementation of the Community Plan.

- 1) To increase awareness in the community of both literacy issues and resources, including increasing the access to existing programs;
- 2) To create new programs to provide support for underserved groups in the community.

Task Group:

Name	Organization
Anne Boyd	<i>Literacy Outreach Coordinator</i>
Kat Eddy	Adult Literacy Outreach
Lana Eagle	Rotary Club Literacy Rep.
Donna Bayne	Principal Oyster River Elementary

Judy Brooks	Literacy BC
Marion Johnston	Retired teacher
Joyce McMann	A Family Place Coordinator, Family And Children Services
Carol Forbes	Campbell River Community Literacy Association, Literacy Center Coordinator, Literacy BC Board of Directors
Sharon Bollefer	Altrusa President
Brenda Wagman	Private citizen
Kathy Rae	Sunrise Development, Pacific CARE
Elaine Julien	Vancouver Island Regional Library
Chris Button	Altrusa Club
Leah Tremain	Read TV Productions, Rotary Literacy Rep.
Wendy Tyre	Salvation Army
Jo-Anne Windsor	Altrusa Literacy Coordinator
Lynne Stone	North Island Constituency
Timothy Skye	Vancouver Island Regional Library
Jim Ansell	School District 72
Colleen Ferguson	NIC, ABE Instructor

This team works together to implement the Community Literacy plan keeping the community at large informed.

An excellent example of the collaboration within the organizations in the community is the Aboriginal Success by 6 Project. Success by 6, SD 72, and CR Literacy Now are working with “At Risk” youth to create a DVD of community elders telling stories of the past for young children. Not only does this project connect the youth with the elders and develop new skills in the youth, but it creates a record of the elders’ stories that can be used in Aboriginal communities to strengthen the development of young children.

In 2008-09 CR Literacy Now, SD 72, Success by Six, Family Services, Laichwiltach Family Life Society worked together to lobby BC Housing for a space in low cost housing to run programs to support children and adults. BC Housing granted \$40 000. for renovations to an old day care centre to create the Gathering Place. This space will be used for Aboriginal Head Start, Strong Start, Family Place, Adult literacy, youth programming, and cooking classes to reach many of the most venerable in this community. This is an example of a community working together at its best.

School District 72 also partnered with CR literacy Now to create a community wide Family Literacy Day in Jan. 2009. School librarians ran programs in every elementary school and supported the distribution of materials and supplies across the community. The city recognized the day with a proclamation, businesses participated, non-profits held events, the newspaper ran a four page supplement, it truly highlighted literacy cooperation.

The School District also supported the Campbell River Literacy Outreach Coordinator to work with its outlying communities to develop their community literacy plans. Sayward

and Quadra successfully submitted plans to 2010 Legacies (attached) and Cortes Island after many delays has restarted the process. Cortes did received planning funds.

By working into the future in the collaborative manner in which the Community Literacy plan has developed, the Literacy leaders in the Campbell River Community and the SD. 72 team will be able to coordinate efforts so that we may all maximize the use of and access to, the many literacy resources in the community. This collaboration will be expanded to include the Sayward Community Plan and the Quadra Community plan now that those two areas have filed plans with 2010 Legacies. Through our ongoing collaboration, we will strengthen the preparedness for success of pre-school students for entering kindergarten by: promoting the community resources that are available, continuing to develop and support initiatives like Head Start and Strong Start and our extended day Kindergarten programs, enhancing the connections between pre-school families and our schools through expansion of our Ready, Set, Learn programs, and through coordinated efforts between the school district and the many community agencies that are actively engaged in promoting success in all ways for the youngest and most at risk members of our community.

Reflecting on the 2008 Plan

Within School District 72 and Connecting to the Communities:

Literacy in all forms continues to be a significant focus for Campbell River Schools. The Provincial Government mandates that Literacy will continue to be a Provincial focus which fits extremely well with the work of SD 72.

Within each of our schools, literacy remains a significant instructional focus. Every school has a goal that is connected to literacy – either reading or writing. Continued access to Literacy District to Innovation grants has allowed the move forward with a number of important and evolving initiatives. The main thrust has been targeted interventions at all elementary schools. Schools identify groups or even individual students that are not making progress as expected in Reading or Writing. Students are then grouped for targeted interventions and additional staff support is provided to provide direct instruction in the areas that require attention.

Schools base their intervention decisions on formative assessment data and the interventions are assessed after completion using the same assessment. Reports are then returned to the district office. Results are kept, but the important measure is the overall impact on student achievement in this area. During the 2007-08 school year, for the first time in 3 years a slight gain was noted in early primary reading results. We expect to see this trend continue as results of good instruction and targeted intervention impact student success.

The School District has also made a significant commitment to a multi-year focus on the practices of Assessment for Learning. While not a literacy strategy, this is a best practice instructional strategy that will also have significant impact on the success of our students across the grades as we move forward.

Within the community, the School District continues to play a supportive role in developing connections and supporting programs aimed at community literacy. In matters of funding and direct support, the District has supported many of the projects that have been lead by Literacy Now Campbell River. The District supported the Backpack program, and the computer program with the Salvation Army. As well, District personnel remain highly engaged with Campbell River and surrounding community literacy committees and are engaged in the projects that are taking place.

The partnership in Literacy is strong and comfortable in all areas of the Campbell River School District region. There continues to be a strong commitment to this collaboration to the benefit of our entire community.

1. Quadra Island

- In the fall of 2008 the Quadra task group hired Robin Beaton to write their community plan. The group continued to meet monthly as Robin completed the stages of plan preparation. In May of 2009 the plan was submitted to 2010 Legacies for funding approval. This plan is attached.

2. Sayward

- The Sayward community changed focus after receiving the planning funds. Their first concern was early learning which was addressed when the School District opened a Strong Start Centre in Sept. 08. The original working group reformed and hired Julie Matte to complete their plan. Julie was assisted by Rita Rambo who was able to attract a large section of the community to task force meetings. Sayward has completed their plan and submitted it to 2010 Legacies for approval. They are currently advertising for a Literacy Outreach Coordinator to help with implementation of their plan.

3. Cortes Island

- The Cortes Community applied for and received planning funds in 2008. Unfortunately due to illness of the Literacy Now chair nothing happened

4. Campbell River

1) List the priorities/objectives and actions from your community's literacy plan that have been addressed this year.

- Created an online literacy information resource
www.literacyforall.ca
- Purchased audio-visual equipment for use by marginalized youth who created DVD's of aboriginal elders passing on their teachings
- Supported summer programs for low income kids
- Contributed to training for home based day care providers
- Created a literacy centre at the Salvation Army Lighthouse
- Created a backpack program for young learners
- Worked with other community agencies to enhance literacy opportunities
- Sponsored Family Literacy Day 2009 – a community wide event
- Donated computers to Family Services for enhancing literacy programs with youth
- Provided funding for a mentor to work with youth and computers
- Supported Campbell River Literacy Association in piloting benchmarks for adult learners
- Promoted literacy at community events such as Health Fairs, National Child Day, etc.
- Assisted with books for babies distribution

2) What have been the major impacts of this work?

- Campbell River Literacy Now is an established community resource
- Partnerships have been firmly established with other community groups
- Community groups seek advice about literacy initiatives from CR Lit. Now when they have money to invest in literacy
- LOC is invited to community tables such as, Success by Six, Early Learning Coalitions, Library planning, Family Services, School District
- Support has been recognized in the Aboriginal Community
- Children and Youth have been supported in programming through other agencies
- Community events have had Literacy Now featured, National Child Day (100 families attended), Health Fairs 140 families represented

3. What was the most successful aspect of initiatives this year?

- This was the year when much of our planning came to fruition, the work with the Salvation Army literacy centre was in the planning stage for 3 years and delayed due to circumstances beyond control
- Back Packs for literacy finally had funding in place and orders completed

What was challenging?

- Keeping the group busy enough to stay interested but not too busy to overwhelm task group members
- Finding meeting dates that didn't conflict with other events
- Dealing with ABC Canada around Family Literacy Day, they lost our order, left us hanging and send poor quality materials
- Finding enough time to keep everything moving

4. What evaluation method/s/framework and/or tools did you use to determine how effective your work has been?

- Used the evaluation statements from our plan
- Counted participants in events

What issues/areas of concern do you have about this evaluation technique or evaluation in general?

- It is difficult to track numbers at events Literacy Now supports but does not necessarily have control over
- Many of our events and projects will only be able to be evaluated over time as they are implemented

5. How has the Literacy Outreach Coordinator position funded through 2010 Legacies Now enhanced literacy work in your community?

- The LOC has time to call meetings, publish minutes, follow up on suggestions
- LOC attends other community meetings to provide liaison and keep literacy in all events
- LOC is able to connect with other communities and can offer and receive support and new ideas
- LOC is available to answer questions and be the person associated with literacy initiatives at community events
- LOC organizes work meetings, purchases needed supplies (eg. books, bags, activities for Back Pack project)
- LOC delivers literacy materials

6. What have you learned about the community development process?

- Everything takes a lot more time than you think it will
- It takes time to build relationships
- Nothing happens without relationships
- They are more meetings than actions
- When partners see you are willing to participate and support with time and funding they give back

7. Number of organizations involved in collaborating in service/event delivery:

- *City of Campbell River*
- *School District 72*
- *Vancouver Island Health Authority*
- *Success by Six*
- *Vancouver Island Regional Library*
- *Family Services*
- *Supported Child Care*
- *ECE Advisory Group*
- *Strong Start Centres*
- *Parks and Rec*
- *John Howard Society*
- *Salvation Army*
- *Aboriginal Head Start programs*
- *Laichwatach Family Life Society*
- *RCMP*

Examples of collaborations:

- Community Health Fair – community wide events focused on young families, planned and presented by 15 community groups
- CR Literacy now working with Family Services to provide computer literacy to pre-teens at a Friday night family night for aboriginal families
- CR Literacy Now provided coordination for obtaining a building in a low cost housing complex which now provides programming in the form of Aboriginal Head Start, after school programs for youth, teen programming, Strong Start, Family Services Community Kitchens, and soon adult literacy programming
- CR Literacy Now provided funding for a literacy centre in the Salvation Army Lighthouse Centre serving street people, Rotary has now provided support
- CR Literacy Now donated video equipment to a project where aboriginal first nations students filmed elders passing on teachings to young children, the equipment is now help by the Arts Council who provide training to youth at risk

- CR Literacy Now provided books and training to home based day care providers to increase the literacy in these programs, this was a collaboration with Family Place and Success by Six
- CR Literacy Now coordinated Family Literacy Day and involved service providers, schools, businesses and newspapers

8. What resources were effective in helping to achieve desired outcomes?

- Services of the Literacy Outreach Coordinator who was able to work with the outlying communities and assist with their planning
- In kind support from the school district in secretarial, book keeping and use of space to further initiatives
- Money that was found to support projects
- Many hours of volunteer time from community members
- Time from SD 72 employees who attended meetings and assisted with projects

Thinking About the 2009 Plan

1) What changes do you observe about your community since doing the community plan?

- Economic downturn, major mill closures resulting in high unemployment and young families leaving the community
- Declining school enrolment and school closures
- Increase in “at risk” children in the EDI report
- Adults needing retraining to obtain employment

2) What is the stage (or stages) of community literacy planning?

- **Sayward** – submitted a plan to 2010 Legacies as of May 2009
- **Quadra Island** - submitted a plan to 2010 Legacies as of May 2009
- **Cortes Island** – received planning funds, working on preparing a community plan
- **Campbell River** – entering third year of implementation of the community plan

3) What new challenges or opportunities have arisen since your 2008 plan?

- Two other communities have completed plans
- Challenges existed in both communities but have been overcome with support
- One community experienced difficulty but is now back on track
- Campbell River has continued to implement their plan and was able to involve the school district with many of the community projects

- The School District is perceived as a partner in these projects, not as a controller
- The School District has found opportunities through collaboration to extend support to at risk early learners as well as school age learners

4) What adjustments have you made to your community plan?

Goal 1 was to increase literacy awareness and issues in the community:
creating an online directory, conducting literacy audits, improving access to programs, working on transportation issues with other community groups

- Our online directory is being updated, with the money allocated for web site updates Literacy Now will be working with Literacy BC
- Literacy Audits have not been conducted, a kit was purchased by a local employment agency but the person trained to use the kit has not been available
- Improving access to programs continues to be a focus, Literacy Now CR works with other groups to highlight literacy opportunities in many settings
- CR Literacy Now partnered with Success by Six to pilot a bus pass program, results are being tabulated
- CR Literacy Now was instrumental in establishing programming in a low cost housing complex reducing the need for transportation, programming will include literacy opportunities for babies to seniors
- CR Literacy Now will continue to work on getting programming to clients or getting clients to programming

Goal 2 was to create new programs for underserved groups of preteens, youth and Seniors.

- This goal continues to be a priority, CR Literacy Now has just hired a researcher to create a plan for adult learning in Campbell River
- Programs for preteens and youth have been established

5) How will Regional Literacy Coordinators and Literacy Outreach Coordinators contribute to the literacy work in your community over the next year?

- The Regional Literacy Coordinator has and will continue to help connect communities in our region. This allows communities to share ideas and improve their plans. The Regional Literacy Coordinator has pulled the region together and is available to offer advice and support to LOC's.
- Literacy Outreach Coordinators are established in two or our four communities and they are able to keep the implementation of plans moving forward. Without having someone directly responsible to call meetings, organize events and oversee budgets the community planning would not be possible.
- One community is currently in the process of hiring a coordinator and the fourth community is beginning plan preparation with a paid position

- Funding for coordination has been extremely helpful in keeping the communities moving forward
- 6) **Have there been any changes or additions to your thinking about evaluating the progress of your work?**
- The work of the School District is monitored through the Achievement Contract
 - The work of the communities will be monitored through the updates to their plans – we will rely on the LOC’s to keep the SD apprised of progress and changes to their plans judged against their statements of success
- 7) **What resources will you need?**
- Continued funding for LOC support for communities, it will be impossible for school districts to monitor community plans without the help of literacy coordinators. The importance of this collaboration and mutual support cannot be overstated
 - The one time Early Learning Grant that was sent to School Districts has gone a long way to supporting many worthwhile collaborations in the area of Early Years literacy.

B. ANTICIPATED NEXT STEPS

1. All of the processes and projects reported above will continue to move forward.
2. Plans are underway to do another large collaborative project between Literacy Now, The School District, and Success by 6 for Family Literacy in January of 2010.
3. Some form of collaborative project connected to Ready Set Learn is under development for the winter and spring of the next school year which will give an educational focus to the Community Health Fairs that take place in the community.
4. We will continue to build the collaboration between the communities of Cortes, Quadra, and Sayward as we move forward in working with the community committees.

REPORTING

1. An electronic copy of the plan was forwarded to : Educ.Literacy@gov.bc.ca
By July 15, 2009
Appendix 1

The Quadra Island Community Literacy Plan

Our vision is to support a strong, vibrant and healthy community by promoting accessibility to literacy and life long learning.

GOAL NUMBER ONE

Collaboration and sustainability to ensure resources, connections and communication are in place to maintain vitality and viability of the literacy plan.

Objective 1: Provide a central database for gathering and disseminating all current literacy information accessible to the entire community.

HOW: Post the Quadra Island Literacy Inventory of all literacy resources and programs on the websites for Literacy B.C., School District #72 and theGumboot.ca

Printed copies of the inventory would be available at the Heriot Bay branch of the V.I.R.L., Quadra Elementary and Quadra Community Centre for those not familiar with computers.

WHO: Quadra Island Literacy Now
Quadra Island Library
Community groups

RESOURCES:

Literacy B.C. and School District #72 will assist in linking our plan to their websites and developing a Quadra website.

Information from the community regarding literacy resources and current programs will be available.

Some volunteer hours will be necessary, not only to obtain information of the moment, but also to keep the website current.

Publicity for the website and the information so that the entire community knows what is available.

Printing and distribution of hard copies of the Inventory.

DATE: The Inventory will be posted on the website. Publicity for the website and printing and distribution of hard copies will occur when funds are in hand, hopefully by September 2009.

Success can be measured by use of the website and the printed copies.

GOAL NUMBER ONE

Collaboration and sustainability to ensure resources, connections and communication are in place to maintain vitality and viability of the literacy plan.

Objective 2:

Firmly establish a strong literacy presence in the community as an available resource for assistance with literacy at all levels of competency.

HOW: Publicize literacy efforts, capabilities, information, and help provided on a frequent and on going schedule through all means possible.

WHO: Quadra Island Literacy Now and volunteers

RESOURCES:

Rental space sufficient for literacy programs, tutor-student sessions, Coordinator activities and, if possible, access to a computer lab, will be needed. Quadra Elementary School will be considered.

Equipment needed - at least one computer, locked filing cabinet, desk, chairs, shelving for supplies and lesson materials, good lighting.

Coordinator. Need a job description, advertise position, interview applicants.

Volunteers to run programs.

Publicity. Paid ads in local paper, listing on our website, a sign on the door.

Campbell River Literacy Now and Robron Adult Education Centre may provide assistance with set up, problems and procedures.

Funding anticipated from Literacy Now.

DATE: September 2009 or as soon as funds to cover are in hand.

Number and quality of contacts, literacy problems solved, and local awareness in response to publicity can measure success.

GOAL NUMBER ONE

Collaboration and sustainability to ensure resources, connections and communication are in place to maintain vitality and viability of the literacy plan.

Objective 3:

Maintain the Literacy Now initiative of monthly meetings to ensure resources are being well utilized and to continue the successful collaborative efforts amongst community groups involved in literacy.

HOW: Continue monthly meetings

WHO: Quadra Literacy Outreach Coordinator, Success by 6 Coordinator, Quadra Recreation Society coordinator, Quadra Children's Centre Director, Outreach Coordinator for the We Wai Kai band, V.I.R.L. Librarian, school administrator, teachers, educational assistants and many active and knowledgeable community members. The Literacy Now Task Group also includes many individuals who are informed and contributing members but don't attend regular meetings.

RESOURCES:

Quadra School Library

Lunch - Meeting over the lunch hour enables representatives from many community groups and school staff to attend on their lunch break.

DATE: Monthly

Success can be measured in the unified approach connecting various groups

GOAL NUMBER TWO

Literacy skills and services for adults

Objective 1:

Ensure that literacy help is available to adults in the community who need assistance with their basic literacy skills.

WHO: Quadra Literacy Now to identify and encourage people to take advantage of the opportunity to improve their skills.

HOW: Provide volunteer tutors to work one-on-one with willing students to

improve literacy skills at no charge to the student.

RESOURCES:

Trained tutors willing to volunteer for the task.

A room for learning sessions.

Volunteer support for distance education and invigilating exams.

Means of evaluating the skill level of students when they enroll and at intervals thereafter.

On going monitoring and trouble-shooting of the learning process.

Supply of written materials deemed to be of interest to the students and written at a learning level.

Coordinator for the project. This is a big job.

DATE: Mid-September 2009, and on going. This is a long-term project. Participation is expected to be minimal until some success can be demonstrated and potential students become aware of it.

Success will be obtained with the first enrollment and some demonstrable progress for the individual.

If four or five students enroll in the first year, it will be a huge success.

GOAL NUMBER TWO

Literacy skills and services for adults

Objective 2:

Provide training for volunteers to equip them to handle individuals with low literacy levels in one-on-one learning sessions to improve their literacy skills.

HOW: Training sessions

WHO: Instructors from Robron Centre
Community Volunteers
North Island College

RESOURCES:

North Island College offering courses.

The qualified instructors.

Funds for the instructors, plus expenses.

Appropriate venue for training.

Hospitality including luncheon, supplies, and volunteers to provide a warm welcome.

DATE: Early September 2009

Success will be achieved when the instructors determine the volunteers are ready for students.

GOAL NUMBER TWO

Literacy skills and services for adults

Objective 3:

Provide a means for people with adequate literacy levels to enhance their literacy skills in an informal environment enjoyable to them.

HOW: Offer workshops on basic computer literacy, web design, financial literacy, and writer's skills.

Annually celebrate community literacy at the Literacy Festival at the Community Centre.

WHO: Volunteers and/or paid presenters.

RESOURCES:

Computer lab at Quadra Elementary.

Venue for sessions.

Local writers group offering the workshop.

Literacy Festival presenters, storytellers, activities for young children, teens and adults.

DATE: October for computer literacy workshop. Other workshops held, as interest is determined. Literacy Festival late January-early February

Success can easily be determined by participation.

GOAL NUMBER THREE

Support for early learning and literacy for children and families.

Objective 1:

Support early learning and literacy outreach

HOW: Access grants to provide literacy programs with Parents and Babes and Parents and Tots programs at the Community Centre.

WHO: Coordinators for Success by 6, Quadra Community Centre, Quadra Children's Centre and Literacy Now Outreach Coordinator.

RESOURCES:

Grants from Success by 6

Dee and Barb from the Quadra Children's Centre provide programs to the parent groups at the community centre.

DATE: Annual application for grant from Success by 6 in April

Success can be determined by the number of parents receiving information and engaged in programs.

Support for early learning and literacy for children and families.

Objective 2:

Support access to literacy for children and families

HOW	Weekly story time for children and families	Family film matinees	Backpacks for literacy	Literacy Kits
WHO	Volunteers and Elders at Cape Mudge	Volunteers and by donation to Friday Flicks	Volunteers to maintain and distribute backpacks	Literacy Now Task Group
RESOURCES	<p>Reading great children's literature and modeling how to share a book for parents</p> <p><i>Venues:</i> Farmer's Market</p> <p>Nuyumbalees Cultural Centre (Museum @ Cape Mudge)</p>	<p>Community Centre venue</p> <p>Films to be selected with support of Friday Flicks</p>	<p>Literacy Now funds for materials.</p> <p>Backpack would contain four children's books and West Coast Reader for adults</p> <p>Available for families from We Wai Kai Children's Centre, Quadra Children's Centre and the Community Centre</p>	<p>These kits would be similar to the Lit Kits available through VIRC, which are not available on Quadra.</p> <p>Each kit would contain 10 - 12 books and activities based on a common theme.</p>
DATE	<p>Saturdays</p> <p>July and August at the Farmer's</p>	<p>Once a month on a Saturday in January, February and March</p>	<p>As soon as funds are in hand</p>	<p>As soon as Literacy Now funds are in hand</p>

	Market Oct., Nov., Mar. & Apr. @ the Museum			
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Success would be a small group of children with their families attending story time or the film matinees.

Success would be a family reading together and discussing a book.

APPENDIX TWO

SAYWARD COMMUNITY LITERACY PLAN

ACTION PLAN

Goal 1: Hire a Literacy Outreach Coordinator to implement the Literacy Action Plan.

What	Who	Resources	Timeline
Post position and hire the Literacy Outreach Coordinator	Regional Literacy Now Coordinator and the Sayward Literacy Task Group	Sayward News for posting the position.	Within one month of receiving the implementation funds from Literacy Now a Literacy Coordinator will be in place

Success Statement:

We will know that we have been successful when:

- a Literacy Coordinator is hired within one month of receiving implementation funds.

Goal 2: Provide programs that allow the youth to become involved in the community.

Objective 1

Develop programs with the youth that give them autonomy yet support.

What	Who	Resources	Timeline
Engage the youth in planning sessions regarding possible activities and programs for youth	Literacy Outreach Coordinator and/or Youth Coordinator, if found	Venues (Kelsey Centre, Heritage Hall, churches, other)	Within six months of Literacy Outreach Coordinator being hired
Assist the youth in implementing programs	Sayward Literacy Outreach Coordinator, Youth Coordinator,	Seed money from implementation funds, other fundraising efforts, community	Programs will begin within six months of Literacy Outreach Coordinator being

	Kelsey Centre Manager, Heritage Hall rep, churches	support, space for activities	hired
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Success Statements

We will know that we have been successful when:

- youth are engaged and organized;
- program plans are developed;
- fundraising or grant proposals are sent out to relevant funders;
- activities as planned and coordinated by youth (with adult support) are in place.

Goal 3: Meet needs of young adult, adult and senior learners in Sayward.

Objective 1

Work with community organizations to provide course programming to include computer training, school upgrading, art, dance, cooking and other classes.

What	Who	Resources	Timeline
Organize courses as indicated in the Community Literacy Plan (See minutes of the February 20, 2009 meeting for details)	Literacy Outreach Coordinator	Kelsey Centre, Heritage Hall, Sayward School, other locations	Fall 2009.
Partner with community groups	Literacy Outreach Coordinator	Kelsey Centre, Heritage Hall, other locations	Fall 2009.
Seek and apply for funding and program offerings that Sayward may qualify for	Literacy Outreach Coordinator	Literacy Now staff, fellow Literacy Coordinators across the province for information, Internet	Once programs are set in motion, take time to look for further opportunities.

Success Statements

We will know that we have been successful when:

- local talents are utilized in transferring needed training, i.e. computer training, first aid, GED tutoring, etc.;
- courses are provided by local or other trained persons;

- further funding opportunities are researched and applied for;
- literacy needs are satisfied

Objective 2

Explore potential partnerships between the Sayward School Library and the Vancouver Island Regional Library Sayward Branch.

What	Who	Resources	Timeline
Review the community needs and the program partnership possibilities as determined through the literacy process	Literacy Outreach Coordinator, VIRLibrary, Sayward School representative	Sayward School library and the VIRL Sayward Branch Library	Begin the process by fall 2009.
Implement programs	Same as above	Same as above	Ongoing.

Success Statements

We will know that we have been successful when:

- joint programs are established between the public and school libraries;
- both libraries are more accessible for book clubs, GED for adults, and literacy training

Reflecting on the 2009 Plan – Thinking about 2010 - 11

From the School District Perspective:

The connection to our outlying communities that moved forward in 2009 has strengthened this year. The relationships between the schools and the literacy community have evolved and grown. The exchange of information and resources has been excellent. Sayward and Quadra run literacy centres in Schools and have formed a strong bond between school and community.

There is a strong movement under way to support literacy in the schools by giving significant attention to developing oral language in children. In a number of schools, this has become part of the school culture, while in others the practice is gaining a foothold. As well, many schools are indicating a desire to refocus attention on concerted efforts at improving literacy success. Because of our long term commitment, schools are beginning to look at data to find keys to success for intervention – that is – are there times in the year where students seem more successful or need additional support. This will allow us to target our interventions where they can be most effective.

The School District was able to open a satellite Strong Start Centre in a low cost housing project in partnership with Success by Six, Laichwiltach Family Life Society, Family Services, Campbell River Parks and Rec and Literacy Now.

At the secondary level, success is apparent in our Grade 10 English results. While overall, we are pleased with the success of our students, literacy continues to be a focus of school based interventions.

Reflections on the 2009-10 year –

Campbell River Literacy Now

1. **Priorities/objectives and actions from the 2009 District Literacy Plan**

- Continued support of summer programs for low income students
- Continued to support the learning centre at the Salvation Army
- Continued to support the backpack program
- Sponsored Family Literacy Day 2010
- Continued to pay for mentorship for a youth computer program
- Promoted literacy at Health Fairs, National Child Day
- Revised our web site and connected to Literacy BC
- Took over Books for Babies after it was cut by the government
- Formed closer partnership with Campbell River Community Literacy Association and jointly sponsored an adult literacy outreach position
- Worked with several community groups to secure an RBC grant that will provide afterschool care, including homework support, in a low income housing project
- Teamed with CRCLA to apply for the New Horizons grant to provide computer courses for seniors
- Worked with the School District to apply for funds to improve the Robron Centre for Life Long Learning
- Supported the School Districts effort to include community members in planning for full day kindergarden
- Worked with the city and the School District to provide summer programs for kids at risk in two sites
- Provided books to children of young parents at Christmas
- Provided support and advice to the Aboriginal Success by Six
- Provided support and advice to the team running “The Gathering Place”, a centre for children and families in a low cost housing complex
- By expanding and strengthening partnerships with other community groups more diverse sectors of the community have been served
- The LOC attends many community meetings to take the literacy message to more places, most groups don't have time to be part of the task group
- The task group met regularly to advise and support the plan implementation and took on the Books for Babies project by fund raising and meeting to stuff the bags
- Campbell River Literacy Now is an established community resource and works regularly with:
 - *City of Campbell River*
 - *School District 72*
 - *North Island College*
 - *Vancouver Island Health Authority*

- *Success by Six*
- *Vancouver Island Regional Library*
- *Family Services*
- *Supported Child Care*
- *ECE Advisory Group*
- *Strong Start Centres*
- *Parks and Rec*
- *John Howard Society*
- *Salvation Army*
- *Aboriginal Head Start programs*
- *Laichwiltach Family Life Society*
- *RCMP*

2. The Community of Campbell River has been fairly stable in the past year. Employment continues to be an issue and families are struggling at all levels of income. Dads are working away which creates a different dynamic. Jobs are at the service level and some parents are working more than one job to make ends meet. More seniors are moving to the area.

In response to this changing face of the community Literacy Now worked with CRCLA to hire an adult literacy outreach coordinator. Using laptops and a portable internet site the coordinator offers computer support to adults in various locations in the community. Seniors are very keen as are young people that would like to learn social networking, etc. This program has become very popular and will expand if the New Horizons grant application is successful. The ultimate goal is to reach those hard to reach and encourage them to use the literacy centre run by CRCLA and the School District.

More support is also being directed at school age children with summer programming involving literacy and after school care in a low cost housing complex. These initiatives are partnerships with the School District, Laichwiltach Family Life Society, Parks and Recreation, Family Services and Literacy Now.

3. Partnerships are essential to move ahead with community work. It is only with the cooperation of many groups at the table that large projects can be successful. Although many groups are facing funding issues it is by collaborating and combining resources and talents that things move ahead. It takes time to build relationships and Literacy Now is welcomed and encouraged at many community tables.

Thinking About the 2010-11 year:

4. There are always new opportunities, challenges and issues in the community. As we work to expand the work of the Adult Literacy Outreach Worker there will be more areas that require attention. For example, working at the library and teaching people basic computer skills led to applying for a Horizons Grant to help seniors become more computer literate. The need for such a program became apparent through this work.
5. The major goals of our plan remain the same. As we move forward and meet one set of needs others surface that need attention. Although much work has been done in one low cost housing project there are two more that are now asking for services. Working with BC Housing and other community groups the plan is to expand literacy and social services to these groups. Out of school youth is another group that has yet to be fully reached. Although the school district offers an alternate program this does not reach many young people who are currently un-schooled. Further outreach will need to be developed to better serve this population.
6. The coming year will require the task group to continue meeting and finding ways to meet the literacy needs of our community. Efforts to build community partnerships will continue and hopefully expand. The support of the task force will direct the Learning Outreach Coordinators efforts to bring the community of Campbell River together around the goals of improving literacy for all.
7. We will measure our progress by reviewing our growth over time. As we prepare annual reports we will review our goals and take measure of how far we have moved toward them. Our success will be reflected in the improved level of literacy in the community.

Reflections on the 2009- 2010 year: Sayward Literacy Now submitted by Ann Vanswick – Literacy Outreach Coordinator

Sayward submitted their plan in June 2009 and hired a literacy coordinator at that time, they did not receive funding and begin activities until Jan. 2010.

- What priorities/objectives and actions from your 2009 District Literacy Plan have you addressed this year?
- Arranged through meetings and emails to have use of a room at the Sayward School.
- Received used computers from NIC
- Gave books away to the 6/7 class for Literacy Day
- Hired computer teacher. Held a session of classes free of charge.
- Offered free home lessons to learners after taking 4 classes
- Had use of Sayward School Computer Lab
- The 6/7 class came in and did one on one with our senior computer learners
- Teen Socials. Great turnouts
Purchased projector and screen, karaoke machine, stereo and Wii for Teen socials
- Worked with the Family Connections worker. (Success by six)
- Using SCRA hall for Teen Socials and storing some of our equipment
-Getting books together with Family Connections for packsacks to be available in our community.
- Had a logo made so we have something that everyone will know it is Sayward Literacy Now
- Set up the boating course to be given locally.
- Have an online info/literacy site being workdc on. Will be called **Around Sayward**

What have been the major impacts or outcomes?

- Seniors learned about computers. Some have even now ordered internet at home.
Teens look forward and ask me when the next teen social will be.

What are the factors that contribute to success? Here you might consider partnerships, community resources, the task group, coordination, communication. Examples are important to include.

- Working at our local school. Seniors interacted with kids at computer classes. Have been working with Family Connections (Success by Six). Gone to some of their meetings and met connections and gave me great ideas. Cheryl Jordan Success by Six comes up and is part of our task group and passes on great info to our task group and myself. Anne Boyd CR literacy now is part of

my task group, has guided us through many obstacles, great resources. Christine Ansell principal, Sayward School has facilitated having our task group and classes in her school. Christine suggested the grade 5/6/7 come in to the computer lab and do one on one with our seniors in computer classes.

Evaluating the effectiveness of community partnerships and development can be a challenge. However, if you have thought about or found effective ways to evaluate how you have achieved goals and objectives, this is important to include in your district literacy plan.

- Try to work with other groups, working with Family Connections has been helpful, it stretches the budget to meet the same goals. Working around other things happening in community helps to not cause conflicts
- What has changed in the past year that affects literacy in the community? What has been the impact of these changes? How are you addressing these changes?
- There has been little to no change in our community in the past year. People are now thinking about literacy as we raise the issue through community events.
- What have you learned about collaboration and the community development process?
- Hard to please everyone. Our community is much divided over some issues. The computer class brought people together and I am sure friendships were made. Having the teen night has given the teens a place in our community to come together. Hard to get people involved at times. Lots of task group members have great ideas and we are working on getting more going for our community.

Thinking about the 2010-11 year:

4. Are there new opportunities, challenges, or issues in your community? How will you respond to those?
 - Our task group will look for new opportunities in our community and respond to them the best we can.
5. What adjustments have you made to your plan? What new initiatives are planned? What initiatives have been expanded or continued?
 - We have been in contact with all our groups (library, school, Heritage Hall, Kelsey Recreation Centre) trying to join with them or use their facilities as needed. We had new ideas come from task group. Online literacy page being worked on, boating course just completed 38 participated. Maybe will see if we can do a CORE course for hunters in the fall. This summer will continue teen socials, hopefully with dance instructors for the teens.

6. What will be required to meet the goals and effectively employ actions for the coming year?
 - Make sure the community is well informed. Get them involved in the task group. Many hours of getting out in the community and attending meetings of different groups.
7. How will you measure or assess your progress?
 - Participation by members of our community. Making differences in peoples lives from our community. Feed back from our community.

**Reflections on the 2009-2010 year: Cortes Island Literacy Now
 – Submitted by Sarah Oshannessy – Literacy Outreach
 Coordinator**

Cortes Island submitted a literacy plan to 2010 Legacies in November of 2009. They hired a literacy coordinator and have been working to implement the following plan since that time.

Action Plan Cortes Island Literacy Now				
What?	Who?	Resources?	Date?	Measure of Success?
<p>Goal #1: To coordinate the development of the Cortes Community Literacy Plan, ensuring program financial sustainability and broad community participation.</p>	<p>-Hire a Literacy Outreach Coordinator to facilitate creation and implementation of our community literacy plan -Form a Task Group who can support and evaluate our community literacy plan.</p>	<p>-2010 Legacies Now online resources and planning guide -Community members as volunteers, experts and workers</p>	<p>-starting June 2009 -completed December 2009</p>	<p>-When Literacy Outreach Coordinator is working on completing the plan -Community meetings have been held -Task Group volunteers have come forward (especially when we have a number of people, with varied interests, knowledge of the community, and expertise)</p>
<p>Goal #2: To increase community awareness in regards to literacy issues and the literacy services available.</p>	<p>-Literacy Outreach Coordinator</p>	<p>-use of community meetings -use of local advertising -through completing the community plan and making it available to every</p>	<p>- Specifically June 1 2009 to December 31, 2009 -Ongoing (sharing of community plan and maintaining it as a living document)</p>	<p>-Well attended community meetings -interest and dialogue within the community -completed community plan available to entire community,</p>

		member of the community		listing all literacy services in an easy to access format
Goal #3: To coordinate development and implementation of literacy programming to address identified gaps and needs in the community, therefore increasing availability of literacy programs and services within the community.	-Literacy Outreach Coordinator -Task Group	-Funding from Literacy Now and other organizations dedicated to literacy	-Specifically October 2009 to December 2012 -Ongoing	-Implementation of community literacy plan -long term funding secured -increased programming -presence of new and old faces at literacy related events and programs -updated literacy assets inventory that is constantly evolving and better addressing the needs of the community (especially as identified in the community literacy plan)
Goal #4: To work in partnerships with community organizations to help ensure financial and transportation accessibility to existing and newly developed literacy programs for families, youth and seniors.	-Literacy Now Coordinator -All programs funded with micro grants with Literacy Now funding will be required to take this into account in their proposals. -All community organizations and related government organizations	-Funding from Literacy Now and other organizations dedicated to literacy -Interest and communication with government organizations -dedication of community organizations	-Specifically January 2010 to December 2012 -Ongoing	-public transportation options available -long term funding secured -venues such as Manson's community hall having completed necessary upgrades and renovations.

<p>Goal #5: To ensure the long term success of all literacy programs affecting our community (funding, venues, and community support) through the implementation of our Community Literacy Plan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Literacy Outreach Coordinator -All community organizations and related government organizations -All programs funded with micro grants with Literacy Now funding will be required to show dedication to working towards financial sustainability in their proposals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Funding from Literacy Now and other organizations dedicated to literacy -Interest and communication with government organizations -dedication of community organizations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Specifically January 2010 to December 2012 -Ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Implementation of community literacy plan -maintenance of community literacy plan as a living document -continued community awareness and interest in literacy issues within our community -long term funding secured
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CORTES ISLAND:

We have addressed these goals by not only completing our Community Literacy Plan, but also through hosting events such as the Celebration on Education Open House, Oysters, Authors and Ale, setting up booths at community events, and using the implementation money to fund a wide range of literacy related projects. These projects include, but are not limited to French Immersion Soccer Hour for children, Reel Youth Media Literacy for Teens, Ty-eh Ums Tlok Quiness Language Revival project at the Klahoose First Nations, Computer lessons for Seniors, Parent and Tot programs, food production programs at both schools, the Cortes Community Health Association’s lending library, and a skills exchange program. To tackle a major issue on the Island we have also funded a childcare initiative which plans to research the issue and use its findings to rally community leaders’ support in order to create a sustainable childcare solution on the Island. While completing their research the childcare initiative will also supply affordable and reliable childcare to Island parents.

Community partnerships, thorough use and celebration of community resources, and constant efforts dedicated to communication have allowed us to have such extensive success in only a few months of implementation on our plan. Pooling the skills of the task group in order to make sounds decisions and offer the Literacy Outreach Coordinator constant guidance has proven to be an integral part of Literacy Now – Cortes Island’s success in addressing the goals stated in the plan.

In order to evaluate the effectiveness of all of the programming we are offering, as well as the general role Literacy Now plays on the Island and the effects of the community literacy plan, we track the number of participants who attend events and programming, as well as the demographics of the participants. The task group worked very hard to ensure the programming that was funded by implementation money addressed the gaps exposed in the literacy assets itinerary, and using the itinerary as a base for all evaluation has helped us to evaluate our effectiveness. General word of mouth, and how the community views Literacy Now is another gage of evaluation for us. How often we have to explain what we do is decreasing, which we take to indicate a growing awareness of Literacy Now's work.

1. There have been no significant changes that affect literacy in our community in the short time since the completion of our community literacy plan.
2. Through the immense amount of learning we have experienced in the few months since the completion of our plan, the most valuable lessons have been in regards to collaboration and how integral it is to the community development process. Especially on a small island in such a rural setting, the ability to work together is invaluable: nothing would happen without it!
3. There are no new opportunities, challenges, or issues in the foreseeable future. We are still so early on in this process we are still learning about the present.
4. We have not made any adjustments to our plan to date as we are only a few months into implementation.
5. We will continue to measure our success by tracking numbers and demographics of participants in events and programming, as well as by communicating with the community to keep track of their perspective of the work Literacy Now does, and what is being spread via word of mouth. We are working on other methods of evaluation at this time, and continue to consider all options used by other communities, etc.

Reflections on the 2009-2010 year: Quadra Island Literacy Now – Submitted by Robin Beaton – Literacy Outreach Coordinator

GOAL ONE - Strengthening the foundations of the Quadra Literacy Action Plan to ensure that the necessary resources, connections and communications are in place for the Plan's sustainability and vitality.

GOAL TWO - Literacy skills and services for adults

GOAL THREE- Support for early learning and literacy for children and families

Reflections on the 2009-10 year:

1. **Priorities/objectives and actions** from the 2009 District Literacy Plan

Major impacts or outcomes:

- Quadra Literacy Centre set up in a classroom at Quadra Elementary
- 18 people participated in a tutor training workshop in the fall held at the Quadra Literacy Centre .
- Three sessions of computer literacy classes enrolled 34 adults. Two tutors have continued to work with individuals on computer literacy as needs are identified.
- Seven adult students have worked on literacy skills with individual tutors once a week for two hours for most of the academic year. (Six are ESL students) Some tutors and tutees will continue over the summer. All are looking forward to continuing next September.
- A series of three Story Hour events were held for young children and families
- Fourteen QLitKits were created. Each kit contains 15 – 18 items on a theme (books, puppets, puzzles and CD's) These will be available in September for a three to four week loan to families with newborns to pre- kindergarten age children.
- A selection of children's books and a bookshelf to display the books will be set up at the medical and the dental clinics.
- A selection of First Nations children's and young people's books and a bookshelf to display the books has been offered to the Nuyumbalees Cultural Centre. I am awaiting their approval.

The factors that contribute to success:

- Quadra Literacy Now task group has met monthly, collaborating to identify issues and guide initiatives to further the goals of the plan.
- As members of a small community with dedicated participation from many Quadra school staff, the Quadra Children's Centre and individual community members we have been able to share expertise to:
 - guide parents in need to access programs for their children at Quadra Children's Centre
 - provide financial support for continuing the Quadra Children's Centre's educational program for the Parents and Tots group

- provide financial support for three to four environmental literacy programs this summer at Quadra Recreation and Quadra Children's Centre
- plan a writers workshop this fall with local and visiting writers engaging with primary and intermediate students at Quadra School. They will offer a 'writing your memoirs' workshop for seniors as well.

2. Changes that affect literacy in the community:

- Young people with families, struggling to find work, don't have time to pursue their further training and education.
- People who struggle with literacy themselves, are trying to read to their young children "very short stories for a short period of time".

These issues were identified in interviews and surveys prior to writing our community goals. We have been able to assist some families to apply for childcare subsidies enabling them to work while their children attend enriching childcare and after school programs.

3. Collaboration and the community development process:

The Quadra Literacy Now task group has good representation and communication from the school, the Children's Centre, Quadra Recreation Society, the Quadra branch of the Regional Library, and various, more senior, community members including a member of the Cape Mudge Band. We do not have young people or parents of school age children represented.

Thinking about the 2010-11 year:

New opportunities, challenges, or issues:

I am considering a fall workshop for parents of young children on "Reading to your Child". This might also open the door for some parents to take advantage of other literacy learning opportunities.

We will be actively encouraging younger community members to become involved in Quadra Literacy Now. We already have a few new prospective members.

New initiatives:

The first Literacy Festival, held in January 2009, had workshops and activities mainly targeting preschool to intermediate school age children and parents. At the 2010 Literacy Festival there was an increase in attendance from adults and seniors.

The 2011 Literacy Festival will host a variety of mini workshops to encourage participation and enhance learning opportunities for the youngest to the most mature in our community.

Dramatic free play and crafts area, drama workshop, writing workshops (writing memoirs, developing characters, poetry, persuasive writing), storytelling, poetry jam, cell phone basics (taught by Quadra secondary school students?), Regional Library in the computer lab (how to request and research books), basic book keeping (how to keep track of your income and expenses), a games room and.....? Our goal is to enhance learning opportunities for all members of the community.