

## Autism Support/Community group

Minutes from November 8,04 meeting at CDC

1. Heather Borland from ASBC Prince George was unable to attend, due to family commitments and bad road conditions, we are hoping to meet her in the new year.
2. There was some discussion around local treatment, how do you know who to hire ect. The web site [www.autismquesnel.com](http://www.autismquesnel.com) was mentioned where you can obtain a list of BI'S who have taken the starting blocks program taught by gateway. Shareen will obtain a copy of this list from the internet and give as a handout at our next meeting to parents who don't have access to a computer.
3. Shareen has ordered CARE catalogues ( autism resources) for parent group hopefully will be able to distribute at next meeting.
4. handout given regarding friend2friend program coming to Quesnel on Nov.15-18,04 there is a parent workshop on fostering mutual friendships for children with ASD on Nov.17,04 at 7:00-9:00 PM at the School Board Office please call Sue MacDonald @992-0422 or Carla [Fulton@992-2481](mailto:Fulton@992-2481). please note that there is no cost, a really great program to take part in.  
-at our meeting there was some discussion regarding, parents attending the staff/adult presentation at Voyageur this has change to a staff presentation and there is still the same presentation for parent at the district office, also please note that the schedule I handed out for the friend 2 friend program in Quesnel has been modified to fit more programming.
5. Non Violent Crisis Intervention- Bonnie spoke with QCLA and the info was that there is a Mandt system thru Alberta, where we can find out more, there are people here who can get the training and then train our group, Nadine was also looking into this for us, we'll wait for her feedback before before we make a decision.
6. Life Skills Program- Sue MacDonald (school district#28) loaned our group a set of Functional life skills programs containing, time, money, math, and privacy and personal information, we are aloud to copy these kits and share them as a group resource, Sue has offered a work space at the school district office so Shareen can do this.

Bonnie spoke with QCLA regarding Life Skills programming, the info given was that George McGowan's program (special services for children) which is part of a global funding program, is the place to start if we want a program.

7. Bonnie brought some info regarding microboards ( a microboard is a small group of committed family and friends that join together with a person to create a small non-profit society that will address the person's needs in an empowering and customized fashion. For more info web site is [www.microboard.org](http://www.microboard.org) or phone at (604) 323-1433 . I do believe microboards are for people who are turning 19, and will no longer receive funding, I will clarify this at our next meeting.

8. Handout from ASBC given .-Behavior analysis and Intervention for Adults with Autism. Discussion around needing a consultant to help find job placement as our kids are becoming adults.

9. Autism Coordinating Committee is looking into purchasing some resources for families that are to be housed at the CDC with Louise Dinwoodie they will be brought out at the Autism support group meeting, and set up on a borrowing system. Carla Fulton has designed a bit of a wish list that was shared at our meeting, there were no other resources that were mentioned but it was shared that most of the group preferred videos over books, although we appreciate any and all resources.

10. Shareen shared some e-mail conversations that she had with Laurie Romey from ASBC regarding treatment, recovery, ABA-Lovaas. It's stated that 47% of children diagnosed ASD will recover from autism with the right kind of treatment. Web sites shared are [www.lovass.com](http://www.lovass.com) and FEAT BC. Handouts given were, all dried up: real stories of kids who have lost symptoms of Autism. Recovery by Catherine Maurice, Why most kids don't get the help they need.

11. Childcare at our meeting was discussed but no decision was made, please if you have a solution let me know my phone is Shareen 747-1269 Louise stated the the CDC staff are paid approx.\$9.00 per hour and our meeting are an hour and a half to two hours, \$18.00, Perhaps if your planning on coming and need child care let me know in advance and we can arrange it, a shared cost might be a great solution.

12. A suggestion was made that it would be neat to bring a couple of pictures of your child and maybe share a couple of funny stories for our next meeting, it would make a great Holiday meeting, so if your comfortable please do so, but please don't feel obligated.
13. Next meeting to held at the CDC on Dec. 6,04 at 6:00 to 7:30 all welcome parents and professionals. For more information please call Louise Dinwoodie at 992-2481 or Shareen Evans at 747-1269

Thank you to Louise Dinwoodie and the CDC for their support and Facility.

Thank you to Autism BC for their sponsorship. Please note that the views and opinions expressed at our meeting do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of ASBC. And in any event should never be considered a substitute for qualified medical or psychological advice in any particular circumstance.