



## Monthly Update

To: Aboriginal organizations  
From: APFA staff  
Date: Nov.30, 2007  
Re: **November update**

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The Aboriginal Peoples Family Accord (APFA) and the Community Linkage Manager Allan Weselowski are pleased to welcome the new **Kootenay Community Table Coordinator Murhi Kencayd** to our team. "I believe that she brings a well-rounded professional and traditional component to the community table team, and will express these tools in a positive manner with the zone table", says Allan. Murhi is a strong Aboriginal person with mixed blood descent, and has focused much of her education on First Nations, spending the past years in the Kootenay. For more information regarding her position, the office location, or to set up a meeting please contact **APFA at 1-866-711-APFA**, or Murhi in Castlegar at 250-608-APFA (2732). Murhi's profile will be upcoming, and will be found on our website at **apfaBC.org**. Look forward to a Community Table meeting in the Kootenay zone in January 2008.

On November 14-16, APFA Interior Health and the First Nations Health Council teamed up with APFA to host a regional conference on Aboriginal Health and Wellness. **The theme was 'Developing partnerships to improve Aboriginal well-being'**; a fitting theme that has the potential to bridge gaps at a ministry level and between organizations.

MCFD in partnership with APFA has developed an Aboriginal Child Youth Mental Health Plan for the Interior Region. **One of the treatment & support strategies is to implement 7 Aboriginal Development Clinicians throughout the interior region.** These clinicians will be in the following areas based on community meetings that determined their location: 2 Williams Lake, 1 Merritt, 1 Lillooet, 1 Penticton, 1 Kootenay and 1 in Kamloops.

The recently released Comparative Analysis has been met with positive response from communities and MCFD. Look forward to taking the next steps with this report, steps that move APFA towards on the ground community-driven planning. This report can be found by printing it off of our website at **apfaBC.org**, or by contacting our office at **1-866-711-APFA** or your local Community Table Coordinator.

Cheryl Stump, APFA Administration Assistant working with the **Wraparound program** in the Region excited with the overwhelming support the program. There has also been increasing requests from MCFD to participate in the program. Currently, we have completed three of the five zone training programs and now have confirmed dates for the last two in the Kootenay and Shuswap zone: Shuswap Zone, Feb 12-15, 2008 and Kootenay Zone, March 4-7, 2008. As a result of the training throughout the region, APFA has now effectively trained 3 co-facilitators in their respective zones: Corrine Stone (Cariboo-Chilcotin Zone), Laura Rhodes (Lillooet/Merritt Zone) and Molly Brewer (Okanagan Zone). This important step to APFA's bottom-up approach have now trained individuals for the Wraparound program that are from the respective areas; truly showing a community approach to taking care of Aboriginal children. **"The long term vision of this process is to acquire 2 co-facilitators per zone that will have the skills to practice Indian Wraparound successfully & confidently. This process will involve supporting each zone in strengthening their capacity in working with their children and families"** says Cheryl. The locations are yet to be confirmed, however for registration and general questions, please contact **Cheryl Stump at 1-866-711-APFA (2732)**