

**Pre-Symposium Everybody Gets To Play Workshop
at the BCRPA Annual Symposium
April 26, 2006
Successes to celebrate**

This was the second workshop I facilitated for BCRPA. This workshop was interesting in that we had participants from various regions of the province ie; Lanagara College of Vancouver, Legacies Now Society representatives, Town of Smithers, District of Ucluelet, Abbotsford Early Childhood representation and Maple Ridge & Pitt Meadows.

This workshop proved the success of the toolkit format. This particular workshop provided participants from various regions and those working with recreation in varying capacities an opportunity to resource share and create varied new ideas to increasing recreation access. It also proved the benefit of working through the toolkit as a group, regardless if the group is from the same organization/municipality.

Here are some of the recaps from this workshop and the participant input:

TECHNIQUES TO ENSURE accessible recreation (access not programs)

- Open to ALL ages
- After school arena within walking distance
- skate equipment/rentals - free
- equipment swap
- low cost/free sports
- community fundraising
- educational presentations
- diverse options in program formats
- transportation
- adaptive tools

what **HAS WORKED** in your communities to increase accessibility:

- creation of opportunities for inner-city youth
- programs that provide life skills & sport development
- creating safe socialization opportunities
- volunteer opportunities have increased job skills
- linking community partners/sponsorships
- program revenues generated going back into the community
- free family events
- translation of promotional materials

OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOW-INCOME FAMILIES to be integrated into existing programs/services:

- Sand Volleyball
- Parks & Trails
- Community groups to introduce neighborhoods to the resources within the community
- Intergenerational activities
- Programs that take place in the neighborhood
- Invitations for families to register for free once a minimum number of registrants has been met
- Change lesson structures to focus on participation
- Free lessons on rainy days

Sincerely,
Sandy Ferrin
EGTP Ambassador BCRPA, British Columbia