

**2006 Community Conference:  
"Seeking the Possibilities of Community and  
Creating Movements for Change"**



**Thursday, June 1st, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.** and

**Friday, June 2nd, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

*(Invitation-only Business Leaders Breakfast @ 8:00 a.m.)*

**Location:** Ramada Inn and Conference Centre, Abbotsford

**Costs:** TBA

**Registration** will open in the 3rd week of April.

Communities have the power and capacity to make a meaningful and sustainable difference in the lives of all people, through collective, collaborative action. This is your opportunity to learn how to take effective action, and to make the connections to others who share your care and concern for the well-being of our communities. Join us for a two-day capacity-building leadership summit for concerned citizens, not-for-profit and social service providers, business leaders, public and private funders, local / regional government, and learn how to apply the techniques for effective collaboration and engagement towards systemic social change.



**United Way**  
of the Fraser Valley

**Day One: Thursday, June 1, 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

***Hosted and sponsored by United Way of the Fraser Valley***

In 2004, United Way of the Fraser Valley released a comprehensive assessment report on the status of social health in the Fraser Valley, and through a one-day consultation with a cross-section representation of community members from throughout the region, four critical issues impacting the quality of life for citizens in our communities were prioritized and mobilization began for collective action for solutions on these priorities. We will start the day with a Panel of representatives on each of the 4 Priorities, who will provide an update on how they've mobilized concerned citizens and discuss new research and other exciting initiatives focused on addressing the priority issues of Housing, Childcare, Volunteerism and Poverty.

We will then welcome Mr. Paul Born from Tamarack: An Institute for Community Engagement, who will introduce us to the concept of community engagement and to a unique model which can be utilized in our own communities to address issues of local concern in a comprehensive, inclusive manner. We will showcase the "*Victoria Quality of Life Challenge*" as an example of how community engagement and collaboration can lead to success in developing and planning community building projects or a new social innovation. Paul will then lead us through a "conversation café" to explore our capacity and understanding of how our communities can continue to build on its assets and create lasting, meaningful change.

For more information about Paul Born and Tamarack: Institute for Community Engagement, click here:

<http://tamarackcommunity.ca/g4s11.html>

For more information about the Fraser Valley Community Assessment Project and the 4 Priorities, click

here: [http://www.uwfv.bc.ca/community\\_assess\\_project.htm](http://www.uwfv.bc.ca/community_assess_project.htm)

**For more information, or to offer your corporate support for "Creating Movements for Change" through Sponsorship Opportunities, contact Joelle at: [joelle@uwfv.bc.ca](mailto:joelle@uwfv.bc.ca) or 1-604-852-1234.**

2006 Community Conference – Day Two  
Friday June 2, 2006

*Sponsored by the Abbotsford and Mission Early Childhood Committees*

**Business Leaders Breakfast – 8:00 am to 9:30 am**

Who doesn't enjoy a relaxing breakfast with friends? Come join other like minded business people for a free bountiful breakfast with all the fixings. Thinking there's a catch? Maybe... you will have the opportunity to eat while our speaker provides his keynote address on ***Seeking the Possibilities of Community***. Paul Born of Tamarack: An Institute for Community Engagement will inspire us with stories about communities he belongs to and grew up in – and guess what? He grew up in Abbotsford. Currently a resident of Waterloo, Ontario, Paul is a strong believer that we each have many communities in our lives. His keynote will provide a compelling case for community in our lives, the lives of our partners, clients, and organizations.

After attending this session you will have a better appreciation for the power of community in your life, in your businesses and organization, and as you reach out to build the community around us. Attendees will also be better able to place their work in the context of community.

***Interested in getting your special invitation?***

**Call Laura in Mission at 604-826-2295 or Lucie in Abbotsford at 604-852-1236.**

**Workshop – 10:00 am to 3:00 pm**

Paul will continue the day with an intensive 5 hour workshop entitled ***Collaboration: Getting Past Groundhog Day***. Collaboration is essential to addressing the increasingly complex issues facing our communities. In Paul's words '*Just as Bill Murray continues to relive the mistakes of the day before, until he gets it right, in the Hollywood hit movie Groundhog Day we too seem to relive our mistakes from on collaborative process to the next*'. This workshop attempts to deconstruct collaboration and look at its components in the hopes of better understanding what makes them work. Three questions will be explored. What is a collaborative? Why are collaborations effective? What are the challenges we face in building collaboration?

After attending this session participants will have a better understanding of what makes a collaborative work and why. You will also be better able to talk about collaboration as a technique and to engage in specific strategies during various stages of collaboration.



**For more information contact  
Laura in Mission at 604-826-2295  
or  
Lucie in Abbotsford at 604-852-1236**



Mission Early Childhood  
Development Committee  
and  
Understanding the Early Years  
Project