



i2i Intergenerational Society

Invitation to Intergenerational Learning

i2i Intergenerational Society of Canada (2008)

was initiated by educators, health care workers, elders, community, children, youth and parents. The goal of the society is to assist others in purposefully connecting generations through sustainable programs, thus building active relationships and positive attitudes within community.

Executive Director, Sharon MacKenzie (2009 recipient of the BC Premier's Award for Teaching Excellence), and her i2i associates offer informative intergenerational presentations and workshops for health care, education, and community, assist in making curriculum learning outcome connections, advise, provide resources, collaborate in field work towards implementation, and act as a network between project leads.

Acknowledgements

- see website www.intergenerational.ca
- collaboration on provincial Intergenerational Toolkit (download on website)
- nominated for Molson Award 2009
- eight years success with the unique Meadows School Intergenerational Immersion Project™
 - example of Best Promising Practice BC Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport 2007-9
 - example of Best Promising Practice BC Ministry of Education 2004, 2009
 - acknowledged by Gov. Gen. Michaëlle Jean, BC Lieut. Gov. Stephen Point, and
 - project mentor for five years, the late June Callwood, as a way to strengthen community
 - subject of a current research study by the University of Victoria, BC,CA.

The founding of the i2i Intergenerational Society evolved out of the information and experience gathered over 20 years while building up to, and implementing, the Meadows School Project. The process of sustainable intergenerational bridge building starts with one Baby step, and then another step, and another. i2i is there to provide road maps and encouragement along the route. As a not-for-profit society, we operate on volunteerism, private and corporate donations, and grants. In as much as it is possible, our professional assistance is provided without cost.

We help individuals and groups

initiate intergenerational bridging in community,
further develop existing intergenerational projects. and
establish full immersion intergenerational models, such as The Meadows School Project™.

By providing intergenerational project **consultation** both on-line and in person
assisting in making **government mandated connections**, and developing assessment tools
connecting intergenerational **projects** and organizations across Canada
sharing current **research and resources** in the intergenerational field
offering a forum for intergenerational **discussion and collaboration**

We have identified levels or degrees of intergenerational immersion as Baby Steps, Mama Steps and Full Immersion.

Each level steps up the amount of time and effort given to the intergenerational connecting.

Baby Steps can be a once a year event, e.g. children/youth perform a song, share a single activity
Mama Steps can be consistent weekly or monthly connecting for an afternoon, e.g. board games
Full immersion relocates the school class into the elder care home for an extended period. During this time students engage in mandated curriculum, volunteer service, and participate in 1-on-1/small group activities with elders who chose to be involved.

The power of communicating personally and consistently between generations has become seriously undervalued. Re-connect to this rich community resource.