

HOST: BC HYDRO

ISSUES AFFECTING THE WELL-BEING AND DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH

NOVEMBER 21, 2007

LEADERS:

Bob Elton, President & CEO, BC Hydro

DELEGATES:

Johnny Carline, Chief Administrative Officer, Metro Vancouver

Jason Farris, President & CEO, Citizens Bank of Canada

Robert Fung, President, The Salient Group

Peter Green, Managing Director, TELUS

Pat Jacobsen, President & CEO, Translink

Alan Kreisberg, President, West Cement Division, Lafarge North America

Bill Morris, Managing Director, Accenture Canada

Frank Palmer, Chairman & CEO, DDB Canada

Geoff Plant, Commissioner, Project Civil City, City of Vancouver

Chris Vanden Hooven, GM Sales, Cathay Pacific

Brian Woods, VP Corporate Services & CFO, Fraser Health Authority

An average of 23 percent of 18 year olds across British Columbia did not graduate high school, with that number rising as high as 40 percent in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside. This tour convened business leaders and crown corporations to examine the well-being and development of children and youth through community health, supportive housing and environmental initiatives.

The tour began at Easter Seals House, operated by **BC Lions Society for Children with Disabilities**. Easter Seals House provides low-cost housing and community support to families from rural areas, while visiting urban centers for specialized health care. During this visit, delegates met with children and parents of the subsidized temporary housing program and spoke about the financial and emotional support provided by the organization.

The tour continued to **Environmental Youth Alliance (EYA)**, a youth driven non-profit organization dedicated to the health of the urban environment and its people. At EYA, Delegates toured a community garden and spoke with youth interns about employment opportunities and their motivation to support healthy communities.

Lastly, delegates visited **Habitat for Humanity**, an organization that seeks the support of volunteers and community partners to building affordable housing as a means to breaking the cycle of poverty. Delegates toured a build site that will house four families upon completion. Two mothers spoke about the impact of unstable housing on their children and their optimism for the future upon moving into their new homes.

Delegates meet with a mother and daughter staying at Easter Seals House.



CBSR recognizes Coast Capital Savings and Vancouver Foundation for their contribution to the Seeing is Believing program.