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 A203 - 33844 King Road  
 Abbotsford BC V2S 7M8

*Keeping you up to date on events and resources essential for healthier schools and communities*

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## About Us

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who attended our 2008 Open House on September 26<sup>th</sup>. The event turned out to be a great success, and facilitated valuable networking opportunities between people from a variety of professions and community interests all with a common goal towards safer, healthier, and more inclusive schools and communities. We were thrilled to have the opportunity to share with you our many

resources, talk about our past and present research and discuss future involvement of the centre with community endeavours and in the context of current needs. Of course, our doors are always open to anyone wishing to visit (office hours are stated below).

To learn more about who we are and what is available through our centre...

Visit us online: [www.bccssc.ca](http://www.bccssc.ca)

Contact us: [safeschoolscommunities@ufv.ca](mailto:safeschoolscommunities@ufv.ca)

1-888-224-7233

Office Hours: Mon to Fri 8:30 am to 4:30 pm  
 Thurs open until 7:30 pm  
 Saturdays 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

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## Monthly Themes

### Elections Canada and Young Voters

As the October 14<sup>th</sup> federal election approaches, young people have the opportunity to engage in purposeful learning about the things that govern our society. The following website assists new voters with the information and links required to get registered, information on the candidates running, and FAQ's about voting in general. There is also a link for 'future voters' (those under the age of 18 years).

[http://www.elections.ca/content\\_youth.asp?section=yth&document=index&lang=e](http://www.elections.ca/content_youth.asp?section=yth&document=index&lang=e)

### National Me to We Day

On October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2008 thousands of youth from across the country will have the opportunity to participate in an event that will kick off this year's movement of children helping children around the world. Me to We is an event planned by Free the Children 'children helping children through education' intended to inspire, motivate, and equip

young people to make a positive difference with their life. Although the event takes place in Toronto. Free the Children has many resources to help youth, educators, parents and sponsors to get involved and spark a movement right in their own communities. Check out <http://www.freethechildren.com/metoweday/index.php> for details or email [metoweday@freethechildren.com](mailto:metoweday@freethechildren.com) .

## **United Nations Day**

October 24<sup>th</sup> celebrates the 63<sup>rd</sup> birthday of The United Nations. ‘The purposes of the United Nations are to maintain international peace and security; to develop friendly relations among nations; to cooperate in solving international economic, social, cultural and humanitarian problems and in promoting respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms; and to be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in attaining these ends’ (Basic Facts About the UN, <http://www.un.org/aboutun/basicfacts/unorg.htm> ). The UN website has a variety of interactive and meaningful activities for youth. These ‘web quests’ get youth learning about some global issues, and developing problem solving skills to help them be better future leaders. Find them at <http://www.un.org/Pubs/CyberSchoolBus/>

## **Library Corner**

**The Ministry of Education has proclaimed October as BC’s Library Month**

**October 17 thru 23 is National School Safety week**

### ***Violence prevention and intervention readiness in schools (book)***

This book is designed to increase safety and violence prevention skills school-wide, and at community levels. Learn how to pinpoint trouble spots and flaws in security measures, the best ways to diffuse fights, and start conflict resolution/peer mediation programs for youth.

### ***Safe at school: awareness and action for parents of kids grades K-12 (book)***

A U.S. focused resource for parents of school age children, concerned about problems such as guns, drugs, supervision, disaster preparation, sexual harassment, asbestos in the air, lead in the water, bullies, class trips, school maintenance, etc.

### ***Safe schools: a handbook for violence prevention (book)***

Readers are walked through the critical steps in creating a safe school, including how to conduct a school site assessment, address legal and legislative requirements, and customize safe school strategies to meet the needs of individual schools.

### ***BC Ministry of Education***

[http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sco/resourcedocs/words\\_not\\_enough.pdf](http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sco/resourcedocs/words_not_enough.pdf)

### ***Canadian Centre for Threat Assessment and Trauma Response***

<http://www.cctatr.com/articles.htm>

**Visit our on-line lending library at [www.bccssc.ca](http://www.bccssc.ca)**

## **Upcoming Events and Activities**

### **What Works? Practices in Prevention/Intervention of Youth Involvement in Gangs October 16, 2008, Vancouver BC**

The Vancouver Gang Prevention Project is hosting a full day session on What Works in Preventing and Intervening with Youth Gang Involvement with Dr. Mark Totten at the Italian Cultural Centre. [For more information click here.](#)

### **Representative's Awards and Child and Youth Summit October 20-21, 2008, Vancouver BC**

The BC's Representative for Children and Youth has announced the date for their Awards of Excellence. Annual awards recognize and encourage excellence in BC's child and youth. There are five different Awards of Excellence, including Advocacy, Cultural Heritage and Diversity, Innovative Services, Service Provider, and Youth Leadership. Nominations are due on September 10. Early registration ends September 30<sup>th</sup>. Find out more at <http://www.pacegroup.com/conf/index.php?mID=51>>

### **The Fourth R: Training October 24, 2008, Vancouver BC**

The Fourth R is a comprehensive curriculum that targets adolescent risk taking behaviour and was developed at the University of West Ontario. The program is comprised of three units: Relationship Safety, Sexual Health, and Substance Use/Abuse. For more information, and to register visit <http://www.vsb.bc.ca/vsbprograms/prod/register.htm?page=workshopdetails&workshopid=578>

### **Pride in Education Conference: Addressing Homophobia in BC Schools October 24, 2008, Vancouver BC**

This event will host over twenty work shops that will engage in dialogue about creating schools and communities that are safe and welcoming for everyone regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. For more information, or to register for the conference, please visit [www.vsb.bc.ca/vseprograms/prod](http://www.vsb.bc.ca/vseprograms/prod) then click on District Wide Pro-D Day.

### **Making Connections - Systems for Success November 5-7, 2008 Richmond, BC.**

November 6<sup>th</sup> will have featured Plenary Speaker, Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond, BC Children's Representative

Making Connections 2008 is the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference focusing on a systemic, positive, school-wide approach to creating a safe and caring school culture. Promising practices will include linking assessment to instruction, linking social responsibility with PBS, and implementing PBS in elementary, middle, and secondary schools. Please contact Kathy Champion at: 604-668-6063 or by email: [kchampion@richmond.sd38.bc.ca](mailto:kchampion@richmond.sd38.bc.ca) or visit their website at: <https://mail.sd35.bc.ca/~BC-PBS/>

## Hot Topics and Releases

**Green Thumb Theatre** presents a number of plays that entertain, teach, and bring awareness to elementary and secondary school aged children across BC. A current act touring BC between September 15 and November 30<sup>th</sup> is called 'New Kid Canadian' and explores the experience of being an outsider trying to fit in. Check out more on Green Thumb Theatre at <http://greenthumb.bc.ca/plays.asp>

**RespectED** is a Red Cross initiative that aims at promoting healthy, respectful relationships through educational courses and workshops. Topics include: Child/Youth Abuse & Neglect Prevention, Relationship Violence Prevention, Bullying & Harassment Prevention, Comprehensive Risk Management.  
<http://www.redcross.ca/article.asp?id=27213&tid=030>

## We Would Love to Hear From You

If you have information or an event that supports our mandate of promoting healthier schools and communities, we would love to hear about it. Please forward your correspondence to [safeschoolscommunities@ufv.ca](mailto:safeschoolscommunities@ufv.ca) for consideration on our provincial e-list. We look forward to hearing from you.



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