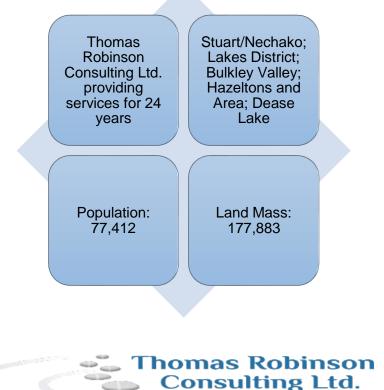
Reflections on Working with Diverse Families Who Have Children Who Have Developmental Disabilities

Presented by Thomas Robinson, Director, Thomas Robinson Consulting Ltd.



Northwest British Columbia, Canada





Geographical Features

Primarily resource industries: forestry, mining, tourism

Multicultural populations: many Indigenous Communities

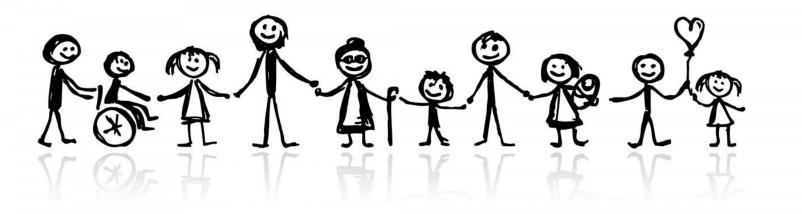
Rivers, lakes, mountains, forests

Remote, isolated communities

Transportation limitations







Early Childhood intervention – outreach to child care facilities

Child and youth services to children who have intellectual disabilities

Services to Families

Child and youth services to children who have autism spectrum disorder

Behaviour consultation to children and adults who have intellectual and developmental disabilities

Services to at risk families

At risk youth-in-transition services



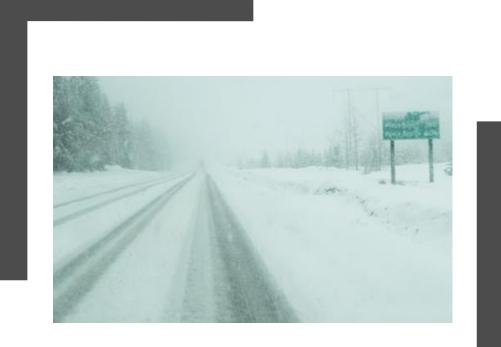
Barriers to Service Delivery

- Social Isolation
 - Geography
 - Climate
 - Stigma
 - Often transient
 - Economic Stability
 - Food security
- Lack of Professional Resources
- Misunderstandings around belief systems





Barriers to Service Delivery



- Transportation
 Barriers
- Weather Challenges
 - Snowstorms
 - Floods
 - Wildfires
- Funding



Key Partnerships

- Education
- Health Services
- Collateral Service
 providers/contractors
- Therapists
- Funders
 - i.e. government





Core Values

- Inclusion
- Outreach go to families' home communities
- Shared decision making – Team





Core Values

- Family Centered
- Individualized Services
- Cross-cultural Services
 - Sensitivity
 - Confidentiality
 - Respect
 - Non-judgmental







- Support services begin with family
- Parents/guardians know their children best
- Follow core service delivery values
- We honour families by working with them as equal partners



Lessons Learned

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