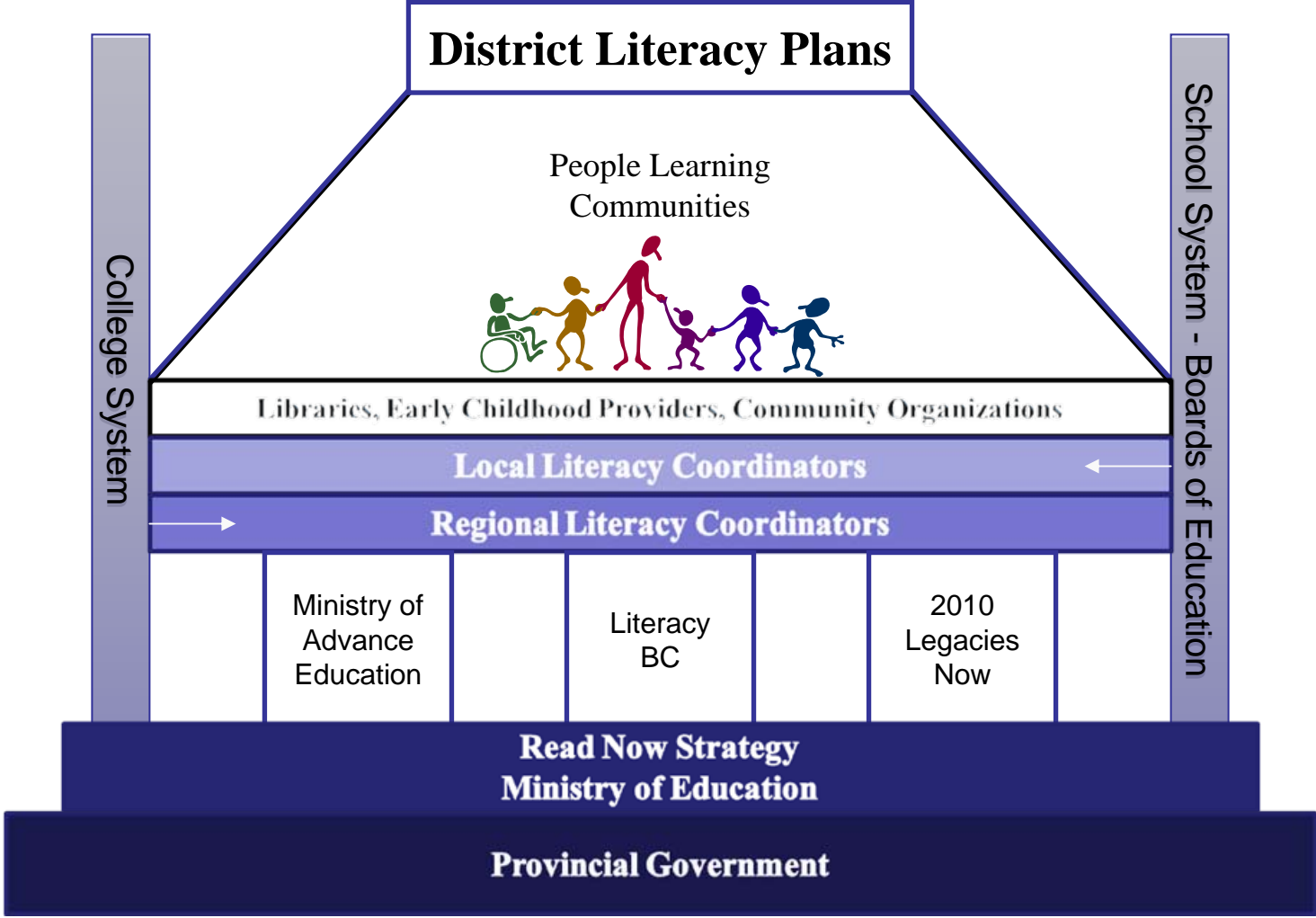




Rocky Mountain
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 6



Literacy has the power to change people's lives



Regional Literacy Coordinator Role

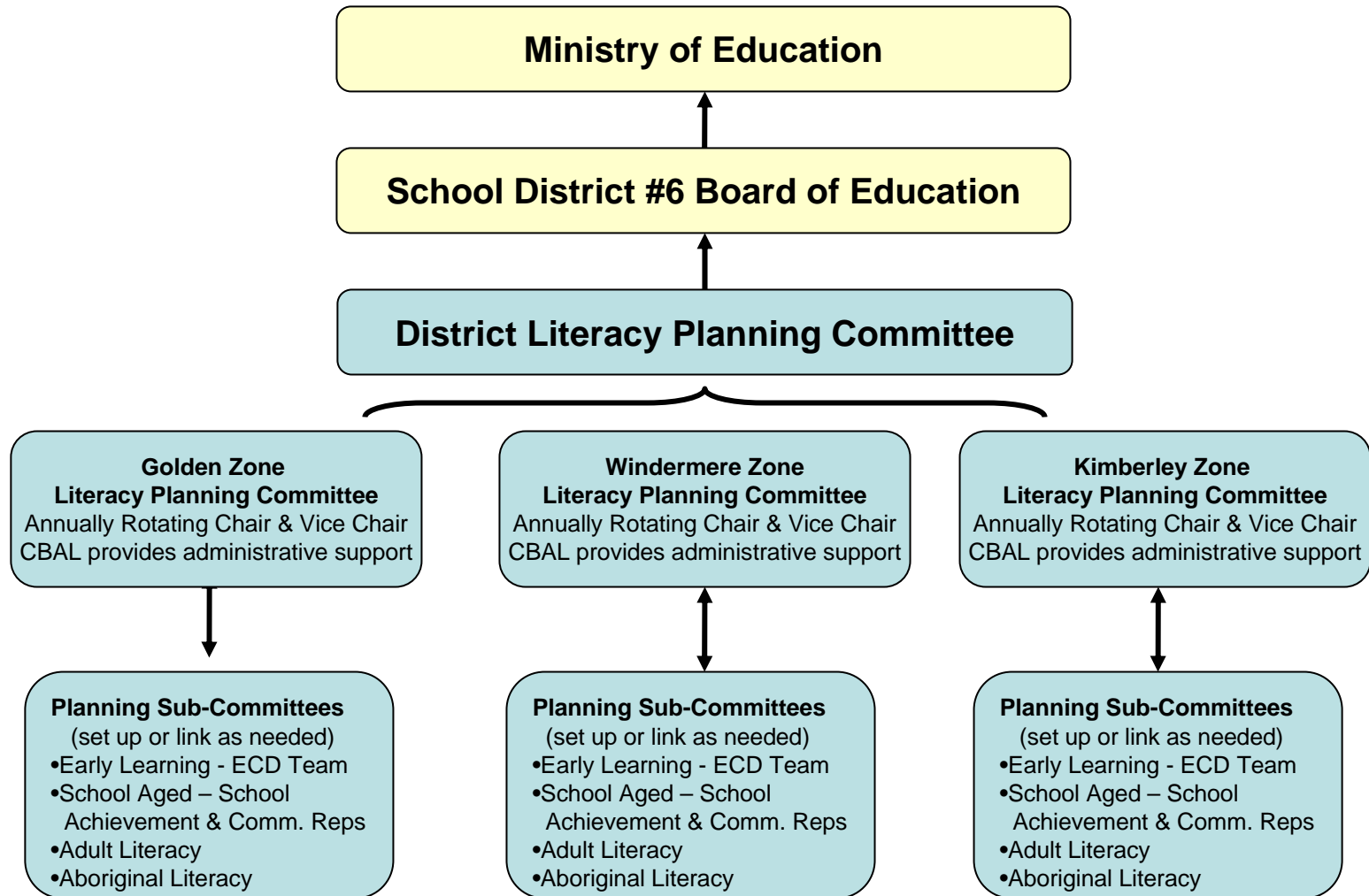
Regional Literacy Coordinators work strategically with a variety of partners to:

- Support regional literacy networks
- Provide strategic direction
- Build capacity of service providers
- Raise community awareness of literacy as a vital social and economic issue
- Work with practitioners to develop learner pathways and appropriate assessment methods
- Compile regional profiles and strategies
- Work with community, regional and provincial partners to ensure adult learners have access to literacy programs appropriate to their needs

Community Literacy Coordinator (Literacy Outreach Coordinator role)

- Know about and connect local services
- Build/maintain relationships and partnership for program development
- Mobilize community resources
- Attend various community meetings
- Provide workshops and create public awareness
- Support program implementation
- Provide information to boards of education about progress of planning/implementation in the community
- Support district literacy planning, review, and implementation

SD#6 District Literacy Planning Organizational Chart



District Literacy Planning Committee Members

- School District #6 – Barb Morris, Assistant Superintendent
- Golden
 - Monica De, CBAL Community Literacy Coordinator
 - Connie Barlow, Executive Director, Golden Community Services
- Kimberley
 - Kim Roberts, CBAL Community Literacy Coordinator
 - Eileen Dean, Kimberley Employment Services
 - Gina Panattoni, ECD Team Coordinator/StrongStart Coordinator
- Windermere
 - Betty Knight, CBAL Community Literacy Coordinator/CBAL Regional Program Manager
 - Liz Burke, Invermere Public Library/Kootenay Library Federation
 - Ali Wassing, COTR Regional Literacy Coordinator, CBAL Executive Director

Summary of Community Goals

GOLDEN ZONE

- GOAL 1: Children and youth value education as reflected through their actions and choices from birth to adulthood.
- GOAL 2: All people in our community see themselves as lifelong learners.
- GOAL 3: Build understanding and awareness about the importance of literacy.
- GOAL 4: Continue to support existing programs.

KIMBERLEY ZONE

- GOAL 1: Create a central place where parents and children can go
- GOAL 2: Reach out to isolated individuals and families
- GOAL 3: Provide literacy and learning programs where people already feel comfortable and safe offering programs where families are.
- GOAL 4: Maintain and support existing programs

WINDERMERE ZONE

- GOAL 1: Improve networking to support planning and collaboration for literacy issues and services.
- GOAL 2: Increase awareness of literacy issues and services.
- GOAL 3: Develop or expand programs that support youth literacy development.
- GOAL 4: Support increased networking and development of literacy services for adults.
- GOAL 5: Work with Akisqnuq and Shuswap First Nations to identify opportunities to support literacy and skills development for youth and adults.
- GOAL 6: Support and enhance current programs

Challenges

- Aboriginal pillar – need to develop and enhance connections with local First Nations
- Municipality – need to develop municipal representatives for each zone
- Meeting participation – not as much of an issue as we thought – communication and connections are strong even though not everyone attends every meeting
- Community resources – human, material and financial, are limited and sometimes have allocation restrictions. Not all plans, hopes and dreams can be implemented as quickly as we would like and sometimes, not at all, with current resources.

Golden Community Literacy Planning Committee Members

Barb Morris, Assistant Superintendent, SD #6

Monica De, CBAL Community Literacy Coordinator

Connie Barlow, Golden Community Resources Society

Meg Langley, College of the Rockies

Brenda Managh, Coordinator Early Childhood Development Coalition

Rhonda Smith, Infant Development Program

Sarah Wegelin, Golden Women's Centre

Justin Telfer, Youth Care Worker

Rebecca Pilon, Golden Alternate School

Vicci Nelson, Principal Alexander Park Elementary School

Judy Brook, Golden Employment Services

Shary McTighe, District Principal of Support Services, SD#6

Dana Setter, Aboriginal Education Support (Golden Secondary School)

Steve Bentley, Vice Principal Lady Grey

Golden Update on Actions

- **Early learning**

Action: Provide multiple opportunities for parents to access the necessary language, emergent reading and play programs; thus, reaching a broader range of parents and children.

Ready Set Learn Parent Outreach is available at the Blaeberry Parent and Tot, Nicholson Elementary School, Parson Kids' Club and Field.

There is a new Wednesday evening and Saturday afternoon program available at Strong Start.

New: Language Fun Group offered at StrongStart Fridays by IDP and ECD Team Coordinator

Action: To provide early childhood educators and child care providers with the latest research and early emergent literacy activities/resources for children.

CCRR is continuing to conduct speech and language development workshops.

New: Literacy Theme Boxes available at CCRR

New: Speech and language services have been provided by the ECD Team Coordinator and may now be provided by the new SLP

Golden cont.

Action: To provide parents with tools, skills, ideas that foster oral language, book awareness, print awareness and reading for pleasure and interest. CBAL Family literacy programs such as Baby and Mother Goose Programs are continuing to run in the community. Ready Set Learn Parent Outreach,, is currently available to families in other areas in Golden

Action: Promote literacy programs that lead to parents making healthy lifestyle choices, finding and understanding health and safety information and locating health services.

Programs that include information on parents making healthy lifestyle choices are Toddler Talk, Ready Set Learn Parent Outreach, Parent and Tot, and Strong Start.

Golden cont.

School aged

Action: create an understanding and awareness of literacy services and resources in the community

Teachers have helped raise awareness about the CBAL Afterschool Shakedown program (homework club)

To promote literacy and celebrate Family Literacy Week, CBAL held a community event at Lady Grey Elementary School where families with children of all ages attended. Other events to promote literacy and celebrate Family Literacy Week were Ready Set Mother Goose Rhyme and Stop Drop and Read' held at Alexander Park Elementary School for preschoolers and elementary school children.

Action: Offer more literacy opportunities for youth in integrated programs (especially for at-risk youth)

Justin Telfer offered a community adventure/wilderness therapy program in August 2008 which was very successful and will offer it again in 2009

Pregnancy outreach and parenting info programs are being offered – Nobody's Perfect and Baby Talk

New: Lady Gray is using software such as Ghot It, Ginger, Word Talk, Thunderscreen and Click Speak to improve reading skills.

New: Community Connections Grant furnished and equipped a portable for use by the school and community programs including CBAL youth and adult programs

CBAL continues to organize One to One Children's Reading program in 2 schools

Golden cont.

- **Adult learning**

COTR started a student of the month column in the paper beginning in November

A brochure of literacy programs and services was made by CBAL and is being distributed by the college

New – CBAL One to One tutor help and small groups such as Computer Skills for Work and Home, Writing Out Loud and Keeping Your Mind Alive small groups (CALP, Ministry of Advanced Ed.)

- **Aboriginal**

Action: Educate and raise awareness of aboriginal history and culture through cultural activities such as storytelling and displays

The teepee was set up in July 2008 and they will resurrect it spring 2009. Kim Younger will look into a grant to fund a storytelling/literacy program.

Kimberley Community Literacy Planning Committee Members

- Kim Roberts, CBAL Community Literacy Coordinator
- Barb Morris, SD6 Assistant Superintendent
- Eileen Dean, Alpine Resource Employment Services
- Rhonda Haws, Selkirk Secondary School –Aboriginal Support
- Heather Smith, Kimberley Helping Hands Food Bank
- Cynthia Lindell, McKim School –Principal
- Sharon Gilbert, McKim School-Learning Assistance Teacher
- Allyson Phillips, College of the Rockies
- Jill Olmsted, Retired District #6 Literacy Coordinator
- Gina Panattoni, Kimberley Early Childhood Development Team
- Karin von Wittgenstein, Kimberley Public Library Director
- Doreen Sharpe, SD#6 Teacher Lindsay Park School
- Bob McWhinnie City of Kimberley Councilor
- Debra Krantz SD#6 Teacher –Learning Assistance Marysville Elementary
- Ken Bibby, SD#6 Marysville School Principal
- Dale Anderson, SD#6 Lindsay Park School Principal
- Mike Flowers, College of the Rockies
- Wayne Pelter, SD#6 Continuing and Distance Education
- Michaela Clive, McKim School –Aboriginal Support Worker
- James Weir, SD#6 Community Links Worker with the Elementary Schools
- Terri Fergus, Interior Health -Public Health Nurse
- Jerry McMahan, Kimberley Teachers' Association
- Shauna Jimenez, Burmese Refugee Support Group

Kimberley Update on Actions

- **Early Learning**

Action: Offer You Make a Difference

Program begins in April (with the help of the Community Connections grant)

StrongStart - 110 families have attended the StrongStart program since September

All other CBAL programs are continuing i.e. Baby Goose, Play and Learn drop-in and Parenting and Literacy program, Alphabet Soup

- **School Aged**

Action: Homework Club

'Homework Hotel' at McKim and a Book Club Group at Selkirk Secondary (Through these 2 groups there is the possibility of trying to create some links to the Public Library through tutor.com and field trips)

New: POPS (Parents of Primary Students) program being run at Marysville School (unexpected, result of Community Connections grant)

Kimberley cont.

Action: Library Youth Space

The Library Board has submitted a grant with City approval to renovate the whole library (both floors). If successful work will begin this Spring/Summer. Planned renovations include creating an upstairs space for youth

All other CBAL programs are continuing; Cruise In, Roots of Empathy, One to One Children's Reading program. A parent literacy program will begin in late February at Marysville in the evenings. (CALP family literacy funding)

- **Adult Literacy and Adult ESL**

New: CBAL is working with COTR to provide tutoring and small group support to ESL learners and adult literacy learners with new funding from the ESLSAP program and CALP funding from the Ministry of Advanced Ed. (unexpected outcome with new funding in place)

Windermere Community Literacy Planning Committee Members

Barb Morris, Assistant Superintendent

Betty Knight, CBAL, Windermere Valley, Community Literacy Coordinator

Liz Robinson, Head Librarian, Invermere Public Library

Pat Cope, Executive Director, Family Resource Centre

Sandy McIlwain, MCFD

Nicole Pawlak, ECD Team Coordinator & CBAL Program Coordinator

Stephanie Sam, Education Coordinator, Akisqnuk First Nation

Darren Danyluk, David Thompson Secondary School Principal

Brenda Marsman, Public Health Nurse

Joanne Horkoff, David Thompson Secondary School Teacher/ WV Youth Centre Society
Board

Karen Bedford, Radium Public Library

Jane Jones, Radium Public Library

Sharon Wass, Fundamental Literacy Instructor, COTR

Ali Wassing, Regional Literacy Coordinator/CBAL Executive Director

Siri Tilling, Supported Child Development

Windermere Update on Actions

- **Early Learning**

Action: Work together to distribute books to children birth-6 at least once each year

Books for Babies (2 books - Library Services and CBAL)

(new) Books for Toddlers - 18 months

Ready Set Learn (2 books - Ministry and CBAL)

Family Literacy Day books – at programs and Play on Words (from Scholastic/Literacy BC)

A Book Under Every Tree – book for everyone under 18 in hampers (donations with help from Rotary)

Action: Develop an environmental program for parents and pre-school children

‘Earthworms’ – a 10 week program delivered in 3 community program locations and materials provided to 3 preschools (ECD Team and Growing Together partners – CBAL, FRC, CAPC)

Windermere cont.

Action: Improve awareness - Include literacy information in family services guide

Full page ad in guide

Action: Advocate for a StrongStart Centre

An application will be submitted for a StrongStart Outreach program Feb. 20

Action: Parents Reading, Children Succeeding offered in 4 schools

2 – 10 week programs are completed (Edgewater and Martin Morigeau), 2 beginning Feb 12 and 16^t (Windermere and Eileen Madson)

All other early learning programs i.e 'Growing Together' programs are continuing in Edgewater, Invermere and Canal Flats (CBAL, FRC and CAPC) - 2 days in Edgewater, 3 days in Canal Flats, 4 days in Invermere

Windermere cont.

- **School Aged**

Action: Develop a program to engage Boys in Grades 4-7 in reading

CBAL - Guys Read in 4 schools – starting early March (Community Connections funding)

Action: Expand volunteer base for One to One reading

Edgewater school recruited tutors this year, 4 other school programs continuing

Youth Tech continues in Canal Flats and discussions are happening about extending it to Invermere.

- **Adult**

Action: Adult literacy providers work closer together

Result: COTR fundamental instructor and CBAL are coordinating services to adults literacy and ESL learners

Action: Support and expand ESL tutoring and conversation group

CBAL - Instructors hired and volunteers have been increased and supported – increased number of students served

Action: Re-establish fundamental literacy program at COTR

Position hired in September

CBAL continues to offer adult literacy tutoring.

Looking to the Future

- Communities will revise and update their plans for the 2009 District Literacy Plan
- We expect the 2009 plan to be completed by the end of June for approval at the Board meeting in September.
- We appreciate that the Ministry recognizes that DLP plans are organic, living documents that reflect current thinking at the time of their preparation and will evolve and change over time.