



“With the support of my counsellor, I was able to provide my child with a greater sense of parenting and with more ease, also I felt fully supported by my counsellor through a sense of safety and trust.”

“Accessibility, great staff, counsellor accepting, insightful and informative – we couldn't have had a better person to help us.”

“Challenged me to re-think. My counsellor herself has a great deal of compassion and a good sense of humour. I felt that her caring concern was a calming and very helpful influence at a terribly stressful time.”

 **Touchstone Family Association**
Strengthening Family • Building Community

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www.touchstonefamily.ca

2010 Annual Report



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Message from the Board of Directors



TFA is dedicated to strengthening families; believing that family is the foundation for a strong community. This year, our "Front Porch Program" has helped families access counselling services who might otherwise have fallen through the cracks. We could not have achieved so much without the generous support of community, friends, partners and our fundraising efforts. I am excited about the coming year which will see us build on this year's success, and reach an even greater number of families. As always, I am proud of the dedicated staff and volunteers who make TFA such a significant and effective agency.

Maria Salzl, Chair



September 21, 2010

A Message from the Premier

As Premier of the province of British Columbia, I am pleased to welcome everyone to the Touchstone Family Association's Annual General Meeting at the Four Points by Sheraton Vancouver Airport Hotel.

For 27 years, the Touchstone Family Association has been committed to strengthening the social health and independence of families and children through effective intervention and support services. I commend everyone involved for successfully offering a wide range of professional services to the Richmond community; your programs have gone a long way towards helping so many people.

I understand that tonight's guest speaker is David Arthur Code, author of *To Raise Happy Kids, Put your Marriage First*. I am sure his presentation will garner a lot of discussion and provide some much appreciated insight for parents.

I wish you a productive and enlightening AGM.

Sincerely,



Gordon Campbell
Premier



Ref: 194323

Michael McCoy
Executive Director
Touchstone Family Association
120 - 6411 Buswell St
Richmond BC V6Y 2G5

Dear Mr. McCoy and Annual General Meeting Attendees:

Tonight's Touchstone Family Association's Annual General Meeting provides a welcome opportunity to celebrate the successes of the past year and to plan for the future.

I commend the Association, its staff, volunteers and Board members for their commitment to providing services to your community. Since 1983, the Association has been supporting Richmond families and children to reach their full potential. Your programs take a holistic view of the family and strive to provide valuable support on multiple levels.

I understand that tonight's guest speaker will be discussing practical ways to bring more simplicity and joy into family life. This topic is sure to be both engaging and informative.

My best wishes for an enjoyable meeting and another successful year.

Sincerely,



Mary Polak
Minister



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Malcolm D. Brodie
Mayor

GREETINGS FROM THE MAYOR:

On behalf of City Council and the residents of Richmond, I would like to extend sincerest greetings, and welcome you all to Touchstone Family Association's Annual General Meeting held on September 21, 2010 at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel in Richmond.

Since its formation in 1983, Touchstone has dedicated itself to strengthening the social health and independence of families and children through effective intervention and support services. The services they offer are invaluable, and help families not only stay together, but also stay strong. The City of Richmond is proud and grateful to have Touchstone Family Association as part of our community.

Please accept my best wishes for continued growth and success, and thank you to everyone who worked so diligently to organize this meeting.

Yours truly,



Malcolm D. Brodie
Mayor



Executive Director's Report

The annual report this year includes art created by children. Such joie de vivre! It matters not if it's a masterpiece but simply that it done with the joy of life and of creating with colour. That is the essence of childhood, a child's sense of the world belonging to them, or at least for the time being. Sadly that spontaneity is often lost in the organised world of parenthood.

In saying that, I would comment that there has been an interesting evolution and change in our culture that has led us to a somewhat child-centred approach within family life. Like all well intended changes, too often we do not see, or we lose sight of the unintended consequences of our own behaviour. With family divorce being at an all time high, it is important to remain mindful of the primary importance of a healthy marriage and partnership in the context of the family.

It is all too common these days to see parents focus on involving their children in a myriad of activities. For many, it is finishing the work day and into the car as Mom drives one to soccer practice and Dad drives the other to a swimming lesson and maybe then off to a Parent/Teacher meeting or back to work. All of this being done in the interest of providing children with the best opportunities afforded them. Often it can be at the cost of not keeping the spontaneity, creativity and color needed to nurture their own relationship. It is not just taking care of business of everyday life but also about Mom and Dad taking care of each other and their relationship.

We owe it to our children to model the concepts of healthy adult relationships. We need children to see us create joy and nurture other core relationships that are the key to healthy family life.

Teach your children well! Take time for each other, life is, after all about relationships, and children need to see and understand that to marry and live with someone else you have to be someone more ----- more than just a Mom and Dad.

Michael McCoy

Programs

- Family Preservation/Reunification**
Support, counselling and mediation to preserve the family unit; offered in partnership with the Ministry for Children and Family Development.
 - Community Action Plan for Children (CAP-C)**
A federally-funded program that provides a supportive learning environment for new Canadian families with young children.
 - Restorative Justice Program**
Repairs harm done to victims in the community through a supportive environment where youth are held accountable for their actions.
 - Francis House**
A residential care program that provides opportunities for youth to stabilize and improve their behavior and supports their move to a family care environment.
 - Touchstone Day Program**
Focuses on preparing youth for school readiness in a structured setting, addressing life skills development in a continuum of services.
 - Front-Porch (Open-Access) Program**
Families who believe they will benefit from support/counselling services are seen on a self-referral basis.
- For more detailed information on programs please call 604-279-5599 or visit our website at www.touchstonefamily.ca

Childhood Masterpieces



These pictures have been reproduced from artwork created by the young people and staff we work with everyday. Like them, these pictures are bold, exciting, often unexpected - they represent the creativity to be found in each of us.

Revenue & Expenses

