

## Welcome to the HIVE Neighbourhood Centre at Eric Langton Elementary School!

The HIVE is a perfect name for the Neighbourhood Centre located at Eric Langton Elementary School, 12138 Edge Street in Maple Ridge. Always buzzing with activity, the HIVE is a real community gathering place where everyone is welcomed, respected and accepted for who they are and what they offer. The HIVE was designed to provide a place for individuals of all ages to learn, connect, get support, and share knowledge and, in doing so, improve long-term outcomes for children and families and strengthen the neighbourhood.



The HIVE officially opened in 2009 but work to get it going began long before then. Thirteen community organization partners worked together with School District 42 and the Municipality of Maple Ridge. They involved community members by asking them for their ideas and opinions, and they provided the resources needed to get things started. The HIVE is sponsored now by the school district and municipality but the 13 partner organizations are still involved. They are part of a community steering committee and sponsor the programs that use space at the HIVE.

A neighbourhood steering committee made of up Eric Langton school parents and others is also very involved. The committee members plan community and neighbourhood events that take place at the HIVE such as the free clothing exchange and a celebration of Chinese New Year.

There are many programs that meet at the HIVE but those concerning early childhood are an especially strong part of the HIVE community. They include the following programs:

- **Mother Goose** A free group experience for parents and their babies or young children that focuses on using rhymes, songs and stories together. Children get healthy early experiences with language and communication. To register or for more information email to [special.projects@westcoastfamily.org](mailto:special.projects@westcoastfamily.org)
- **Healthy Babies** A free drop-in program for new mothers with babies up to six months old and for pregnant women who need extra help and support. The program includes preparing and eating lunch together. For more information call (604) 777-8718
- **Strong Start** A free early learning drop-in program for children aged birth to 5 years old and their parents or caregivers. Children have the opportunity to play and explore in a friendly, safe and inspiring environment alongside their parent or caregiver. Register with your child's birth certificate the first time you drop in or register on-line at: [www.sd42.ca/strongstart-centres](http://www.sd42.ca/strongstart-centres) For more information call (604) 463- 4200, extension 218
- **The Preschool Around the Corner** A licensed social, play-based preschool program offered by fully qualified Early Childhood Educators. MR/PM Community Services sponsors the preschool. Phone (604) 329-3203 or contact Anita Galvin [agalvin@comservice.bc.ca](mailto:agalvin@comservice.bc.ca) or [krogge@comservice.bc.ca](mailto:krogge@comservice.bc.ca) for more information including fees.