PRCVI / ARC-BC Program Report – May 2013.

Enrollment – Students who are Blind or Visually Impaired

Currently 696 Students registered, of which 106 are Braille users. We serve 57 Teachers of the visually impaired in the Province.

PRCVI – Projects

UEB Implementation

PRCVI jointly hosted the Canadian Association of Educational Resource Centres (CAER) AGM in Vancouver. The CAER group asked PRCVI manager to head up a subcommittee with the remit to develop a Canada wide implementation plan for the implementation of UEB. The committee has been formed and has representatives from other resource centres across Canada. We have reviewed all the current documentation pertaining to UEB and implementation plans used in other countries. We are focusing on how the changes will be rolled out to the school age population K-12 and the plan when it is completed will have a timeline and estimated costings. While we acknowledge that each individual province will be responsible for their own implementation we have started with the premise that we also need a Canada wide plan and that each province should follow a similar timeframe, this is essential for the sharing of resources and ease of mobility of students and teachers around the country. With this in mind the implementation plan when it is completed will be submitted to the council of Ministers of Education, Canada (CMEC)

BC Caseload Analysis Tool

PRCVI have developed a brand new BC specific caseload analysis tool. This document is to help BC school districts determine the number of vision teacher hours required to provide adequate support to the students who are blind or visually impaired in their district. It is based on the BC service delivery model and students are rated depending on the level of vision loss and the amount of support and instruction they require in school. It is designed to be carried out by a qualified teacher of the visually impaired, and PRCVI outreach vision teachers have already conducted a number of reviews around the province and provided the school districts with a comprehensive report.

Succession Planning Project.

PRCVI worked over the year with Anne Wadsworth, retired PRCVI manager and Cay Holbrook, the UBC Visual impairment masters' program tutor. We canvassed the current teachers of the visually impaired in the province to find out the situation with regard retirement plans and the group determined that there would be an acute shortage unless new vision teachers were trained. Planning meetings were held to develop a strategy, promotional materials developed and we attended conferences and teacher meetings to get the message out. The PRCVI manager presented at the BC CASE conference in April to suggest school district administrators encourage teachers to take up the training. The group also held a meeting at the Ministry of Education who are aware of the ongoing situation and offered the group some excellent suggestions and support.

Complete re development of PRCVI website to include better function and ease of access

The PRCVI website has undergone a complete renovation and upgrade. It is now a lot easier to navigate the new site in order to find information and resources. Much of the content has been reorganized using modern tools such as delicious.com which has allowed us to tag and organize a useful collection of links. Training opportunities such as the Braille course and the Vision Teachers masters program are now just one click away, and useful information such as certification of eligibility forms are also a lot easier to find. The website has a fresh clean look and was build in compliance with the latest accessibility standards. We have also included a link to the new PRCVI YouTube Channel where we house informational videos such as the Role of the Vision Teacher, What we do at PRCVI and ARC-BC. It is anticipated that the new website will be a useful resource and source of information for vision teachers, school district administrators and parents in the province of BC

ARC-BC Projects

ARC-BC has been busy this year, finally the new version 3 has been completed and all bugs worked out and it is now live. We have been working with SET-BC on a Solo project. Solo is read and write software widely used in elementary schools across the province. ARC-BC has done extensive research into the production of partially accessible pdf files which will open in Solo, the added value is that these files will also open in iPads. The files are very appealing and especially useful to students with low vision as they contain all the pictures and graphics which can be enlarged. The process is time consuming as the optical character recognition OCR software we use to created the text to speech does not work well with the image files and extensive editing including reorganizing the reading order has to be done. PRCVI has also been working over the year to make the over nine hundred Coreldraw tactile image collection available via ARC-BC, currently the collection of digital images is shipped out on a DVD. As more and more Braille using students are relying on technology it made sense to make the images available more readily to school district transcribers who can then download and

emboss the picture or diagram they need, the collection includes everything from maps, to geometric shapes and scientific diagrams.

PRCVI Training

1. Training days for Transcribers and VI teachers in NBA New formatting guidelines.
2. Training Day for TVI's on Visual Impairment with Autism
3. Braille Note workshop
4. PRCVI sent two delegates to NBA conference in Washington DC

Braille support

1. We offer outreach training and support to individual Braillists in the province

2. We have 23 Education Assistants doing the Braille course

DESCRIPTION OF ITEMS	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	TOTAL
Braille and Print Book	19		46	19	76	8	23	13	10	214
Braille Commercially Produced	4	23	37	6	17	5	8	8	7	115
Braille Produced for PRCVI	25	68	46	17	30	8	9	17	15	235
Brailler	7	11	26	18	11	21	11	19	4	128
Calculator	1		9	5	1	3	1	4	1	25
CD Audio and Book Set					5					5
CD Audio Commercially Prod.					4					4
CD DAISY Digital Audio Format										0
Descriptive Video DVS		1								1
Equipment	10	2	21	16	16	6	1	8	3	83
Exams Braille					12	3	3		2	20
Game	2		19	10	10	7	5	1	5	59
Globe		1								1
ILL Items From Another Library	15	4		9	6	1	8	3	1	47
Kit	21	5	105	56	41	28	18	14	35	323
Kit - Short Loan - 60 Days	15	4	29	46	16		12	8	4	134
Large Print	240	33	175	98	57	30	39	48	28	748
Large Print Commercially Prod.	7	2	10	22	6	1	2	5	5	60
Long Loan Braille	4	10	4	3	1	1	1	2	1	27
Long Loan Large Print	2	1	1							4
Maps Geography Kits		3	11				20	1	1	36
Model			26	3	3	2	11	12	3	60
Professional Assessment Kits			6	6	4	1	6	4	3	30
Professional Audio Tapes										0
Professional A/V Materials						1				1
Professional Compact Disk			1	3	1		1	2	1	9
Professional Text	4	1	38	40	8	7	20	7	2	127
Professional Video or DVD	2		12	15	1		5	3	1	39
Student Reference Texts Braille		2	13	2						17
Student Reference Texts CD			1				1			2
Student Reference Texts LP	24	4	17	3	2	3	1			54
Student Reference Texts Tape										0
Tactile Supplement Etext on ARC		10	10	4				4		28
Tape and Book Set					1					1
Tape Player Recorder			1							1
Tape Recording Commercial Prod.					3		2			5
Tri Vision Book			65	22	16		1	4		108
Tri Vision Kit			3		2	1				6
TOTAL LOANED EACH MONTH	402	185	732	423	350	136	209	187	132	**2757**
TOTAL # OF TITLES LOANED IN 2012/2013 SCHOOL YEAR:										
TOTAL # OF ORDERS PLACED IN 2012/2013 SCHOOL YEAR:										

PRCVI CIRCULATION STATISTICS JULY 1, 2012 - JUNE 30, 2013 BY NUMBER OF TITLES

ARC-BC

Enrollment – Accessible Resource Centre British Columbia (ARC-BC)

All BC school districts have now joined ARC-BC, we have 4,439 registered users

Right now in ARC-BC

Titles:	**3997**
Individual Files:	**87407**
Registered Users:	**4,439**
Downloads:	**399033**

The ARC-BC annual report is available on the website

ARC-BC Version 3

We have launched the newest version of ARC –BC with some major changes, previously we were only able to track the number of users who down load material for their students, however we now require users to register each student and include their Personal education Number (PEN) number, this makes tracking and reporting more efficient. ARC-BC is now almost five years old and we have also had to re write the informational materials and move them into our new Training Centre

ARC-BC SET –BC and CRANE Library (UBC) joint project

ARC-BC continues to work with SET-BC on the Bella Colla Project. This project focuses on the conversion of 260 books featuring First Nations heritage and culture into alternate format which is available on ARC-BC.

Tactile Image collection

ARC-BC is working on a project to upload 900 tactile images to the repository

 Chris Marshall – April 2013