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WellAhead Summary for BC Pilot Districts

43-Coquitlam
48-Sea to Sky

61-Victoria
67-Okanagan Skaha

70-Alberni
92-Nisga'a

WellAhead

Imagine if we unleashed all schools' full potential to foster the social-emotional wellbeing of children and youth.

Apart from the home, schools are the most influential setting for child and youth development. Adding wellbeing to an already packed schedule can be a challenge, so school communities are looking to find new and creative ways to integrate wellbeing within their existing daily practice.

In the 2015-16 school year, WellAhead – a philanthropic initiative of the J.W. McConnell Family Foundation – will take six BC school districts through a community-led process that will bring multiple stakeholders together to identify ways to integrate wellbeing into school communities.

Everyday Practices

- The focus this year is on how “everyday practices” can lead to greater integration of wellbeing in schools
- Everyday practices are sustainable approaches to advancing student wellbeing that don't cost a lot, that fit naturally within the role of schools, and that build upon assets and strengths.

Approach

- WellAhead draws upon a social innovation lab framework, which includes three core elements:
 - *Co-design*: Bringing multiple perspectives – educators, administrators, students, parents and community partners – together to brainstorm solutions
 - *Prototyping*: Implementing a set of everyday practices in schools, evaluating their effectiveness, and understanding how change happens in schools
 - *Scaling*: Sharing what we learn broadly to influence practice, policy, and public opinion.

Values

- Collaboration
- Mass Participation
- Collective Ownership
- Transparency
- Emergence

How to Get Involved

Over the next few months, there will be multiple opportunities for parents, educators, youth, administrators, and community partners to be involved in the co-design phase:

- Share your insights on wellbeing in schools or the WellAhead process (ongoing)
- Join an information session (Sept 2015)
- Join a brainstorming event (Oct 2015):

Session #1: Tues, October 20 7pm-9pm

Winslow Centre, Gallery Room

Register: [click here](#)

Or email dmacmillan@sd43.bc.ca

Session#2: Wed, October 21 7pm-9pm

Minnekhada Middle

Register: [click here](#)

or email dmacmillan@sd43.bc.ca

- Give input through an online public input platform (Nov 2015) Info to follow.



For more information on how to get involved,
contact your local WellAhead Community Liaison,
Darren McMillan, at dmacmillan@sd43.bc.ca.