



BCA
The BC Association for Child De

Province-Wide Service Consistency

Issue

The suite of services available to children and families across BC varies from community to community. Some communities provide access to valuable programming such as behavioural support, other communities may have such programming available via fee for service, and others would have no availability for this type of programming at all. BCACDI feels there should be a standardized suite of services available in every community in BC, ensuring all children and families have equitable opportunity to access services and supports to help them reach their full potential. BCACDI recommends the following as the standardized suite of services:

1. **Behavioural Support** – services to help families and caregivers build capacity to support their child’s participation and function in their environment
2. **Mental Health and/or Counselling** – services to support mental health needs of children and youth with support needs and their families
3. **Family Navigation** – support to direct and refer families of children/youth with support needs to the appropriate services within their community and province
4. **Early Intervention** – services for children/youth at risk of or demonstrating developmental delay in mobility, speech and language, participation, and function
5. **Respite** – short and long-term relief for caring for their child/youth by well qualified caregivers
6. **Life Skills Training** – to build capacity in children and youth to help with life skills and community integration
7. **Evidence Based Services for Specific Diagnostic Groups** – e.g. ABA for children and youth with Autism, services for FASD
8. **Inclusive Childcare** – e.g. SCD/ASCD – available quality childcare spaces and supports that ensure childcare is accessible for children and youth with support needs
9. **Indigenous Led Services that are Culturally Safe and Trauma-Informed** – Government and community should support, in a culturally safe and trauma informed manner, local Indigenous leadership in the development and delivery of services in Indigenous communities
10. **Family Support and Education** – parent training and support, including peer support opportunities, that help build parenting capacity

BCACDI is a provincial non-profit organization, founded in 1996, which provides advocacy and opportunities for collaboration to member agencies throughout British Columbia. Member agencies are non-profit, accredited, and provide diagnostic, developmental, intervention and support services for children and youth with special needs and their families.

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BC's vulnerable children and families should have access to an integrated system of services and supports they can access regardless of where they live in BC. This will result in improved health outcomes and a positive return on investment for Government and society. Access to such supports corresponds with BC's Early Years Strategy goal of access – Helping ensure early years programs and services are available to children who need them ([BCEarlyYearsStrategy](#))

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