

November 3, 2009

Dear EIBI Parent,

I understand that you are facing a time of change and are making decisions about intervention for your children. My son is 18 now but I will never forget the challenges I faced when I first started his program 15 years ago. That experience taught me a lot about what families need as they navigate the world of autism treatment. It is one of the reasons ACT - Autism Community Training was established - to help families better understand autism treatment and to find competent and caring professionals. Our mission is to provide excellent information and training, with the goal of enabling parents, professionals and para-professionals to support people with autism to live productive, satisfying lives within their families and communities.

So how can ACT help?

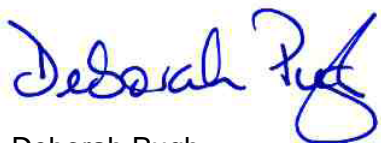
- **ACT Information Officers** - At ACT we have a team of Information Officers to answer questions and assist you in navigating the process of setting up a program for your child. Sheree Loft, Lianne Naguiat and Christine Hung spend many hours a week helping families and they are very good at it! Christine also speaks Mandarin, as well as excellent English, Lianne is fluent in Tagalog.
- **ACT's Parent Manual:** This manual is free on-line to families. Chapter 3 of the ACT Manual – *“Developing a Treatment Team for a Child with ASD”* is a good place to start. We just released the chapter which is especially written for BC families. We have printed a copy for you as well as other information that is attached to this letter.
- **The RASP** - Registry of Autism Service Providers: You may also know that ACT manages the RASP on behalf of the Ministry of Children and Family Development. The RASP is designed to ensure that parents of young children with ASD have access to service providers whose education, training and experience qualifies them to design and supervise the implementation of intensive, comprehensive, and effective behavioural treatment programs.

ACT reviews the credentials of all applicants on the RASP and understands the ethical standards that professionals must follow. If you have questions or concerns about any agency or professional on the RASP please feel free to give us a call. We have a RASP complaints process. ACT is also available to review any contract that a service provider is asking you to sign so, feel free to fax it to us first before you sign it.

- **ACT Online Videos** - We have two online videos that were developed for parents to help them better understand and gain confidence in running autism treatment programs. All EIBI families may register **free of charge** for these video training sessions – just email ACT and we will sign you up so you can watch them at your convenience on your own computer:
 1. ***Practical Autism Treatment – From Theories to Reality*** presented by Dr. Jill Calder. For a preview see: www.actcommunity.net/webcast/2008/PRAC08WEB.html &
 2. ***What is ABA & Why is it Important in the Treatment of Autism?*** presented by Dr. Suzanne Jacobsen. For a preview see www.actcommunity.net/webcast/2008/WABA08WEB.html

Remember, ACT is here to help families at any stage in their children's lives. Please give us a call, toll-free from around B.C. or email info@actcommunity.net.

Warm regards,



Deborah Pugh
Acting Executive Director