



Fraser Valley Brain Injury Association’s (FVBIA) 2017 Young at Arts Summer day camp ran for six hours for five days during the week of August 20th-25th, 2017 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm each day. It was open to children ages five to sixteen that either have a family member with a brain injury or have sustained an acquired brain injury themselves.



A total of 5 children from Abbotsford and Chilliwack participated in the summer camp with the help of 2 peer support volunteers. Two of the children have acquired brain injuries and require one to one support.

The campers benefited greatly from having the youth volunteers, as they were able to help ease some camper’s first day’s nerves. It also provided them with an opportunity to have someone to talk to when they were not ready to share with the Case Manager.

Young at Arts was held at The Great Blue Heron Nature Reserve in Chilliwack
<http://chilliwackblueheron.com/>

Young at Arts was held at The Great Blue Heron Nature Reserve in Chilliwack where the campers were given the opportunity to learn about art, nature and brain injury awareness.

The camp leader made our camper’s days fun-filled and interesting while spending our afternoons learning about animal habitats, life cycles of dragonflies as well as all things nature. The camper’s were also given an opportunity to be hands on with various creatures as they spent a day pond skimming where the children discovered everything from frogs to insect larva.



Although they did not experience the creature hands on the children also spent one morning tracking beavers. During this time, they discovered both Dams and lodges as well as learned about how beavers live in the wild. Every day was a new adventure spent discovering different areas of the reserve and its wildlife.

The art component of the camp was led daily by talented local artist, John LeFlock who instructed the children in a variety of mediums. This year, instead of creating multiple mini projects, the children were able to paint one large scale 3D landscape piece on canvas. The children also participated in afternoon sketching and cartoon lessons as well as an opportunity to create using the airbrush.

All participants were very receptive to the opportunity of learning new skills while using challenging mediums such as air brushing, clay and acrylic latex paint as well as fine-tuning the skills they gained last year. Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors, each child was able to bring home a tote bag filled with art supplies. Both the children’s and parents reactions made it clear that the supplies were greatly appreciated.





In addition to the summer camp, the generous funding of our sponsors has enabled FVBIA to reach an additional three children who were unable to attend the summer camp due to challenges with timing. FVBIA offered "Outside the Box Lego Group" sessions once a month for 6 months with the plan of starting up again in the winter in order to benefit even more children including those who attended Young at Arts Camp.

Project Goals:

Goal#1: To increase social contacts and facilitate the inclusion of children with acquired brain injury into the art community.

Strategy: Provide opportunities for social networking through group instruction.

Outcome: Five children and two peer support youth participated in the groups.

Indicators: Parents of participant will report a 25% increase in their children’s participation in social and artistic activities.

Survey Results Summary:

Parents and caregivers were asked to take part in a written survey prior to their child starting the Young at Arts program as well as at the completion.

When asked if they were satisfied with their child’s social activities

Intake	Outgoing
10% Somewhat Disagree	40% Somewhat Agreed
30% Somewhat Agreed	60% Agreed
60% Agreed	

When asked if their child was involved in community activities

Intake	Outgoing
40% Somewhat agreed	40% Somewhat Agree
60% Agreed	60% Agreed

When asked if they felt confident allowing their child participate in community activities

Intake	Outgoing
100% Agree	100% Agree

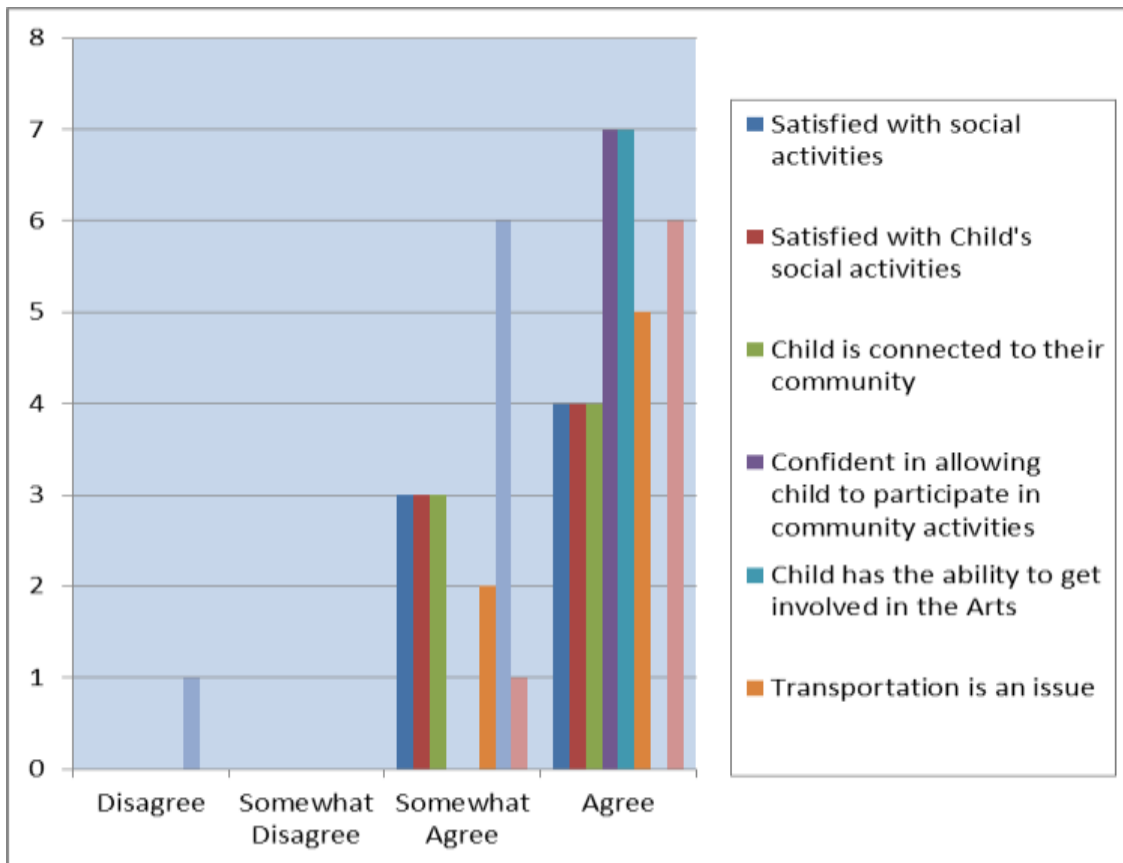
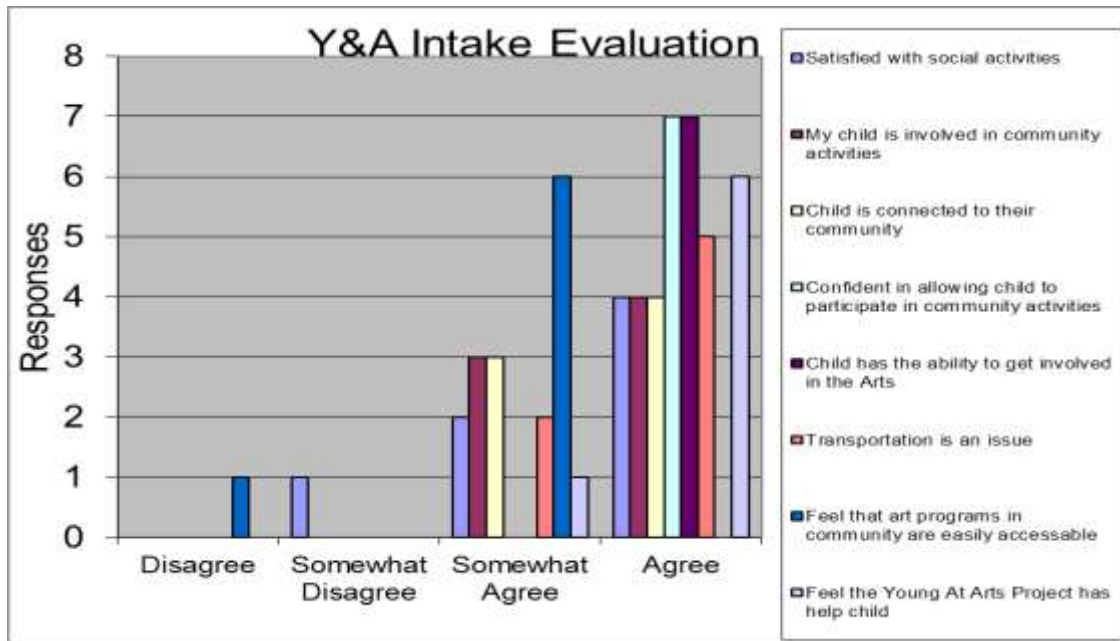
When asked if they felt that art programs in their community were easily accessible

Intake	Outgoing
10% Disagreed	10% Disagreed
90% Somewhat agreed	90% Somewhat Agreed

When asked if they felt that the Young at Arts project has helped their child

Intake	Outgoing
10% Somewhat Agreed	10% Somewhat Agreed
90% Agreed	90% Agreed





Know your limit, play within it.





Strategy: Educate art instructors from each community about acquired brain injury and facilitate connections with art community resources.

Outcome: One local artist participated in this camp, which was held at a local art studio.

Strategy: Provide opportunities for children with acquired brain injury and their siblings to share their experiences with their peers.

Outcome: Five children and two peer support youth participated in the groups. The children assisted each other and were very encouraging and positive in relation to each other's projects. Parents, as well as other caregivers regained confidence in their children's ability to take part in social and group activities outside the home. The participants talked about how the injuries of a family member had affected them. They also had the opportunity to share personal stories; in turn giving the children confidence knowing that they were not alone in their experiences.

Goal #2: Convey a positive portrayal of people with brain injuries to the general public.

Strategy: Accompany art works with inspirational stories of the artists.

Strategy: Provide the opportunity for participants to exhibit at an art exhibit either provided through FVBIA or The Blue Heron Nature Reserve.

Indicators: 80% of the artists will participate in the exhibits.

Outcomes: Parents, friends and community members were invited to come see the art each day throughout the week. 100% of the children participated.





Goal #3 To allow the children a greater understanding of brain injury.

Strategy: Provide opportunities to learn through group instruction.

Outcomes: Case Manager will attend camp to talk about brain injury.

Goal #4 To educate and inspire children to understand, protect and preserve the wetland environment and its wildlife.

Strategy: Provide hands on education where the children can learn various approaches to wild life conservation.

Outcomes: A Biologist from Blue Heron Reserve will attend camp for the five days and teach the children through group instruction.

Survey result summary:

Children were asked to take part in a written survey prior to starting the Young at Arts program as well as the completion.

When asked to describe what the brain was

Intake

100% Able to describe

Outgoing

100% Able to describe

When asked to name 4 things the brain can do

Intake

75% Able to answer

Outgoing

100% Able to answer

When asked to name 2 things that can cause brain injury

Intake

100% Able to answer

Outgoing

100% Able to answer

When asked if the brain can heal like the rest of your body

Intake

75% Able to answer

Outgoing

100% Able to answer

When asked to describe a wetland

Intake

25% Able to answer

Outgoing

90% Able to answer

When asked to describe a habitat

Intake

25% Able to answer

Outgoing

100% Able to answer





We would like to thank our sponsors and we gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the Province of BC.



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