



COMMUNITY VOICES ON TAPPING INTO TECH

FOSTERING EQUITY FOR CHILDREN WITH EXTRA SUPPORT NEEDS IN RURAL AND NORTHERN BC

OCTOBER 2021

Are you raising a family in a rural or northern area of BC?

Do you have a young child aged birth to six years who has extra support needs?

Have you found it difficult to get information and services to support your child's health and development?



*logo by Sam Bond
Youth Community Researcher
Tapping into Tech*

Even before the pandemic, many families, living in rural and northern parts of BC, raising young children with extra support needs faced barriers to accessing a wide-range of supports and services for their children's early health, development and wellbeing. **COMMUNITY VOICES ON TAPPING INTO TECH** is a province-wide project aimed at improving families' access to early child development and health resources and services in rural and northern BC. **TOGETHER**, we will explore ways that information and communication technologies (apps, texting, social media, videoconferencing, etc.) can be used after the pandemic, as additional, long-term ways for families to access information and connect with services in addition to in-person options. **OUR GOAL** is to listen to and learn from families, children & youth and service providers in rural and northern areas of BC about their experiences and ideas about using technologies for this purpose. **OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS** include parents, youth and non-profit child advocacy agencies - see our website for more information about our community partners.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE or GETTING INVOLVED?

We want to listen and learn with Indigenous (First Nation, Inuit and Métis) and non-Indigenous parents and guardians (including newcomer and immigrant parents) living in rural and northern BC and raising children aged birth to six years, who have extra support needs. This can include infants and young children who have:

- Diverse intellectual and physical abilities
- Hearing or visual impairments
- Complex health conditions
- Head injuries
- Autism spectrum disorder
- Fetal alcohol spectrum disorder
- Cerebral palsy
- Down's syndrome

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