

When Vulnerable Readers Thrive

... Dreams Come True.



SUMMIT INTRODUCTION



EARLY LEARNING The “*New Frontier*” in Elementary Education

Changing the
Future of Our Most
Vulnerable Children

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THE INCENTIVE FOR THIS SUMMIT

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JANET MORT, PhD

BC: How we're doing.

It feels like a Celebration!

An Educated Population:

British Columbia has a more educated population than any other province in Canada.



BC's ranking in international studies is high:

2006 PISA assessment of 15 year-olds rates BC students highly in Science, Reading and Math.

2006 PIRLS results from a reading assessment of grade 4 students indicate that BC ranks in the top range of countries/provinces measured.

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BC – Our Completion Rates 2006-2011

The news is not so celebratory!

For all students, after six years of study from grade 8, between 79% to 81% of students graduate.

For **ESL** students, 81% - 83% graduate.

BUT . . .

For **Special Needs** students only 44% - 53% graduate.

For **Aboriginal** students only 47% - 54% graduate.



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BC – An Aboriginal Focus

Student Transitions to Post Secondary: Grades 8 to 12 then immediately Post Secondary

If 100 aboriginal students and 100 non-aboriginal students enter grade 8:

51 Aboriginal and 83 non-Aboriginal will graduate from grade 12.

33 Aboriginal and 60 non-Aboriginal will enter post-secondary within 5 years of graduation.



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BC – Another Graduation Comparison

Recent grade 12 Graduation Measures

Six-year **Dogwood** completion rate:

Aboriginal 47%; Non-Aboriginal 79%

First-time grade 12 graduation rate:

Aboriginal 52%; Non-Aboriginal 80%



32 PERCENTAGE POINT GAP!

Good Enough for BC?

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BC – Improvements Over Time Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal

Some Improvement?

but

A VERY WIDE GAP . . .



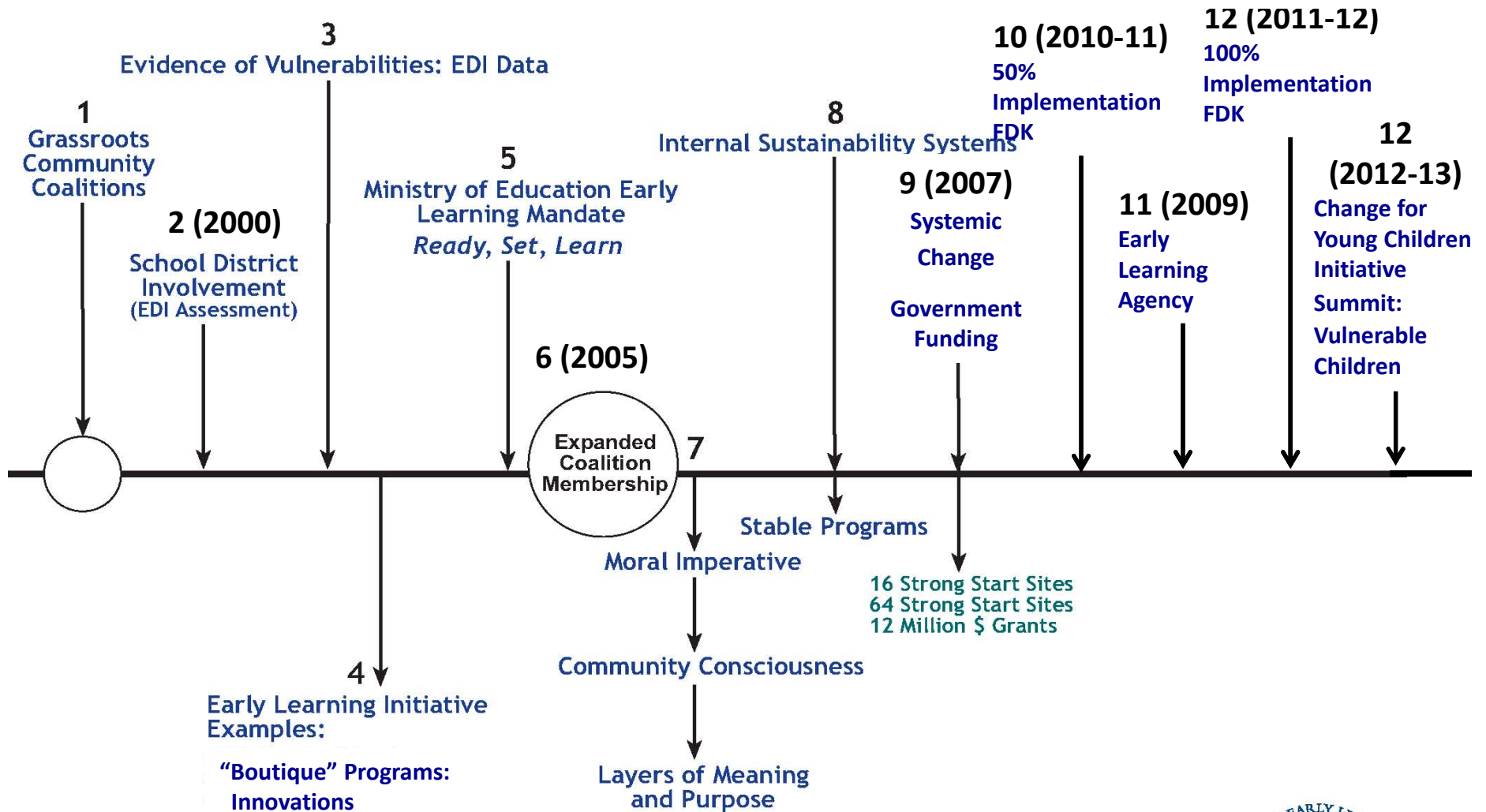
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Source: BC Ministry of Education

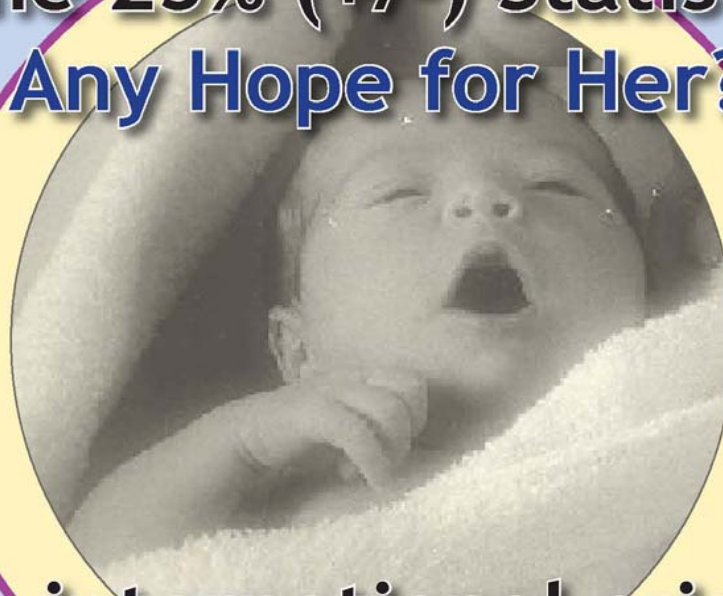
Year	Aboriginal	Non-Aboriginal
1996/97	33.8%	72.8%
1997/98	35.4%	73.3%
1998/99	36.9%	76%
1999/00	38.9%	76.9%
2000/01	42%	78%
2003/04	50%	
2004/05	52%	
2005/06	54%	
2006/07	48%	83%
2007/08	47%	82%
2008/09	49%	82%
2009/10	51%	82%
2010/11	54%	83%

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Storyline: A Decade of Change for Vulnerable Children



**The 25% (+/-) Statistic:
Any Hope for Her?**



**An international crisis:
A Canadian Shame**



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JANET MORT, PhD



Dr. CLYDE HERTZMAN

Recipient of the
Order of Canada (2013)

The Champion for Vulnerable Children

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