



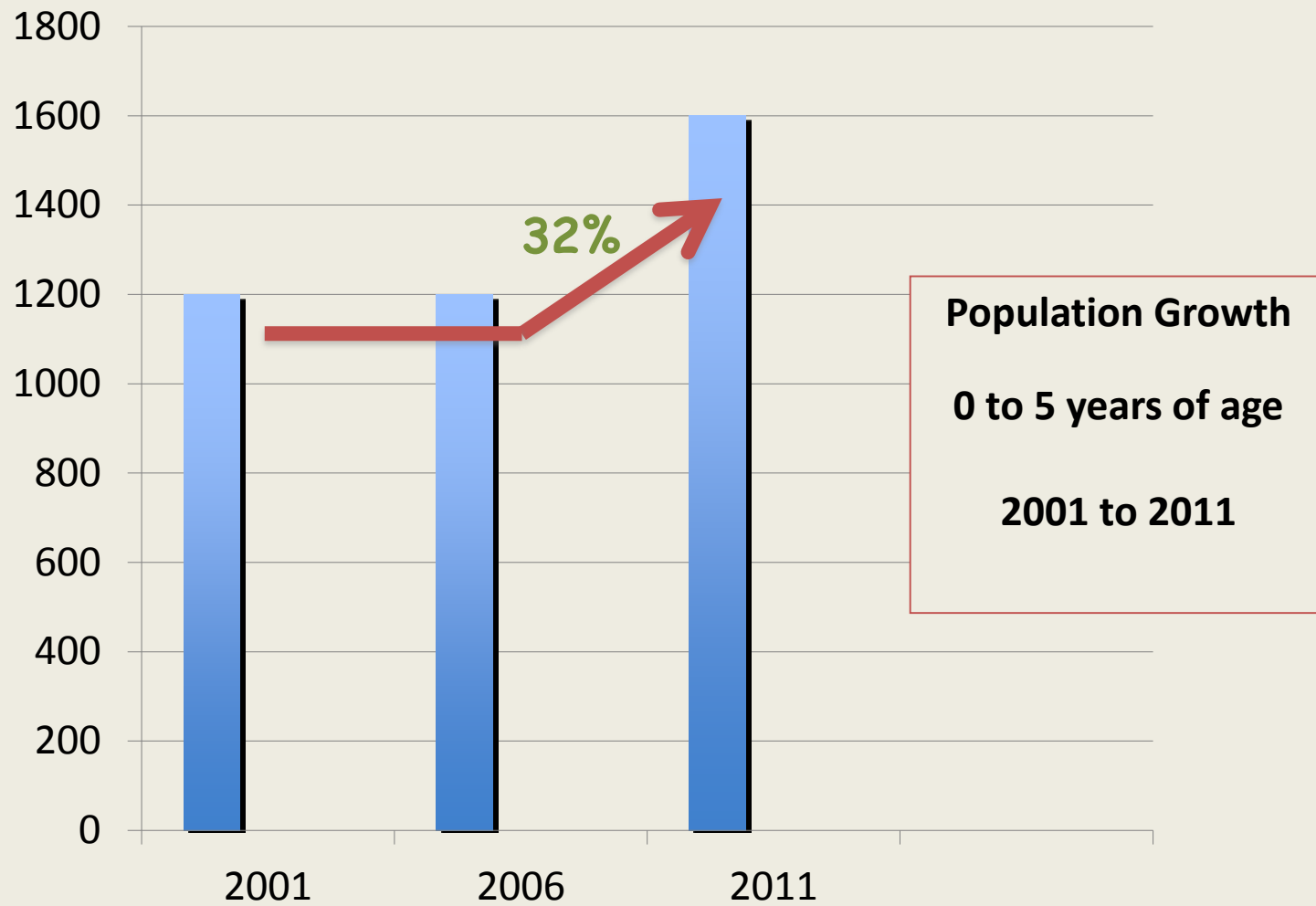
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# Squamish

Promoting healthy  
early childhood  
development

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"The state of the young  
in any city is the  
litmus test of the  
city's level of  
sustainability and  
vibrancy."

Anna Kajumulo Tibaijuka, UN Habitat

# Early Development Instrument (EDI)

Population-level

**A developmental assessment of kindergarten kids**

**Reflects kids' early experiences and predicts future performance**

**Highlights areas of strength and vulnerability**

Trends in child development

Developmental hot spots

Geographic hot spots

# EDI measures 5 developmental domains

## Physical Health & Well Being

- Dressed appropriately
- Not tired or hungry
- Good gross fine motor skills
- Independent

## Social Competence

- Good social skills
- Self-confident
- Cooperative & respectful
- Follow rules

## Emotional Maturity

- Helping behaviours
- Not anxious or aggressive
- Not hyperactive or inattentive

## Language & Cognitive Dev

- Basic literacy & numeracy skills
- Show an interest in reading & math

## Communication Skills & General Knowledge

- Are understandable & understand others
- Do not have difficulty with English

Data waves: Wave 2: 2004/05-2006/07  
Wave 4: 2009/10-2010/11

Wave 3: 2007/08-2008/09  
Wave 5: 2011/12-2012/13

Data waves are comparing DIFFERENT groups of kindergarten kids.

Data is collected on each Kindergarten child at school but data is reported by where the child lives.



# Overall EDI Rate (Wave 5)

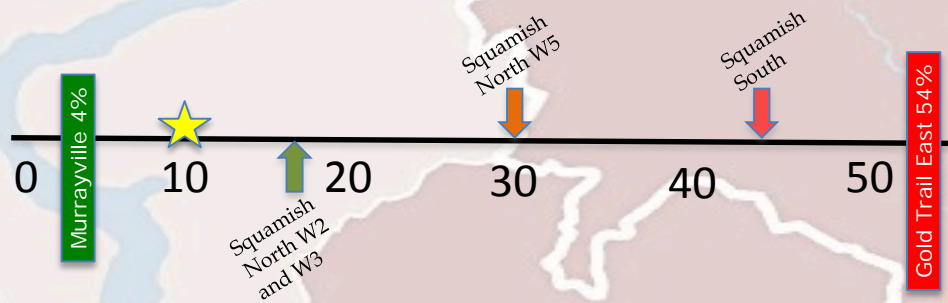
Vulnerability found on one or more of the developmental scales

Best rate in BC: Murrayville (Langley): **4%**

Best rate in VCH region: Caulfield (West Van): 13%

Worst rate in BC: Gold Trail East (Gold Trail): **54%**

Worst rate in VCH region: Strathcona (Van): 52%



Mamquam River (dividing line)

Squamish North

Squamish South

**30%**

Increased vulnerability over time

**44%**

No change over time

More kids live in Squamish North

Pemberton **28%**

## Squamish North

W2 to W3 – no change

W3 to W4 – increase (18% to 24%)

W4 to W5 – increase (24% to 30%)

Wave 5: 2011/12-2012/13

W4: 2009/10-2010/11

W3: 2007/08-2008/09

W2: 2004/05-2006/07

# Physical Health and Well-Being

A horizontal bar with a blue gradient, transitioning from a lighter blue on the left to a darker blue on the right.

- Dressed appropriately
- Not tired or hungry
- Good gross fine motor skills
- Independent

# Physical Health and Well-Being (W5)

Best neighbourhood rate in BC: 4%

- Lack of physical literacy (confidence, competence, motivation to move)
- Lack of unstructured play
- Too much screen time
- Poverty
- Food insecurity

Links to:

- Overall physical health
- Obesity
- Chronic disease
- Mental health
- Success in school

Pemberton 18%

Whistler 8%

W4  
7%

W5

13%

Squamish-North

W4  
17%

W5

25%

Squamish-South

W5: 2011/12-2012/13

W4: 2009/10-2010/11



# Social Competence



- Good overall social skills
- Gets along with other children
- Self-confident
- Cooperative and respectful
- Follow rules

Pemberton 8%

## Social Competence (W5)

Best neighbourhood rate in BC: 2%

- Relationships
- Parent mental health
- Parent use of drugs and alcohol
- Socio-economic conditions
- Home and community environments

Links to:

- Low self-esteem
- Weak coping skills
- Risky behaviours (substance use)
- Teen pregnancy
- Attentional problems
- Lower academic achievement (dropouts)
- Unemployment (etc.)

W3  
4%



W4  
10%



W5  
15%

Squamish-North

W2  
25%



W3  
16%



W4  
24%



W5  
19%

Squamish-South

W5: 2011/12-2012/13  
W4: 2009/10-2010/11  
W3: 2007/08-2008/09  
W2: 2004/05-2006/07

# Emotional Maturity



- Helping behaviours
- Not anxious
- Not aggressive
- Not hyperactive
- Not inattentive or easily distracted

## Emotional Maturity (W5: 2011/12-2012/13)

Best neighbourhood rate in BC: 2%

Pemberton 10%

Whistler 9%

W3  
6%



W4  
14%



W5  
19%

Squamish-North

No change  
over time

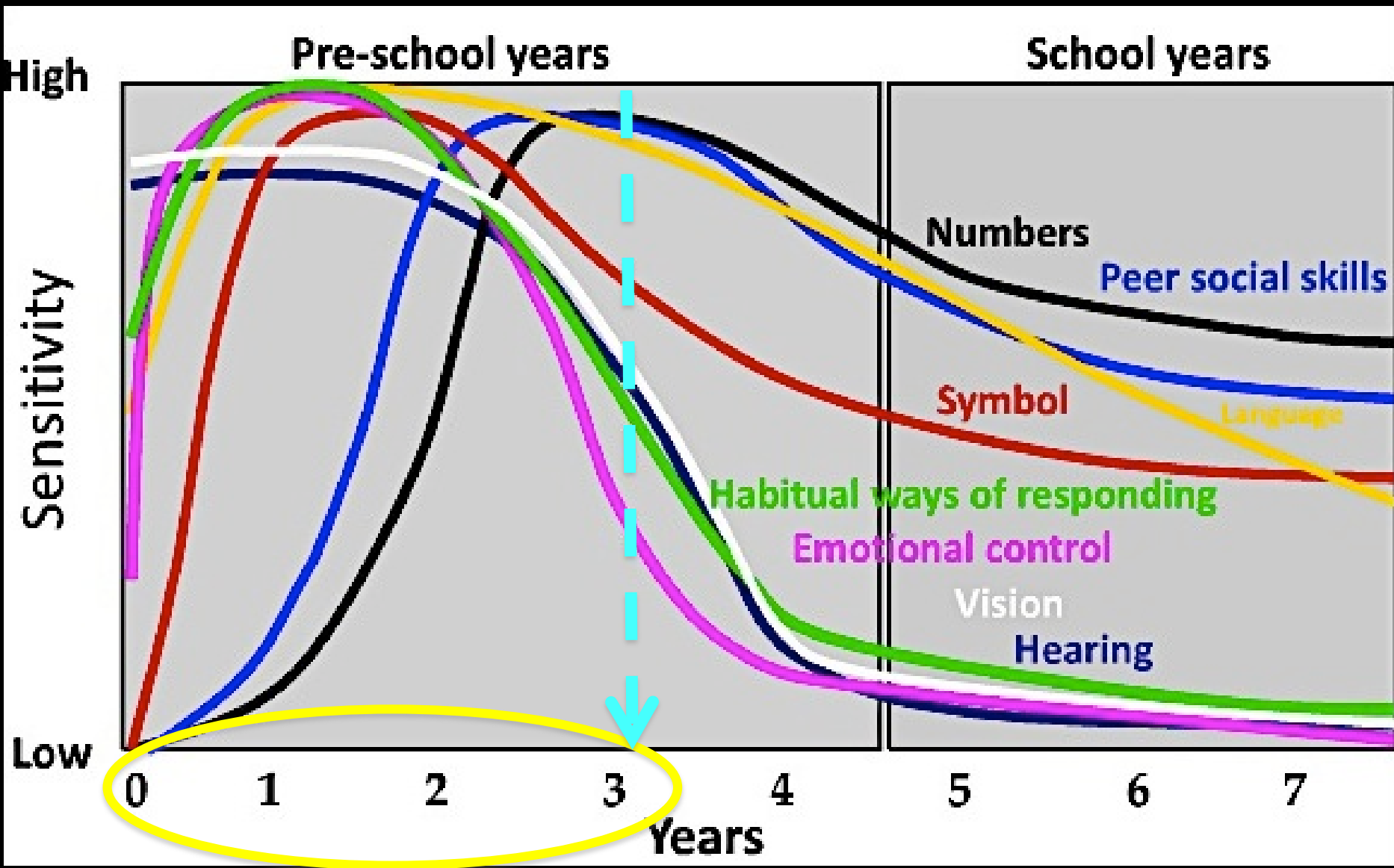
W5  
24%

Squamish-South

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Anna Kajumulo Tibaijuka, UN Habitat

## Sensitive periods in early brain development







Relationships



Environments



Nutrition

### 3 Key Areas for Intervention

## Supportive Environments

Housing

Public transit

Employment

Poverty reduction

Food security

Green spaces

Community centres

Safe neighbourhoods

Social cohesion

Supportive **relationships** (families, caregivers)

Supportive **communities** (physical spaces, safety, social capital, local services)

Supportive **systems** (access to early learning opps; families have the resources they need)

Child care → available affordable quality

Places to play → safe stimulating outside exploration

ECD programs → affordable appropriate inclusive

- Child Lens
- ECD strategic plan or age-friendly community strategy
- Monitor and track progress on ECD
- Children's Charter

### Squamish South

EDI – Communications Scale: **18%**  
(Squamish N: 9%)

% New Immigrants: **21%**  
(Squamish N: 15%)



## New Westminster

### Public Partners Child Development Committee and Child Development Hubs

- Endorsed New Westminster Children's

Population: 28,800

- Charter Way funded needs assessments and business plans for all 5 hubs
- Developed Family-Friendly Business
  - 1<sup>st</sup> hub: Development Assistance Compensation Program (casino) funds were used
  - Developing Family-Friendly Housing Policy
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> hubs: Neighbourhood Learning Centre funds (provincial) are being used
  - Developing a Child and Youth Friendly Community Strategy
  - 4<sup>th</sup> hub: developer amenity contributions are being explored

There are 2 & 3 hubs. Neighbourhood Learning Centre

funds (provincial) are being used

into Developing a Child and Youth Friendly Community Strategy

Population: 30% on shelter: 19.5% - 30.5%

- Low Rate Lease of Civic Space for Child Care
- Child Care Protocol (with the School District)
- Part of an expansion of Queensborough Official Community Plan
  - Child care: essential community-based service
- Hub includes a group child care facility, tiny tot playtime program, library branch, community kitchen, and flex space that is available no cost to agencies that deliver
- Planning Institute of BC 2013 Award for Excellence in Planning Practice for New West's Child Care Strategy
- 600 child care spaces created since 2009

## Queensborough

EDI W2: 52%

EDI W5: 25%

High proportion of vulnerable kids.  
Many gaps in service.





What's the plan  
for healthy ECD  
in Squamish?

