

## **Safe Babies Program History**

The Safe Babies Program was developed in Victoria (1998) by Lenora Marcellus, in partnership with Capital Regional Health and the Ministry for Children and Families. The program was introduced in response to the increasing need for highly-skilled caregivers who could be trained specifically in meeting the special needs of substance-exposed infants.

The Safe Babies Program was introduced in the Central and Upper Island Regions in 2000.

In the Vancouver Island Region, the Safe Babies Program, administered by the FPSS Foster Parent Support Services Society, continues to provide education and support to Foster Parents, Social Workers and Community Partners who work with substance-exposed infants and their caregivers.

Vancouver Island Region

### **CONTACT INFORMATION:**

**Safe Babies Liaison**  
**Box 2144—132-D Roberts St**  
**Ladysmith BC**  
**V9G 1B6**

**Telephone: 250 245-2622**  
**Fax: 250 245-2655**  
**Email: [jvincent@fpsss.com](mailto:jvincent@fpsss.com)**

**CALL**  
**1-888-922-8437**



"Serving the Foster Parents of the Vancouver Island Region through Support, Education, Networking, and on-going Training"

**FPSS Foster Parent Support  
Services Society**

## **Safe Babies PROGRAM**



**Support Services for  
foster parents of  
the Vancouver  
Island Region**

**CALL**  
**1-888-922-8437**



## FPSS Society Safe Babies Training Program

### The Safe Babies Training Program

consists of four intensive modules addressing the following topics:

- Understanding the impact of substance misuse during pregnancy
- The effects of alcohol and other drugs on the body
- Acute withdrawal in the newborn
- Neuro-developmental support of the substance exposed infant
- Health issues for the substance exposed infant
- Partnership with natural families
- Care for the Caregiver



The Safe Babies Program is committed to providing relevant support, training and consultation to Caregivers, Social Workers and Community Partners in the Central and Upper Vancouver Island Areas.

### SUPPORT

The Safe Babies Program Liaison will provide pre-placement consultation to new Safe Babies caregivers and provide ongoing consultation as required.

The Safe Babies Program Liaison is available to provide ongoing telephone consultation to existing Safe Babies caregivers.

Safe Babies caregivers will be contacted regarding current information and Regional training opportunities pertaining to substance-exposed infants and their families.

### TRAINING

The Safe Babies Program will continue to offer the intensive Safe Babies Training in each area as indicated by the level of need and interest.

Ongoing educational opportunities will be provided to Safe Babies Caregivers and Social Workers.

### CONSULTATION

The Safe Babies Program Liaison is available to provide consultation to Ministry of Children and Family Development Social Workers and Community Partners who are working with Safe Babies infants and caregivers.

The Safe Babies Program Liaison will maintain current information regarding prenatal substance exposure and related issues.

Some of this resource material may be available for loan.

### Safe Babies Program

*Supporting the BC Ministry of Children and Family Development caregivers in the challenging task of providing safe, nurturing care for substance-exposed infants.*