MOSAIC — NEWCOMER FAMILY RESOURCE NETWORK

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- 23 newcomers have come out to the learn to skate program at the Central Park rink.
  Thanks to funding from the Forks,
  Centre Venture,
  West end and
  Downtown Biz and
  Knox Church
- 2 Mosaic graduate students are now trained to facilitate Nobody's Perfect.
   One more is being trained next month
- 4 Babies were born to Mosaic students this year!
- Glenda Knoll has a new puppy!
- Viktoria Bokova has a beautiful singing voice, that she demonstrated at the Aboriginal presentation.
- All of the EAL programs with on-site child care now have a centralized resource person dedicated to our needs. Her name is Anne Grewar and she works at the Family Centre

# Mosaic Minder

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# Nobody's Perfect

The Nobody's Perfect parenting program is the perfect place for women to come together and talk about their common parenting challenges. Trained facilitators guide discussions and provide information and referral when necessary. Newcomer parents learn about parenting in the Canadian context. In addition, each participant gets a set of books produced by Health Canada on common child development themes of: Body, Mind, Feelings, Safety, Parents, and Behaviour.

The current session is running Tuesday mornings from January 25—March 15 at Fort Garry Mennonite Brethren Church 1770 Pembina Hwy. from 9:30—11:30 a.m.

Please contact Jean Tinling for more information and to register jtinling@mosaicnet.ca



Fort Garry Participants and Wisal Ibrahim far right, co-facilitator

In February, most Mosaic programs had the opportunity to learn about Aboriginal culture from Corinne Stevens. Corinne visited the higher level classes and gave a presentation on who the Aboriginal people in Manitoba are, and what their recent history has been since European contact.

The students were very interested in the presentation and had a lot of questions for Corinne. Many of the students from African countries found that they had many things in common. The goal of the visit was to find similarities and break down negative stereotypes.

The second part of the project was a drumming and singing ceremony. Corinne began by "waking up" the drum using burning sage. She invited the students, staff and children to join in, and they did! Corinne invited others to sing a song in their first language. Sharing songs is a very moving experience, we all learned a lot.



Corinne "waking up" the drum



### Newcomer Family Resource Network

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

March 15—Teacher ProD with WSD 9-12 at Sir William Osler School

March 23—Museum Field Trip

March 24—Last day of classes at

Maranatha Church location

**March 25**—ProD day for Teachers - how to talk to EAL parents about raising their children to resist bias and discrimination.

March 28—April I SPRING BREAK

**April 4**—start of our new contract year, and start of our 4 day per week program

ROCK N' READ—starting in late

April—stay tuned!

### **Positive Parenting Module**

Jean Tinling has been working with module writer Gail Foot-Leyluk to develop an EAL teaching module that deals with parenting. This module, which could be the first in a series, deals with positive discipline. The module and all of the supporting materials, lesson plans and resources will be available on the Mosaicnet.ca web site.

All Mosaic teachers will see the module first hand at the upcoming ProD day on March 15, at Sir William Osler School.

## REAL with my Kids!

Reading English As An Additional Language with my Kids, was an 8 week pilot project run in partnership with the Winnipeg Public Library. Mums and kids gathered at the Fort Garry branch on Pembina Hwy. for a morning of stories and crafts. The program was run by Barbara Coombs with the assistance of Grace Leowen. We hope to offer this program again soon. Funding for this project came from Literacy for Life.

