Social Development Partnerships Program
Children and Families Component

Final Report

Project: Caring Across the Boundaries: First Nations and Voluntary Sector Organizations Working Together to Improve the Social Well-Being of Children and Families

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Through the *Caring Across the Boundaries: First Nations and Voluntary Sector Organizations Working Together to Improve the Social Well-Being of Children and Families* project, the FNCFCS has been able to help First Nations Child and Family Service Agencies (FNCFSA) to identify positive and culturally-based solutions to assist children to safely remain in their communities, using the Advanced Caring Across the Boundaries (CAB), Touchstones of Hope: Reconciliation in Indigenous Child Welfare program. The CAB program has enhanced community agencies’ capacity to access and provide a range of services designed to support the well-being of Aboriginal children and families.

**Summary of experience**

This project has been a great opportunity for the Advanced CAB program to develop and to expand. We have developed many bilingual resources including the Touchstones curriculum (Touchstones for Leadership, Touchstones for Youth and Bachelor of Social Work), training CDs and other Touchstones resources such as pamphlets and bookmarks. Through the website, workshops, conferences and other events, the FNCFCS has continued to foster relationships with a multi-sectored network of organizations both nationally and internationally. During the past year, the FNCFCS website received over 1.5 million hits and we reached over 14,000 people through workshops and presentations.

The FNCFCS hosted 6 train the trainers sessions and trained 66 individuals on how to facilitate Touchstones community workshops using the Touchstones for Leadership and the Touchstones for Youth curricula. We now have trainers in the provinces of Ontario, British Columbia, Yukon, Quebec, Saskatchewan, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and New Brunswick.

The FNCFCS has also given Touchstones presentations to Schools and Faculties of Social Work (13 in total, reaching 1655 people) as well as to other academic institutions (7 in total, reaching 2650 people).

Overall, this project has allowed the FNCFCS to continue its reconciliation work in Indigenous Child Welfare with the goal of improving services for Indigenous children, youth and families. The FNCFCS looks forward to continued success with the Advanced CAB program.

**Project Objectives, Results and Outcomes**

The FNCFCS, in joint partnership with the National Indian Child Welfare Association, developed the document, *Reconciliation in Child Welfare: Touchstones of Hope for Indigenous Children, Youth and Families*. This document is based on the principle that reconciliation in child welfare for Aboriginal children, youth, families and communities is needed in order to improve outcomes for Aboriginal children and families and for success in the broader Aboriginal community.

The Touchstones of Hope document outlines the process and the principles of Reconciliation.

The process of Reconciliation includes four key components:
- Truth Telling - The process of open exchange regarding the past.
- Acknowledging - Affirming and learning from the past and embracing new possibilities.
- Restoring - Addressing the problems of the past and creating a better path for the future.
- Relating - Moving forward together in a respectful way along a new path.

The five Guiding Principles, the Touchstones of Hope, include:
Reconciliation in Indigenous Child Welfare curriculum, a principle based document that has been designed for leaders within communities or organizations so that the most crucial change can start with them. The curriculum consists of 5 modules, one for each Touchstone of Hope. The goal of this document is to bring Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal leadership from Child Welfare together to go through the modules and to engage in the process of Reconciliation, utilizing the Touchstones as the basis for discussion.

There are two main components of the Touchstones curriculum, train the trainer sessions and community workshops. During train the trainer sessions, the CAB coordinators take participants through the curriculum. Overall the training sessions are designed to provide methods and resources so that participants can facilitate Touchstones community gatherings. Within the past year, the CAB Coordinators have delivered several train the trainer sessions, with a total of 66 trainers, 55 trained in the Touchstones for Leadership curriculum and 11 trained in the Touchstones for Youth curriculum:

- Kazabazua, Quebec (Ontario session); March, 2008; 7 trainers
- Truro, Nova Scotia; July, 2008; 11 trainers
- Sault Ste Marie, Ontario; November 22-24, 2008; 11 trainers
- Vancouver, British Columbia; December 2-4, 2008; 12 trainers
- Montreal, Quebec; February 25-27, 2009; 14 trainers
- Ottawa, Ontario; (youth session); May 6-8, 2009; 11 youth trainers

During this project, the FNCFCS was able to deliver Advanced CAB community workshops in three regions: British Columbia, Prairie and Central. There were a total of 4 workshops delivered to approximately 235 Indigenous and non-Indigenous CW representatives, First Nations members, voluntary sector organizations and individuals from other organizations.

- Touchstones For Leadership: Reconciliation in Child Welfare in Northern British Columbia; October 15-17, 2008; Prince Rupert, British Columbia
- Ontario Federation of Indian Friendship Centre’s Annual Youth Forum; October 25, 2008; Barrie, Ontario
- Touchstones for Leadership: Learning Symposium; February 3-5; Toronto, Ontario
- CAB Youth Community Workshop; March 20-21; Winnipeg, Manitoba

The train the trainer sessions and the community workshops have provided opportunities to examine emerging social issues affecting the lives of Indigenous children and families through the consultations of community agencies, the public, Aboriginal community members, and beneficiaries of the CAB initiative. In addition to train the trainer sessions and community workshops, staff from the FNCFCS have attended numerous conferences and workshops in order to network with organizations around the country as well as the world (funded under this project as well as other projects). The following is a list of events where the FNCFCS has delivered presentations on Reconciliation to different organizations and groups:

o February 20, 2008, Youth Forum NCAAH, Ottawa, ON.
o July 9-11, 2008, Legal Services Society of British Columbia’s Aboriginal Family & Child Protection Conference, New Westminster, British Columbia;
o July 20-21, 2008, British Columbia First Nations Child in the Centre Forum, Squamish Nation; approximately 10-21 participants;
o July 20-22, 2008, National Association of Friendship Centres Annual Youth Forum, Quebec City, QC;
o July 31- August 2, 2008, North American Council on Adoptable Children, Ottawa, approximately 10-21 participants;
o August 2008; North American Council on Adoptable Children; St. Paul, Minnesota, USA
o August 5, 2008, Norway House Cree Nation Celebration for Jordan’s Principle, Norway House Cree Nation, MB;
o August 20-23, 2008; Association of Child Welfare Agencies Conference, Sydney;
o September 16-18, 2008, Vancouver Island Chiefs Forum, Cowichan Tribes;
o October 23, 2008, First Annual Regional Gala; Winnipeg Manitoba
o October 23-24, 2008, The Engaged Learner Conference, Winnipeg, Manitoba;
o November 13, 2008, Canadian Mental Health Organization Conference, Toronto, Ontario;
o November 17, 2008, Treaty 7 Child and Family Services Conference, Calgary, Alberta;
o January 14-16, 2009, Ktunaxa Kinbasket Tribal Council, Cranbrook, BC;
o February 5, 2009, National Collaborating Centre on Aboriginal Health, Vancouver, BC
o February 6, 2009, Christian Horizons, Toronto, ON;
o February 13, 2009, Manitoba Child and Family Services (First Nations) Conference;
o February 28, 2009, UNICEF (on the Rights of the Child); Toronto, ON;
o March 19, 2009, Compassion International Taiwan, Taiwan;
o April 14, 2009, Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians, Niagara Falls, ON;
o April 25, 2009, Nurturing our Children, Ministry of Child and Family Development, Prince George, BC;
o April 27, 2009, Towards 2020 Canada’s Commitment to Children and Youth, Child & Youth Friendly Ottawa, Ottawa, ON;
o May 18, 2009, 10th Annual National First Nation Child & Family Services Conference, Yellowhead Tribal Services Agencies, Victoria, BC;
o May 20, 2009, Canadian Social Forum 2009, Canadian Council on Social Development, Calgary, AB;

In addition to presentations to organizations, the FNCFCS has delivered presentations on reconciliation and the Touchstones of Hope to Faculties and Schools of Social Work:

o February 14, 2008. University of Victoria; Social Work students;
o April 3, 2008, Ph. D students at the University of Toronto;
o May 24, 2008, Canadian Association of Social Workers & Canadian Association of Schools of Social Work, Toronto, ON;
o Murdoch University; Australia;
o August 20, 2008, University of Western Australia;
o August 20, 2008, University of New South Wales; Australia;
o October 3-4, 2008, Aurora College Northern Conference of Social Workers, Yellowknife NWT;
o November 9, 2008, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON; Master of Social Work students;
  o January 25, 2009, Master of Social Work Students; Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario;
  o February 12, 2009: University of Toronto; Bachelor of Social Work students
  o Ryerson University; Master of Social Work students;
  o March 4, 2009; University of Manitoba, Bachelor of Social Work program:
  o March 11-13, 2009, Nicola Valley Institute of Technology, Bachelor of Social Work
    students, Vancouver, British Columbia.

The FNCFCS has also given presentations to students, professors and other individuals at post-
secondary institutions both nationally and internationally:

  o February 2008, Aboriginal Health Week, University of Alberta Medical School;
  o May 18, 2008; Presentation to Human Rights/International Development Students for the
    University of Ottawa and the University of Kwazulu Natal
  o May 23-24, 2008; “Cultural diversity and vulnerable families: a bias in favour of cultural
    competence”, University of Montreal; Montreal, Quebec
  o September 5, 2008; School of Graduate Studies Student Orientation Event, University of
    Toronto.
  o November 25, 2008; University of Ottawa, Faculty of Law; approx 25 students
  o March 13, 2009; Indigenous Narratives and Contemporary Justice Conference; University of
    Toronto; Faculty of Law.
  o March 20, 2009, Taiwan and Canada Symposium on Aboriginal Health, National Yang-Ming
    University, Taiwan.

All of the FNCFCS gatherings have encouraged strengthening collaborations and partnerships
within Aboriginal community-based organizations and the voluntary sector. It has also increased
partnerships between the FNCFCA and voluntary sector organizations so that there is greater
access to culturally meaningful supports and services within Aboriginal communities.

At every Train the trainer session and community workshop, the FNCFCS has collected
scorecard evaluations of the Touchstones curriculum. Attached are two evaluations: one from
events utilizing the Touchstones for Leadership: Reconciliation in Child Welfare curriculum and
the other is from our first Touchstones for Youth Train the Trainer. We have been able to
evaluate the program outcomes and share the lessons learned with community-based
organizations and Aboriginal families across Canada. Our program results have been posted
online and 100 copies have been printed to send to those interested.

Through youth participation in numerous FNCFCS events and activities, many youth have
increased skills through curriculum writing and editing, training and participating in a peer review
process, and engaging in journal writing and publishing. Through separate funding, we were
able to hire youth writers to complete fact sheets for the FNCFCS website. The CAB
Coordinators oversaw the successful completion of these fact sheets by providing suggestions
for improvement. Youth are always actively involved in FNCFCS events and are encouraged to
join. Recently, we held our first Train the trainer session here in Ottawa. Since this was our first
time using this curriculum, we were able to obtain helpful suggestions and ideas for curriculum
updates as well as future training sessions.

The FNCFCS has encouraged mentorship activities, engagement and leadership development
for Aboriginal youth, in and from the care system, and who also work for Aboriginal
associations. An excellent example of this is the working relationship that developed between our curriculum writers. Melanie Ferris was mentored by expert Indigenous curriculum writer Margaret Kovach several years ago for our Caring Across the Boundaries Program. We are very pleased to note that Melanie has built on this opportunity by becoming a recognized expert in Indigenous curriculum writing. She also agreed to mentor Tee Copenace in the development of the Youth Reconciliation curriculum. This is an excellent example of how youth who are provided meaningful mentorship opportunities can themselves go on to be mentors for Aboriginal young people.

Another great example of mentorship occurred from May 6-8, 2009 where Jocelyn Formsma, CAB Coordinator, trained 11 youth from across Canada to attend the first youth train the trainer session held in Ottawa, Ontario. The youth were lead through the two module curriculum.

Through partners and collaborations and other alliances, the FNCFCS has been able to increase public awareness through lived experiences of Aboriginal people in Canada that have emerged from working with main stream voluntary sector organizations. In addition, the networking of organizations who have attended Touchstones of Hope events, has opened the doors to more social support to Aboriginal children, youth and families, by providing them with equal access to quality social services to improve their health, social, economic and cultural well-being. Please refer to sections Partners and Collaborations and Alliances for further detail.

The FNCFCS, either alone or in partnership with other organizations, has produced many resources during this funding period for the purpose of increasing information and knowledge sharing regarding the diversity of Aboriginal cultures, best practices, and important contributions to child welfare practice and has allowed the facilitation of knowledge transfer between community agencies, the voluntary sector, and Aboriginal communities by sharing information and resources. The following are resources produced:

- There have been 2 issues of the First Peoples Child and Family Review printed and available from FNCFCS
- Every quarter, 300 newsletters go out to communities, organizations, partners and individuals. It is also posted online at www.fncaringsociety.com
- Touchstones for Leadership: Reconciliation in Indigenous Child Welfare - 5 module (5 books in total)
- The Touchstones for Leadership: Reconciliation in Child Welfare Bachelor of Social Work curriculum; funded separately and available to schools of Social Work to incorporate into their program ; both in French and English
- The Touchstones for Youth: Reconciliation in Child Welfare curriculum. The two day curriculum, based on the Reconciliation in Child Welfare: Touchstones of Hope for Indigenous children, youth and families document (available on line at www.reconciliationmovement.org), is for Aboriginal and non Aboriginal young people aged 15-24. The goal of the curriculum is to prepare young people to facilitate reconciliation gatherings in their organizations and communities; encourage youth to develop leadership skills to help improve the health of their organizations and communities; and create dialogue around issues of concern in child welfare, including how to use the Touchstones of Hope to improve the child welfare system
- Translations of the Touchstones: French; Chinese and Simplified Chinese
- Reconciliation movement bookmarks and the Touchstones of Hope bookmarks – both serve as an educational resource for all of our participants. These resources have aided in the diffusion of information to widespread numbers
• Touchstones of Hope pamphlets
• Youth Train the trainer CD which includes:
  o Modules 1 and 2
  o Resources from Modules – includes Power Point presentations and documents referenced
  o Organizing a Session – Includes all of the resources needed to plan a community workshop
  o Facilitators Resources – Icebreakers – tips and references, Facilitation Tips, Public Speaking Tips, Background Information
• Train the trainer CD also available in French which includes:
  o Facilitator Resources - Past CAB resources, Colonization Resource, Games Guide
  o Organizing a Session – Includes all of the resources needed to plan a community workshop
  o Power Points - 5 in total, one to accompany each module;
  o Participant Resources – Includes a work booklet for each module in the curriculum;
  o Touchstones modules – electronic version
• On-line international peer reviewed journal – First Peoples Child and Family Review
• First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada Annual Report 2008; approximately 300 copies produced; distributed at presentations, workshops and to FNCFCS members, partners, etc.

Individuals impacted by the project

During the timelines of this project, Cindy Blackstock and FNCFCS staff participated in approximately 57 local, provincial, national and international events reaching approximately 14,000 people during this year. In addition, there were 66 individuals trained in the Touchstones curriculum, 55 individuals in the Touchstones for Leadership curriculum and 11 youth in the Touchstones for Youth curriculum. For events such as workshops and presentations, it is easier to estimate the numbers of people reached.

However, with this type of project, it is near to impossible to estimate the exact number of individuals who are actually reached because the FNCFCS helps to build capacity within the community by providing knowledge and skills. Thus, we cannot predict the opportunities that arise for organizations and individuals once they obtain these skills and knowledge; the impacts of this project are more likely to be determined over time. The FNCFCS does, however, track to the best of its ability, the numbers reached through success stories and open communication with youth, families, partners, organizations, alliances, communities and others. The Data Collection Questionnaire provides a detailed description of the numbers reached throughout this funding period.

The FNCFCS website is a useful tool in increasing the number of people reached as well as in helping with the dissemination of information. During the 2008/2009 fiscal year, there were approximately 1.5 million hits with visits from organizations, individuals and government officials both nationally and internationally. Please refer to Annex A as well as the Data Collection Questionnaire for more information on this past year’s website activities.
Project Partners, Collaborations and Alliances: Final products in Use

At the beginning of the project, there were 5 project partners outlined in the proposal. The following is a list of the partners and a briefing of the relationship with the FNCFCS throughout the past fiscal year.

Assembly of First Nations (AFN)
The FNCFCS has a strong working relationship with the AFN and works with them on a number of initiatives. In relation to this contract, the FNCFCS was invited by the British Columbia affiliate of the AFN to complete a presentation on Reconciliation. This presentation was used to inform the delegation about what Reconciliation is and provide examples of how Reconciliation could be implemented in the province of BC.

The Boys and Girls Club of Canada
The Club was contacted to try and set-up a presentation on Reconciliation. However, the annual Boys and Girls Clubs of Canada conference is now bi-annual with the next one to be held in 2010. The Boys and Girls Clubs of Canada are keen to continue to learn about the Touchstones and would welcome a presentation at their next annual conference.

Canadian Paediatric Society (CPS)
There was a meeting with the FNCFCS on January 30th, 2009 to discuss the Many Hands One Dream principle, a set of principles for Aboriginal child health (www.manyhandsonedream.ca) which was inspired by the Touchstones of Hope. The Many Hands One Dream group reviewed curriculum for paediatricians developed by Dr. Kent Saylor based on the Many Hands One Dream principles. FNCFCS provided comprehensive feedback on the paediatric curriculum which is currently being revised.

Centre of Excellence in Child Welfare (CECW)
The CECW partnered with the FNCFCS to co-sponsor the Caring Across the Boundaries: Bridging Knowledge Gaps, Services, and Policies to Support First Peoples Child Welfare and Health conference. The CAB conference was inspired by our CAB: Touchstones of Hope for Leadership in Reconciliation in Child Welfare curriculum and work completed previously by FNCFCS with the original Caring Across the Boundaries curriculum. The CECW sat on the steering committee as a partner and contributed to the agenda by identifying and sponsoring speakers to attend. Since then, CECW has worked with the FNCFCS on a number of initiatives, including Many Hands One Dream, the Touchstones for Leadership SW curriculum and the Touchstones for Youth curriculum.

Knowledgeable Aboriginal Youth Association (KAYA)
The partnership with KAYA was intended to ensure youth participation and reach throughout the Reconciliation process. In the first quarter of the 2008/2009 fiscal year, the FNCFCS was invited to two events that KAYA was hosting to talk about Reconciliation. However, both events were cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances and scheduling difficulties. The FNCFCS remained committed to working with KAYA on future initiatives. After a Train the Trainer session in Vancouver in December, an individual from KAYA expressed interest in hosting a community workshop in partnership with an individual from the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology (NVIT). Since there were issues surrounding planning, this workshop was not carried out. They have expressed interest in hosting a community workshop in the future.
Resulting from the success of the Touchstones of Hope curriculum, the FNCFCS has developed additional collaborations and alliances with Indigenous and non-Indigenous organizations, both national and international.

**Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians (AIAI)**
AIAI have volunteered to discuss the Touchstones Bachelor of Social Work curriculum with Sir Wilfred Laurier University and Western University.

**Compassion International (Taiwan)**
The Touchstones of Hope have now been taken up by Indigenous peoples in Taiwan who have translated it into Chinese and Simplified Chinese at their own expense and provided copies of the translated version for posting on the www.reconciliation.org website, which is co-sponsored by CECW.

**Christian Horizons**
Christian Horizons, a faith-based organization that provides support services for children with disabilities, has expressed interest in the Touchstones of Hope. The organization co-hosted a conference with other faith-based groups such as the Jewish community in February and the group is planning a larger conference for the fall of 2009 to raise awareness about reconciliation with members of their congregations/synagogues and other houses of worship.

**Food Banks Canada**
During the third quarter, the FNCFCS and Food Banks Canada tried organizing a presentation on the Touchstones of Hope but there were issues scheduling a date. However, Cindy Blackstock will be presenting at the National Foodbanks of Canada meeting in June of 2009 in Ottawa.

**Ministry of Child and Family Development (MCFD)**
From October 15-17, 2008, MCFD hosted a community workshop in Prince Rupert, BC bringing together over 120 participants from over 9 First Nations child and family service agencies serving Northern British Columbia. This workshop covered the Touchstones of Hope for Indigenous children over a period of 3 days with a team of 6 trained CAB facilitators. The Ministry has committed to using the Touchstones of Hope curriculum in all of Northern British Columbia. An information keynote was provided at a conference in Northern BC for First Nations and the Ministry for Child and Family Development; training sessions are planned for youth and adults. In addition, a quarterly electronic newsletter based on the Touchstones has been launched and a website is currently under discussion. This effort is historic in nature as it involves provincial governments and First Nations working together to restructure child welfare using the Touchstones principles on a broad scale. This very positive initiative has drawn significant interest from First Nations and provincial and territorial governments across Canada who are keen to learn more about this best practice.

**National Association of Friendship Centres – National Aboriginal Youth Council (NAYC)**
The NAYC is the representative body for youth accessing Friendship Centres across Canada. Friendship Centres are Aboriginal community centres that provide a wide range of programming to peoples residing in urban settings. The NAYC has, in the past, partnered with the FNCFCS to complete our Caring Across the Boundaries: Youth Focus. Initially, the FNCFCS had partnered with the Knowledgeable Aboriginal Youth Association to provide young people with an opportunity to learn about the Reconciliation in Child Welfare movement and the Caring Across the Boundaries: Touchstones for Leadership curriculum. In order to ensure that youth
participation was a key component of the CAB: Touchstones program moving forward, Jocelyn Formsma, CAB Coordinator presented to the National Association of Friendship Centres Aboriginal Youth Council in July 2008 at their National Youth Forum in Quebec City, Quebec. Since that time, the FNCFCS has kept in contact with the NAYC and has continued to send updates on upcoming opportunities.

**Nicola Valley Institute of Technology (NVIT)**

Funded jointly by the Centres of Excellence for Child Welfare and HRSD, Cindy Blackstock has written a Social Work curriculum based on the Touchstones of Hope curriculum. The curriculum meets university accreditation standards. NVIT is an Aboriginal post-secondary institute which provides diploma and baccalaureate degree programs. Cindy Blackstock met with NVIT administration in March and they are keen to use the Touchstones of Hope BSW program and to integrate the Touchstones of Hope principles in all of their programs. A Touchstones training program for all faculty at NVIT is currently being planned.

**Ontario Aboriginal Youth Council (OAYC)**

Resulting from the National Youth Forum in Quebec City, the Ontario Aboriginal Youth Council requested a workshop at their upcoming Annual Youth Forum. On October 25, 2008, approximately 35 First Nations and Métis youth gathered for the annual Ontario Federation of Indian Friendship Centres’ Youth Forum. Jocelyn Formsma lead the youth through a full day CAB workshop. The FNCFCS has since continued to share information with the OAYC.

**Benefits, impacts and improvements to Indigenous children, families and youth, and Canadians**

To date, the FNCFCS is the only national program working at reconciliation at a community level. This program is especially important since it has only been a year after the Government of Canada’s public apology for the residential school system. Since the apology, many issues have come to light for many Indigenous people. Residential schools directly impacted the lives of those who attended the schools and this impacted upon the lives of the generations that followed. These effects are evident through the structural risks that numerous Aboriginal peoples face today, such as poverty, inequality of funding, etc.

Through the Advanced CAB program using the Touchstones of Hope, the FNCFCS has carried forward the reconciliation movement that was started in Niagara Falls in 2005. Had the project not been funded, the reconciliation movement may not have become so widespread. The FNCFCS has successfully shared information and knowledge on reconciliation to individuals.

The Advanced CAB program is a unique program because it reaches a wide variety of audiences and there is very little cross over since we have presented to a diversity of organizations in many different sectors. As such, this program has not been limited to Child Welfare but has expanded to other areas concerned with the well-being of children such as Education, Health and Law. In addition, the Touchstones of Hope have not only spread across Canada, but also to other countries across the world.
Annex A – Website Statistics

November 2007 - April 2008:
Data not available

May 2008:
Total hits: 133,173
Average hits per hour: 178
Average hits per day: 4295
The Touchstones of Hope did not rank among the Top 30 of 782 possible URLs on the website.

June 2008:
Total hits: 117010
Average hits per hour: 162
Average hits per day: 3900
The Touchstones of Hope did not rank among the Top 30 of 893 possible URLs on the website.

July 2008:
Total hits: 120,868
Average hits per hour: 162
Average hits per day: 3898
The Touchstones of Hope did not rank among the Top 30 of 778 possible URLs on the website.

August 2008:
Total hits: 95306
Average hits per hour: 128
Average hits per day: 3074
The Touchstones of Hope did not rank among the Top 30 of 780 possible URLs on the website.

September 2008:
Total hits: 119,072
Average hits per hour: 165
Average hits per day: 3969
The Touchstones of Hope ranked 17th among the 797 possible URLs on the website with a monthly total of 592 hits.

October 2008:
Total hits: 163709
Average hits per hour: 220
Average hits per day: 5280
The Touchstones of Hope ranked 18th among the 912 possible URLs on the website with a monthly total of 865 hits.

November 2008:
Total hits: 141,864
Average hits per hour: 197
Average hits per day: 4728
The Touchstones of Hope ranked 11th among the 811 possible URLs on the website with a monthly total of 1118 hits.

December 2008:
Total hits: 117,467
Average hits per hour: 157
Average hits per day: 3789
The Touchstones of Hope ranked 20th among the 789 possible URLs on the website with a monthly total of 488 hits.

January 2009:
Total hits: 145,773
Average hits per hour: 157
Average hits per day: 4702
The Touchstones of Hope ranked 12th in popularity among the 861 possible URLs on the website with a monthly total of 992 hits.

February 2009:
Total hits: 141,476
Average hits per hour: 210
Average hits per day: 5052
The Touchstones of Hope ranked 14th in popularity among the 822 possible URLs on the website with a total of 795 hits.

March 2009:
Total hits: 181,081
Average hits per hour: 243
Average hits per day: 5841
The Touchstones of Hope ranked 16th in popularity among the 856 possible URLs on the website with a total of 1059 hits.

April 2009:
Total hits: 181,081
Average hits per hour: 243
Average hits per day: 5841
The Touchstones of Hope ranked 16th in popularity among the 856 possible URLs on the website with a total of 1059 hits.

May 2009:
Total hits: 181,081
Average hits per hour: 243
Average hits per day: 5841
The Touchstones of Hope ranked 16th in popularity among the 856 possible URLs on the website with a total of 1059 hits.