

Our Vision: *To improve public education for all students by including and supporting parents*

BCCPAC Annual General Meeting May 3-4

The Annual General Meeting is your chance to vote for new members of the Board of Directors (including a new President) and to vote on resolutions that will guide BCCPAC in the future.

[BCCPAC Annual Meeting](#)

Spring Conference Workshops Filling up Fast

The workshops for the BCCPAC Spring Conference, May 1-2, are filling up fast. In particular, the workshops “Working Together” with Mike McAvoy, “Making Meetings Work,” with Eli Mina and “Team Works” with Carol Ann Fried are very popular. The other workshops are also drawing lots of participants. The Honourable Shirley Bond, Minister of Education is slated to attend Friday, May 2. Register now to ensure you get a space in the workshops that interest you the most. For complete details and to register see [BCCPAC Spring Conference](#)

Member Mail-out

BCCPAC sent a mailing to all members on April 3. It includes the Annual Report, the Nominations Booklet, an important notice to members regarding resolutions, the spring issue of *Our Voice* and other information. These documents are also available on the website.

Annual Report and Nominations Booklet (see Popular Downloads on [homepage](#)). For other documents [click here](#) (you will need your membership username and password).

Crystal Meth Education

Among the items in the member mail-out was an application for a crystal meth parent education. This grant offers up to \$1,000 for parent groups, such as DPACs, to bring in experts to teach parents to prevent drug abuse and recognize the warning signs. The grant can be used to bring in a speaker from the [Crystal Meth Society of BC](#), volunteer parents who have lived through the tragedy of having their children battle addiction to this drug. [Crystal Meth Grant Application](#).

Children’s Art Needed for *Our Voice*

The editor of *Our Voice* needs more children’s artwork for the cover of the magazine. If you would like to see your child’s art on the cover, send it by e-mail to gabriellemoore@bccpac.bc.ca. Art with a horizontal format and lots of colour is more likely to go on the front cover. The artist is recognized for her or his contribution with a short item on the inside front cover.

Final Draft of the Daily Physical Activity Program Guide

The final draft of the [Daily Physical Activity Program Guide Kindergarten to Grade 12](#) has now been posted on the Ministry of Education website. It includes daily physical activity prescribed learning outcomes and suggested achievement indicators for kindergarten to grade nine and for grades ten to twelve.

Home Economics IRPs Now Available Online

The final Home Economics IRPs: Textiles 8–12, Foods and Nutrition 8-12, and Family Studies 10-12 are now available on the [Ministry of Education curriculum website](#)

Operating Grants for Schools/Districts Available Online

The Ministry of Education has made the details of the funding for schools and districts available online. To obtain a detailed accounting of a particular school district [click here](#) and select the appropriate district. To view the provincial breakdown of all school districts [click here](#) for the fact sheet.

Overview of BCHLA Key Initiatives for Healthy Living Strategy Published

The BC Healthy Living Alliance (BCHLA) has just published an overview of its key initiatives within the Healthy Living Strategy. Entitled *Making the Healthy Choice the Easier Choice*, the publication is available online [click here](#).

BC Healthy Schools Assessment Tool Available Online

The World Health Organization, through its Global School Healthy Initiative, promotes the concept of a Health-Promoting School. Such a school is constantly strengthening its capacity as a healthy setting for living, learning and working. The BC Ministries of Education and Health have established the [Healthy Schools Assessment Tool](#) to enable schools to systematically assess what they are doing with respect to the key components of a Healthy School setting. For more information on WHO's Health-Promoting Schools see the [special website](#).

Students with Disabilities Can Participate in the Olympics

Opportunities for secondary school students with disabilities to participate in the excitement of the Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games are being provided by 2010 Legacies Now, SET-BC and 3M. The new program, Virtual Voices Village, will provide students, with a range of disabilities, the chance to develop writing and journalism skills and to post their work online. After completing the program, which will include interviewing and writing about athletes and mentorship with local journalists, students may be selected to be reporters for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. Please visit <http://www.vvillage.org> to learn more about the program and see the students' work.

Free Computers for Schools

Computers for Schools, a non-profit provider of refurbished computers to BC schools and communities, is moving warehouses and has 200 Pentium 3 computers available for interested schools. Brands are assorted, but it guarantees: 1.0 GHz, 256 MB RAM, 10 GB HD, Win 2000. The only cost to the school is shipping. See their website [Computers for Schools](#). Please contact: Mary-Em Waddington, Computers for Schools, at 604-250-9936 or mwaddington@cfsbc.ca

NewsBytes is a regular e-mail communication sent to BCCPAC members to highlight items of interest. Others may also subscribe to NewsBytes. Contact BCCPAC at 604-687-4433, e-mail info@bccpac.bc.ca. Feel free to share this communication with others.