

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

### **Consider Your By-election Vote Carefully**

Thanks to all the PACs and DPACs who renewed their membership in order to vote in the BCCPAC by-election. You will be receiving your ballot package at the end of the month, but you can start discussing who you will vote for now. Feel free to ask a question of a candidate. Use the form below. The nominees and their positions are available on the [website](#). The ballots need to be returned by October 31.

Candidate question form: <http://www.bccpac.bc.ca/UserFiles/File/2008%20By-election%20Candidate%20Question%20Sheet.pdf>  
<http://www.bccpac.bc.ca/index/by-election.aspx>

### **We Need Your Involvement in BCCPAC**

BCCPAC is a volunteer organization and in order to take action it needs volunteers to become involved. For example, you could see that action is taken on resolutions passed at annual meetings by volunteering for a Standing Resolution Committee. To obtain more information on this and other interesting volunteer opportunities click below.

<http://www.bccpac.bc.ca/aboutus/volunteer.aspx>

### **President Interviewed on Christy Clark Show**

CKNW Radio host Christy Clark interviewed BCCPAC President Ron Broda, along with Connie Denesiuk, President BC School Trustees Association and Irene Lanzinger, President BC Teachers' Federation. The interview took place on September 2 at 1 p.m. You can listen to it on the internet if you go to the CKNW website audio vault and enter the date and time. Click below to get there.

<http://www.cknw.com/StationShared/AudioVault.aspx>

### **Early Bird Deadline for Fall Conference**

The early bird deadline for the BCCPAC Fall Conference registration is next Tuesday, September 30. Save money and get your registration in now. For more information on the Fall Conference, click below:

[http://www.bccpac.ca/index/event\\_calendar.aspx?cid=66](http://www.bccpac.ca/index/event_calendar.aspx?cid=66)

You can print out the form from the hyperlink

below. [http://bccpac.bc.ca/UserFiles/File/Fall\\_Conference\\_page/Teaming%20Up%20for%20the%20Future%2008%20Fall%20Conference%20Registration%20form.pdf](http://bccpac.bc.ca/UserFiles/File/Fall_Conference_page/Teaming%20Up%20for%20the%20Future%2008%20Fall%20Conference%20Registration%20form.pdf)

### **How Internet Aware are Parents in Your Community?**

If you're not sure, then you should attend the BCCPAC Fall Conference. Steve Dotto, of the TV shows Dottotech and Dotto on Data, will demonstrate how to protect children using the internet with the new CyberSafe DVD and then, in separate workshops, show parents how to present it to other parents in their communities. You'll go home with a free CyberSafe DVD and the knowledge of how to share it with other parents. Steve's involvement in the Conference and the CyberSafe DVDs are being sponsored by the Virtual School Society.

For information on CyberSafe and Steve Dotto, including videos, click below.

<http://www.dottotech.com/>

For information on the Virtual School Society click below:

[http://www.learnnowbc.ca/information/about\\_us/Understanding\\_VS.aspx](http://www.learnnowbc.ca/information/about_us/Understanding_VS.aspx)

### **Discount Conference Hotel Rate Extended to September 29**

The block of rooms for BCCPAC at the Hilton Vancouver Metrotown is filling up quickly, but the discount room rate deadline has been extended to September 29. Hotel rooms can be booked online at:

<http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/YVRVMHF-PAR-20081023/index.jhtml>

### **Playground Grant Application Period Starts**

The application period for Playground Grants runs from September 15 through November 30. Applicants are notified by March 31, 2009. The new rules mean that PACs can apply for up to \$20,000 for playgrounds without having to provide matching funds.

<http://www.hsd.gov.bc.ca/gaming/grants/playground.htm>

News release:

<http://www.hsd.gov.bc.ca/gaming/news/docs/2008-09-08.htm>

### **Crystal Meth Education Grants Available**

Grants of up to \$1,000 are available for parent groups to bring in experts to teach parents how to prevent drug abuse. 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 drug addiction.

Grant Application Form

<http://www.bccpac.bc.ca/UserFiles/File/Crystal%20Meth%20Grant%20Application%20Form.pdf>

Crystal Meth Society of BC

<http://www.crystalmethbc.ca/>

### **PAC Ed Workshops Being Reviewed**

PAC Ed workshops will not be offered this fall; however workshops already booked will still take place. For any inquiries, please contact the office.

### **Managing Anaphylaxis Webcasts**

Anaphylaxis Canada is presenting two new webcasts to address anaphylaxis management strategies in both elementary and secondary schools individually, auto-injector training, as well as tips and strategies for creating an allergy safe school environment. Each webcast is offered free to aid school staff in their anaphylaxis training programs as well as for anyone with an interest in anaphylaxis, such as patients and parents of allergic children.

Anaphylaxis in Secondary Schools is Wednesday October 15th 12:00-1:00 pm (EST). To participate in this online seminar, please click on the following link to register. The same link will be used for the actual webcast and will be available live 15 minutes prior to the broadcast.

<http://w.on24.com/r.htm?e=121031&s=1&k=10E257F67C1FD4917DE48BEB9E877275>

Anaphylaxis in Elementary Schools Wednesday October 22nd 12:00-1:00pm (EST). Click on the following link to register. The same link will be used for the actual webcast and will be available live 15 minutes prior to the broadcast.

<http://w.on24.com/r.htm?e=121036&s=1&k=7E92445591C5B1E5E2713FE2683B3582>

### **Integrated Resource Package for Social Justice 12**

The IRP for this new course is available at the website below. According to the rationale in the IRP: "A successful Social Justice 12 course will provide opportunities for students to examine their own

beliefs and values, as well as the origins of those beliefs. In addition, it will allow them to support or challenge their beliefs and values through reflection, discussion, and critical analysis. This course builds on students' innate sense of justice, motivating them to think and act ethically, and empowering them to realize their capacity to effect positive change in the world.”

[http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/irp/irp\\_ss.htm](http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/irp/irp_ss.htm)

### **More Rural School Districts Get Incentives to Attract Teachers**

A new agreement between the BC Public School Employers Association and the BC Teachers' Federation has increased the number of rural school districts that will be able to offer teachers, who qualify, an additional \$2,200 yearly allowance and up to three per cent on the salary grid. The Public Education Recruitment and Retention Support Committee, made up of representatives from BCPSEA and BCTF, designated the specific schools and school districts to receive the allowance beyond districts already specified in a 2006 framework agreement. School districts were invited to submit requests for eligibility to the Public Education Recruitment and Retention Support Committee.

[http://www2.news.gov.bc.ca/news\\_releases\\_2005-2009/2008EDU0092-001087.htm](http://www2.news.gov.bc.ca/news_releases_2005-2009/2008EDU0092-001087.htm)

A resolution carried at the 2008 BCCPAC Annual General Meeting called for more funding for teacher incentives in rural communities. The resolution called for student loan forgiveness, but this has not been implemented.

<http://www.bccpac.bc.ca/resolutions/policies/employee.aspx#2008.21>

### **Knowledge Network to go Digital**

Beginning this fall, the Knowledge Network will convert from analogue to digital programming. This means that its programs will be available 24 hours a day, seven days a week via the internet—increasing accessibility. The Knowledge Network is consistently ranked No. 1 in weekly audience ratings for children's programming in B.C.

[http://www2.news.gov.bc.ca/news\\_releases\\_2005-2009/2008ALMD0060-001413.htm](http://www2.news.gov.bc.ca/news_releases_2005-2009/2008ALMD0060-001413.htm)

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