



BC CONFEDERATION OF PARENT  
ADVISORY COUNCILS

The collective voice of  
parents for the  
best possible public  
education of all  
children in  
British Columbia

**Annual  
Report  
2008**



**[www.bccpac.bc.ca](http://www.bccpac.bc.ca)**



## President's Report

The 2008-2009 year has been a very busy and challenging one for the BCCPAC Board of Directors with three main Board goals: implementing the recommendations from the governance audit; working to ensure the future sustainability of the SPLSS/PIRC Program; and renewing and updating important member resources.

In January the series of member consultation sessions to reconfirm, refine and re-identify BCCPAC's constitutionally defined purposes began. The last session will be immediately prior to this year's Spring Conference. Input from these sessions will inform the Board, assisted by contractors and the Governance Audit Implementation Committee, in drafting a new Constitution and Bylaw document. Additional consultation with members will take place as initial drafts are created. It is hoped that the target of a completed final draft for presentation and adoption at a Special Meeting, in conjunction with the 2009 Fall Conference, can still be met.

In November the Supporting Parent Leadership Seminar Series concluded with the graduation of the first three cohorts of Parent Information Resources Coordinators. The Howe Group was hired to provide a strategic plan for the future of these programs and to assist BCCPAC's efforts in securing ongoing financial support for these programs. An Interim Program Coordinator was also hired to support and supervise PIRCs.

For several years there has been an identified need to revise BCCPAC's Leadership Manual, a cornerstone resource. This year the

Board recognized that little progress had been made toward this goal on the strength of volunteer effort alone, so the Board decided to assign this task to staff. At our Fall Conference, a contractor conducted a survey of members, seeking input on changes that were required. Since then a draft version of the new resource has been completed and is currently under review.



The Board has been very busy representing member's interests at the Learning Round Table, Education Advisory Committee, meetings with the Minister and Deputy Minister of Education, as well as regular meetings with other education partner groups. Reports on all of these events are available on the BCCPAC's Member Only section of our web site ([www.bccpac.bc.ca](http://www.bccpac.bc.ca)). Of particular interest is the input BCCPAC has provided to the College of Teachers regarding legislation that could improve the protection of children under the supervision of teachers and other adults.

Thank you for all of your efforts and continued support for the future for ALL of our children.

Ron Broda, President & CEO

## 2008 Boards of Directors



### Board of Directors 2008 - 2009

(Left to right: Fiona Delcourt, Secretary; Steve Baker, Director; Suzette Miller, Director; Laurey-Anne Roodenburg, 2nd Vice President; Ron Broda, President; Ann Whiteaker, 1st Vice President; Stephanie Longstaff, Director; Cheryl McCann, Treasurer and (front row) Ida Middleton, Director

Due to the election of Ron Broda as President, the resignation of Jim Yurkowski and a shortage of candidates for Director positions, a by-election was held in October. Ann Whiteaker was appointed 1st Vice-President, as the results from voting were not conclusive, Fiona Delcourt was elected Secretary and Ida Middleton was elected Director. The other new Board members were elected at the Annual General Meeting. Past President, Kim Howland resigned her non-voting position in October.



### Board of Directors 2007 - 2008

(Back row, left to right) Cheryl McCann, Treasurer; Laure-Anne Roodenburg, Director; Terri-Lynne Huddlestone, Director; Margaret Lipke, Director; Kim Howland, President and Lori Tedrick, 2nd Vice-President. (Front row, left to right) Steve Baker, Director; Ron Broda, 1st Vice-President and Jim Yurkowski, Secretary.

**Staff:** Carla Giles, Chief Operating Officer; Gabrielle Moore, Communications and Media Coordinator; Francesca Foschi-Mitchell, Office Administrator; Evelyn Chan and Samantha Tsui, Office Assistants; Daniel Lau, Accounting Clerk; Carole Goheen, Accountant.

**Advocacy Project:** Janet Philips, Cathy Bedard, Helen Parker



## Financial Statements 2008

Statement of Operations  
for the year ended  
December 31, 2008

Balance Sheet  
as at  
December 31, 2008



### REVENUE

#### Grants

Restricted Projects	1,793,087
Operating Grant	318,000
Direct Access Program Grant	50,000
Sponsorships	6,000
Membership Fees	59,915
Conferences	113,275
Interest	29,314
Charitable Donations	144
Miscellaneous	20,297

**Total Revenue** **2,390,032**

### EXPENDITURES

Operations	449,858
Restricted Projects & Programs	1,674,804
Conference Expenses	161,656
Member Communications	45,097
Representation	22,599
Awards	57

**Total Expense** **2,354,071**

**Excess** **35,961**

### ASSETS

Cash	361,519
Cash - Restricted	863,127
Endowment Fund	5,569
Short Term Investment (unrestricted)	371
Accounts Receivable	26,312
Prepaid Expenses	28,049
Capital Assets	17,555

**Total Assets** **1,302,502**

### LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

Accounts Payable	110,482
Deferred Revenue	592,782

**Total Liabilities** **703,264**

**Total Net Assets** **599,238**

**Total Liabilities & Net Assets** **1,302,502**

Complete audited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2008, together with the auditor's report thereon, will be presented at the annual general meeting of members on May 2, 2009 and will be made available on the Members' Only section of the BCCPAC website ([www.bccpac.bc.ca](http://www.bccpac.bc.ca)).

### OUR THANKS

BCCPAC extends sincere thanks to the many volunteers who support students throughout the public school system. We want to acknowledge the contribution of our sponsors and the many exhibitors who participate in our conferences. We also gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the Province of British Columbia through the Ministry of Education.

## BCCPAC Representation 2008

Members of the Board of Directors of BCCPAC represented the interests of the members of BCCPAC at meetings with the following groups involved with education:

- BC College of Teachers
- BC Early Childhood Learning Agency
- BC Educational Leadership Council
- BC Healthy Living Alliance
- BC Principals and Vice Principals Association
- BC School Sports
- BC School Superintendents Association
- BC School Trustees Association
- BC Teachers' Federation
- Canadian Home and School Federation
- Directorate of Agencies for School Health
- Education Advisory Council
- Education Partners Group
- Federation des Parents Francophones
- Learning Round Table
- Ministry of Education, Province of British Columbia
- Roads to 2010



## 2008 Year in Review

### BCCPAC Web Site

The year began with the launch of the new BCCPAC web site which provides member services at the click of a mouse. Publications, forms, a calendar of events, copies of *News Bytes* and *Our Voice* are available to all who need them when they need them.

The new web site includes a password protected members only section. This section allows BCCPAC to be more transparent to members by posting Board Meeting minutes and other documents intended for members.

### Playground Grants

The government provided \$1 million in playground grants to be distributed to BCCPAC members who had applied for them. A total of 633 grant applications were received with the total requested amount being in excess of \$11 million. A total of 66 grants were allocated in amounts up to \$20,000.

It is now no longer necessary for PACs to provide matching funds when seeking government grants for school playground equipment. This means more PACs are able to apply for and receive grants, including those PACs in areas where fund raising may be difficult due to economic or other factors.

### Governance Audit

The value of the governance audit review was revealed in the Spring when the auditors explained that six sections of the BCCPAC Constitution had been accidentally rescinded in 1998. The sections included some that were essential to the operations of BCCPAC.

The Board of Directors proposed special resolutions at the BCCPAC Annual General Meeting that addressed the issue of the missing sections. These were passed and a revised version of the BCCPAC Constitution and Bylaws was published.

### Spring Conference

The Spring Conference, held in conjunction with the Annual General Meeting, had the theme "Empowering the Parent Voice." It featured Linda Kaser, an assistant professor of Educational Leadership at the University of Victoria, as the keynote speaker. Mike McAvoy of the BC Education Leadership Council presented a plenary on how the education system in BC works and the roles and responsibilities of the various elected and administrative officials.

The Spring Conference also saw the presentation of the BCCPAC Awards. Terri-Lynne Huddlestone received the George Matthews

### HIGHLIGHTS OF 2008

- New BCCPAC web site launched
- Playground grants distributed
- Governance audit completed
- Annual General Meeting and Spring Conference
- Revised *Speaking Up: a parent guide to advocating for students in public schools* published by BCCPAC
- Fall Conference
- By-election
- SPLSS graduation

Award for Excellence in Parent Leadership. She was first elected as a Director on the Board in 2001. The BCCPAC Educational Award was given to Parmpreet Gill, an exceptional grade 12 student from Princess Margaret Secondary School in Surrey

### Speaking Up!

The Spring Conference also provided the opportunity to unveil the newly revised *Speaking Up: a parent guide to advocating for students in public schools*, written by the Helen Parker, Janet Phillips and Cathy Bedard. A copy of the book was sent to every member of BCCPAC and is available on the BCCPAC web site.

Phillips and Bedard are also the BCCPAC Advocacy Project Coordinators. They provide individual callers with a safe, confidential environment to discuss and prepare for the often difficult task of voicing concerns to school and school district staff. Through these calls, and calls with parent leaders, the advocates identify and report systemic problems to the BCCPAC Board of Directors. This enables BCCPAC to pursue positive change for students province-wide.

The advocates received a total of 4,270 requests for assistance, compared to 4,365 in 2007. Calls come from individual parents, students and district parent advisory groups (DPACs) across the province.

### Member Input into Governance

The *Governance Audit Final Report* was submitted by the Governance Audit Steering Committee in June. While the report identified issues, discussed options and provided recommendations, it also emphasized that members need to decide what they want BCCPAC to be and do. The first phase of determining this is the task



of re-examining the purposes, outlined in the BCCPAC Constitution, to see if they are still appropriate or if they need revision. To accomplish this BCCPAC hired a consultant, Carol-Ann Fried, who will be visiting key centres across the province to obtain member input on the BCCPAC purposes.

### Fall Conference

The Fall Conference, held in October at the Hilton Hotel in Burnaby was a tremendous success. Surveys completed by the conference delegates indicated that 98% would recommend a conference to another parent.

The keynote speaker was Neil Smith who spoke on Building Dynamic Teams and the plenary speaker was Steve Dotto, who discussed cybersafety. Minister of Education Shirley Bond also spoke to the delegates.

### By-election

Because the annual general meeting saw the First Vice-President elected as President as well as the resignation of the Secretary, a by-election was held in October via the mail. By-elections are unusual for BCCPAC. The successful candidates are pictured on page 2.

### SPLSS Grads Become PIRCs

November saw the graduation of the participants in the Supporting Parent Leadership Seminar Series (SPLSS). These dedicated parents have completed two years of training and are now ready to embark on two years of volunteer work for BCCPAC. The graduates will be called Parent Information and Resource Coordinators and will be assisting involved parents in communities across the province. A consultant, Teresa Augustine, was hired in December to develop a plan for deploying the PIRCs and providing support to them. With the considerable knowledge they gained in their SPLSS training, the PIRCs will be available as a resource for PACs and DPACs in the districts where they live.