



NewsBytes

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May 7th is Child & Youth Mental Health Day...mark your calendars! The National Institute of Families in partnership with The FORCE Society for Kids' Mental Health is developing a green ribbon campaign to promote child and youth mental wellness in homes, schools and communities. If you'd like to stay informed as events throughout the province and country are developed, sign up for the e-newsletter here: <http://www.instituteoffamilies.ca/index.php>

FRIENDS Parent Workshops are now available to School Districts, DPAC's, PAC's and other Parent organizations. For more information go to <http://www.friendsparentprogram.com/workshops>. If you would like to speak with someone directly about your interest and/or submit a request for a parent workshop in your area, please email info@FRIENDSparentprogram.com and a FORCE representative will assist you.

Board of Directors - BCCPAC is currently accepting nominations for the 2012/2013 Board of directors. The position of First Vice President has been added to the list of positions open for election. The term for this position will be one (1) year. The other positions open for Nomination: President, 2nd Vice President, Secretary and two (2) Directors have two (2) year terms.

The deadline for nominations is midnight February 28, 2012. Nomination forms and information can be found on the BCCPAC website at: (http://www.bccpac.bc.ca/index/event_calendar/2012AGM.aspx). Inquiries may be sent to the Nominations Committee Chair, Cathy Jewett (cathyjewett@bccpac.bc.ca).

Community Gaming Grant Review Announcement - Premier Clark released the results of the Community Gaming Grant Review - headed by Skip Triplett. In response to Mr. Triplett's report on the review, the Province will reinstate funding eligibility for adult arts and sports organizations, environmental groups and animal welfare agencies. The Province will also increase support for other organizations that have experienced funding reductions in the past three years, including those responsible for fairs, festivals, youth arts and culture, community service, the B.C. Senior Games and community education organizations.

[Click here for full press release](#)

[Click here for Skip Triplett's full report](#)

Public Invitation to Apply for Hearing Panel Pool! The Ministry of Education is responsible for administering teacher certification and discipline in the public interest by ensuring that the people of BC are served by teachers who meet high standards of competence and conduct.

As part of this mandate, under the recently enacted *Teachers Act*, panels will be established to hear matters regarding the competence and professional conduct of teachers, as well as hear appeals related to denials of teacher certification.

The Ministry seeks to establish a roster of interested persons who are not Board members and from whom the Commissioner may draw upon to hear these matters. [Click here for full details:](#)

First Nations Films distributes and creates award-winning educational Aboriginal documentary films and videos for, by and about First Nations people. These exclusive native programs are shared with schools, universities, libraries, organizations and other groups and institutions: <http://www.firstnationsfilms.com/>

BCSTA 2012 Student Citizenship Award

If you are a graduating student or parent of a graduating student, the BC School Trustees Association invites applications for its 2012 Awards for Student Citizenship. There are five awards of \$500 each available. **The deadline for filling out and returning the application forms is Wednesday, February 29, 2012.** Students may mail or fax the forms to BCSTA. Click [here](#) for full details.

Conservation Education Assistance Fund (CEAF) – Funding available to schools for field trips

CEAF will provide small grants to teachers and schools for transportation, project materials and field trip leaders that **take students outside on a field trip**. Click here for their press release and information flyer. You can visit the website for more information at: www.hctf.ca/CEAF/index.html. Annual application deadlines: February 15th and September 15th.

Grow A Tree Project Trees for life Canada is a fun, hands-on, environmental education experience designed for students in Kindergarten to Grade Six. The Grow-a-Tree Project is a unique classroom activity that introduces young students to important grade-appropriate topics in science, ecology, social and environmental studies. Click the link for full details: - <http://www.trees4life.ca/>

Toque Campaign: Here's a fun, upbeat way to get your 40 community hours and make a real difference in the lives of homeless and at-risk young people in your community. **START YOUR OWN TOQUE CAMPAIGN** and help 4, 40 or even 400 people make changes that will lead them to stable housing and a real future. It's easy and rewarding to launch a Toque Campaign at your own school. Click the link for full details: <http://www.raisingtheroof.org/Get-Involved/Students.aspx>

Teacher/Staff appreciation week Feb 12-18 2012: Teacher / Staff Appreciation Week (TSAW) was initiated by the Canadian Home and School Federation in 1988. The purpose of this week is to encourage parents and the wider community to recognize the personal and professional contributions that our teachers and school staff make to children and their education.

Member Views

BCCPAC has an email address specifically for our members. To help BCCPAC better understand experiences and concerns that parents have please share your stories with us by e-mailing your input to memberviews@bccpac.bc.ca. Please indicate the topic in the subject line and provide us with your school district number.

Government Press & News Releases

Catch up on the latest K-12 Government news/press releases. Visit the new section of our website by [clicking here](#)

Share your Event

Does your PAC/DPAC have an event, workshop, seminar or meeting happening in your area which you would like to share? If so, please let us know about it and we will post the information on our NEW [Provincial/Regional/District Events page](#) of the website.

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:

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