

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

BC College of Teachers Holds Mini Forum November 23

The BCCT held a mini forum with education partners to review revised Standards for the Education, Competence and Professional Responsibility of Educators in BC. Two representatives from each of the education partners present, when the BCCT first reviewed its Standards in April 2006, were given the opportunity to submit a written response and then attend the mini forum on November 23rd. Each representative was given 20 minutes to present their organizations submissions. Following all the presentations, discussion took place on the education partner's comments, suggestions and recommendations and on "How specific should these standards be?" There was a difference of opinion on this question. The college will now gather the information given and make a decision on where to go from here with the Standards. The submission presented is available on the BCCPAC website.

www.bccpac.bc.ca

Satisfaction Survey Available Online

Early in 2008, the Ministry of Education's Satisfaction Survey will be administered to students in grades 4*, 7, 10, and 12, their parents, and all school staff. (*Where a school has no grade 4 students, students in grade 3, their parents, and school staff will complete the survey.) This year, the survey can be completed on paper or electronically. Parents, who wish to complete the survey online, should contact their school for instructions and a logon number. If parents haven't received an electronic survey logon number or a paper survey by February 1, they should contact their school. The e-survey site will be open until March 31, 2008. The electronic survey can be accessed on the internet at:

http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey/access.htm

District Associate Program Dissolved

Over the past four years the BCCPAC Board of Directors has been reviewing all programs, so BCCPAC can support members more effectively. Upon recommendation from the Member Support Committee, the Board entered into lengthy discussions on the continued viability of the DA Program and decided to officially dissolve it. If the BCCPAC District Associate position is incorporated into your DPAC Constitution and Bylaws, you may be required to revisit your bylaws and make the appropriate amendments to reflect the BCCPAC Board decision. An e-mail was sent to all members and a letter will shortly follow.

Changes to Resolutions Policy

Although the governance audit just got underway in October, the Board of Directors has learned that the BCCPAC Resolution Policy needs revision. While special resolutions must be in by the deadline, there should be no deadline for ordinary resolutions. The Board of Directors is reviewing the Resolutions Policy and will provide more information as soon as it is available. While there is no deadline to submit ordinary resolutions, BCCPAC recommends that they be submitted in time for inclusion in the Resolutions Book. The printing deadline will be announced shortly. This book allows member PACs and DPACs to discuss the resolutions with their members and determine the direction they wish their delegates to vote at the Annual General Meeting. This is especially important for those who will be giving proxy votes to delegates.

Friday, November 30 Deadline for BCCPAC Playground Grant Applications

Grant applications for the BCCPAC Playground Equipment must be received by November 30. Please note that this grant is for BCCPAC members only; as such, applications from non-members will not be considered. For any questions and/or concerns, please contact the BCCPAC office.

First Reading of the First Nations Education Act

Education minister Shirley Bond introduced the First Nations Education Act in the legislature on November 22. This Bill will allow on-reserve First Nations schools to have their own system of kindergarten to grade 12 education based on provincial curriculum learning outcomes for core courses leading to graduation. First Nations graduates will be able to apply to receive the Dogwood certificate. In addition, the First Nations Education Authority will certify its own teachers and accredit its own schools, curriculum and exam standards. http://www2.news.gov.bc.ca/news_releases_2005-2009/2007EDU0161-001500.htm

Red Cross Anti-bullying Video Contest

To encourage bystanders to intervene when they see bullying, the Canadian Red Cross has launched a contest for a 30 second video public service announcement produced by amateurs. First prize is to have the video posted on the Red Cross "Standup Bullying" website and an Hbc gift certificate for \$500. Groups and individuals may enter but all material must be original and free of copyright. For details see the website. <http://www.redcross.ca/article.asp?id=024755&tid=108>

Manual of School Law Distributed to Schools

The *Manual of School Law* is a collection of legislation pertaining to K–12 schools, students and teachers. Hardcopies of the *Manual*, consolidated to October 1, 2007, have been distributed to all schools and school district offices.

Ministry Seeks Input on Physical Education

The British Columbia Ministry of Education is interested in receiving feedback on the Physical Education 8 to 10 Response Draft (2007) from education and community partners. Please feel free to share this link with anyone you feel would be interested in providing feedback on the draft document. <http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/irp/drafts/welcome.htm>

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.