

2006

ANNUAL
REPORT

OUR VOICE IN EDUCATION



www.bccpac.bc.ca

BC CONFEDERATION OF PARENT ADVISORY COUNCILS



Our Mission

To be the collective voice of parents for the best possible public education of all children in British Columbia.

Our Vision

To improve public education for all students by including and supporting parents.

STAFF

Carla Giles
Chief Operating Officer

Francesca Mitchell
Office Administrator

Daniel Lau
Accountant

ADVOCACY PROJECT

Janet Phillips
Cathy Bedard
Helen Parker

2006-2007 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

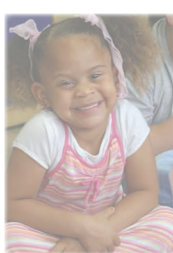
Kim Howland
Ron Broda
Lori Tedrick
Cheryl McCann
Debbie Desroches-Fulton
Terri-Lynne Huddleston
Claude Hrycaiko
Laurey-Anne Roodenburg
Margaret Lipke

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Lori Tedrick
Dave Fowler
Debbie Desroches-Fulton
Terri Watson
Ron Broda
Arnie Kidner
Margaret Lipke
Terri-Lynne Huddleston

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Letter from the President



*The very essence of leadership is that you have to have vision.
You can't blow an uncertain trumpet.*

– Theodore M. Hesburgh

2006 was an incredible year. It was as exciting as it was challenging and it was as frustrating as it was rewarding. Change is never easy and we, as individuals and as an organization, have experienced many ups and downs over the past year. While there is still a great deal of work to do, it feels as though we have turned a corner in our organization. Each day we move forward and implement the Vision Plan, developed and accepted by membership in 2005. The implementation of this plan is a step towards a successful future. A future we are building together; a future that will benefit the children of British Columbia.

The Vision Plan provided a roadmap for BCCPAC. It defined and focused the work of the organization for 2005 to 2008 and we are now moving forward and experiencing the results of our actions, some larger and more visible, others less obvious, but just as important. There is power in small steps forward, in the little things. Each small action or activity builds into a much more powerful collective and creates momentum.

We have restructured our office and, in doing so, have created a new focus on serving our members more effectively and efficiently. We are creating a new enhanced culture for this organization. This emerging culture will allow us to grow and evolve along with our stakeholders, partners and our communities. It will improve our relationships and our results.

In the past year, we have focused on developing and enhancing strategies to support parents, PACs, DPACs and BCCPAC through Education, Diversity, Advocacy, Sustainability and Communication. We have also expanded our ability to affect change through diverse internal partnerships. The energy and effort we have put into this focus can be seen in numerous initiatives from both board and non-board members. Some of our priorities are ensuring that the parent voice is heard and understood at the Provincial Learning Roundtable; research, recommendations and implementation of a new, streamlined process for processing resolutions that our members support at our Annual General Meeting; raising BCCPAC's profile through communication avenues including the media; and building stronger relationships with our provincial educational partners – the principals, teachers, superintendents, trustees and the Ministry of Education.

Parents are passionate and enthusiastic about their role in the BC public education system. Along side of our fellow education partners, we are building and maintaining the positive relationships that are based on the shared vision and common value that every child has the right to a high quality public education. This will ensure that our students have a successful journey through their public education. After all, our students are worth it!

In Partnership,

Kimberlee Howland
President



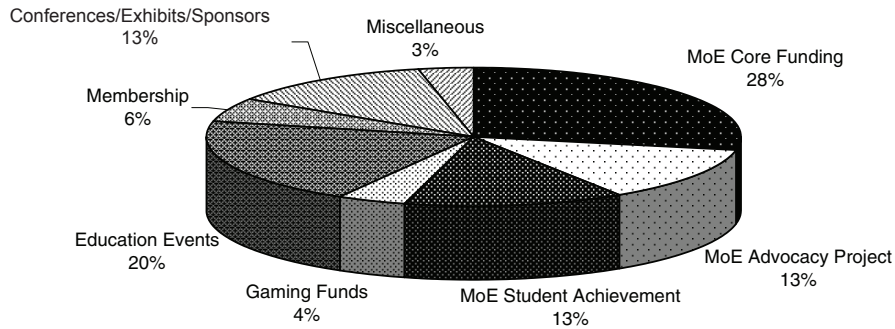


Financial Report

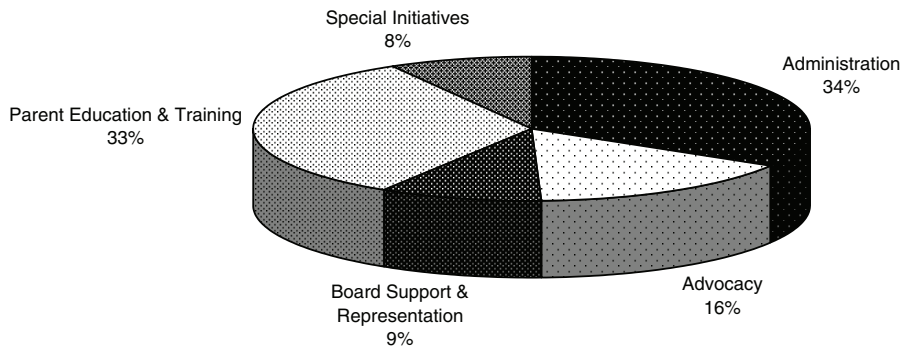
BCCPAC continues to be a financially viable and responsible organization. In 2006, income was \$1,134,218; excluding surplus from the prior year of \$140,978. Expenses totaled \$929,171; leaving a surplus of \$205,047 from operations.

The following two charts show how income was received and spent in 2006.

BCCPAC 2006 SOURCES OF INCOME \$1,134,218



BCCPAC 2006 APPLICATION OF FUNDS \$929,171



Our Thanks

BCCPAC extends our sincere thanks to our sponsors: WorkSafeBC, Insurance Corporation of BC and the BC Dairy Foundation for their continued support, and to the many exhibitors that participate and add to the culture and educational value of our conferences. Thank you to the many parent volunteers who offered their time to participate on internal and external committees and focus groups and who have assisted us at our conferences. We also gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the Province of British Columbia through the Ministry of Education.



A Year of Progress – A Year of Momentum

BCCPAC's Internal Committees pursued multiple initiatives to meet the needs of the membership and the overall objectives outlined in our Vision Plan. Each committee experienced change, challenge and success throughout 2006.

Communication has been priority in our organization over the past year. We are still working on evolving and improving, but the focus for BCCPAC is to open the doors of communication, to better connect with our members and each other, and to create dialogue internally and externally.

Each of our internal committees has worked tirelessly over the past year to implement and support the Vision Plan, to improve our organization and to increase our outreach to our members, supporting a stronger two-way communication system. This has been accomplished by:

Partnership Initiative A: To expand our ability to effect change through diverse internal partnerships.

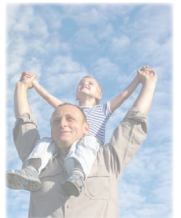
- The BCCPAC office was restructured with a focus on providing our members with new and updated information on a regular basis, provided by a team with an expanded skill set.
- We completed the exciting resource “Supporting Student Success: Working Together in BC Public Schools”, which was distributed to PACs, DPACs and education partners throughout the province.

Partnership Initiative B: To expand our ability to effect change through diverse external representation.

- BCCPAC representatives sat on more than 25 external committees and focus groups in 2006, ensuring that the parent voice was clearly heard.
- We are a member of the Learning Roundtable and have shared our Parent Leadership materials with Vietnam and Malaysia via relationships with the BC Education Leadership Council (BCELC).
- Our organization is regularly invited to participate at our education partners' major meetings and events.
- We also co-presented workshops on parent involvement in partnership with education partners at the BC Principals & Vice Principals Association's Short Course, the BC School Trustees Association's AGM, the Interactive Innovations Conference and our BCCPAC Fall Conference.

Support Initiative: To develop and enhance strategies to support parents, PACs, DPACs and BCCPAC through: Education, Diversity, Advocacy, Sustainability and Communication.

- The Leadership Event, which was developed and presented by BCCPAC Board of Directors, contractors and education partners, was made available to parent leaders from each school district. Through this collaborative effort, the parent leaders were able to learn from presenters and each other on how to assist DPACs with the aim of more support for PACs.
- Through our partnership with the BC Education Leadership Council we are looking into developing new curriculum to support Parent Involvement at all levels in our public education system.



The BCCPAC Advocacy Project

The BCCPAC Advocacy Project, in its ongoing commitment to fair, impartial, consistent and effective resolution to parent and student concerns in the BC public education system, responded to 3,676 requests for assistance in 2006. These calls, from individual parents, students and district parent advisory councils (DPACs) province-wide, continue to demonstrate the need for information and support.

The project, when dealing with individual concerns, hears what is not working well for students. While there are many success stories – difficult challenges overcome – callers to the provincial toll free line represent the voices of those for whom our public education system is not working.

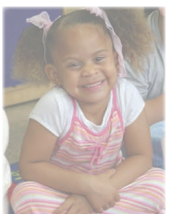
BCCPAC provincial advocates Janet Phillips and Cathy Bedard provide individual callers with a safe, confidential environment to discuss concerns and help parents, long distance, with the often difficult task of voicing concerns to school and school district staff.

These discussions provide insight into the challenges faced by individual parents and students and allow BCCPAC to offer much needed support. They also are a source of information on the realities of program delivery throughout our very diverse education system. Ineffective classroom management continues to surface as a frustration for parents. Often poor management (not only of student behaviour, but also of curriculum, assessment and reporting) is at the root of the concern in discussions about student bullying, special education services and individual student learning.

This year, a growing number of parents expressed frustration with the gap between the stated expectations—readily available on line—of the BC Ministry of Education and local school districts and the reality that students face in BC's classrooms. Parents wonder how their children, labeled behaviour problems and unwelcome in a classroom one year, can the next year be thriving, welcome and working at grade level in another classroom. The project notes that the learning experiences of BC students vary widely from classroom to classroom, school to school, district to district.

In addition to individual student and parent needs, The BCCPAC Advocacy Project supports PAC and DPAC members. BCCPAC members interested in accessing project services are encouraged to contact BCCPAC for more information. The project continues to work with BCCPAC members to keep students at the focus of our public education system, offering workshops and presentations that meet local needs.

Helen Parker joined The BCCPAC Advocacy Project as the project's writer. Many parents will recognize Helen from her work with Janet and Cathy on both the original and revised Speaking Up handbook, as well as her work on BCCPAC's secondary edition of the Call it Safe handbook. Speaking Up!, revised in late 2005, was re-released last fall in PDF format to members; now parent leaders can more readily print and share this user- friendly resource. Helen, working closely with an all-partner steering committee, also wrote the new resource Supporting Student Success, Working Together in BC Public Schools.



From the Inside Out – BCCPAC's Internal Committees

The Executive Committee (Formerly called Operations Committee)

The 2005-2006 Operations Committee members: Allison Flater (*2nd Vice President*) - Chair, David Fowler (*Treasurer*), Terri-Lynne Huddleston (*Director*).

The 2006-2007 Executive Committee members: Kimberlee Howland (*President*), Ron Broda (*1st Vice-President*), and Lori Tedrick (*2nd Vice-President*) and alternate member Cheryl McCann (*Treasurer*).

The Executive Committee is responsible for Constitution and Bylaws, Human Resources, Policy Development, Budget and Finances, Crisis Management, Awards, Elections, AGM, and Resolutions.

Through committee work and recommendations to the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee has had a busy year

- Reviewing and proposing amendments to our constitution and bylaws.
- Reviewing of policy and procedures.
- Development of 2006 and 2007 budgets.
- Put into motion the restructuring of the office as supported by the Board of Directors.
- Planning and supporting the development of BCCPAC Conferences and the Leadership Event in 2006.
- Members of the Executive Committee also oversaw the work of the Adhoc Education Tracking Survey Committee and the Adhoc Committee Review of PAC ED workshops and programs.

Member Support Committee

The 2005-2006 Member Support Committee members: Margaret Lipke (*Director*) - Chair, Ron Broda (*Director*), Terri Watson (*Past President*), Laurey-Anne Roodenburg (*Non-Board Member*), and Valerie Broman (*Non-Board Member*).

The 2006-2007 Member Support Committee members: Margaret Lipke (*Director*) - Chair, Debbie Desroches-Fulton (*Secretary*), Claude Hrycaiko (*Director*), Terri-Lynne Huddleston (*Director*), and Marg Morris (*Non-Board Member*).

The role of the Member Support Committee is to make recommendations to the Board on strategic direction for member support and advocacy. Member Support identifies the needs of BCCPAC members in a variety of ways, determining resources and conference topic suggestions.

With BCCPAC's focus on how to best communicate and provide information, guidance and support to members, the Member Support Committee has had a very busy year reviewing current BCCPAC materials and topics. In keeping with the Vision Plan, the Member Support Committee is not only reviewing what is, they are also researching and developing, with the help of BCCPAC staff and board and our members, what could be.

Along with handling a wide range of member support calls and emails, some of the initiatives that this committee has completed or continues to work on include:

- Review of the 65 BCCPAC Guidelines, Issues Bulletins, and Practice Notes, looking for accuracy and congruency with other BCCPAC materials.
- Review of distribution opportunities of documents such as the Leadership Manual.
- Research of additional resources to support members in their PAC and DPAC roles.



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Communications Committee

The 2005-2006 Communications Committee members:

Lori Tedrick (*2nd Vice President*) - Chair, Debbie Desroches-Fulton (Secretary), Cheryl McCann (*Non-Board Member*), Jim Yurkowski (*Non-Board Member*).

The 2006-2007 Communications Committee members:

Cheryl McCann (*Treasurer*) - Chair, Laurey Anne Roodenburg (*Director*), Jim Yurkowski (*Non-Board Member*) and Fiona Delcourt (*Non-Board Member*).

The purpose of the Communications Committee is to provide recommendations to the Board on the society's internal and external communications strategy, plans and tactics.

The Communication committee has been working and continues to focus on the commitment to review and improve communication internally with members and externally with the media and other stakeholders. They have been focused on developing innovative ways to interact with our members and continue the development of tools that will allow member PACs and DPACs to engage with BCCPAC and support positive two-way communication to their members, in order to ensure a representative voice is being heard.

Some of the highlights of the Communications Committee initiatives include:

- The redesign of the BCCPAC newsletter IMPACT. The newsletter was renamed to Our Voice and is now an easy read in magazine format.
- The development of a new BCCPAC website with launch date of late spring 2007.
- A review of the BCCPAC communication tools, which includes outreach to other BCCPAC colleagues and members to discover what is effective and what could be refined, changed or upgraded.
- To complete the recommendations as outlined in the communication audit of July 2005.

Viability & Marketing Committee

The 2005-2006 Viability & Marketing Committee members: Arnie Kidner (*Director*) - Chair, David Fowler (*Treasurer*), Terri-Lynne Huddlestone (*Director*).

The 2006 Viability & Marketing Committee members: Terri-Lynne Huddlestone (*Director*) and Claude Hrycaiko (*Director*).

2006 was a year of change. A part of that change was to dissolve the Viability and Marketing Committee and to migrate the marketing responsibilities to the BCCPAC staff.

The membership drive component has been moved into Member Support as it fit better under that committee and helped to streamline the organization's focus and volunteer time.

Acknowledgements

Supporting our new vision plan has created a great deal of work, many long hours and what seemed like insurmountable challenges, more than our share of late night phone calls and even moments of incredible laughter and exhilaration as we began to see the vision come to life. As with any successful organization, it is the people that make it so. We greatly appreciate the effort, support, encouragement and feedback from our 2005-2006 and 2006-2007 boards, our staff, our contractors, our volunteers and our members. We know it hasn't been easy for anyone, and we remind ourselves often that nothing worth having comes without effort. The children of BC are worth this effort.

The BCCPAC Board of Directors would like to thank everyone for your continued support and efforts – we can't do it without you. Thank you.



2006-2007 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

First row: (left to right)

Ron Broda, Kim Howland, Lori Tedrick

Second row: Cheryl McCann,

Claude Hrycaiko, Laurey-Anne Roodenburg,

Debbie Desroches-Fulton,

Terry-Lynne Huddlestone, Margaret Lipke



2005-2006 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Lori Tedrick, Margaret Lipke.

Second row: Dave Fowler, Rob Broda,

Arnie Kidner, Terri-Lynne Huddlestone,

Terri Watson, Debbie Desroches-Fulton



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