



## *NewsBytes*

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### **Renew your BCCPAC Membership**

If you haven't already renewed your PAC / DPAC's BCCPAC membership, time is running out to continue receiving important postings on emergent issues in BC's education system. The 2009/2010 membership email contacts will take effect October 15 so hurry and get your membership in to ensure you don't miss any updates. To find out more about the benefits of being a member and for a copy of the registration form, please go to: <http://www.bccpac.bc.ca/aboutus/membership.aspx>

Not sure if your council has renewed their membership? Check our list of current members (2009-2010) by clicking [here](#), or phone the BCCPAC office (604-687-4433 or toll free 1-866-529-4397) for assistance.

### **2010 Budget Consultation**

This year, the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services will be holding 10 public hearings across British Columbia to gather input on budget priorities. This schedule includes 3 video conference sessions (VCS) to facilitate access. The deadline for public input is Friday, October 23, 2009. To find out details on how you can participate in the 2010 Budget Consultation, including an online survey, and to see a copy of the 2010 Budget Consultation Paper, please follow the link below:

<http://leg.bc.ca/budgetconsultations/index.htm> Please take the survey and let the government know your priorities.

### **Fall Conference, Student Success: Common Vision and Collaborative Action November 12-15, 2009 – Burnaby, BC**

BCCPAC Fall Conference is an exciting opportunity to learn new skills and network with other PAC and DPAC leaders from around the province. Take this opportunity to discover new ideas and innovative practices that you can share with your PAC or district. Parent Power is the opening keynote by the ever-popular Advocacy Project Coordinators, Janet and Cathy. Why do some parents become involved while others don't? What does involvement mean? They will also present two workshops that will help you in your role as a parent leader: Tackling Topics Before They Supersize, and Let's Make a Real Difference. We look forward to seeing you there.

To see what the Fall Conference has to offer, go to:

[http://www.bccpac.bc.ca/index/event\\_calendar/fallconference.aspx](http://www.bccpac.bc.ca/index/event_calendar/fallconference.aspx)

### **Save Money by Registering Early for the BCCPAC Fall Conference**

The early bird registration deadline for the Fall Conference is October 28. BCCPAC members who register by this date will receive a discounted rate of \$285, instead of the regular rate of \$350 for the full conference. For a registration form and more information on rates, click [here](#).

### **BCCPAC Fall Conference – New Discounted Hotel Rates**

BCCPAC has negotiated an even lower hotel rate for those attending the conference. Hurry and book your hotel room now for only \$115. Special discounted rate and room block expires October 28, 2009. Delegates wishing to extend their stay two (2) days before and /or after the conference will be honored with the same special rate, pending availability.

[http://www.bccpac.bc.ca/index/event\\_calendar/fallconference.aspx](http://www.bccpac.bc.ca/index/event_calendar/fallconference.aspx)

### **Change in Travel Subsidy Application Process**

If your DPAC is planning to claim any flight expenses through BCCPAC travel subsidies, booking confirmation of your flight must be received by the office on or before October 28 to be eligible. To find out more, please go to:

[Travel Subsidy Information](#)

### **Gaming Grant Survey**

Thank you so much to all of you who have taken time out of your busy lives to respond to our latest survey on Gaming Grant funding. This survey will officially be closed Monday, October 12th. If you have not had time to complete this survey, please take time today by clicking below:

[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=vJ8ayUrCB5dK4QBxyzQpw\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=vJ8ayUrCB5dK4QBxyzQpw_3d_3d)

### **Volunteer opportunities available!**

The board of BCCPAC is looking for a few parents from member PACs to help us out with our work. Several very interesting volunteer positions are currently available. The Student Safety Standing Resolutions Committee is looking for some help to develop action plans for member resolutions. Our office staff and Board members will be happy to answer questions you may have about volunteering with BCCPAC. For details on current volunteer opportunities and application forms, please see below.

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

### **2004 Leadership Manual**

Here's your chance!! We are clearing out stock while they last of the BCCPAC 2004 Leadership Manual. If your PAC or DPAC would like to receive a free copy (postage to be paid by you) of this great resource, email [info@bccpac.bc.ca](mailto:info@bccpac.bc.ca) or call the office at 604-687-4433 or 1-866-529-4397. You are also welcome to stop by and pick up a copy at the office in Burnaby: #350 – 5172 Kingsway (near Royal Oak). This manual is currently under review and the new edition is expected to be released in the Spring. Any comments or suggestions with regards to this resource are greatly appreciated and can be directed to [info@bccpac.bc.ca](mailto:info@bccpac.bc.ca)

### **Healthy Fundraising Guide Available Online**

Some PACs may be looking for new ways to fundraise this year and keeping the fundraiser healthy can be a challenge, if it is 'not the way you have always done it'. The Directorate of Agencies for School Health (DASH BC) has created a great resource with lots of ideas for fundraising in your school community. This book went out to all schools in printed form last fall. This helpful book can be downloaded and printed from this link

<http://www.dashbc.org/upload/Healthy%20Fundraising%20For%20Schools.pdf>

## Grant opportunity

BCCPAC has been made aware of a national grant opportunity that your school may be able to benefit from in the areas of Drama, Recreation, Arts, Music and Athletics. It is called the S'Cool Life Fund and they have given grants to many B.C. schools over the past 4 years. Please go to [www.scoollifefund.ca](http://www.scoollifefund.ca) to check it out. We encourage any school to apply that has a specific need within the criteria. Applications are being accepted online until December 31.

## BC Healthy Living Alliance Releases Policy Recommendations for Improving the Health of British Columbians

The report includes 45 recommendations to all levels of government, and originated from extensive research, focus groups and a consultation process with representatives from 202 organizations across the province. To see the report, please go to:

[http://www.bchealthyiving.ca/sites/all/files/file/BCHLA\\_Healthy%20Futures-Final-Web.pdf](http://www.bchealthyiving.ca/sites/all/files/file/BCHLA_Healthy%20Futures-Final-Web.pdf)

## Crossing Guard Contest

FedEx and Safe Kids Canada want to recognize the contributions of crossing guards in Canada, so they are sponsoring the "Canada's Favourite Crossing Guard Contest." The contest will run from September 15 to November 27, 2009. Students, teachers and parents across the country are invited to nominate their favourite crossing guard. Three Contest Winners will be selected. Each Contest Winner will receive an engraved plaque. Contest Winners' schools will receive a new computer valued at \$1,000. Contest information and a nomination form are available on Safe Kids Canada's website below. The deadline for entries is November 27, 2009.

[www.safekidscanada.ca](http://www.safekidscanada.ca)

## Media Literacy Week – November 2-6, 2009

Media Awareness Network (MNet) and the Canadian Teachers' Federation (CTF) are joining together to host Canada's fourth annual Media Literacy Week, November 2-6, 2009. This year's theme – Media Literacy in the Digital Age – will emphasize the multiple literacy skills needed by today's youth for accessing, evaluating, repurposing, creating and distributing media content. A variety of activities – from classroom-based projects to large-scale public events – will take place throughout the week in support of media literacy.

For information on how you can become involved visit the Media Literacy Week website at:

[www.medialiteracyweek.ca](http://www.medialiteracyweek.ca)

## Support BCCPAC by Becoming an Associate Member

You could become a BCCPAC Associate Member for only \$25 per year. Associate membership keeps you up to date on emergent issues and activities of BCCPAC. For details on the benefits of becoming an Associate Member and a registration form, please go to:

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

*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](mailto:info@bccpac.bc.ca). Feel free to share this communication with others.