



## *NewsBytes*

*Volume 9, issue 16 May 25, 2009*

### **Full Content of Resolutions from Annual General Meeting**

The full content of the resolutions, as approved by the AGM Minutes Committee and voted on at the AGM, can now be found on the BCCPAC website. See the hyperlink below.

<http://www.bccpac.bc.ca/resolutions/votingresults2009.aspx>

### **Terri Watson Awarded Life Membership**

Former BCCPAC President Terri Watson received Life Membership at the AGM. Her life membership was supported by the majority of delegates who attended and voted on a resolution to that effect. This honour recognizes outstanding contributions to the advancement of the purposes of BCCPAC by a parent who has been involved in a BCCPAC member PAC, DPAC, and with BCCPAC.

### **Deborah Garrity Receives George Matthews Award**

Deborah Garrity not only won election to the Board of Directors at the BCCPAC Annual General Meeting, she was also presented with the George Matthews Award for Excellence in Parent Leadership. This award honours parents whose leadership, dedication, and influence have demonstrated to the education community the importance of the parent role in education. With her new position as Director, Deborah has even more opportunity to practice her commitment to students.

### **Renew BCCPAC Membership Early and Win**

Renew or become a member of BCCPAC before July 20, 2009 and you could win a free registration to the BCCPAC Fall Conference. The last Fall Conference was rated very highly

by attendees. A survey revealed that 98% would recommend attending the Fall Conference to other parents. The membership form is below.

[BCCPAC Membership Form](#)

### **Put a Link to Your PAC or DPAC on the BCCPAC Website**

Following a suggestion from a BCCPAC member, the BCCPAC webmaster (Gabrielle Moore) is going to create a webpage of links to BCCPAC members with websites. This will be another way for members to find out more about each others' activities and advocacy. If you would like your PAC or DPAC website to be on the BCCPAC member website list, please send the link to [gabriellemoore@bccpac.bc.ca](mailto:gabriellemoore@bccpac.bc.ca). Members will be responsible for making sure Gabrielle has current information about their hyperlink in the event of changing web addresses.

### **Do you Use the Member Listserv?**

The member listserv is a great benefit for those belonging to PACs or DPACs that are members of BCCPAC. The listserv provides a way to ask questions about anything and everything to do with schools and education. You can find out everything from where to buy the best grad gowns, to fundraising ideas that work, to advocating to your Board of Education. You will learn from other members who have been there and done that. If you are not using the BCCPAC listserv and would like to be included, send an email to [info@bccpac.bc.ca](mailto:info@bccpac.bc.ca).

### **VSS Offers Online Tutoring Just in Time for Exams**

LearnNowBC (LNBC), an online educational portal operated by the Virtual School Society, provides students with free access to a variety of tutoring services, in 22 courses and 14 subjects from Grades 9 to 12, to assist them to prepare for exams.

*Charged up for Math and Science*, available 24 hours a day seven days a week, gives students the opportunity to sample provincial exam questions and also offers streaming video explanations.

*StudyBUZZ*, available 24 hours a day seven days a week, allows students to test themselves and assess which areas of study require more review and practice.

*Live Tutor*, available Sundays through Thursdays from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., provides students with the ability to speak to peer tutors, as well as to access course content and sample tests.

In addition to providing access to tutoring, LearnNowBC (LNBC) gives learners online access to: over 2500 courses offered by schools in BC's public education system, library resources

and academic and career advising . LNBC also provides information and resources for parents (e.g., cybersafety videos – tips on keeping kids safe in an online environment).

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

### **Even Different Students Can Fit In**

This is the title of a moving story in the BCSTA journal *Education Leader* about how Lisa Graham worked closely with her autistic son's elementary school (F.W. Howay) to introduce him to education in a way he could accept. Like many BCCPAC parents in this position, this led her to become an advocate for school children. She received the Queens' Jubilee Medal for her advocacy and is now a school trustee. You can read the story at the link below.

[http://www.bcsta.org:8080/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-41096/2009-05-07\\_Leader.html](http://www.bcsta.org:8080/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-41096/2009-05-07_Leader.html)

### **CityTV \$20,000 Grant for Vancouver and Lower Mainland Schools**

In a special promotion, called *Be There for Schools*, Vancouver's CityTV Breakfast Television (BT) program is offering a grant of \$20,000 to one school in Vancouver or the Lower Mainland. BT is looking for creative entries: videos, class projects, campaigns, etc. lead by the PAC. The deadline for entries is May 29<sup>th</sup>. For more information and to enter the contest see the hyperlink below.

[http://www.btvancouver.ca/contests/more.jsp?content=20090424\\_170052\\_9308](http://www.btvancouver.ca/contests/more.jsp?content=20090424_170052_9308)

### **Media Awareness Network Annual Report**

Media Awareness Network (MNet) has released its 2008 Annual Report. MNet promotes media literacy in schools. Among the achievements last year was the launch of MNet's first online tutorial for digital literacy. MNet currently has five media and digital literacy programs, in English and in French, available through licence agreements in every province and territory. See Annual Report below.

[http://www.media-awareness.ca/english/corporate/media\\_kit/annual\\_reports/upload/MNet\\_Annual\\_Report\\_2008.pdf](http://www.media-awareness.ca/english/corporate/media_kit/annual_reports/upload/MNet_Annual_Report_2008.pdf)

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