



**Executive Committee**  
**Sheri L:** Chair **Brad G:** Vice-Chair **Heather A:** Secretary **Erin M:** Treasurer/Zoom Coordinator  
**Chris P:** Member-at-Large. **Valerie N:** Member-at-Large

2021 June 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM General Meeting Agenda

**1. Welcome/Call to Order: 6:35**

**a) In Attendance:**

|  |   |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|---|--|
| Sheri L.   | Brad G. Sahali<br>Secondary                         | Chris P.: VSS   | Rachel M.: SKSS                         | Valerie N.:<br>Westsyde<br>Elementary            |
| Corally D.: WSS                                  | Katie C.: Westmount                                 | Loni H.: KSA  | Elwood: Parkrest                        | Melinda H.:<br>Arthur Hatton                     |
| Mar P.: Sun Peak                                 | Martha S.: LGES and<br>KOOL                         | Courtney B.:<br>Parkrest                                | Heather A.: Juniper<br>Ridge Elementary |  |
| Rhonda Kershaw<br>Trustee Liaison,<br>Chair SD73 | Dr. Terry Sullivan:<br>Superintendent<br>(Outgoing) | Dr. Rhonda Nixon<br>Superintendent<br>(incoming Jul. 1) | Darcy Martin: KTTA                      | Kathleen<br>Karpuk:<br>Trustee Liaison,<br>SD 73 |
| Erin M.: SKSS                                    | Stefanie: unknown<br>School                         | Tracey: unknown<br>School                               |   |  |

**2. Review of the Agenda: Erin 1<sup>st</sup>, Chris 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**Carried**

- Concern from **Rachel M:** regarding mandatory vaccination in schools. **Sheri:** Ultimately, DPAC is not responsible for this legislature but I am unaware of any vaccinations being mandated at the school level. **Rhonda** answered: All public

What exactly is DPAC?

- DPAC stands for District Parent Advisory Council. We are the official parent voice for school District 73 (Kamloops/Thompson).
- Each PAC is encouraged to elect 2 DPAC reps to attend our monthly meetings.
- We elect an executive to conduct business between meetings, but our direction is determined by our members, just like at PACs.

What is the role of DPAC?

- Our mandate, according to the *School Act*, is to advise the Board of Education on any matter relating to education in the school district. We funnel parent input to decision-makers in our district.
- We facilitate communication — we send a lot of information out to the PACs on upcoming events and programs that might interest them.
- We provide training and education for parents, as well as opportunities for exchanging ideas. We host speakers as well as workshops and networking events.
- We function as a resource for individual parents and PACs as they do their work at the school level.



health regulations are mandated from Minister of education (as guided by Provincial Health officer) and schools are required to follow those orders IF they are given. At this time no immunizations are mandated.

**3. Review of Previous Minutes:** Melinda 1<sup>st</sup>, Chris 2<sup>nd</sup>

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**Carried**

**4. Old Business:**

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- a) **FoodSafe:** No update – will discuss more in Treasurer’s report
- b) **IFVE (Indigenous Family Voices for Education)(Val N.):**  
Winding down this year creating a “1701” document that identifies a status, non-status or self-identifying persons. Working with what it means to be indigenous and how it is affecting families. September, constitution and bylaws will be created.
- c) **Dress Code:** Sheri has been representing DPAC with all the stakeholders creating the new SD 73 Dress Code policy. Draft has been postponed again, estimated to be presented September 2021.

**5. New Business:**

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- a) **Support Housing near Arthur Hatton Elementary:**  
**Melinda:** Fortune Motel has been purchased by the government and is being turned into supportive housing:  
<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/bc-housing-kamloops-fortune-motel-supportive-housing-1.6045037>  
-There is concern with the proximity of this hotel to the school. **Rhonda:** Not aware of all of the details, this is a very

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recent development- will definitely discuss soon.

**Superintendent Sullivan:** I am unaware of this topic and will definitely look into this tomorrow and get back to this soon with more information. This has definitely been aggravated by the pandemic as many motels/hotels are being used as supportive housing but this is a different situation near Arthur Hatton as the Fortune Motel is being completely converted to supportive housing rather than the hotels near Beattie or the in proximity of the proposed reopening of Ralph Bell

- b) **Meeting with Minister of Education:** Has now changed to meet with administrative staffers as the Minister of Education seems unwilling to meet. Chris has a presentation that he will share with them in hopes to gain attention to discuss with Minister of Education at a later date.
- c) **New Superintendent:**
  - Dr. Terry Sullivan will be leaving us July 1<sup>st</sup>, and Dr. Rhonda Nixon will be stepping in.
  - DPAC has provided a farewell card and cutting board, to the outgoing Superintendent.
  - Dr. Rhonda Nixon introduced herself and is excited to work with DPAC in the coming school year, official start day July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021.
- d) **Zoom License for School Year 2021/2022:**
  - Tabled to treasurer's report
- e) **SD 73 Email Accounts For Schools in the District:**
  - would improve communication between DPAC and PACs. Rhonda: has passed on the desire (email request sent by Heather) to have emails for each school to the person in charge of IT. They will work on this request throughout the summer.
- f) **Recruitment for French Immersion Schools (follow up from previous meeting):**
  - All positions have been successfully filled.
  - As for SKSS the leaving faculty staff positions has also been successfully been filled. **Kathleen Karpuk:** We are really lucky as we are seen as a progressive District and are desirable for staff. Recruitment does not seem to be much of an issue at this time.

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## 6. Reports:

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### a) DPAC's Year End Report:



#### 2021 Fiscal Year End Report – June 2021

2021 DPAC Annual Year-End Report

With the continuation of the Covid-19 pandemic affecting a second school year, it has been an ongoing challenge ensuring our voices as stakeholders in school district 73 remain heard and in touch when in-person meetings are continued to be unavailable. As the District Parent Advisory Council, we will continuously advocate for the needs of the students and ensure families' concerns are directed to The District 73 officials.

We wish to assure you that the District Parent Advisory Council has maintained all legal and financial responsibilities expected of us and will continue to do so regardless of meeting restrictions placed on us. It is looking increasingly more positive to return to "normal" in September and we look forward to meeting again in-person and really grasping the needs of families and students that has been lacking from virtual meets.

This being our last meeting of this school-year, we can reflect on all the positive improvements and activities we have accomplished despite the ongoing pandemic concerns. DPAC had several education sessions to note for this year:

- **Kamloops Music Collective** – presented by Kim, highlighting their exceptional music learning programs
- **Depths of Comfort** – presented by Cole Levitt, creator of this interactive teacher geared resource being offered with the goal of decreasing bullying, anxiety, and increasing positive behaviours
- **SOGI and Inclusive Education** – presented by Vessy Mochikas and Grant Reilly, demonstrating supports available within District 73 and their goals of SOGI education
- **PAC 101** – presented by Andrea Sinclair (BCCPAC Chair) – an educational piece highlighting the responsibilities and rights of both PACs and DPACs
- **Navigating the Talk** – presented by Martha Solomon, although not presented at the beginning of a general meeting, this was paid for and organized by DPAC for Martha to present three separate seminars geared towards different age groups
- **Dress Code Policy** – presented by South Kamloops Secondary School, a small group of students from this school presented a recommended dress code policy that was a huge influence to the School Board while developing their updated policy. They suggested the focus is less on modesty and more on safety attire.

DPAC executive members worked very hard to ensure they attended meetings such as; the BCCPAC AGM, the BCCPAC Leadership Conference, and Education seminars organized by the BCCPAC. They all were unfortunately still unable to be presented in-person, but did allow improved accessibility to attend.

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Communication is very important to the District Advisory Council. With this goal in mind, it was imperative that we re-design our website and create a Facebook page for an estimated total of \$1200 plus the annual budget of \$130 for web hosting. Some other financial contributions this year included:

- Two FoodSafe certificates were funded
- Christmas Cards were purchased from the DPAC
- On June 30<sup>th</sup> the DPAC will purchase a Zoom License for \$241 for use and allow for increased accessibility to meetings

DPAC is a group of dedicated volunteers who care truly care about our students and will always recognize the need to advocate for school-aged children. Especially during these challenging times (because of the pandemic).

We wish to thank each and every one of you for helping make a difference and continually offer your support and guidance. We are eagerly anticipating working with you in the new school year and looking forward (hopefully) to resuming in-person meetings in September.

Respectfully,

The DPAC Executive Team

## **b) Treasurer's Report:**

### **DPAC Monthly Report and Year-End Report for June 2021**

The 2020-21 DPAC Fiscal Year ends on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021 and as always, DPAC has met its statutory, legal and fiduciary obligations in-full and on-time.

The year opened with a gaming account balance of \$134.96 carried over from the previous fiscal year. This amount was mainly left over from budgeted funds for catering at parent education sessions that remained unspent due to COVID-restrictions and shutdowns preventing in-person gatherings.

Our General Account opened with a balance of \$4371.53 this fiscal year, our Bursary account opened with a balance of \$1035.29. We also held \$4500 in investments in guaranteed term GICs.

Our DPAC budget at the AGM in September of 2020 predicted \$2500 in revenue from Gaming Grants, and we expected to spend all of that money on BCCPAC memberships, travel expenses for 2 people to attend each of the BCCPAC conferences in person in the Fall and Spring, 10 Foodsafe tuitions for school PAC parent volunteers, a Zoom license for \$200 for PAC/DPAC meetings, and \$400 in costs related to parent education.

Of course, those early September budgeted amounts were wholly ambitious, and in the end, due to ongoing COVID restrictions, there was no travel to BCCPAC meetings, parents were still not allowed to participate in food-prep in schools, and no in-person parent education sessions occurred. Further, BCCPAC was able to provide DPAC with 5 paid Zoom licenses in order for SD73 parents to continue to meet as PACs and as a DPAC, so that \$200 we had originally budgeted was re-distributed elsewhere.

Our Final Year End Fiscal Snapshot is:

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KAMLOOPS DPAC FINANCIAL REPORT – YEAR-END, 2021

| Gaming Account                      | Details  | Debit    | Revenue   | Balance    |
|-------------------------------------|--|----------|-----------|------------|
| Opening Balance – Sept 1, 2020      |  |          |           | \$277.84   |
| September 2, 2020                   | BCCPAC Membership                                    | \$150.00 |           | \$127.84   |
| October 2020                        | Gaming Grant Revenue                                 |          | \$2500.00 | \$2,627.84 |
| December 2020                       | Outreach/Greeting/Thank You cards to PACs            | \$189.23 |           | \$2,438.61 |
| February 2021                       | ½ Cost of Website Redesign for DPAC                  | \$504.00 |           | \$1,934.61 |
| February 2021                       | “Navigating the Talk” – Early Years (Education)      | \$425.00 |           | \$1,509.61 |
| February 2021                       | Foodsafe education – Haldane and Dallas              | \$189.00 |           | \$1,320.61 |
| March 2021                          | “Navigating the Talk” – Middle Years (Education)     | \$425.00 |           | \$895.61   |
| March 2021                          | “Navigating the Talk” – Highschool Years (Education) | \$425.00 |           | \$470.61   |
| June 2021                           | Website Hosting Fee (annual)                         | \$136.50 |           | \$334.11   |
| June 2021                           | Zoom License for 2021/22 fiscal year                 | \$200.00 |           | \$134.11   |
| Bank Fees                           | \$1.95 x 12  | \$23.40  |           | \$110.71   |
| <b>Est. Balance – June 30, 2021</b> | <b>\$110.71</b>                                      |          |           |            |

*\*Italics indicate that debit has not yet appeared on monthly bank statement/cheque still has not been cashed by payee.*

| General Account                     | Details  | Debit    | Revenue | Balance           |
|-------------------------------------|--|----------|---------|-------------------|
| Opening Balance – Sept 1, 2020      |  |          |         | \$4,371.53        |
| May 11, 2021                        | Other half of Website design from Trilogy Solutions. | \$504.00 |         | \$3,867.53        |
| Bank Fees                           | \$1.95 x 12  | \$23.40  |         | \$3,844.13        |
| <b>Est. Balance – June 30, 2021</b> |  |          |         | <b>\$3,844.13</b> |

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| Bursary Account                     | Details | Debit  | Revenue       | Balance           |
|-------------------------------------|---------|--------|---------------|-------------------|
| Opening Balance – Sept 1, 2020      |         |        |               | \$1,035.50        |
| Bank Statements                     |         | \$6.00 |               | \$1,029.50        |
| Bank Interest                       |         |        | Approx \$1.50 | \$1,031.00        |
| <b>Est. Balance - June 30, 2021</b> |         |        |               | <b>\$1,031.00</b> |

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| GIC Accounts   | Details   | Debit | Revenue | Balance                              |
|--|---|-------|---------|--------------------------------------|
| Original 12-month GIC of \$1500 earned \$15.04 in interest in Nov 2020 and was reinvested  | 1 year GIC of \$1,015.04 principal, Matures November 18, 2021 – 0.25% or \$2.53 at maturity     |       |         | \$1,015.04 (investment w/o interest) |
| Original 18 month GIC of \$3500 earned \$102.56 in interest in May 2021 and was reinvested | 18 month GIC of \$3602.56 principal, Mature November 13, 2022 – 0.50% at or \$26.94 at maturity |       |         | \$3,602.56 (investment w/o interest) |
| <b>Balance - June 30, 2021</b>   |   |       |         | <b>\$4,617.60</b>                    |

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|-----------------|---------|-------|---------|---------|
|-----------------|---------|-------|---------|---------|

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|                                    |  |        |               |                   |
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|  |  |  |  |                   |
|--|--|--|--|-------------------|
| <b>Est. Balance June, 2021 (after disbursement of committed funds)</b> |  |  |  | <b>\$9,603.44</b> |
|--|--|--|--|-------------------|

## DISCUSSION

- DPAC received the anticipated full gaming grant amount of \$2500.
- Zoom meeting license was paid by BCCPAC – the \$200 budgeted for a Zoom license was redistributed to hand-written outreach cards to PACs to say hello and to extend a personal invite to attend our DPAC Zoom meetings.
- While we continued to hold funding for 10 Foodsafe tuitions in the hope that in-person PAC fundraising events involving food prep would resume, we quickly realized that no in-person meetings would be attending with BCCPAC this year.
- DPAC voted to release those funds and instead spend the money on an updated website more in line with our counterparts in other parts of the province. It is hoped that a new website and social media presence will help improve communication, education, and participation by parents in the district. DPAC voted to pay half of the website design fee from Gaming funds, and half from General funds.
- Navigating The Talk, part of the “Askable Adult” series, continued to be the single most asked-for education session by our parents. As such, DPAC invested in 3 separate “Navigating the Talk” education sessions, each being geared towards a specific age group. These talks were well attended and cost \$425 each.
- Two PACs did take us up on FoodSafe certifications for special parent volunteers who are involved in the school lunch program. Dallas and Haldane elementary each had one FoodSafe paid for by DPAC at a cost of \$189.00
- Eventually, the money being held for Foodsafe tuitions (4 from general funds and 4 from gaming funds) was released in May when it became evident that parents would not be allowed back into most school kitchens this school year.

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- \$136.50 was spent from Gaming Funds on annual website hosting fees for DPAC.
- BCCPAC has confirmed that Zoom licenses will all expire on June 30<sup>th</sup>. As such, DPAC has committed \$200 in gaming funds to secure a Zoom license for PACs/DPAC to share for the June 30 2021-June 30 2022 Fiscal Year.
- Our General Account had a single disbursement all year: \$504.00 for ½ of the website redesign costs.
- We were unable to distribute any bursary funds this year, so our Bursary account is in almost the exact same spot it was in at the beginning of the fiscal year (minus a small amount for bank statements, and plus a small amount of earned interest).
- Both GICs matured this school year, earning \$15.04 on our \$1500 investment and \$102.56 on our \$3500 investment. Both GICs rolled over into new terms as interest rates are not expected to rise for another 12-18 months (Per Bank of Canada projections).
- As such, our fiscal year end closing balance should be at, or close to \$9,603.44. Our gaming account is almost fully depleted (which is a good thing). We our 2021/22 Gaming Application has been submitted and received by the Gaming Branch. This year-end summary will be submitted after the June bank statements are received, well ahead of the 90-day deadline after fiscal year end.
- Annual Draft Budget will be prepared over the summer in preparation for your Fall AGM consideration.

*\*Respectfully submitted by Erin Mitchell, SD73 DPAC Treasurer*

**c) Superintendent's Report:**

- Pleased to introduce Dr. Nixon.
  - Covid-19 has not had a case in the schools in over 2 weeks, this has not happened in a very long time. Great news. Also, pleased to report that even though there has been other school closures in the province, our schools remained operational and no additional closures have resulted from Covid-19. Province will be issuing a 15-page recovery plan shortly, will be a similar document from health. Will be released probably late in August. Physical distancing and cohorts will not be recommended in September but "crowding" will be diminished. Sports and activities will resume with minimal restrictions. More reports will be released later this week.
- Erin:** regarding restrictions, will there be any changes that will happen this school year? So, for example if teachers wanted to go on last minute field trip?

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**Dr. Sullivan:** that is correct, there will be no changes in this school year.

- Creating 1 additional Assistant Superintendent position (3 total): Superintendent of Inclusive Education (created position), Superintendent of Secondary Education, Superintendent of Elementary Education.
- Safe graduation ceremonies are underway.
- Thanks to DPAC for the farewell Present and all that you do.

**d) Trustee's Report:**

**Rhonda K:** Did first round of decision for catchment (boundary) changes - RL Clemitson, Sahali, and Pacific Way Elementary. In the end after discussion submitted, the boundary changes as submitted were approved although there will some modifications made to the proposal.

**K. Karpuk:** it was discussed that some of the students in grade 5 will be "grandfathered" so they do not have to go to school for one year and then change to a new school. Those students that will have that transition can chose not to move based on parent's discussion. So even though boundaries did change there were modifications made. Also, if the students that this adversely affects in grade 5 choose to be grandfathered to stay in current school then siblings of those students will also be allowed to remain at the same school.

-Assistant Superintendent Smilie will be leaving and the District Board will be looking to replace her position.

-**Chris P:** wil the new Parkcrest school be including a daycare in the plans? **Karpuk:** what I know is there is still a "community space" being developed but not sure exactly what that will mean and if this is being considered at a provincial level. **Dr. Sullivan:** There has been discussion regarding this topic (daycare) at the government level, and not sure what the decisions will be regarding this. Problem that Kamloops does not have the space for the early child education, and not sure there is a sufficient plan for this topic. I definitely think this a great question and it will definitely be brought up in future conversations regarding this "new" build.

- e) KTTA Report (Darcy):** Echo what Dr. Sullivan just said, KTTA truly appreciates the relationship that we have with

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DPAC, we look forward to a “new normal” next year and continuing to work with DPAC.

**f) BCCPAC’s Report:**

**BCCPAC June Update**

**Statement regarding Kamloops Residential School:**

*The truth about residential schools is undeniable.*

*We need to listen to the elders.*

*We need to create space for Indigenous people to speak.*

We join in respecting and supporting the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc people and all people across Canada who are impacted by the tragic news of the 215 children whose lives were lost at the Kamloops Residential School. With this revealed truth, comes an even greater responsibility for each and every one of us to act.

BCCPAC stands alongside all Indigenous people to ensure that all Canadians learn about the past and the harm that was perpetrated. Truth and Reconciliation must become an educational pillar in our school system to ensure that all students learn the history of the Indigenous people and the tragic errors that were made. We pledge to continue to educate ourselves and to support and educate DPACs, PACs and parents/guardians/caregivers.

We recognize the important role parents play in our collective journey of truth and reconciliation. We can all raise awareness in our communities and discuss with our families. We thank parents and families for the work they are already doing in their school communities to encourage the next generation and bring about change.

June is National Indigenous History Month and June 21 is National Indigenous Peoples Day.

**What steps will YOU commit to take this month and beyond?**

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Please read and review the [TRC and Residential Schools resources we have compiled](#) to help educate and inform.

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Regular June Update:

Whew we made it! And together! What a school year this has been for us all. We were so glad to “see” so many members online for the AGM and our annual Conference; we look forward to in-person events in 2022! While our members may be slowing or winding down, BCCPAC does not. We will be orienting our new board team, re-starting our committees and we will continue to represent parents at the K-12 provincial table throughout the summer as planning continues for September. And we will continue to raise the many issues important to our members such as learning impacts, mental well-being, all children receiving a full day’s education, supports and resources for children with diverse abilities and disabilities.

## Virtual AGM A Huge Success!



THANK YOU to all our members who were able to attend and participate at our second virtual AGM on May 1. It took a tremendous amount of work by your Board and staff to bring our full meeting with Resolutions to our members online and it’s very fulfilling to see it be so successful.

Our [AGM Booklet](#) is posted online for all members. We encourage those who were unable to attend the AGM to read through the President, CEO and Treasurer reports, the Year in Review and of course the many Committee Reports. We also encourage you to review the financial statements and the budget which were approved during the AGM proceedings. The [results of the elections and the discussed Resolutions](#) have also been posted and sent to members.

AGM minutes were recorded by the 2021 Member Minutes Approval Committee and per our policies, they have 60 days to complete, approve and ensure distribution to the membership. We will email the link to the 2021 AGM Minutes when they are available.

During the full day AGM, voting members present motioned and voted on a request of the Board to hold an extraordinary general meeting to complete the discussion on the remaining 8

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resolutions submitted which had not been discussed prior to the conclusion of the AGM. The board has received guidance from our parliamentarian and we will be announcing the EGM date within the next week.

**Mark your calendars for next year's AGM and Conference - April 29 to May 1, 2022.**

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## Our Award Winners



Hearty congratulations again to our 2021 [Member Award](#) Winners! We thank them for all they do for parents/guardians.

**Bev Hosker Award:** Jason Assam – SD44 North Vancouver

**George Matthews Award:** Bobbi Taylor – SD36 Surrey

Congratulations also to our Education Award Winner – Tiffany Deng, SD39 Vancouver. This award honours a well-rounded Gr12 Student with an understanding of the importance of parent involvement in education. We wish great success to Tiffany.

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## Parents Connecting Online at Education Conference

If you missed the conference on May 28-29, you missed a LOT! Our first virtual education conference was a resounding success! During Friday, we heard from the Ministry of Education including Minister Whiteside who spent time asking questions submitted by delegates. Attendees were able to provide input and feedback regarding the Framework for Enhancing Student Learning and as regards mental well-being of our children and thoughts on September's return to school. It was a big day!



Saturday was a fuller and longer day but we believe we knocked it out of the park! What a powerhouse of speakers; so much learned and shared by delegates - so many great questions! All of our sessions were thought-provoking and enabled attendees to discuss in breakout rooms and submit questions in real-time. We hope attendees learned new information which they can take back to their school and district and parent communities. It's all about community; we hope we empowered our members.

**Mark your calendars for next year's AGM and Conference - April 29 to May 1, 2022.**

## Consultation with Parliamentary Secretary for Gender Equity



President Sinclair has been invited to attend a virtual K-12 stakeholder engagement session in June with Grace Lore, the Parliamentary Secretary for Gender Equity. The government is seeking feedback and input on potential legislative measures aimed at increasing protections against sexual and gender-based violence.

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The non-consensual disclosure of intimate images, sometimes referred to as “revenge porn” or “image abuse”, is a form of sexual and gender-based violence that can have significant consequences for its victims. Although the sharing of intimate images without consent may constitute a criminal offence, survivor’s needs are not adequately met under the current system. BC’s Attorney General is contemplating the introduction of provincial legislative measures to support victims with the speedy removal and destruction of images, and compensation from the wrongdoer for the circulation of images without consent. The provincial government wants to ensure survivors have better tools to access justice. [Learn more](#) about gender equity and read the [consultation announcement](#). Members are encouraged to share their thoughts via email to [imageprivacy@gov.bc.ca](mailto:imageprivacy@gov.bc.ca).

## Seat on the BC School Sports Legislative Assembly



The BC School Sports (BCSS) membership of schools from every corner of this province has recently approved a sweeping governance change to their organization. This comes after nearly 2.5 years of work researching, building and modifying a plan that would best serve our schools and students across BC.

The new structure will have a Legislative Assembly as its core decision-making body. The Assembly will consist of 53 members. The majority of these will be representatives from BCSS zones, primarily educators and administrators. There are 9 seats designated partner organizations that BCSS believes are important to the continued sustainability and growth of school sport. They include partners from the government, education and sport sectors.

BCCPAC has been invited to sit in one of these 9 seats on the Legislative Assembly. Having BCCPAC as a partner puts both organizations in a better position to fulfill their mandate and serve their members. BCCPAC had a seat on the Joint Council in the previous structure at BCSS. Our CEO John Gaipman will be representing members and parents on the BCSS Legislative Assembly.

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## Membership Renewal Time



**September 1st marks the start of the 2021-22 membership year and you can renew starting now!**

All members benefit from the ongoing activities of BCCPAC and your membership fees help enable us to continue to support you, our members. To remain beneficial to and representative of our membership, we need to continue our work with parent advocacy and as parent representatives provincially with both the Ministry and education partners. Read our [Year in Review](#) and see just some of the work we did on behalf of members. The membership year is from September 1 to August 31 and the membership fee is paid annually.

**AND BIG NEWS!** One of the biggest changes to the [2021 Gaming Guidelines](#) (*thanks to our work on this for members*) is that **individual PACs can now use their Gaming funds to pay for their BCCPAC membership**. DPACs are reminded that they can only use their Gaming funds to pay for their own individual DPAC membership with BCCPAC. **[RENEW NOW](#)**.

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### Updates from BCCDC and Steering Committee

On May 5 Health Canada authorized the use of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine in children 12-15 years of age (the vaccine was initially authorized for ages 16+ in December 2020). Our PHO Dr. Henry announced children aged 12-17 will be integrated into BC's vaccination program and could be vaccinated by early summer. The logistics and implementation are still being discussed and confirmed including efforts for vaccinations for students under 12 years of age.

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Clinical trials on children are continuing. We will communicate more as the details are made available.

What was two groups - that is the Steering Committee which meets weekly and the Health and Safety Committee - is now four groups with the addition of an Operations group and a Mental Health Working Group. BCCPAC is represented in all four and we attend all the meetings to raise parent issues. The Steering Committee has been focused on discussions and plans for return to school in September. The Mental Health working group (Chaired by the BCCDC) has many organizations around the table who can provide resources for students and staff: the Ministry of Education and our education partners, BCCDC, UBC Help, BC Children's Hospital, Doctors of BC, McCreary Centre, RCYBC, Foundry BC, Safer Schools Together, and WorkSafe BC.

Key messages from Steering Committee meetings:

"Society and K-12 will look very different in September vs present day. It will be more endemic vs a pandemic."

"The C19 respiratory virus is part of society, is here to stay and won't be eliminated; we must learn to manage it. Respiratory illnesses circulate in our population regularly."

"As more people become vaccinated, morbidity and severity of illness including hospitalizations is greatly reduced. Vaccinations are effective on variants of concern."

The BCCDC released new materials following the May 20th announcement about vaccines for 12-17 year olds:

- [Summarized key information in a PDF for easy sharing](#)
- [Updated information about children and young people](#)
- [New FAQs on the schools website re: vaccines for parents and students](#)
- [Updated information on how to register and book/attend an appointment for those 12-17](#)

Young people can register themselves and book their appointment:

- online at: <https://gov.bc.ca/getvaccinated>
- by telephone at 1 833 838-2323
- or in person at any Service BC Centre

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## Seeking Volunteers for Committees

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As you may know, we have a number of committees that run each year; you can read their annual updates in the [2021 AGM Booklet](#). As the new board formally takes office, we will start up our standing committees: Awards, Constitution & Bylaws, Indigenous Education, Inclusive Education, Leadership Manual, Nominations, Policy, and Resolutions. If you are interested in serving on a committee, please [email](#) our office and indicate:

- PAC/DPAC name and your full contact details
- Your experience working on committees
- Skills and knowledge you bring
- Committee of interest

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## Member Community Forum

Have you checked out the new online [Member Forum](#) yet? We invite you to visit and login and start connecting with members from across the province. The Member Community Forum is available to Executive members of our active PAC and DPAC members ([review your membership status](#)) based on information provided to BCCPAC during the membership registration process. Go take a look and start connecting!

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## Zoom Licenses Issued to DPACs and PACs

**Please note the Zoom licenses BCCPAC has released to DPACs and PACs will expire June 30, 2021** as the Ministry of Education is not extending the K-12 Zoom enterprise license that was established last year. As part of our ongoing efforts to support district and school PACs and their parent communities, in September 2020 BCCPAC had secured Zoom licenses for DPACs/PACs across the province to be able to host virtual meetings this school year. We are grateful for the Ministry of Education's support of parents.

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## BC Teachers Council

As a principal education partner with BCTC, BCCPAC has a representative on the BCTC (appointed by the Minister) and that parent serves a three year term. Our current

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representative is Terry Berting who is a Life Member and past president and he was appointed in 2019. Under the Teachers Act, the BC Teachers' Council (BCTC) is responsible for: Setting standards for applicants and educators in BC, including education, competence and professional conduct requirements; Setting standards for post-secondary teacher education programs; Reviewing and approving post-secondary teacher education programs. Each year the BC Teachers Council publishes their [Annual Report](#).

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## Parent/Guardian/Caregiver Resources

The pandemic has increased [ScreenTime](#) for many kids. If you're one of the worried parents, [check out these tips](#) from the Canadian Mental Health Association to improve balance, effectively engage and stay away from shame.

Children are spending more and more time online. It is important to talk with them regularly to understand what they do online and set ground rules. [Here's how to start the conversation](#).

Have you heard about [Foundry BC](#) and their new App? The Foundry BC app allows youth and their caregivers to access services using video, audio, or chat options. They want to support you whatever way feels most comfortable for you! [Download their new app](#) and get the help you need when you need it! Did you know you can register and participate in groups through the new Foundry BC app? Their current groups include Queer Café and YMinds, with many new groups coming soon! [Learn more](#).

Are you aware of [Family Smart](#)? They are here for families. PiRs provide peer support to all families and caregivers parenting a child (0 to 24+) with a mental health and/or substance use challenge in BC. Free service. No waitlist. [Find out more](#).

The Ministries of Education and Public Safety & Solicitor General and Safer Schools Together have launched the Gangs and Guns Online Resources: a suite of videos and guides to increase awareness, knowledge and competencies related to gang and gun violence prevention for parents and students, educators and school support staff. It's all part of the larger erase strategy. [Access the resources](#).

It's important to know the difference between bullying, single acts of aggression, and conflict. Not all mean behaviour, rude behaviour, or conflict is bullying. The erase bc website has information for families and students. [Learn more](#).

Have a child in high school? Did you know that you can find info on undergrad programs offered at the 25 public BC post-secondary institutions in one place? That's right, find them all on one Search Database! [Take a look](#).

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Conflicts can happen between adults, between children and adults, or between siblings. Kids Help Phone Canada has [published a resource](#) to help you handle struggles in your family relationships.

Social and emotional development impacts how young children express emotions, deal with stress, develop friendships, and connect to the world around them through stories, conversations and play. [Learn more!](#)

It's important to keep up to speed with how your preteens are interacting on social media. From apps to livestreaming, there's a lot for parents to keep track of when it comes to online safety. Set your kids up for a positive experience on social media by having open conversations about respect, privacy, smart decision making, and what it means to think critically about what they see and hear online. There are many tips, tools and resources available such as [Smart Things to Say](#) from Saleema Noon; this [2021 Emoji Slang: A Guide for Parents](#) and their [Teen Slang Meanings Every Parent Should Know](#) from Bark; many free resources from [Cybertip Canada](#) such as [Parenting in the Digital World](#); and [cyberbullying information](#) from the Government of Canada.

For the last episode of their season, Kelty Mental Health reached out and asked parents/caregivers to send in their questions about child & youth mental health! The episode explores a range of topics including anxiety and stress, self-harm, managing family relationships, and more! [Check it out!](#)

It's never too early to start talking with your kids about personal safety. The [Canadian Centre for Child Protection](#) regularly posts about online and personal safety resources on social media and has resources for parents to help start those important safety conversations, whether your kids are tots or teens. [Learn more.](#)

Parents – stay in the know and keep up to date with your child's new game/app. Visit [ProtectKidsOnline.ca](#) to learn about online interests and risk, plus tips on starting conversations at home!

## Presentations to/for Members

While face-to-face meetings are restricted in the current environment, we are still here and available to present or attend and speak at your DPAC meeting. If you are interested in having BCCPAC speak to your parent community about issues relating to K-12, [email our office](#) to discuss further and arrange a date.

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## Key Dates and Events

### June 30

Gaming Grant applications deadline for Fall 2021

### Sept 8

Back to School

### Sept 30

Orange Shirt Day

### Nov 19-20

DPAC Leadership Summit

## Subscribe for Updates & Ensure We Have Your Email

If you are a member but you aren't receiving regular emails from us like this monthly newsletter, [email our office](#) to ensure we have the correct information for you on file. If you aren't a member and wish to receive communications, [opt in for updates on our web homepage](#).

- 7. Other Correspondence:** SOGI presentation that Vessy Mochikas has shared to Erin. June is Pride Month, and although it was planned a full month of pride activities was put aside to allow the grieving of Indigenous people after the recent discovery of 215 bodies at the Kamloops residential school grounds.
  - Activities to encourage pride, like adding pronoun to emails, Don your Gay, lesbian, Transgender, attire. Videos were created and will likely be played at a later date.
  - display the colors of Pride. District

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website has inclusive education link and it is encouraged to check this out and to reach out to Vessy Mochikas if there are questions regarding how to be more involved in this conversation.

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**8. Adjournment** next meeting September 21, 2021 at 6:30 - adjourned 7:54 pm

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