



BCCPAC Representation Report

Submitted by: Ron Broda, President

Name of Event: Meeting with Minister of Education

Date of Event: January 20, 2009

Location of Event: Minister's Office, Victoria

Present: The Honourable Shirley Bond, Minister of Education,
Sherri Mohoruk, Superintendent Liaison, Ministry of Education
Lisa Dominato, Ministerial Assistant

Regrets: James Gorman, Deputy Minister of Education,
Carla Giles, BCCPAC Chief Operating Officer

Items Discussed:

- Parent Involvement Success Story.
- President's Vision for the Future of BCCPAC.
- Anticipated Support required related to the Vision for BCCPAC's Future and this Year's Grant Application.
- Letter to Minister regarding DPAC fee issue.

President Broda reported to the Minister on a recent SPC training event that took place in SD 63 Saanich. The Training was presented by Judy Arnold from the Ministry of Education and was a repeat of the "School Plans, A Flight Plan for Student Achievement" workshop presented at this year's BCCPAC Fall Conference. The desire for this workshop to be presented in Saanich was generated by both parents and an administrator from Saanich who had attended the Fall Conference session.

President Broda reported to the Minister the vision of a more focused and business like BCCPAC as discussed in recent Board meetings. President Broda provided a brief overview of how the Governance Audit Implementation and the SPLSS/PIRC Program and BCCPAC'S use of outside professionals assisting in these areas will support and enhance that vision. Related to this was a discussion on the level and sources of financial support that will be required now and in the future. The Minister expressed her continued support for meaningful parent involvement in public education. The Minister advised that she would be discussing with the Premier ways in which the government can assist BCCPAC in bringing parent involvement to the next level.

President Broda and the Minister also briefly discussed the issue raised by one of BCCPAC's members regarding DPACs requiring a membership fee in order for a PAC to become a regular member with voting rights. The Minister was very surprised to learn that an issue of this nature exists. The Minister advised that the intent of the School Act was to be as inclusive as possible of parent involvement at all levels of the public education system. The Minister further advised that the letter related to this issue has been referred to senior ministry staff for additional research and advice.

President Broda and the Minister also discussed ideas for the agenda of the Learning Round Table.

The meeting was a very productive and positive one. It is very clear that the Minister is genuinely supportive and appreciative of BCCPAC's efforts for the future for ALL of our children.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ron Broda. President