

September 2024

Caution to pay BCCPAC membership fees. DPAC cannot assess at this point the value of BCCPAC membership. Further info can be accessed through Chris Ponti, Past DPAC Chair. BCCPAC is falling apart, board members are stepping down, transparency and ethical issues raised. Full DPAC Sep minutes [here](#) and see Yennadon PAC letter [here](#). Overview follows:

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- h) Yennadon Parent Advisory Council (correspondence) Bonnie:  
discussed our DPAC being the recipient along with other PAC and DPACs around the province of a letter that was addressed to the board of directors of our provincial organization BCCPAC regarding a nominee for the position of treasurer came vacant just shortly after the AGM in May. That candidate went through the process as was required in order to [be a nominated](#) to the board and the board [has an](#) opportunity to approve that appointment of that nominee at a meeting last week and chose to defeat that motion. The PAC which nominated that individual to that position takes issue with how the board has handled this and has called for transparency and accountability (which has been a long standing ask for the past several years of BCCPAC) and there are some significant challenges being raised by a number of stakeholders across the province. As a result of this letter. We do have this correspondence that went out with the agenda package. If you are a member of BCCPAC you have the right to address this with the board. Our DPAC has sent a response to the letter.

Chris: The candidate they put forward is actually a financial investigator for the RCMP. By the information known, they are more than qualified to be a treasurer, and [has](#) been in PACs for 7 years or so. There was no reason not to accept his nomination. There was discussion that one of the board members of BCCPAC has a personal issue with him and got the other board members they are close with to defeat it. Their DPAC blew up and sent this letter out asking for accountability. Chris wrote a letter in response stating turning volunteers away is not what we should be doing and I expressed my experiences which have been very challenging in BCCPAC and has led to the treasurer leaving in May, other elected executive members have quit in the last week as a result of that meeting. Chris' committee he co chairs is breaking ties with BCCPAC and will continue their committee work under the banner of a coalition of DPACs. Several things have contributed to this including asking the board to





address the facilities and space crisis at the beginning of the year and they recommended not commenting on the space issues. They had an election forum with candidates and space and volunteers arranged and the board did not support this which resulted in a lack of confidence in the board. Chris is recommending having DPACs and PACs hold off on joining BCCPAC or on paying your membership dues until more answers come.

Erin: I have already paid my dues for SKSS, which fees went up so that is disappointing. BC might be the only province which has a BCCPAC. What is the downside of BCCPAC completely collapsing and how would negotiations and chats with the province in terms of providing parent input to the government directly- how would that look without a provincial organization? Do we have any idea?

Chris: Staying in BCCPAC and trying to fix it to find a solution as we have a vote and a voice if we stay. Maybe leave en masse next year if we can't continue to participate. Dues are not due until December 31<sup>st</sup>.

Val noted that if we hold off on participating, then that leaves the Indigenous parent insight out from that.

Chris clarified don't hold off on participating, just hold off on paying dues if you are not sure.

Emmy: I appreciate the transparency about bringing the challenges up.

Chris: was told by someone yesterday they tried to get on the inclusivity committee and was told it was full. People on the committee are saying they are not meeting and not doing anything. Several people from our district signed up to be on the committees and have never been contacted or asked to participate.

Emmy: in the PACs helping PACs in the lower mainland there is a lot of discussion about the committees not keeping people in the loop or contacting those who signed up.

Bonnie: Resigning from position of president of BCCPAC 1<sup>st</sup> thing tomorrow morning as cannot do the work that needs to be done and can be done and should be done for students and maintain the ethical standards that should be held doing this work. Cannot maintain personal or professional integrity as a part of this organization.



Question from the room: is there a governing body that governs them?

Bonnie: the ministry of education.

Bonnie: Public education is for all children but it must meet the needs of each child. And if we aren't doing that we aren't doing our jobs. Please reach out with ideas, questions, and comments. Thank you all for the support.

Additional correspondence and attempts to get answers from BCCPAC can be found [here](#).

LGES PAC supported Bonnie McBride's nomination and voted for her as BCCPAC President. She won that election and has since resigned. The BCCPAC board elected in May 2024 was unable to move forward in a meaningful way. A lot of BCCPAC board members resigned. Some committees that were unsupported prior to Bonnie's election in May have moved their work to a new coalition of BC DPACs. This is an informal coalition.

[Bonnie McBride's open letter](#) explaining her resignation as BCCPAC President.