

North Vancouver Parent Advisory Council

Newsbytes

Welcome back to another school year!

NVPAC Members-At-Large Positions Available

A new school year has started and NVPAC is back at work. Because of some switching of executive positions there are three two member at large positions available on the NVPAC executive and we would love to see them filled. If you have any interest in one of these positions please contact us at northvanpac@gmail.com.

BCCPAC Membership

The 2008 deadline for BCCPAC membership is **September 19, 2008**. Last year we missed a couple of schools so this year we're aiming for every school. Go to <http://www.bccpac.bc.ca/aboutus/membership.aspx> and print off the membership form, then fax it to BCCPAC at 604- 687-4488. **Do not send any payment as NVPAC pays the dues on your behalf.** BCCPAC will invoice NVPAC for your membership.

Renewing early is especially important this year because of the upcoming BCCPAC by-election, as noted below.

BCCPAC By-Election

The 2008 BCCPAC AGM resulted in the need for a by-election. The nominees for the BCCPAC By-election are described in a booklet on the BCCPAC website. You can also access a form that allows you to ask questions of the candidates. The information can be accessed at <http://www.bccpac.bc.ca/aboutus/membership.aspx>. Your user id and password use the following format: sd#schoolnameelementary (they include the 'elementary' or 'secondary' designation). If you have difficulty accessing the site contact the BCCPAC office at info@bccpac.bc.ca or 604-687-4433.

Your voting package will be sent September 29th to those who are members in good standing. To be sent a voting package you must renew your membership by September 19th.

Your questions and the answers from the candidates will be posted on the members' only section of the BCCPAC website (www.bccpac.bc.ca).

Should you have any questions about the by-elections, please contact Carla Giles, Chief Operating Officer, at Ph: 604-687-4433 or by email carlagiles@bccpac.bc.ca.

BCCPAC Fall Conference

The annual BCCPAC Fall Conference will be held at the Burnaby Hilton Hotel from October 23 – 26, 2008. An exciting list of speakers has been set up and there are also plenty of opportunities to network with parents, PAC chairs and DPAC reps from other districts. Remember, any parent can attend the conference, not just PAC executives. With the conference being held in our own backyard this year it's a great opportunity for parents to attend for one day, one session or the entire weekend. NVPAC will be offering financial sponsorship for some attendees so don't hesitate –let us know if you're interested right away! Simply email us at northvanpac@gmail.com. More info to follow later by email.

Free parenting seminars – This week

Trust Parenting is hosting complimentary parenting sessions this week at the Lynn Valley Public Library Community room as an opportunity to have parents experience the value and knowledge of a Parent Speaker night. For more information on Trust Parenting go to www.trustparenting.com. The goal of Trust Parenting is to enhance as many parent/child relationships as we can through the expertise & knowledge shared by the professional speakers Trust Parenting bands together. All the speakers focus on natural development of children and provide key tools and skills to parents to stay connected. Register for these seminars at <http://www.trustparenting.com/registration.cfm>.

Tuesday Sept. 9th - READY FOR READING (TOTS)

SPEAKER - Carolyn Hart - B-Ed UBC - Early Literacy Advocate

Goal of this workshop is to inspire parents to take an active role in preparing their children for formal reading instruction. Introduces fun, effective and inexpensive ways you can help your child to notice sounds in words, (develop Phonemic Awareness). Explore ways to encourage children to have a positive attitude toward books and reading.

Wednesday, Sept. 10th - NAVIGATING CHOPPY WATERS: Parenting in a Materialistic World(TWEENS)

SPEAKER-Kelly Monjabez- Social Worker, Parent Educator, Speaker

Empowering parents with perspectives and tools to assist in the challenging task of guiding their children through the myriad issues in today's society, including body image and the potentially harmful influence of media. She shares 5 Powerful Strategies (based on the Virtues Project) parents can use to be effective in their communication and connection with their tweens at this important stage of their lives.

Thursday, Sept. 11th, BUILDING SELF ESTEEM Through the Higher Self (TEENS)

SPEAKER - Jody Renee Sillence - Author "Prayerful Awakening"

Gain a new perspective on self-limiting beliefs, fear and self-doubt by witnessing her trials and suffering as an adolescent and her gradual awakening to the power of forgiveness. Discussing a process of learning how to recognize our own inner power through the higher self. Her own real life personal experiences will be integrated into the presentation to display the difference between the 'Hero' and the 'Villain' voice within, and how to create our lives with a sense of purpose.

NVPAC All Candidates Meeting

Municipal elections, including those for the Board of Education, will be held in November 2008. NVPAC will be hosting an all candidates meeting to allow you the opportunity to meet the candidates and ask your questions. The meeting will be held at Sutherland Secondary School, 1860 Sutherland Avenue, North Vancouver, on Thursday November 6, from 7 – 9 pm. More info to follow as we lead up to the election.

NVPAC Parent Education & Food Safe Seminars

NVPAC will be sponsoring Parent Education Seminars and a Food Safe course on Saturday, September 27th – including FoodSafe, Communications Protocol, and Treasurer Networking. Registration info will follow shortly but in the mean time – please mark it on your calendars.

Coming Soon!

The Parent Communications Protocol is a project that commenced in 2007 and was spear headed by NVPAC. We are pleased to announce that, after input from various stake holders and with the approval of Superintendent John Lewis, the protocol will soon be rolled out. The protocol will assist in communications between PACs and parents and will also answer questions and concerns principals have had about the Privacy Act and parent communication. Watch for it!

Kindergarten registration 2009

Priority registration for 2009 – 2010 Kindergarten registration begins at the Central Registration Office on October 1, 2008.

Where: Lucas Centre, 2132 Hamilton Avenue, North Vancouver

When: October 1 – December 19, 2008

What to bring: students Canadian birth certificate or proof of citizenship and proof of current residence

Registration forms will be available at all elementary schools, at the Central Registration Office or at www.nvsd44.bc.ca at the end of September.

Parent Information Meeting

A meeting reviewing English Half Day Kindergarten, Early French Immersion and Inspirations 44 (All Day) Kindergarten will be held as follows:

Where: Lucas Centre, 2132 Hamilton Avenue, North Vancouver

When: October 22, 2008 7:00

BCCPAC September Newsbytes

For the latest issue of *Newsbytes*, click here:

<http://www.bccpac.bc.ca/resources/whatsnew/newsbytes.aspx>

Upcoming Meetings

September 9, 2008 Finance & Facilities Meeting, 7:00 LMCC

September 23, 2008 School Board Meeting, 7:00 pm, Board Office

September 25, 2008 NVPAC General Meeting & Social, 7:00 pm, LMCC

September 27, 2008 NVPAC Food Safe Training & Parent Education Seminars, 8:30 am, Location TBA

October 23 – 26, 2008 BCCPAC Fall Leadership Conference, Burnaby Hilton Hotel