

**BC Directors to Canadian Square and Round Dance Society
Report to BC Square and Round Dance Federation
August 2012**

First of all, we'd like to thank the membership for entrusting us to represent the BC dancers for another two years to the CSRDS. The first couple of years were a blur but we've learned more and now feel comfortable in stepping up to take on more within CSRDS.

Since our last report, it's been pretty quiet with the exception of the 2012 AGM held in Ottawa on July 21st. On the Friday night, we attended a warm up / trial run dance in one of the halls to be used at the Ottawa Convention Centre for the 2014 Festival. It looks like it will be a great facility to hold the Festival. We encourage everyone to register sooner than later as it helps the planning committee prepare for the required levels of dancing and also allows them to release expensive space if it will not be needed, so please register if you are planning to attend.

The AGM started at 9:30 AM and ran for about three hours. Directors were confirmed for all provinces with the exception of PEI, NF and the Territories. The membership chair reported a 2012 membership of approximately 11,400 members in 383 clubs. This is down approximately 9% from the previous year.

There was a request/suggestion back in 2011 for a badge for dancers who wanted to dance across Canada and collect danglers from each province. Beth volunteered to work on this and with the valued assistance of Al and Connie Ritchie of Sandy's Badges, she presented a draft of the proposed badge at the AGM. The concept was approved with some modifications to the badge/dangles. Beth will continue to work with Al and Connie to bring this to fruition over the next several months. A big thanks to Al and Connie!!!

Festival 2014 – As mentioned earlier, please register. There are almost 300 registered to date. If you're in to social media, "Follow" the Festival on Twitter and "Like It" on Facebook. (Search for Festival 2014).

The Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act (NFP Act) came into force October 2011. It's a new law replacing legislation currently governing the Society. There will be some work for the executive to transition the society by the deadline of October 17, 2014.

Only one professional development bursary was granted this year (to a BC caller!) There were other applications but these were received after the deadline. A discussion regarding this followed at the post AGM BOD meeting.

Two Awards of Excellence were awarded this year – Hope Pennock of Edmonton and a couple in BC (to be announced soon).

Promotion / Public Relations – we are still looking for someone to take on this vital committee. Beth has volunteered to be the director liaison to the subcommittee but we need reps from the provinces and someone willing to lead the committee. **Please speak to Beth if you're interested in leading or participating in this committee.**

Membership fees for 2013 will be increased by \$1 for each member (from \$2 to \$3); the \$5 fee for clubs/association s/federation remains the same. Youth dancers continue to be exempt. The membership fee had not seen an increase in approximately 10 years and with the rising costs of insurance, it was felt that the fee needed to be increased in order to support the operating costs of the society. While it was noted that there was still a sizable balance in the bank account, it was pointed out that it has to be maintained at a certain level in order to underwrite a festival. It was also pointed out that due to no Festival income since 2010, operating costs have and will take a toll on the bank balance. The Executive will be looking at ways to trim the operating costs.

Nova Scotia has implemented a zipper bumper sticker – “Dancing for the Health of It”

AGM 2013 will be held in September or October. Directors will be working towards holding this via video or teleconference.

The BOD meeting following the AGM ran about three and a half hours. The Executive was confirmed as follows:

Bob Ruohoniemi (NS) – President
Eric McCormack (NB) – Vice President
Secretary (MB) – Lorraine Kozera
Treasurer (BC) – Beth McGifford

Many of the directors retained their previous committee positions. Darcy has assumed the Honours & Awards portfolio.

There was a discussion about the cost of Society’s website and the provinces which are still supported through it. (The cost for each province is relatively small compared to BC’s -which is not supported through CSRDS- so Beth will be investigating that with Webmaster Phil Douziech and SquareUp BC Chair, Brian Elmer.)

Professional Development bursaries were discussed. While applications are still required to be in by June 15th, if there is bursary money still left in the budget after this date, applications will be considered after the deadline until the budgeted funds have been exhausted. Applications must still be done in advance of the caller/cuer school not after they have occurred.

Memberships and insurance will continued to be handled by Quebec directors, Mathieu Lapointe and Stephanie Charters. A new form for collecting the CSRDS fees will be coming out shortly. A major change coming is that Stephanie and Mathieu will be issuing all the cards and mailing them to the clubs directly. The deadline for submission has been moved up to December 1st (for membership and insurance coverage effective January 1st). This is required to facilitate club’s need for proof of insurance. There will be two other deadlines - February 28 and October 16 (where membership and insurance would be effective the day following the deadline). It’s important to meet the deadline of December 1st as people added after this date by the February 28th deadline will not be considered members nor covered by insurance until March 1st. The October 15th deadline is to capture new dancers in the fall who wish to have membership and therefore insurance until the end of the year (2012). One other change is with requests for Named Certificates of Insurance. As proof of insurance, the majority of the facilities rented by clubs across Canada accept the statement of membership and insurance provided to each club with their membership cards. In the case of clubs requesting a Named Certificate of Insurance for a facility, there will be a \$10 charge for these.

In order to encourage greater participation in the AGMs, we will be looking into video or teleconferencing. If you know of video or teleconference facilities in your area, please drop us a note or email to let us know. We will be bringing this up prior to the Federation’s BOD meeting in March in order to prepare for participate from BC in AGM 2013.

We have secured a supply of the Canadian dancer pins and they are available from us at a cost of \$3 each. Please let us know if you wish any.

Thanks again!

Respectfully submitted
Beth & Darcy McGifford