

**First Vice Presidents Report to The BC Square & Round Dance Federation
Annual General Meeting
Penticton – August 2016**

It has been a very busy four months since the Board of Directors meeting was held in Abbotsford, April 2, 2016.

At this meeting one of the items discussed was the need to get more money into the BC Federation coffers if we (as a federation) were going to survive and continue to provide services and funding to our member clubs.

My thanks to Brian Elmer for his input on the following information regarding fundraising activities;

The First Vice President job description is tasked with looking into and developing fundraising initiatives (as per the Federation's Constitution and Bylaws). It was determined at this meeting that a task force should be set up and fundraising initiatives be looked at and reported back to the Board of Directors meeting in April 2017. At this point in time I have asked Brian to be a part of this task force. I would appreciate others to step forward and volunteer for this initiative.

To date Brian Elmer and I have attended two free on-line webinars on the topic of non-profit Boards and fundraising through Charity Village with a third webinar taking place on July 21. The July webinar focuses on "Legacy Giving" where members can gift the Federation through their wills. This has happened in a few instances in the past to the federation and a few clubs and to the Pacific Northwest Teen Square Dance Festival.

Jean, Brian Elmer and I attended one Seminar on Gaming Grants presented by the Central Okanagan Charitable Gaming Association in Kelowna on April 8, 2016.

We learned something critically important about making applications. The Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch require that you have an existing program or project in place that you want you want to supplement with gaming funds. Our paid ad campaigns are perhaps the key reason for the Federation to apply for gaming funds but we'll put ourselves in jeopardy if we stop the program now. Region 3 (OSRDA) has applied for a fairly substantial grant but I have not heard of any success to date.

I am not convinced that this kind of fundraising is what will work or even be accepted for our activity. Most of the information we have received regarding non-profits and fundraising key more on charitable giving type of organizations though possibilities do exist more through the Gaming

Branch than anywhere else. We are a self funding organization and our degree of funding really depends entirely upon membership growth.

More to come on this topic at a later date.

Jean and I have attended a number of dance events since the end of the regular dancing season. (It doesn't look like the Regular dancing season ever ends do it?) We have enjoyed Once Upon a Time in Region 5, Rally in the Valley in Region 2, Radium Hot Springs in Region 7 and Chase the Fun and Chase the Fun Caller School in Region 9 and still to come is the Canadian Festival in Regina, Saskatchewan in July and Peachfest and the BCS&RDF in Region 3 in August.

In my last report I mentioned that two applications for New Dancer Class funding were received and were being forwarded to the Federation Bursary and Awards Committee for review. I am pleased to state that both clubs – the Chilliwack Rhythm Reelers and Star Country Squares were approved.

I have also received one funding request for attending a caller/cuer school. This and any other applications will be dealt with by the Bursary and Awards committee after the September 15 deadline.

Funding requests for attending caller/cuer school are to be received by the 1st Vice President by September 15 for training received during the previous dance season September 1 to August 31 of the prior year). This was approved in a motion passed at the August 2015 AGM.

It has been a busy year!

**Bill Wood
First Vice President
BC Square & Round Dance Federation**