

**First Vice Presidents Report to The BC Square & Round Dance Federation  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Abbotsford – April 2017**

In my last report I wrote about the need to undertake some kind of fundraising in order to put money into the Federation Coffers and thus continue the activities that support all the Regions and Clubs in this province. Without more \$ coming in and without membership growth we will not be able to survive or at least we as a federation will not survive in any meaningful way.

I have had a meeting with Federations' 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President Bill Morey and BC Social Media and Marketings' Brian Elmer, Federation Secretary Carla Gyle and a with a few others to discuss ideas relating to fundraising.

I have attended four free on-line webinars on the topic of non-profit Boards and fundraising through Charity Village. The last two offered something that could be useful to the Federation.

As reported last fall - "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.

The fourth webinar I attended was by far the most useful in my mind to what the Federation could do. This webinar dealt with support from sponsorships. Any Region any club and the Federation itself can and should seek sponsorships from Provincial, Municipal, Regional Districts, City Councils and local businesses to help promote our activities as well as their own. A BC Festival can bring in hundreds of people into a community for three, four, five days or more and while visitors are in the community they are spending money. Tourism Grants, program advertising, in kind donations from merchants and a whole lot of other things could help offset our costs and enable larger profits.

A key thought here **"Do not undervalue our activity if you look for sponsors"**. We, as a group tend to look for a little help when we should be looking for a big help!

Another key component to fundraising could be selling raffle tickets. This was done a number of years ago when cash calendars were sold to raise funds for the Moving and Grooving Program. This proved to be a very successful endeavor but was unable to continue because BC's Gaming Branch did not allow the license to be renewed. The license was not

renewed because we, (Square Dance etc. community), were a restricted membership group and did not benefit the general population.

This need to be looked at some more because as of February 2017, there have been some changes in the gaming branch regulations and I don't know what they are yet. I feel this could be the most beneficial course of action if we can get Gaming Branch approval.

**I would appreciate input from anyone on the topic of fundraising – does anyone have some ideas? Send me an e-mail to [wjjlwood@gmail.com](mailto:wjjlwood@gmail.com)**

On a different topic, I have received one application for new dancer class funding. This is from the Country Cousins Square Dance Club. I will be discussing this application with the advisory group after the March 1<sup>st</sup> deadline for receiving applications.

Funding requests for attending caller/cuer school are to be received by the 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

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