Region 8 – 2023 Report to BCS&RDA AGM

We have 5 clubs in our association with combined membership of 158 dancers.

The Ripple Rockets square & round dance club has 25 members with no new dancers this year. They will be celebrating their 70th anniversary this year. Their "Blast off" Long Weekend dance, (May 19 to 21) is on again this year after being canceled following the onset of the COVID pandemic for the past three years.

The Ocean Waves square & round dance club has 34 members and graduated 9 new dancers this year. They will also hold a summer dance again this year on the weekend of July 21 -23 called the "Catch the Wave" dance. More details will follow in upcoming issues of the Cross Trail News as they are worked out.

The Star Dusters square & round dance club has 47 members and graduated 13 new dancers this year with 5 more in progress. Their "Blackberry Fest/Across the Pond" Weekend is back this year for two days only, August 18 & 19 as they test the waters. Expect more in 2024 when they will be celebrating their 60th anniversary.

The Amalgam-Eighters square & round dance club has 42 members and graduated 11 new dancers this year.

The Island Gems round dance club has 10 members with no new dancers this year.

Elizabeth Hohner is getting set to reintroduce square and round dancing in Port Alberni next fall. We wish her all the best in that endeavor and will be there to support her when she does.

Working with ENTANDEM has been a problem for several dance leaders in spite of the "new deal" that is supposed to be in place. Independent caller, Bob Simpson has made some good progress in finding the right contact person within that organization to straighten things out but it will probably take some time yet for everyone to have their concerns satisfied.

This concludes the report for Region 8.

Respectfully,

Gord Ruedig, President, U.V.I.C.T.A.