

Phi Delta Kappa

NEWSLETTER

UBC Chapter #0124

Vancouver, BC



www.pdkubc.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

June 20, 2008

Dear Kappans,

What an exciting way to complete a year of stimulating dinner meetings with an oversubscribed event! Misuse and Abuse of Technology was the topic of discussion on Wednesday, April 16th with Wendy Harris and her associate from Harris & Company. We unfortunately had to turn people away because our numbers were over capacity. The positive feedback that we received was overwhelming and many members who weren't able to attend have indicated that they would like a part two on cyberbullying. We will be looking into that for a dinner meeting in the fall so stay tuned!

We thank all of those PDK members and guests who have taken the time to join us this past year for our dinner meetings. We encourage all our guests to join us again next year and think about membership with PDK. It is great professional development including opportunities for networking and a subscription to the well read Kappan educational journal.

I would like to thank our program director, Dan Brown, for all his expertise in networking, finding just the right guest speakers for each of our topics, and organizing the format of the evening. Each year we try to source out the hot topics. This year our dinner meeting themes included declining enrolment and school closures, rethinking school health, inclusion, and misuse and abuse of technology. We are making plans for next year and some of the topics that have been suggested are environmental sustainability, a panel discussion involving some of our School District Superintendents, cyberbullying, social justice, and mock interviews for potential leadership candidates. Should you have any other suggestions, we are open to hearing from you, just email one of us. We will be having a planning meeting this August.

A sincere thank you to all of the PDK executive members who are always available to help in whatever way they can! It is truly a collaborative effort on the part of all the executive members to plan, organize, and participate in our four dinner meetings. It is with great pleasure that I have taken on a second term as PDK President and the following is the new executive that was sworn in for 2008-09.

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Past President	Patrick von Hahn	pvonhahn@richmond.sd38.bc.ca

Welcome to all of our executive members and we encourage any other PDK members to join us in our mandate to support high quality education through service, leadership, and research.

Have a great summer. We hope to see you all in the fall.

Sincerely,
Marion Broadbent,
President, PDK-UBC Chapter

APRIL DINNER MEETING

YouTube, Facebook, and Myspace: Emerging Issues for Educators Today was the topic at our dinner meeting on April 16. Wendy Harris and Page Kendall, counsel at Harris & Company led the well-attended discussion. They described the contents of the three websites and noted examples of bullying, harassment, school fights, and defamation. Using the important distinction between in-school and out-of-school activities, they framed the issues as a balance of rights (such as freedom of speech), and contractual responsibilities (such those of school officials). Important considerations included the integrity of the school environment, professional reputations, and student rights.

FOUNDATIONS/SCHOLARSHIP REPORT

In addition to our three previously awarded local UBC Chapter PDK Prospective Educator Scholarships, Miss Salina Dharamsi from Magee Secondary in Vancouver has been recently awarded the *Dr. Jo Ann Ota Fujioka Endowed International Scholarship* of \$600. (Dr. Fujioka was PDK International President in 2005/06.) Congratulations to, yet again, another UBC prospective educator whose application was selected from over 200 outstanding international submissions from all across Canada and the United States.

Donald G. Allison, Foundation/Scholarship Representative
UBC Chapter, Phi Delta Kappa

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SCHOLARSHIP WINNER!

Congratulations to **Ms Maribeth Ching**, the winner of this year's PDK-UBC Chapter's \$1000.00 Scholarship. We look forward to meeting Maribeth and personally congratulating her.

Each year, our chapter provides scholarships to outstanding students in Grade 12 and in the final year of their teacher education program. We are proud to be supporters of future teachers and thank all members who have given generously when registering at our dinner meetings. Also, a significant portion of our membership dues goes towards these scholarships. So, thanks for keeping your membership current.

Eileen Phillips, Ph.D.
Chapter Member Liaison (CML)

UBC CHAPTER PDK 2007-2008 EXECUTIVE

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