

Phi Delta Kappa

NEWSLETTER

UBC Chapter #0124

Vancouver, BC



www.pdkubc.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

November 8, 2009

Dear Kappans,

Welcome to the 2009-2010 season of the UBC PDK Chapter! This is an especially significant year for our Chapter as we celebrate our 50th anniversary.

This year's UBC Chapter Executive has been hard at work planning activities and programs to enhance, augment and support the promotion of quality education. We look forward to providing you with opportunities to connect with educators from all over the Lower Mainland, to be inspired and informed about hot topics in education by experts in their field and to celebrate the contributions of our members over the past 50 years.

I am honoured to be serving as this year's UBC PDK Chapter President. My involvement with PDK began with an invitation from a member to attend a dinner meeting. The evening offered not only a fabulous guest speaker and a delicious meal but the opportunity to meet dedicated educators from various

different educational institutions. From my first visit as a guest to becoming a PDK member to now serving as your Chapter President, I continue to enjoy the learning and professional networking that PDK affords.

Our first dinner meeting of the 2009-2010 season, *Youth Gangs and School Responses to Them*, was such a hot topic that, following the guest speaker's power point presentation, the Question and Answer period lasted over 45 minutes! Ian Upton, Sergeant in charge of the Vancouver Police Youth Services Section, shared his knowledge of Lower Mainland Youth Gangs. From the current situation in Metro Vancouver to emerging trends and how schools can assist in preventing students from joining gangs, Ian informed and educated us all.

Our next dinner meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 25th where Keith Miller, Assistant Deputy Minister, Resource

Management Division of the BC Ministry of Education, will discuss the Ministry's vision for Neighbourhoods of Learning.

Your feedback and suggestions for future events are always welcome. Please feel free to contact me at erainer@vsb.bc.ca with your comments.

On behalf of the entire Executive, we look forward to seeing you at our next dinner meeting, on Wednesday, November 25th.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Rainer
UBC Chapter President

CML REPORT

Washington State Chapter Regional Conference

Our BC PDK Chapters plan to join the Washington State chapter (1599) in hosting a conference entitled "*Reaching for Excellence in Teaching, Learning and Assessment*" to be held on April 23 and 24 in Seattle. We hope that leaders from every chapter in the area – as well as Kappans from across the country – will attend this important event on April 23 and 24 in Seattle. Extraordinary venues and speakers are topics being discussed by the planning group and we will keep you informed of the progress. Reserve these dates now so you or representatives from your chapter can attend this prestigious event.

Reapportionment of PDK Regions

The PDK Constitution requires reapportionment of the regions every six years, with the next reapportionment scheduled to take effect July 1, 2010. The PDK Board has adopted a six-region plan to better govern the organization in a more fiscally responsible manner. The reorganization will impact the current Region B of which PDK UBC is a member.

As a result of the revisions to the regional structure, PDK will have several new leadership opportunities for members, including regional board members, field representatives, and area directors. We will post a map of the new regions and details about the new positions at www.pdkintl.org in early November. So stay tuned! You may wish to apply for one of these offices, an opportunity that will allow you to build your network and expand your professional experiences. Great organizations involve members in collaborative, forward-thinking decision-making. We at PDK know that our members' voices and assistance are critical to the success of PDK. Please consider applying for one of these positions.

To summarize the reapportionment, PDK UBC, as well as the other PDK chapters in BC, will now be part of PDK Region A which will include: British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Washington, Oregon, California, Idaho, Nevada, Montana, Wyoming, Utah, Arizona, and Alaska.

FOUNDATIONS/ SCHOLARSHIP REPORT

The PDK Educational Foundation has been operating for more than forty years. The Foundation supports community outreach projects; scholarships for prospective and practicing educators; and research based books and periodicals.

This year our local PDK Chapter is supporting the UBC Education Undergraduate Scholarship for \$1000. Our chapter's ability to provide scholarships is sustained by ongoing support from you and others in the UBC PDK community who collectively make financial contributions. If you would like to contribute to the *UBC Phi Delta Kappa Scholarship in Education* (Fund M614) please follow the internet link (<http://www.supporting.ubc.ca/givingoptions/donatenow.html>) or contact UBC Annual Giving at 604-827-5213. UBC's charitable donation's tax number is 10816 1779 RR0001. For further information on donating to the UBC PDK Scholarship contact Don Allison at dallison@sd38.bc.ca

UPCOMING PDK DINNER, NOVEMBER 25th "Neighbourhoods of Learning"

The UBC Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa will convene on Wednesday, November 25 to visit with colleagues and discuss [Neighbourhoods of Learning](#).

Keith Miller, Assistant Deputy Minister, Resource Management Division of the Ministry of Education will offer us an insider's view of Neighbourhoods of Learning: what motivates the concept, the experiences with the policy to date, and implications for the future for schools that are – and aren't – directly involved.

Mr. Miller joined the Ministry of Education in 1990 as Director of the School Facilities Branch. Today, he leads the Resource Management Division, which administers operating and capital funding for the public education system.

After the presentation, Mr. Miller will circulate among the tables and you will have an opportunity to question him directly.

Don't miss this chance to join us and share your experiences. Mark your calendar for [Wednesday, November 25th](#).

Place: [the Arbutus Club](#) is in Vancouver on Arbutus Street just south of 25th Avenue opposite Safeway at the pedestrian light at Nanton. Entrance is off Nanton.

Arrivals: 6:00 – 6:30 p.m. Program price: \$40 for members, \$50 for nonmembers. A portion supports the PDK Scholarship for a student in the Faculty of Education at UBC. Pay at the door of the Quilchena Room. Cash and cheques accepted. We issue professional development receipts. Your colleagues are also welcome.

Please contact Brian Leonard, our Registrar, at bleonard@sd43.bc.ca by noon on Friday, November 20th for a reservation. An early response is recommended. You will be sent a confirmation.

Parking is available in the visitors' areas in the parkade or in the lot inside the entrance of the Arbutus Club.

We hope to see you there!

UBC CHAPTER EXECUTIVE 2009-2010

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