

# 2017.1 Life Membership for John Bird

**Submitted by: BCCPAC Board of Directors (Awards Committee)**

*Be it resolved that*

John Bird be given Life Membership in accordance with part 2.03 c of the Bylaws.

**Proposer's Position Statement Supporting the Resolution:**

John Bird devoted his life to advocating for student success and achievement. He had shown that parent involvement is key to that success. Through the last 15 + years John had been involved with BCCPAC, he brought vision and courage to the efforts to change the system in order to recognize that student needs must always be the focus. He encouraged parent leadership development throughout the province and was a resource to many PAC leaders all over the province. John was instrumental in building relationships with education partners at the local and provincial level using his personal contacts and expertise to develop working models for partnership. John shared his visionary ideas with BCCPAC and many of our successes can be traced back to his influence and support. John Bird was an excellent example of servant leadership and dedication to the goals of Parent Advisory Councils in British Columbia.

For Many people on PAC's DPAC's and within BCCPAC John had been a mentor and friend. Unfortunately John left this world much too soon. The BCCPAC board feels that John's contributions on the board even for a short time were vast and valued and he deserves to be honoured.

**Implementers:**

BCCPAC

**Interested Parties:**

None

Unanimously approved.

**CARRIED** x

**DEFEATED**

**OTHER**



# 2017.2 Advocacy for Single Occupant Inclusive Washrooms

**Submitted by: BCCPAC Board of Directors**

***Be it resolved that***

BCCPAC advocate for at least one single occupant washroom in each school to be designated inclusive for all. Be it further resolved that BCCPAC advocate for additional capital funding to cover the cost of building, or the conversion of an existing bathroom to, at least one single occupant inclusive washroom in schools where they do not exist.

**Proposer's Position Statement Supporting the Resolution:**

The BCCPAC Board of directors believe that every student should have access to a washroom within their school where they feel safe.

In July 2016, the provincial government amended the BC Human Rights code to include explicit protection of "gender identity and gender expression".

In September 2016, the Ministry of Education announced that all public school boards are required to have codes of conduct in their schools to address bullying by articulating the prohibited grounds of discrimination as set out in the British Columbia Human Rights Code.

As the issue of gender-neutral washrooms has emerged at the forefront of the political debate on transgender rights, **we cannot lose sight of the fact that the heart of the issue is that we need to protect the dignity and safety of all students.** Many schools across Canada have been designating washrooms that are not gender segregated.

"Universal" or "Inclusive" washrooms refer to washrooms that can be used by all.

According to Egale Canada (2011), the two school spaces youth felt most unsafe in are change rooms and washrooms:

- 52% of trans youth
- 41% of LGBTQ youth
- and 28% of non-LGBTQ youth identified their school washrooms as unsafe.

"Gender-neutral" washrooms in public schools are typically a single occupant, lockable washroom available to people of all genders and sexes. Gender-neutral accessible or "universal" washrooms provide a safe, private facility for anyone who feels uncomfortable using gender-segregated multi-stall washrooms.

Single occupant restrooms also more easily meet the accessibility regulations of the building code.

(Continued)

# 2017.2 Advocacy for Single Stall Inclusive Washrooms (continued)

Designating an accessible inclusive washroom that can provide privacy for the needs of ANY student is an important step to ensure all of our students feel safe, welcome and included in our buildings.

**Implementers:**

Ministry of Education

Ministry of Finance

Boards of Education

**Interested Parties:**

Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) 123

BC School Trustees Association

BC Teachers' Federation

BC School Superintendents Association

CARRIED

DEFEATED

OTHER

# 2017.3 Advocacy for Single Occupant Inclusive Change Rooms

**Submitted by: BCCPAC Board of Directors**

***Be it resolved that***

BCCPAC advocate for at least one single occupant change room or combination change room/washroom in each school to be designated inclusive for all. Be it further resolved that BCCPAC advocate for additional capital funding to cover the cost of building, or the conversion of an existing bathroom to, at least one single occupant inclusive change room or combination change room/washroom situated close to the school gym where they do not exist.

**Proposer’s Position Statement Supporting the Resolution:**

The BCCPAC Board of directors believe that every student should have access to a change room where they feel safe that is situated close to their school gym. The rationale for this resolution closely follows the preceding resolution - Universal Washrooms.

As stated before, **we cannot lose sight of the fact that the heart of the issue is that we need to protect the dignity and safety of all students.** Although there are many schools across Canada that are designating “inclusive” washrooms, many students feel unsafe in open gender-specific change rooms, but are not explicitly given another choice.

According to Egale Canada (2011), the two school spaces youth felt most unsafe in are change rooms and washrooms:

- 52% of trans youth
- 48% of LGBTQ youth
- and 30% of non-LGBTQ youth identified their school change rooms as unsafe.

Designating an accessible inclusive change room that can provide privacy for the needs of ANY student is an important step to ensure all of our students feel safe, welcome and included in our buildings.

**Implementers:**

Ministry of Education  
Ministry of Finance  
Boards of Education

**Interested Parties:**

BC School Trustees Association  
BC Teachers’ Federation  
Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) 123

**CARRIED**

**DEFEATED**

**OTHER**

# 2017.4 Development, Adoption & Implementation of a Provincial Poverty Reduction Plan

Submitted by: Kootenay Lake DPAC, SD#8

## *Be it resolved that*

BCCPAC advocate for the provincial government to develop, adopt, and implement a long term comprehensive and effective Provincial Poverty Reduction Plan that addresses the root causes of poverty. The plan must include specific policies, clear targets, timelines, and reporting processes to address, at a minimum, the need for affordable housing, income minimums, access to quality, affordable childcare, training, education and community health care with an overall goal of measurably reducing child and family poverty in BC.

## **Proposer's Position Statement for the Resolution:**

Poverty has a significant impact on BC students. The 2016 Child Poverty Report Card, released by First Call Child and Youth Advocacy Coalition last November, confirmed that for yet another year, one in five BC children are living in poverty. Poverty rates in BC are higher than the national rates for the overall population, and especially for children. The percentage of BC children living in poverty is even higher for children under six years of age, currently at 20.1% (<http://still1in5.ca/>). The child (<6 years) poverty rate in Canada has increased from 15.5% to 19.7% since the federal government's 1989 resolution to end child poverty by the year 2000 (<http://www5.statcan.gc.ca/cansim/a26?lang=eng&id=1110015>; <http://firstcallbc.org/news/2016-bc-childpoverty-report-card-release/>). This is evidence that simply resolving to eliminate poverty isn't enough. A clear poverty reduction plan, with legislated goals and timelines is necessary.

BC is now the ONLY province in Canada without a poverty reduction plan. "BC is the only province that has not made a commitment to creating a poverty reduction strategy, despite a vocal nongovernmental sector that has been calling for change for a long time. British Columbia has high income inequality, low minimum wages and social assistance supports, and long waitlists for childcare and health services. The housing market is becoming increasingly more expensive and unattainable for people living in poverty. Something needs to be done. The approximate cost of a comprehensive poverty reduction plan in British Columbia per year is \$3-4 billion dollars while the approximate annual cost of doing nothing is \$8-9 billion." (<http://bcpovertyreduction.ca/learnmore/poverty-reduction-in-canada/>)

## **Implementer:**

Government of British Columbia

## **Interested Parties:**

Ministry of Children and Families

Ministry of Education

Ministry of Finance

BC School Trustees Association

CARRIED X

DEFEATED

OTHER

# 2017.5 Installation of Automated External Defibrillators in School Facilities

**Submitted by: Kootenay Lake DPAC, SD#8**

This information was collected with the kind support received from Peter Thorpe PgDip Director, Strategic Program Development; Medical Programs; BC Emergency Health Services; Brian Grunau MD MHSc, Emergency Physician, St. Paul's Hospital Clinical Assistant, Professor and Resuscitation Innovation Lead, UBC Department of Emergency Medicine Scientist, Centre for Health Evaluation & Outcome Services, PHCRI, and Peter Dodek, Head ICU, St. Paul's Hospital.

While these devices are certainly helpful in saving lives, a school may not be the best place to locate them. Concerns include:

1. Schools are closed much of the time making the AED inaccessible to those who need it. AS most of these events take place outside of school, more lives can be saved if these units are in the most accessible place possible and available 24/7.
2. The rate of hear attacks occurring in children is about 1.17 per 100,000 people. Only 15% of these would have been helped by AED, and only 12% of these occurred outside the home. The likelihood of an AED assisting a child in a school setting is very low In the lower mainland and Kamloops/Kelowna region only 1.4 such events occur outside the home every year. These are not necessarily at school.
3. Treatment by AED is usually only effective if CPR is also administered. Installation of an AED should be accompanied by CPR training of both staff and students.
4. Cost estimates per unit range from \$1400 to \$2000. They should be replaced every 5 to 8 years with some components like the battery and pads need more frequent replacement.
5. Two organizations, PADS jointly funded by the BC government and Heart and Stroke Foundation, (<https://www.bcpadprogram.ca/>) and ACT Foundation, a charity organization (<http://actfoundation.ca/act-programs>) are already set up and fund AEDs in schools while simultaneously offering training to students and staff in CPR.

Comments and suggestions from John Puddifoot, Resolutions Chair, based on the above information:

It would seem that this resolution is largely already achieved and funded. Installation by Boards of Education of more AEDs is possibly duplication of effort and may not be optimal in saving the lives of those it is designed to serve. Where schools and/or PACs would like these devices installed because it makes sense in their situation, they can already apply to PADs or ACT to obtain both these devices and training.

## ***Be it resolved that***

- a) BCCPAC send out an information sheet to all PACs and School Districts in BC alerting them to the PADS and ACT programs so they can apply if they think it is worthwhile in their situation.
- b) Lobby for continued government support of the PADS program so that schools where it makes sense to install AEDs will have funding available.
- c) Request that the Ministry of Education recommend that Districts consider installing AEDs in schools.

***Be it further resolved that***

All costs associated with purchase, installation and maintenance of AEDs as well as required staff training in their use be fully funded by the government of BC without reducing regular school operating and capital grants.

**Proposer's Position Statement for the Resolution:**

On February 9, 2006, 13-year-old Chase McEachern collapsed at school of cardiac arrest and died in hospital less than one week later. Throughout the previous year, Chase advocated for an AED in every Ontario school and hockey arena. That still hasn't happened, but through the Chase McEachern Tribute Fund, defibrillators are being made available in Ontario government buildings ([https://resuscitation.heartandstroke.ca/chase\\_mceachern](https://resuscitation.heartandstroke.ca/chase_mceachern)).

On February 13, 2013, Brian Rigby, a teacher at Twin Rivers Elementary School in Castlegar, collapsed and died of a heart attack at school. Since then, School District 20 has installed AEDs in schools and trained staff in their use.

An AED is a portable electronic device that assesses the heart of a person in cardiac arrest and if an irregular rhythm is detected, instructs the user to press a button and deliver a shock(s) to the victim's heart until it reestablishes an effective rhythm. If an irregularity is not detected, defibrillation is not instructed. With simple audio and visual commands, AEDs are designed to be easy to use but should still be handled by a person who is trained to use the device and administer CPR.

AEDs are commonly installed in many facilities, such as arenas, community centres, gyms, every London Drugs (!), post-secondary institutions and airports, but not schools, except in Manitoba where they were required by legislation to be installed by January 31, 2014 (<http://www.gov.mb.ca/health/aed/>).

There are about 40,000 cardiac arrests in Canada every year according to the Heart and Stroke Foundation. However, less than five per cent of victims who suffer an attack outside a hospital survive; the vast majority, 70%, of cardiac arrests occur outside a hospital.

Having an AED onsite can vastly improve a victim's chance of survival. With an AED, the chance of survival from cardiac arrest can increase by 75 per cent or more over CPR on its own. Defibrillation is more successful if performed within five minutes of cardiac arrest, while the chance of survival decreases up to 10 per cent for every minute after the arrest. Calling 911 is necessary, but the wait for first responders may take too long, especially outside of major urban centres.

# 2017.5 Installation of Automated External Defibrillators in School Facilities (Continued)

“AEDs should be as common as fire extinguishers... The fire extinguisher is going to save the building but an AED can save a life.” (Laurie Morrison, MD, <http://elevaed.com/legal/defibrillator-laws-for-canada>).

## **Implementer:**

Boards of Education

Ministry of Education

Ministry of Health

Ministry of Finance

BC Finance Committee

## **Interested Parties:**

Ministry of Health

BC School Trustees Association

BC School Superintendents Association

BC Association of School Business Officials

BC Teachers' Federation

BC Principals and Vice Principals' Association

WorkSafe BC

Heart and Stroke Foundation of BC & Yukon

**CARRIED** X

**DEFEATED**

**OTHER**

# 2017.6 Advocacy for the Capital Funding of Portables

Submitted by: Chilliwack District Parent Advisory Council, SD #33

## *Be it resolved that*

BCCPAC insist that the purchase, maintenance, and relocation costs of portables be funded with capital grants provided by the Ministry of Education above and beyond current operating and capital funding formulas, and that all new portables come equipped with washroom facilities.

## *Be it further resolved that*

BCCPAC advocate that the use of existing portables in growing districts be temporary, and that a timeline defining temporary use be clearly outlined pending plans for new schools.

### **Proposer's Position Statement for the Resolution:**

Portables have become permanent solutions to over-capacity issues in growing districts. We understand that the temporary use of portables may be necessary in times of unexpected growth or other unforeseen circumstances, but do not accept that portables permanently replace classrooms, adding to the overall population of a school, and limiting student opportunity. When elementary schools are built for 300 students, but there are 200 additional students in portables, each classroom spends less time in the gym, library, music room, and computer lab, and there is less space on the playground and playing fields. When secondary schools are built for 600 students, but there are 300 additional students in portables, students have less opportunity to take part in competitive sports, band, drama, and in other leadership programs; they may not get in to electives or courses needed to graduate. At all levels, washroom space is insufficient and parking lots are unsafe.

The Surrey school district, one of many where use of portables is prolific, currently spends \$4M/year from their operating budget in order to pay for portables. Used portables can cost around \$100,000, and new portables cost close to \$200,000. Therefore, all districts with portables have less money to operate, meaning fewer teachers and support staff are hired, classrooms go without resources, and PACs must fundraise for sports equipment, new technology and upgrades, and many more essentials. Stand-alone portables are expensive, inefficient, and take time away from basic janitorial duties in the main body of the school.

### **Implementers:**

The Ministry of Education  
The Ministry of Finance

### **Interested Parties:**

Boards of Education  
BC School Trustees Association

**CARRIED**

**DEFEATED**

**OTHER**

**Unanimous decision.**

# 2017.7 Ministry Funding Formula

**Submitted by: Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils of Saanich (Copacs) #SD63**

***Be it resolved that***

Resolution 2016.11 be reaffirmed.

That BCCPAC and the Ministry of Education re-examine, recalculate and reword the Ministry Funding Formula to address and fully fund all structural deficits and new requirements mandated by the government.

**Implementers:**

**Ministry of Education**

**Ministry of Finance**

**Ministry of Finance: Select Committee**

**Interested Parties:**

**CARRIED X**

**DEFEATED**

**OTHER**

# 2017.8 Co-operation between Ministries for Student Success

**Submitted by: Confederation of Parent Advisory Council of Saanich (Copacs) #SD63**

*Be it resolved that*

Resolution 2016.12 be reaffirmed.

**Implementers:**

**Interested Parties:**

**CARRIED**

**DEFEATED**

**OTHER**

# 2017.9 Negotiated Wage Increases for Administrative Staff

**Submitted by: Copacs #SD63**

***Be it resolved that***

BCCPAC meet with the Ministries of Education and Finance to advocate for the provision to cover increased cost incurred by districts related to negotiated wage increases for school administrators.

**Implementers:**

**Interested Parties:**

**CARRIED**

**DEFEATED**

**OTHER**

# 2017.10 Minimum Standards for Resourcing Student Needs and Services

Submitted by: #SD63

***Be it resolved that***

BCCPAC develop and articulate a parent perspective on what is needed in the classroom to support the learning needs of all students as articulated in the Classroom Resources Framework.

***Further resolved***

That BCCPAC lobby and advocate with Ministry of Education and our education partners regarding the above in anticipation of future contract negotiations in 2019 between government and BCTF.

**Implementers:**

**Interested Parties:**

**CARRIED X**  
Unanimous decision.

**DEFEATED**

**OTHER**

# 2017.11 Restitution of Stripped Contract Language

Submitted by: Copacs #SD63

***Be it resolved that***

That BCCPAC document and articulate the inequalities and unintended consequences on students and parents flowing from the Classroom Enhancement Fund (CEF).

***Furthermore***

That BCCPAC work with our Education partners to advocate with the Ministers of Education and Finance for more equitable and fair solutions.

**Implementers:**

**Interested Parties:**

CARRIED X

DEFEATED

OTHER

# 2017.12 Access to Inappropriate Materials at School

Submitted by: Copacs #SD63

*Be it resolved that*

That BCCPAC advocate for the need of the Ministry to work with the school district to ensure checks and balances and minimum levels of protection are in place to prevent the unintentional and intentional access of inappropriate materials on school provided internet.

CARRIED

DEFEATED

OTHER

# 2017.14 Mental Health Services to Children and Youth in BC

**Submitted by: Rebecca Georges #SD82**

***Be it resolved that***

BCCPAC advocate that with the introduction of mental health information and services to children and youth in BC through schools, that the level and quality of services increase to meet the needs of students without additional cost to parents.

**Background:**

That mental health services provided in schools be in addition to the current access for professional community child and Youth mental health services and not a replacement for existing services in order to ensure services are maintained.

**Interested Parties:**

Ministry of Education

MCFD CYSN

MCFD Child and Youth Mental Health

FORCE (Mental Health Community Advocates)

Various Mental Health Agencies.

Inclusion: BC Medical First Nations Services.

**CARRIED**

**DEFEATED**

**OTHER**