



# BCTI Alumni NEWS

issue 1 | volume 12 | June 2014



## British Columbia Teachers' Institute

**WE ARE CURRENTLY ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS ONLINE FOR TEACHERS AND FACILITATORS!**

The Parliamentary Education Office is pleased to announce that the next British Columbia Teachers' Institute on Parliamentary Democracy will be held in Victoria from October 21 - 25, 2014. It promises to be an engaging, intensive and enjoyable professional development opportunity for BC teachers. Please spread the word amongst your colleagues and encourage them to apply online today!



### *The Institute enables teachers to:*

- Enhance their knowledge and understanding of BC's political system;
- Promote discussion and critical inquiry into key issues in parliamentary democracy;
- Share ideas, resources, and methods for teaching parliamentary democracy in relation to BC's prescribed learning outcomes;
- Champion effective citizenship and extend the discussion about parliamentary democracy to their students, schools, and communities;
- Interact with MLAs and Legislative Assembly staff; and,
- Become familiar with the resources available through the Parliamentary Education Office at the Legislative Assembly.

### Return to the BC Teachers' Institute as a Facilitator

Teachers who have attended a BC Teachers' Institute on Parliamentary Democracy are eligible to apply to return once as a facilitator.

Facilitators are the first point of contact and provide ongoing guidance and support to participants. Facilitators are expected to be approachable, knowledgeable, and to have excellent organizational and leadership skills. In addition, facilitators will have the ability to promote discussion and critical inquiry into key issues on parliamentary democracy.

Successful applicants will have their accommodation, meals, travel, and ToC costs paid for by the BC Teachers' Institute. The registration fee is waived for facilitators. Applications to become a facilitator at an upcoming Institute are being accepted online now!

### [Facilitator Application Form](#)

### Fall Institute

**October 21-25, 2014**

The next B.C. Teachers' Institute on Parliamentary Democracy will be held in Victoria from October 21-25, 2014.

Please encourage your colleagues to **apply online!**

### [BCTI Alumni Corner](#)

To complete a BCTI Alumni Survey or to view photos of past Institutes, visit the Alumni Corner.

For any other inquiries, to update your contact information, or to unsubscribe to this newsletter, email: [PEO@leg.bc.ca](mailto:PEO@leg.bc.ca).



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## *In Other Legislative News...*

The Select Standing Committee on Children and Youth will be undertaking a special examination of youth mental health in British Columbia.

Parliamentary committees are appointed by the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia to undertake business on behalf of the Assembly. These all-party Committees are comprised of small groups of Private Members.

Committees consider only those matters that are referred to them by the Legislative Assembly and must report their findings back to the House. Within their terms of reference, committees are afforded total independence in their deliberations.

The Select Standing Committee on Children and Youth is inviting written submissions from the public.

The call for public input closes on July 25, 2014. To find out more about the work of this committee, or to make a written submission, please visit:

<https://www.leg.bc.ca/cmt/cay/submission.asp>

## **The 2014 Summer Tour Program | Parliamentary Education Office**

*by Kimberlee Hart, Tour Officer*

Every summer, more than 75,000 people participate in free guided tours of the Parliament Buildings. This summer, the Parliamentary Tour Office is excited to welcome nine Summer Tour Guides and six Parliamentary Players to help us educate and entertain students and visitors from British Columbia, Canada, and around the world.

Our Summer Tour Guides come from a variety of post-secondary institutions across Canada, including the University of Victoria, Camosun College, Simon Fraser University, the University of British Columbia, the University of Alberta, and the University of Ottawa. This summer we are excited to be able to offer free tours in English, French, Japanese, and Mandarin!

Our Parliamentary Players are students from the University of Victoria and from the Canadian College of Performing Arts with backgrounds in Theatre studies and Applied Theatre. Dressed in period costume, the Parliamentary Players represent important historical characters, appearing on tours and interacting with visitors to the Parliament Buildings. This summer, we are pleased to welcome Her Majesty Queen Victoria, Sir James Douglas, Francis Mawson Rattenbury, Mary Ellen Smith, Nellie Cashman, and Amor de Cosmos.



Throughout the summer, the Tour Office provides free guided tours seven days of the week, including weekends and holidays. Be sure to take advantage of this unique chance to see our history come to life!

**Top:** The 2014 Tour Guides & Parliamentary Players  
**Far Left:** Amor de Cosmos & Nellie Cashman entertain and engage secondary school students  
**Left:** Amor de Cosmos, Nellie Cashman, Sir James Douglas & Queen Victoria with the Honourable Linda Reid, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly



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## The Lieutenant Governor's Priority Programmes | An Update from Government House

by Jerymy Brownridge, Director of Operations and Management Services

Each Lieutenant Governor has the opportunity to develop unique programs and initiatives that highlight his or her interests and background. The programs are often provincial in scope and bring awareness to issues affecting British Columbians.

### *Literacy*

Her Honour will continue to build on the literacy program that the previous Lieutenant Governor, the Honourable Steven Point, developed with Rotary. Through the Write to Read Project, Rotary clubs throughout British Columbia partner with remote communities and help build libraries and other much needed amenities. With the support of the Government House Foundation, Her Honour will visit these communities and officially open their libraries.

### *Stewards of the Future*

Her Honour will promote the concept of a holistic approach to our endeavours based on respect for the land, positive relationships among its people, and the responsibility we share for the success of future generations. Each citizen is a steward of the future and through healthy land, healthy people and healthy communities, we can ensure the best quality of life for future generations in British Columbia.

With a number of provincial partners, including the BC Invasives Council, Her Honour plans to launch a specific Stewards of the Future Programme in 2014/2015. A toolkit for teachers is being developed that will enable them to get students involved by providing knowledge on land stewardship and our special relationship with the environment. The Programme will culminate in a student conference in Victoria.

### *Leadership*

Strong leaders help build strong communities. Her Honour will work to instill a sense of duty in all British Columbians to become leaders and mentor our youth. The leadership program will shine a spotlight on existing programs that teach, connect and inspire leaders, supporting a deeper discussion within the province.

### *Music and the Arts*

British Columbia is rich in various musical and artistic talent. Her Honour will help to promote and profile music and the arts across the province and help establish a local, national and international sense that British Columbia is a centre of artistic excellence.

In 2014, Her Honour launched the "Sing Me a Song" programme which invited amateur groups from around the province to write and perform a unique song about the province. Submissions were done through Youtube, and winners are just now being chosen by an elite committee in three categories. We are very excited to be carrying on with year two of this programme in 2015.

For the latest available information on all of these initiatives, kindly visit our website at [www.ltgov.bc.ca](http://www.ltgov.bc.ca).



The Honourable Judith Guichon, OBC  
29th Lieutenant Governor of  
British Columbia

## *Other News from Government House*

School group tours of Government House may be booked via the following link:

[School Group  
Tour Booking Form](#)

During the summer season, the Costume Museum, Interpretive Centre, Heraldry & Honours Display, and the Tea Room are open to the public Tuesday-Saturday from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm.

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*Happening now at the Parliament Buildings...*

## Pose for a Photo in the Replica Speaker's Chair!



In May and June, many students have seized the opportunity to have their photo taken in the replica Speaker's Chair that is now on display in front of the Parliament Buildings.

The real Speaker's Chair sits on a raised dais at the south end of the Legislative Chamber. While seated in the Chair, the Speaker interprets and enforces the House rules of parliamentary procedure and ensures that all Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs) are treated fairly and impartially.

In carrying out these procedural duties, the

Speaker balances the right of the majority to conduct business with the right of the minority to be heard.

Be sure to kneel for a photo behind the replica Speaker's Chair upon your next visit to the Parliament Buildings!

## Parliamentary Trivia



**The Legislative Assembly adopts rules to govern its proceedings.**

**What is the name of the document in which these rules, or parliamentary procedures, are found?**

**Email your answer to [PEO@leg.bc.ca](mailto:PEO@leg.bc.ca)**

*The first correct respondent will receive a prize from the Parliamentary Gift Shop!*

