

# Federation News

Freedom  
Involves Secure  
Alternatives

The Official News Bulletin of the Federation of Independent School Associations

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## **VANCOUVER FOUNDATION AND B.C. ARTS COUNCIL**

Application forms for the Arts in Education grants were sent out in June to FISA member schools. The forms are due in the FISA office September 15, 2006. The FISA extends its sincere thanks to the Vancouver Foundation and the B.C. Arts Council for their support of the performing arts and for granting \$17,500.00 to the independent schools for this program.

## **FISA FACT SHEET**

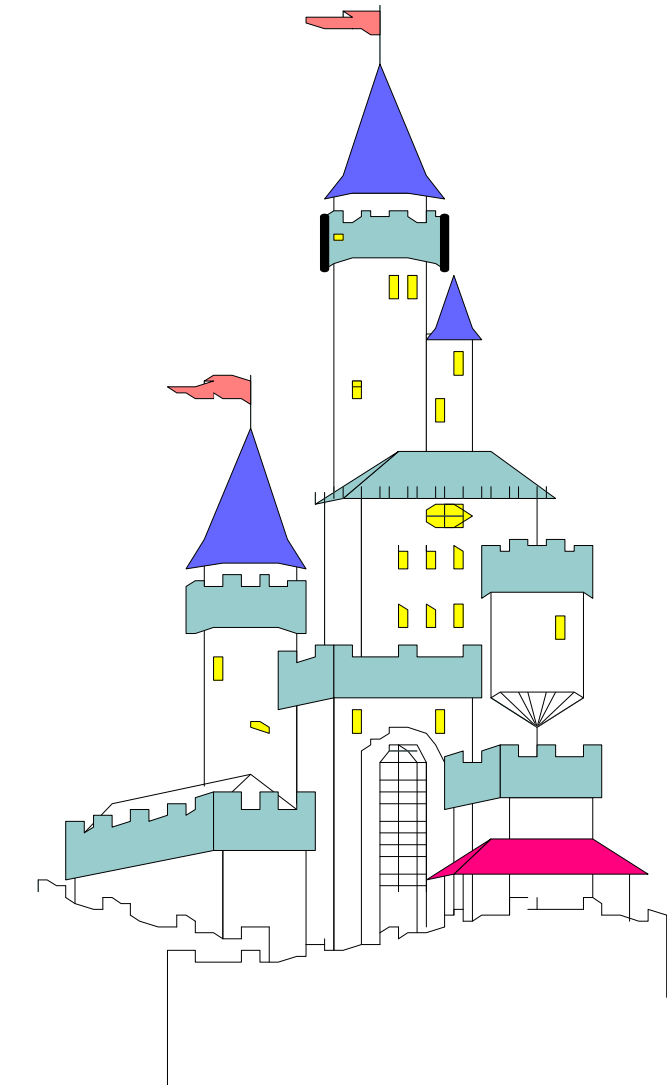
The FACT SHEET is being mailed, pre-printed with data submitted by your school last year. Please return the FACT SHEET with your updated information to the FISA office by October 6, 2006 in order that we may serve you, and others, with the correct information.

## **FISA MEMBERSHIP**

Invoices for FISA membership fees will be mailed for ISA and AMG schools, with the exception of SDA schools within the AMG. Invoices for ACSIBC, SDA, CIS and SCS schools will be sent to the Provincial Association offices. The fees for 2006-07 are \$4.50 per student, with kindergarten students counting as half using September 30, 2006 enrolment figures on the FISA FACT SHEET. This is the same fee as the last two years. Kindly remit fees by October 27, 2006 **with a copy of the invoice**. Thank-you.

## **WEBSITE HOT LINK AND E-MAIL**

The FISA updates its website based on the information submitted by your school on the FISA FACT SHEET. **Please check the accuracy of your website and e-mail address carefully.** As more and more people use the internet to search for independent schools we believe this service will enhance your ability to provide information to potential clients.



## **BROCHURE**

FISA has updated and reissued its informational brochure, last printed in 2002. Each member school will be issued 7 copies for distribution to the school board members as a membership service. Extra copies, which may be used in promotional mailings by schools, may be ordered free of charge by contacting the FISA office.



## GOVERNMENT AND INSTITUTIONAL NEWS

### INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TEACHER CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE

The Independent School Teacher Certification Committee advises the Inspector of Independent Schools on the issuance, suspension, or termination of Independent School Teacher certificates. FISA congratulates the following persons upon their appointment for five year terms: Ms. Terry Kooy, Principal Pacific Academy, ACSIBC; Ms. Cathy Lowenstein, Principal Vancouver Talmud Torah, AMG; David North, Principal Lions Gate Christian Academy, ACSIBC; and Lloyd Robinson, Superintendent SDA Schools, AMG, and thanks them for their willingness to serve. The FISA also thanks those who are continuing to serve: Ms. Michelle Gagnier, Deputy Head St. Margaret's, ISA; and Chuck Luttrell, former Principal St. Patrick's Regional Secondary School, CIS.

A special word of appreciation is extended to the three retiring committee members – Neil Steinke, former Principal Kamloops Christian School, ACSIBC; Ms. Heather Main, former Principal Boundary Bay Montessori House, AMG; and Dwight Moodie, former Principal Abbotsford Christian Secondary School, SCSBC.

### LEGISLATION CHANGES

In our June issue of the Federation News, the FISA reported on amendments to the Independent School Act made in the Spring session of the Legislature. On July 20, 2006 by Order in Council, amendments were made to the Schedule of the Independent School

Act. Two amendments clarify practice by changing the term “student cost” to “student grant”, as a technical issue. Another amendment is a consequence of bringing Distributed Learning into the Independent School Act. A fourth amendment will allow an independent school to obtain a grant at the Group 2 level (35%) in the first year of operation provided all eligibility requirements are met. Finally, a fifth amendment moves certification requirements for Group 4 schools from 80% of teachers to 100% of teachers, a measure to which all Group 4 schools are already adhering.

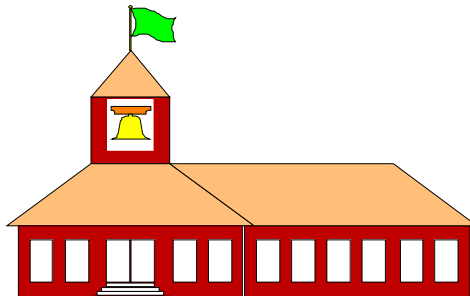
Also on July 20, 2006 by Order in Council, amendments were made to the Independent School Regulation. A number of the changes establish processes related to the amendments for Distributed Learning made to the Independent School Regulation. Another amendment adds a definition for “eligible student” (eligible for grants). Two additional amendments clarify language in the grants section of the regulation to clarify current language or practice. Another amendment clarifies the length of time for which an interim certificate is valid and a further amendment provides greater flexibility in the time period during which application may be made for a grant. Finally, some amendments are added requiring schools to maintain student records and share appropriate information. These amendments are in accord with current independent school practices.

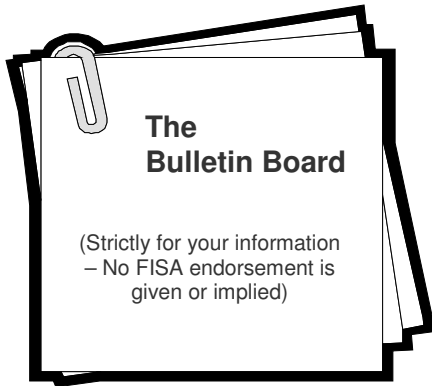
All of the changes have been consolidated into the Schedule or Regulation as of July 20, 2006.

## ASSOCIATION NEWS

The FISA is pleased to welcome four schools which have joined the FISA in the 05-06 year; three in the Associate Member Group (AMG) and one in the Association of Christian Schools International in BC (ACSIBC)

School	Location	Founded	Grades	Enrolment	Group
Az-zahraa Islamic Academy	Richmond	2003	preK-7	17+66	AMG
Heritage Christian Online School	Kelowna	2004	K-12	733	ACSIBC
Northside Christian School	Vanderhoof	1977	1-10	61	AMG
Traditional Learning Academy-DL	Surrey	2002	K-12	337	AMG





## The Bulletin Board

(Strictly for your information  
– No FISA endorsement is  
given or implied)

### **VANCOUVER INTERNATIONAL WRITERS FESTIVAL**

Step out of the classroom and onto Granville Island in Vancouver for amazing events for K-12 students October 17, 18 and 19, 2006 about reading, being a writer, classic stories, biography and more. The goal is to excite students about writers and literature and the magic of books. Tickets go on sale September 12, 2006. Info contact: [www.writersfest.bc.ca](http://www.writersfest.bc.ca)

### **MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGY EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS**

The MOA (UBC campus, 6393 NW Marine Drive, Vancouver, BC) provides a wealth of educational resources for Grades 3-12. Apart from programs run at the Museum the MOA offers teaching kits, panel exhibits, and guided studies for use in the classroom. Some kits contain touchable objects and others are large-scale text and photo panels for display in classrooms, libraries, or hallways. On-line curriculum to enhance the web based exhibits are available in PDF format. Teachers are welcome to pre-visit MOA after booking a program. To arrange free admission, call 604-822-4643 or E-mail: [bookings@moa.ubc.ca](mailto:bookings@moa.ubc.ca)

- Twice-daily for five days in October and November, the Dancers of Damela-hamid will perform in the Great Hall at MOA. Originally from the Skeena River area in Northwestern BC, the Dancers of Damelahamid will present masked dances, stories, and songs belonging to Hagbegwatku, the highest ranking chief of the Gitsan.
- Elementary school programs (Gr. 3-5) include *Behind the Masks*; *The Pole Walk*; *The Roots Speak*. (Gr. 3-7) *Archaeology of the Northwest Coast*; *Musqueam Museum School: The Academics of Art and Culture*. Secondary



The  
Federation of  
Independent School  
Associations  
wishes all independent schools  
a productive, safe,  
and rewarding school  
year 2006-07

School Programs include: *The Transforming Image*; *Continuity and Change: B.C. First Nations*.

### **STRATEGY INSTITUTE**

Is pleased to offer an exclusive invitation to attend the 3<sup>rd</sup> Contingency and Disaster Planning for K-12 schools taking place October 16 -17, 2006 at the Days Hotel and Conference Centre – Airport in Toronto. To view Agenda online visit: [http://www.strategyinstitute.com/101606\\_contingency\\_2006/dsp\\_contingency\\_2006\\_detail.php](http://www.strategyinstitute.com/101606_contingency_2006/dsp_contingency_2006_detail.php) to view Conference brochure visit: [http://www.strategyinstitute.com/101606\\_contingency\\_2006/contingency\\_2006.pdf](http://www.strategyinstitute.com/101606_contingency_2006/contingency_2006.pdf)

### **10<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL YWCA REAL STORY COMPETITION**

Grade 8-12 students are invited to write an essay about women who inspire them and are making a difference in their lives. Deadline for submission is Friday October 20, the top 100 storywriters will be honoured at a recognition event at the Centre for Performing Arts at the end of November. The top six writers and the top artist will be awarded monetary prizes from \$250 to \$1,000. For more information visit [www.ywcavan.org.realstory](http://www.ywcavan.org.realstory)

