

The mission of the Youth Parliament of British Columbia Alumni Society is to ensure the continuity of BC Youth Parliament in order to provide opportunities for youth in British Columbia to experience the parliamentary process and to learn about the value of citizenship.

---

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

Emily-Anne Paul: [emilyanne.paul@gmail.com](mailto:emilyanne.paul@gmail.com)  
Chair

Chair - Sessional Organizing Committee

Katrina Wang: [katrinalwang@gmail.com](mailto:katrinalwang@gmail.com)  
Vice-Chair

Julia Lockhart: [juliakl@interchange.ubc.ca](mailto:juliakl@interchange.ubc.ca)  
Executive Director

Travis Wong: [treasurer@bcyp.org](mailto:treasurer@bcyp.org)  
Treasurer

Dora Turje: [registrar@bcyp.org](mailto:registrar@bcyp.org)  
[alumni.affairs@bcyp.org](mailto:alumni.affairs@bcyp.org)  
Registrar  
Alumni Affairs & Website Communications  
(Acting)

Jenn Jay: [cro@bcyp.org](mailto:cro@bcyp.org)  
Chief Returning Officer

Jason Liu: [liuchichun@gmail.com](mailto:liuchichun@gmail.com)  
Secretary

Danica Wong: [danica.wong@telus.net](mailto:danica.wong@telus.net)  
Chair - Fundraising Committee

Claire Marchant: [clairesleymarchant@gmail.com](mailto:clairesleymarchant@gmail.com)  
Chair - Risk Management Committee  
Privacy Officer

Nicole Stewart: [nicole@nicolestewartpr.com](mailto:nicole@nicolestewartpr.com)  
Chair - Camp Steering Committee

Kerry Simmons: [kerrykls@hotmail.com](mailto:kerrykls@hotmail.com)

Susie da Silva: [susieds@gmail.com](mailto:susieds@gmail.com)

Caitlin Tom: [caitlin.tom@gmail.com](mailto:caitlin.tom@gmail.com)

Rahim Meghji: [rmeghji@gmail.com](mailto:rmeghji@gmail.com)

Karen Ratchford: [karen.ratchford@bcyp.org](mailto:karen.ratchford@bcyp.org)  
Premier - ex officio member

---

Volume 2011  
Issue 2

[www.bcyp.org/alumni](http://www.bcyp.org/alumni)

---

Charitable Registration No.  
119307692 RR0001



## Message From the Chair

This has been a big year for both Senate and Parliament. As many of you know, Camp Phoenix this year was cancelled, but it provided an opportunity for Senate, Parliament and alumni to come together and look at what the future of BCYP can be. It is a conversation that has only just begun, but I look forward to seeing where the organization goes over the next few years.

This is also a big year for retiring Senators. Kerry Simmons, Julia Lockhart, Nicole Stewart, Rahim Meghji, Katrina Wang, Claire Marchant, Caitlin Tom, Jason Liu and myself are all moving on to other projects and pursuits.

Kerry Simmons has served on Senate since 1999, having also served previously from 1994-1996. Kerry has acted as Secretary, Vice Chair, Registrar, Chief Returning Officer and most recently Chair. Kerry has not only filled these positions on the board, she has also served as Camp Director for several camps as well as chair of the Camp Steering Committee and many other roles. Kerry has been a mentor and leader, both on Senate and for Parliamentarians and while I am sad to see her leaving BCYP, I know she is off to use her powers for good in her new endeavours.

The second retiring Senator who we are also very sad to see leave is Julia Lockhart. Julia has served as Executive Director since 2006. In that time, despite being on the other side of the continent for several years she has provided endless support and mentorship for parliamentarians and senators. Julia is moving on to bigger things, including finishing her last year of law school at the University of Toronto.

On behalf of Senate I want to thank all the retiring Senators for all their work, time and dedication to the organization. While I too am moving on, I look forward to hearing what happens next.

If you are interested in filling one of the seats vacated on Senate I encourage you to contact me at [emilyanne.paul@gmail.com](mailto:emilyanne.paul@gmail.com), check out our website or the alumni Facebook page for more information.

~ Emily-Anne Paul ~

# Notice of Annual General Meeting of the Youth Parliament of BC Alumni Society

10:00 am, Saturday, November 19, 2011

Room 42T, Student Union Building

University of British Columbia, 6138 Student Union Boulevard, Vancouver, BC

(A map of UBC available at <http://www.maps.ubc.ca/PROD/index.php>)

- Approval of Annual Financial Statements
- Ratification of Activities of the Board
  - Election of Board of Directors

*Senate Meeting to follow*

If you would like to join the Board of Directors, please contact Emily-Anne Paul at 604-725-3443 or [emilyanne.paul@gmail.com](mailto:emilyanne.paul@gmail.com)

## *Message From the Treasurer*

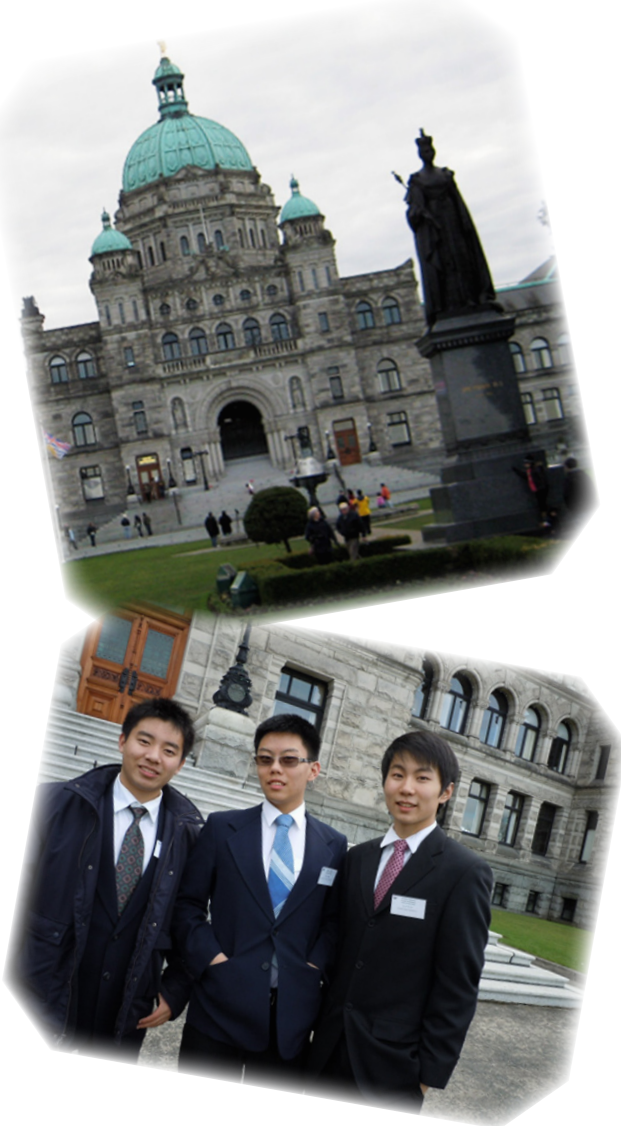
For decades, the Youth Parliament of BC Alumni Society has provided valuable support for BCYP. As the official sponsor, we organize and resource the annual session for youth from across the province. It provides a valuable opportunity for youth to gain leadership experience, and encourages a spirit of volunteerism and community responsibility through individual and group service projects.

In this era of increasing charity organizations and not-for-profits, funding opportunities have become scarce. Our grants have decreased. At the same time, our operating expenses for the parliamentary session, including transportation and accommodation for members have continued to rise. We are attempting to keep session registration fee at a reasonable level to encourage a diverse group of participants, and are actively pursuing alternative fundraising opportunities. Alumni contributions to BCYP are of tremendous help to keep Parliament's initiatives alive!

We would also ask at this time that you consider donating to the Alumni Society to help us make this year's Session a success. Making a donation to the Youth Parliament of BC Alumni Society ensures that young people from around the province can participate in an organization that benefits not only themselves but also their community.

If you are able to make a contribution to Senate, you are encouraged to make a donation at the following website: <http://www.canadahelps.org/CharityProfilePage.aspx?CharityID=s36109>. All major credit cards and PayPal are accepted, and a tax receipt will be instantly generated.

~ *Travis Wong* ~  
7650 Greenall Avenue  
Burnaby, BC V5J 3M4



# *So Long, and Thanks for all the Fish*

**Julia Lockhart** joined Senate as Executive Director in 2006 after serving six years in BCYP beginning in the 72nd Parliament. She was known for her “join early, hold positions often” approach to Cabinet, and for excelling at all things Camp despite a professed dislike of children.

**Kerry Simmons** is the past Chair of Senate and has served as a Senator since 1999 and also from 1994 to 1996, acting as Secretary, Vice Chair, Registrar and Chief Returning Officer at various times. Kerry was a member of BCYP from the 62nd to 65th Parliaments. She also served as Camp Director several times, and was always game to engage in extra-curricular bonding with Camp Administrators.

**Emily-Anne Paul** has been on Senate since 2009, having served as Secretary and most recently Chair. She was a member of BCYP from the 74th to 78th Parliaments. In her time in Parliament, she was acclaimed for all of her Parliamentary positions (beginning with the Premiership of NSYP), and almost single-handedly enhanced the dietary restriction alternative cooking skills of years of Camp cooks.

**Nicole Stewart** has served on Senate since 2008 and was a member of Youth Parliament from the 72nd to 77th Parliaments. She was one of the originators of the “three rules” of Camp supervision.

**Claire Marchant** served on Senate for five years, and was a member of BCYP from the 73rd to 75th Parliaments. She can be credited with introducing the Penguin Song to the BCYP campfire (and House break) repertoire.

**Katrina Wang** has served as Chief Returning Officer, Secretary, Vice-Chair, and Assistant Treasurer. She was also a member from the 72nd to 74th Parliaments.

**Rahim Meghji** joined Senate in 2005 and served as Treasurer for several years. He was a member of BCYP from the 69th to 71st Parliaments.

**Jason Liu** served on Senate for three years, most recently serving as Secretary. He was a member of BCYP from the 73rd to 78th Parliament. During his time in Parliament, he attended a number of Camps Phoenix as unofficial photographer as well as his other staff positions.

**Caitlin Tom** has been a Senator for one year and was the Alumni Affairs director. Caitlin was a member of the 73rd and 74th Parliaments.



## **A big thanks to our retiring Senators for**

(choose all that apply):

- \* mentorship
- \* good advice
- \* risk-aware thinking
- \* keeping things on track
- \* late nights
- \* doing things because they needed doing
- \* calling in to meetings
- \* picking up the pieces
- \* maintaining everyone's focus
- \* everything else the editor forgot to mention

# *You will be missed!*

# Message From the Premier of the 82nd Parliament

As I reflect on this past year as Premier of the 82nd British Columbia Youth Parliament, I am honoured to have been involved with such an inspiring group of youth so willing to commit to our organization. This year has been one of many obstacles and unexpected challenges, but I am grateful to have witnessed the dedication that allowed our organization to surmount many of them.

This sessional year has seen many successes and heartbreaks: thanks to my intrepid Regional Ministers, many successful service and social projects were run in each area of the province, as well as a number of outstanding fundraisers that raised needed monies for our various projects. The efforts of my Minister of Regional Youth Parliaments allowed for the reintroduction of two Regionals, Southern Interior (formerly Kootenay) Youth Parliament and Northern British Columbia Youth Parliament. These allowed for us to reach out to youth in these underserved areas and set a foundation that I am confident will ensure many successful Interior Regional Youth Parliaments. To my great disappointment, this year we were not able to successfully execute our most ambitious project. I would like to thank my Minister of Camp Phoenix and Camp Administrator, Emily Gage, for her countless hours of hard work and her relentless optimism for such a worthy project.

The various challenges that our organization has faced this year have brought about great soul-searching and many operational changes. Due to our inability to run Camp Phoenix this year, Parliament and Senate have begun in earnest to create new projects that could possibly replace Camp Phoenix in the long term. Although Camp is not going to be run in the upcoming Sessional year, I know that it has created a legacy that will influence many generations of Parliamentarians to come. To better accommodate these changes, Parliament will be tabling a new set of Finance legislation that will hopefully provide more guidance and oversight in these difficult financial times.

I am incredibly grateful for all my years in Parliament, and all the ways that my experiences have enriched my life. So much so, that I am not ready to leave yet! With the changing of members of Senate, I am looking forward to continuing to contribute to this organization as an Alumnus, and hope that many of you reading will return as well!

*~ Karen Ratchford ~*

**If you are interested in dropping by during Session, please contact Jenn Jay (CRO) in mid-December to be advised of the security procedures in place. We always want to see our alumni, and will make arrangements to help ensure you can visit us.**

*Thank you!*

The Society extends its sincere thanks to Coast Capital Savings for their generous financial support of Session through a Community Investment Grant of \$15 000.



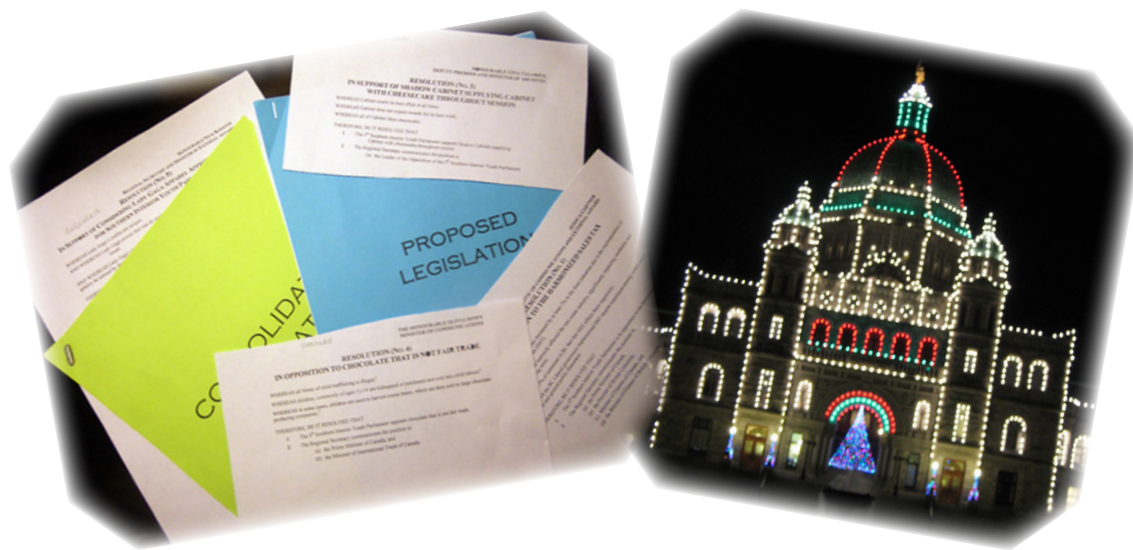
## *Message From the Registrar*

As can be expected at this time of year, we are once again in full swing with recruitment season for the upcoming Session of youth parliament. This year's application deadline is October 26th, and the day is rapidly approaching.

All alumni should have already received a copy of the application form by mail or email. If you know any young people aged 16-21 who might be interested in the amazing experience of being a member of BCYP, please pass on the form. There are also soft copies of the application form, as well as a brochure and poster, available online at [www.bccyp.org/joinus.html](http://www.bccyp.org/joinus.html).

I truly appreciate any personal contacts for recruitment you may be able to make. If you would like more copies of the form or copies of the brochure or poster, or if you have any other questions or comments, feel free to contact me by e-mail at [registrar@bccyp.org](mailto:registrar@bccyp.org) or by phone at 604-728-0446.

*~ Dora Turje ~*



## *Message From the Premier of the 83rd Parliament*

As the 82nd Parliament sessional year comes to a close it is time to start looking forward to the 83rd Parliament! We have two big projects that BCYP will be running in the coming year. The first project is the Western Canada Youth Parliament. WCYP is held every two years, and of course the four provinces that take part (BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba) rotate who will host it, and this year it is our turn to host. WCYP will be held over the May long weekend at UBC. It is a weekend where youth get to meet people from other parts of Western Canada and share their experiences.

The second project we are planning is a leadership retreat for our members. This retreat will include workshops and activities on leadership, team-building, event planning, and many other valuable skills. Alumni will be invited to come host workshops or share their experiences from BCYP and how it affected their future. This will be a great place for new friendships to be made and for old friends to reconnect. It will be a weekend about learning for both the members and the alumni.

Any contributions and/or suggestions for either of these projects are greatly appreciated. You can contact me at [jessica.mcelroy@bccyp.org](mailto:jessica.mcelroy@bccyp.org).

I look forward to a great year in Parliament!

*~ Jessica McElroy ~*

Have you recently moved or are you moving in the near future?

Would you be interested in receiving occasional communications from the Alumni Society by e-mail, between editions of *The Speaker*?

Have you changed your name?

Do you know BCYP alumni who would like to receive this newsletter?

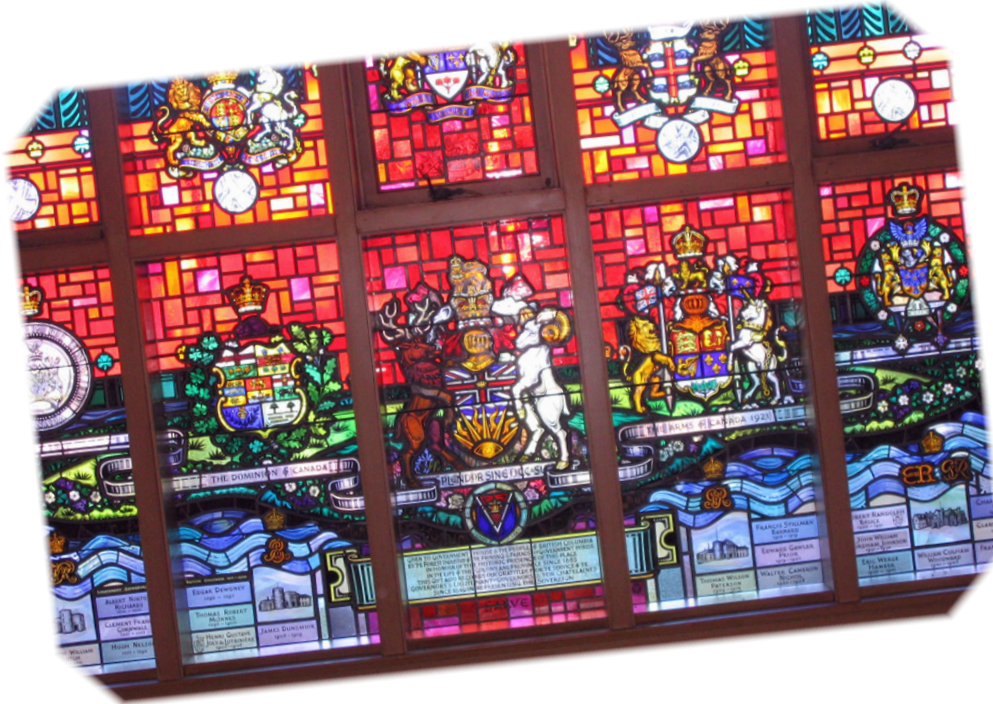
**e-mail: [alumni.affairs@bcyp.org](mailto:alumni.affairs@bcyp.org)**

### ***The Speaker* is Going Green!**

We are doing our part to minimize our carbon footprint by reducing the number of mailed out print copies of this newsletter. In 2012, *THE SPEAKER* will continue to be available in electronic format via email and on the Alumni Society's website (<http://www.bcyp.org/thespeaker.html>).

**If you currently receive this newsletter in print by mail, you can switch to the electronic format by sending your request to [alumni.affairs@bcyp.org](mailto:alumni.affairs@bcyp.org).** Upon doing so, the next issue of *THE SPEAKER* will be sent to you as a PDF document and will require the most recent version of Adobe Reader (free download at <http://get.adobe.com/reader/>), or another compatible PDF reader, to view.

The Youth Parliament of BC Alumni Society maintains complete confidentiality and does not sell or trade any names, addresses or alumni information. All information you supply is kept confidential and secure and will be used to distribute the Society's official newsletter and information about the BC Youth Parliament.



**VISIT US ONLINE!**

Youth Parliament of BC Alumni Society's website: [www.bcyp.org/alumni.html](http://www.bcyp.org/alumni.html)

Join the Alumni Facebook Group!  
"BC Youth Parliament Alumni"

## **THE SPEAKER**

Editing, Design, Layout:  
Dora Turje

Photos:  
Jason Liu, Dora Turje, Sarah O'Connor, Ryan Wei, Selena Kunar

Printer:  
STAPLES Business Depot