

The Parliamentarian

JANUARY 2015 – ISSUE 1



Contents

Premier	1
Deputy Premier and Minister of Archives.....	2
Attorney General and Minister of Finance.....	3
Provincial Secretary and Minister of the Island	4
Minister of Regional Youth Parliaments	5
Minister of Internet Affairs.....	6
Minister of Community Fundraising	6
Minister of the Interior.....	7
Minister of Corporate Relations	7
Minister of the Lower Mainland	8
Minister of Sessional Affairs	8
Minister of State (@Social Media)	9
Minister of Project Phoenix	10
Minister of Communications	10
CRO	11

The Premier

Dear Parliamentarians,

Well, it's still January and I'm still the Premier. Not much has changed on that front since I last checked in. As my various ministers are going to hopefully be going over what's new in their various portfolios, I'll just summarize some of the things that have passed through my metaphorical desk (really email inbox) in the last few weeks!

The Ministers of the Lower Mainland and Interior are looking for deputies to help them plan and execute a wide array of activities. Furthermore, a well-deserved kudos to the Regional Ministers and their teams! It's early in the Sessional year, but I've seen photos from numerous socials, posts about several fundraisers, and really, I've also seen a lot of random mockery – or as we like to call it, bonding, between Members. I don't know if you all have noticed, but we've started uploading photos from Session on the BCYP Facebook page. None of the ones from the House are online yet as they are awaiting approval from the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, but I assure you they are worth the wait. On the note of social media, my phone won't stop beeping with Twitter updates – thanks for that, Sky. Also, if you are in need of a laugh, I'd advise you to read the Continuity Report in the Journal for the State of Social Media. Someone has a way with words, if I do say so myself.

Um, what else? I'm not rambling at all. The youth parliament storm that is regional youth parliaments is picking up pace! We have the Vancouver Island Youth Parliament (VYP) and the Vancouver Island Youth Parliament (VIYP) both coming up soon. Look out for emails from Chris Coulson (the Chair or ringleader of VYP) and Sky (the Chair of VIYP) for applications and any other necessary information. Applications can also be found online at www.bryp.org when they become available. I really hope you all make an effort to attend the regional near you! It's a more intimate environment, everything is slowed down in comparison to BCYP, and you really have a chance to shape the legislation, and thus, the regional as a whole. It's also fun – I swear. If you have any questions, talk to Morgan! It doesn't matter whether it's regarding details like times and dates, what regionals actually are, how you can get involved, etc – she'll be happy to hear from you.

I think I've filled up an appreciable amount of space in your inbox now, and so I'll close by thanking you all for your time and your continuous participation! This organization needs people like you.

Darya

Deputy Premier and Minister of Archives

Hey all you funky Parliamentarians!

Glad to see that you're sticking around! I'll make this short, other people have more important and lengthier things to say than I.

IMPORTANT VYP UPDATE! We are so close to sending out applications - we are waiting on one final confirmation before we get those out to you. Once we do, I'm going to be calling upon all of you Vancouver, Richmond and Delta members to give us an extra big hand with an extra big push. Details to follow soon!

Putting on my Deputy Premier hat, I have nothing to major to report.

Putting on my Archives hat: Once we get that funky VYP stuff out to you, we'll move forwards with pestering y'all for some great memories to add to our archives.

Thanks for staying with me,
Chris Coulson



Cabinet at Leg Weekend

Attorney General and Minister of Finance

Hi everyone!

Just wanted to let you all know that the upcoming donation total deadline is February 2. That means that I should be receiving your cheques by February 2 or your cheque needs to be dated February 2.

Don't worry if you are unable to meet the first donation total. Don't be discouraged that you have failed. You haven't. Give me an email before the deadline and I will give you an extension or you can catch up at the second donation total deadline. As well, you are not confined to just giving the \$40 deadline amount. If you have more to send in, then send it to me and you can cover more of the deadline amounts. I attached in the E-digest a donation tax receipt request form but for those who didn't get it, or just didn't see it, I've attached it again.

As well, if you would like to ask prominent individuals in your community for a donation, please let me know beforehand so that I can ensure we do not double solicit certain individuals. These individuals include MPs, MLAs, councillors or important figures in your community. I've also attached an example of a solicitation letter you can use to ask people for donations. Please just change the names on the top and bottom of the document and mail them to the said people you would like donations from.

If you have any questions related to finance, don't hesitate to ask me or Sisi, the Deputy Minister of Finance.

Hope to see you all soon at a regional near you!

Yours in the Finance Office and Clerking Dungeon
Ambrose

Provincial Secretary and Minister of the Island

Hey all of you lovely BCYP people,

Hope everything is going well in your lives. I had a great time getting to know you all over session. Hopefully everyone is slowly adjusting to "normal" life after BCYP, but really why would you want normal when you can have BCYP? The good times will never end when you're with BCYP, so I really hope everyone will stay with us!

As I'm sure you all, as Provincial Secretary I requested greetings from all elected provincial and federal representatives in BC, and I got quite a few responses back. If you are interested in receiving a lovely electronic folder of all the greetings we received just send me an email, and I'll be sure to send it your way pronto!

Now let's switch it over to my other wonderfully amazing job, Minister of The Island. We on the island are going places, we've got some really cool ideas planed and hopefully you'll hear of our great success soon! And finally I have a quick message as the Chair of the 23rd Vancouver Island Youth Parliament - as you may or may not have heard, there are some super exciting things happening with VIYP this year... So be expecting an email in the next week or so with all the information, and a super cool poster will be attached.

I miss hanging out with everyone and walking down the halls in the Leg is just not the same without you guys. I hope that I'll have the chance to run into some of you across BC at some point, and be sure to let me know if you're in Victoria and want to see what the locals do!

Until next time!

Yours truly,

Sky Losier

Minister of Regional Youth Parliaments

Hey Members!

How's it going? I hope this parliamentary inspires you to get back into the Youth Parliament grind. My team and I have been working really hard to get a Regional to you soon!

The first of the year is the 28th Vancouver Youth Parliament, held on February 27th to March 1st. We are hosting the RYP on the UBC campus, using the Parliamentary Room (EXCITING!!). Anyways, just so you know, Chairing this RYP we have the honorable Deputy Premier, Chris Coulson. When it comes to applying to this regional, please contact our lovely CRO, the Minister of Communications, Suyoung Ahn.

The second regional of the year will be the 23rd Vancouver Island Youth Parliament, held on March 6th to 8th. This year the regional will be held on Salt Spring Island, an exciting change of scenery! Chairing this RYP is our Provincial Secretary, also the Minister of the Island, Sky Losier (#bowtiesarecool). Our fabulous CRO is the Minister of New Member Relations, Connor Williamson, talk to him if you want to get involved!

Please get involved with a regional! Bring a friend, or two, or seven. If you are not from the region that is hosting, but would like to get involved, you can potentially come as an ambassador (check out that option!).

If you have any questions at all, regarding these regionals, please contact either myself or the respective Chair or CRO.

You can reach me via email at: morgan.weir@bcyp.org
or just send me a message on Facebook, whatever works for you!

Stay golden,

Morgan
Minister of RYPs

Minister of Internet Affairs

Hello everyone,

I hope everyone is excited about getting involved with at least some of the events we talked about at session. And if not there's always the member initiated projects fund for you to use.

From my role as internet affairs, I'm looking for pictures you took at session that you think would look good on our website! This is the chance to make you and your friends famous. Also a reminder to take as many pictures as possible at any events with bcyp over the coming sessional year. If you have any questions about our website, or the bcyp email system, please feel free to contact me.

Also quick shout out about siyp this year. We're currently working on the charter but if you have any questions please get in touch.

Or just send me an email to say hi. I mean I'm in Ontario all alone (except you nate, you're the only other cool person in the province) and kinda bored.

Yours in Parliament,
Seamus Benwell

Minister of Community Fundraising

Dear Members,

So, as I hope you are all aware, the Kicking Horse Coffee fundraiser is going on this month! If you forgot about the fundraiser or still haven't gotten around to it, there's still a little over a week to go.

Additionally, I just wanted to remind you all to send in your order forms/money as soon as possible. My goal is to have the majority of the coffee distributed by the end of February. As well, it would really help me if each of you could scan or take a picture of your order form and email it to me at clea.harrison@bcyp.org before you mail it to me. This way, I can ensure that I have everyone's order forms BEFORE I put in the order (I can't help you if I've already submitted the order). If for whatever reason you are unable to email me a picture of the form, please send me a quick note saying that you are participating.

P.S. Interior members: I haven't forgotten about you, I promise! Stay tuned...

Thank you,
Clea Harrison

Minister of the Interior

Hello Members,

Just a short update to let everyone know about all the great happenings in the Interior. Things are kicking off in the Interior in a big way this week, with two big events coming up: the selection of Deputy Minister of the Interior and our first fundraiser!

In regards to the Deputy Minister application, it has been out for one week as of today, and for everyone interested is due at 11:59 PM tonight! I'm hoping to see many applications from a variety of members across the Interior.

Our first fundraiser will also be occurring this week on Friday the 23rd, thanks to Morgan Weir and the amazing Prince Rupert members. They'll be having a great bake sale and I'd like to wish the best of luck to them. Thank you, Prince Rupert!

In upcoming events, we will be organizing an Interior-wide bottle drive in February, to be organized between myself and the yet to be appointed Deputy Minister of the Interior. More information regarding the bottle drive, as well as the appointment of the Deputy Minister, will be coming soon in the upcoming weeks.

Finally, in late-February to early-March there will be an Interior regional meeting occurring on Skype. This will also be planned with my Deputy Minister, and more information regarding the meeting will be in a coming E-Digest, or a bi-weekly Interior email. There are a lot of great events being planned for the Interior, and I look forward to communicating with you all more. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours truly,

Jacob Noseworthy

Minister of Corporate Relations

Hi everyone,

I just want to say that I can finally pronounce my ministry title. I am the Minister of Corporate Relations and I want to say I miss you all.

Sukhi

Minister of the Lower Mainland

Thank you to those who attended the general meeting, to those who missed it, I'm entirely sure that you totally had a great reason to do so. I would like to give you more autonomy to work within smaller regions in the lower mainland, so please get in touch with those close within your region. Our first fundraiser will be a Valentines fundraiser, details about that are TBA. General meetings are important, and I'm hoping in the future more of you will decide to attend as they aren't as easy for me to plan as you think they are. Also, Angie Kim is now the deputy for the Lower Mainland, and shall be doing all the work as I sip Mimosas by Wreck Beach. Haha, just kidding but actually if you have concerns and I am not available you can ask her.

Warm regards,

Ignatius Chan

Minister of Sessional Affairs

Hey everyone!

Hope you're all doing well as the BCYP hangover fades, remind yourself the reasons for which you participated in session, and what you want it to mean for you. The real work wasn't just over the 5 days we spent in the leg, it's right now. Get involved! The quicker you get back into socials or events, the easier it is to re-establish connections. If there isn't anything for you to attend, organize it yourself! Take the initiative every single person you met at session has lots more to share; don't hesitate to reach out to those you made connections with! Be well, be happy and stay motivated.

Gavin

Minister of State (@Social Media)

Hey Parliament Geeks,

It's your friendly Minister of State (@Social Media) checking in! I have a few serious requests from everyone before I go on to more fun stuff. First of all, if you are not currently in the BCYP Facebook group, please contact me to get added. A lot of planning of events takes place in the group, as well as key information distribution. You should also make sure you are in an appropriate Facebook group for your region as I've noticed the Regional Ministers are using those as a primary channel of communication and planning. I'd also like to remind everyone that our Facebook and Twitter pages are public and regularly viewed by MLAs (Linda Reid included), MPs, and even the Lieutenant Governor herself! So just keep this in mind when posting/tweeting.

Moving on to things I care more about (though some may describe as less urgent), I've noticed we didn't get 95 new Facebook likes this year, which makes me sad. Now I know some returning members have already liked us, but I would expect some of you have parents, friends, family, vague acquaintances you met once on a cruise through the Mediterranean, and even pets as Facebook friends. These people are perfect to 'Invite' to 'Like' us on Facebook! They definitely would care, or maybe they wouldn't, but that doesn't really matter. You should Invite them anyways. Similarly, I expect you all to make Twitter accounts to follow us on Twitter, despite the fact that every time we Tweet it automatically gets posted to Facebook.

On a more personal note, I'd like to encourage all of you to stay involved this year. Even if you don't come back next year, a year of being involved in Parliament will change you for good and for the better, if I may quote Wicked slightly better than Ambrose did in his ageing out speech. You'll meet friends who will last a life time, even if you don't come back next year. Trust me, I've seen it first hand. And I've also seen members who weren't sure they wanted to come back fall in love with the organization after attending a few events after Session.

Yours in Parliament,
@lockhartm, @maclockhart, and @BCYPParliament

Minister of the Project Phoenix

Dear Members,

First of all, thanks for a great session! I hope the post sessional blues aren't hitting you too hard, but just in case they are, we've got some great post sessional activities coming to fix you right up.

Don't forget to keep an eye out for information on Project Phoenix in future Parliamentarians, in some of the Facebook groups, and on the BCYP website. There's no new information yet, but look for it in late February and early March (it'll be here sooner than you think!).

I look forward to working on Project Phoenix with you, and in the meantime, I hope to see you at some of the RYPs!

Yours in Parliament,
Lindsay Veenstra

Minister of Communications

Dear Parliamentarians,

I hope everyone is having a good year so far. It's really good to see everyone so active and staying in touch with everyone. I'm excited to be involved in many projects with you guys.

This is the first Parliamentarian of the year. There will be five issued per year, usually bi-monthly. You can find different updates from different ministers and regions, information on Regional Youth Parliaments, important deadlines and other news throughout the year. This is the official communication between Cabinet and everyone, along with quick E-digests! So pay a little bit of attention and read through these publications. You'll hear from me many times throughout the year.

As the CRO of Vancouver Youth Parliament, please look out for upcoming emails on VYP! If you have any questions, please feel free to email me at suyoung.ahn@bcyp.org. I hope to see all of your familiar faces at regionals!

Yours in Parliament,
Suyoung Ahn

Chief Returning Officer

As in previous years, Lower Mainland and Interior members travelled between Vancouver and Victoria with Pacific Coach Lines. This year as in the past, PCL was able to give us a discounted charter rate that allowed members to continue to be able to travel to and from Session efficiently and comfortably.

Thank you for your support!

