

CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT AGM 2007

On behalf of the Board of Directors I would like to thank the staff for the countless hours of dedicated work they put in to ensure that B.C. Athletics remain one of the leading provincial associations of athletics in Canada.

Thanks are also extended to the members of the executive and board who have volunteered their time to promote the sport of athletics in the province. Whether it is a budgetary item, a discipline case or assisting planning for the next quadrennial they have dedicated themselves to serving the membership to the best of their abilities.

This year we were unfortunate to lose one of B.C. most dedicated coaches. Frank Reynolds passed away in December after a long battle with cancer. Frank was an inspiring coach to cross country runners of all ages and worked tirelessly with the young and mature athletes under his care. He will be sadly missed.

The membership numbers continue to remain at around 4200, which include the "Training Members", formerly known as supporting members. The number of clubs also continues to remain at 68, which includes colleges, universities and societies. The Athletics Canada database has now been implemented for club registrars to register their members directly on line. While it had some initial problems those have now been worked out and we look forward to making the annual membership much more streamlined.

We hosted the Canadian Cross Country Championships for the second year at Jericho Park in Vancouver. Much to the delight of our fellow athletes from the rest of the country, they ran in the snow. Again over 600 athletes took part. The BC Cross Country Championships were held in Victoria and BC athletics again reinvested money towards our athletes, awarding a total of \$ 3500 in prize money. Road running continues to attract large numbers as witnessed in the 48,000 participants in the Sun Run, the 10,000 runners in the Times colonist, the sell out of the First Half Marathon in Vancouver in a matter of days and the almost 300 teams in the Haney to Harrison relay.

In track and field, the Pacific series, the Vancouver Island series continue to generate a lot of local and international interest. The Canadian Legion championships were held in August at the new Terry Fox Track at Simon Fraser University and were deemed to be a great success. We thank the Legion Branches for helping to organize the meet.

The Strategic Planning Committee has sent out to the various committees of BC Athletics requests for input to enable the plan to be finalized.

The challenges we face in the coming years include implementing the Strategic Plan, ensuring a balanced budget and trying to improve the facilities available for athletics in BC. We are constantly trying to encourage more coaches to become involved in working with our aspiring athletes at the club level. We need more officials to help lessen the demands on our present quota of dedicated officials.

Submitted by
Tom Hastie
Chair of the Board of Directors