



## **BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

The Board of Education of School District No. 39 (Vancouver) met in room 114 (the Boardroom), VSB Education Centre, 1580 West Broadway, Vancouver, B.C. and online in Teams on Tuesday, May 25, 2021 at 7:00 pm. The meeting was live-streamed.

Trustees Present in the

Carmen Cho, Chairperson, Estrellita Gonzalez, Vice-Chairperson,

Room:

Barbara Parrott

**Trustees Present in Teams:** 

Fraser Ballantyne, Lois Chan-Pedley, Janet Fraser, Oliver Hanson, Jennifer Reddy, Allan Wong, Ricky Huang, Student Trustee

Senior Management Present

in the Room:

Suzanne Hoffman, Superintendent J. David Green, Secretary Treasurer David Nelson, Deputy Superintendent

Carmen Batista, Associate Superintendent-Employee Services

Shehzad Somji, Assistant Secretary Treasurer

Senior Management Present

in Teams:

Pedro da Silva, Associate Superintendent-Learning and Information Technology

Jody Langlois, Associate Superintendent-Learning Services Rob Schindel, Associate Superintendent-School Services

Also Present in the Room: Marlene Phillips, Executive Assistant (Recorder)

Also Present in Teams: Chas Desjarlais, District Principal – Indigenous Education (check title)

John Dawson, Director of Educational Planning and Student Information

Ron Macdonald, Director of Facilities

Will Hsu, Manager of Budgeting, Forecasting and Planning

## 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

### 1.1 Indigenous Land Acknowledgement

The Chairperson called the meeting to order and acknowledged that the meeting is being held in the traditional unceded territory of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations.

## 1.2 Opening Remarks

The Chairperson informed everyone the meeting is being live-streamed and the audio and visual recording will also be available to the public for viewing after the meeting. The footage of the meeting may be viewed inside and outside of Canada. She reviewed meeting decorum for respectful behavior.

In her opening remarks, the Chairperson acknowledged the following:

- May 23-29, 2021 as Anti-Racism Awareness Week
- June 21<sup>st</sup> as National Indigenous Peoples Day
- A Drum Across Kanata (Canada) event being held on June 21 and 22, 2021
- The Musqueam Nation blessing ceremony at Eric Hamber Secondary School, held on May 13, 2021

## 1.3 Allen Blakey Acknowledgment (Attachment)

Trustee Wong acknowledged former Trustee Allen Blakey, who passed away on May 6, 2021. A copy of the memoriam, as presented, is attached.

### 2. PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

## 2.1 Diversity Equity and Inclusion Youth Forum

Directors of Instruction Deena Kotak and Alison Ogden shared opening remarks regarding the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Youth Forum held on April 15 and May 5, 2021. Bruce Garnett, District Principal of the Vancouver Newcomer Welcome Centre, introduced students Ella Diaz and Lara Al-Sammarraie. The students gave a PowerPoint presentation sharing how the forum impacted classrooms, schools and the community. The theme of the conference was intersectionality. A copy of the PowerPoint is on file with the meeting agenda.

Trustees asked questions and the students responded.

### 3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

## 3.1 Meeting of April 26, 2021

Moved by F. Ballantyne, seconded by E. Gonzalez, that the minutes of the April 26, 2021 meeting be adopted.

Trustee Parrott reported that the Get REAL program had been incorrectly included in the list of programs supported by the Vancouver Police Department (VPD) when the Board approved the April 26, 2021 motion regarding the School Liaison Officer Program requesting continued support from the VPD. She has since been informed that the Get REAL program has been coordinated by the Community Schools Team, in partnership this year with Frog Hollow Neighbourhood House, and she has received a request to remove it from the approved motion.

The Chairperson acknowledged this would be recorded in the May 25, 2021 minutes, and asked trustees if there was any objection to removing this program from the list of programs that the Vancouver Board of Education had requested continued support from the VPD. There was no objection, and a note will be added to the April 26, 2021 minutes next to the approved motion.

The Chairperson asked if there were any trustees not in support of the motion, with this change. There being none, the motion was

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

## 3.2 Meeting of May 5, 2021

Moved by B. Parrott, seconded by L. Chan-Pedley, that the minutes of the May 5, 2021 meeting be adopted.

The Chairperson asked if there were any trustees not in support of the motion. There being none, the motion was

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY



## 3.3 Meeting of May 10, 2021 (Meeting re Delegations – Pilot Project)

Moved by B. Parrott, seconded by E. Gonzalez, that the minutes of the May 10, 2021 meeting be adopted.

The Chairperson asked if there were any trustees not in support of the motion. There being none, the motion was

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

#### 4. SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

#### 4.1 Superintendent's Update

The Superintendent gave a PowerPoint presentation providing information on monitoring student well-being with the student learning survey. The survey collects data at the provincial, district and school level from grades 4, 7, 10 and 12 covering a range of topics. A copy of the PowerPoint is on file with the meeting agenda.

Trustees provided feedback and asked questions and the Superintendent responded.

## 4.2 COVID-19 Update

The Superintendent continued her PowerPoint presentation providing an update on COVID-19, including:

- Year to date data
- Update on BC Children's Hospital study
- Vaccination update

Trustees provided feedback and staff provided clarification.

The Superintendent provided a personal statement regarding her departure from the District. She informed everyone her decision was a difficult one and she will continue to support the Board during the transition to the new Superintendent.

The Chairperson provided a verbal report on the recruitment process for a new Superintendent. She reported:

- A search committee has been formed, led by the Secretary Treasurer.
- The District's profile and a Request for Proposals has been distributed to four executive search firms, to bid on conducting a national search.
- Stakeholders will provide input, contributing to the development of selection criteria.
- A website is being developed to keep the public informed on the recruitment process.

#### 5. STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORT

The Student Trustee provided a verbal report on information that will be provided at the next Board meeting.

## 6. COMMITTEE REPORTS



### **6.1 FACILITIES PLANNING COMMITTEE**

## 6.1.1 Report: Meeting of May 5, 2021

The Chairperson of the Committee, A. Wong, presented the report of the May 5, 2021 meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. The report includes information on:

- Capital Plan Response Letter 2021-2022 Capital Plan
- Restrictive Covenants
- Southern Portion of Sir Sandford Fleming school site Surplus Declaration Consultation
- Vancouver Project Office Memorandum of Understanding

Moved by A. Wong, seconded by E. Gonzalez, that the report of the May 5, 2021 meeting be received.

The Chairperson asked if there were any trustees not in support of the motion. There being none, the motion was

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

## 6.1.2 Matters Arising from the Meeting of May 5, 2021

#### **6.1.2.1** Restrictive Covenant Information

Moved by A. Wong, seconded by J. Reddy, that staff seek a legal opinion on the use of a restrictive covenant attached to any sale or transfer of VSB land to a public body. This could prevent any public body to which VSB sells land from reselling privately and would ensure that VSB lands remain in public hands forever, as per the intent of the motion of January 25, 2021.

Trustee Wong spoke to the motion, which had been supported unanimously by the Facilities Planning Committee members.

#### **Amendment**

Moved by B. Parrott, seconded by L. Chan-Pedley, that the motion be amended to remove everything after the first sentence.

Trustees voted on the amendment.

**CARRIED** 

For: F. Ballantyne, L. Chan-Pedley, C. Cho, J. Fraser, E. Gonzalez, O. Hanson, B. Parrott, A. Wong Abstained: J. Reddy

#### Main motion

Trustees voted on the main motion that now reads:

That staff seek a legal opinion on the use of a restrictive covenant attached to any sale or transfer of VSB land to a public body.

**CARRIED** 

For: F. Ballantyne, L. Chan-Pedley, C. Cho, J. Fraser, E. Gonzalez, O. Hanson, J. Reddy, A. Wong Abstained: B. Parrott



## 6.1.2.2 Southern Portion of Sir Sandford Fleming school site – Surplus Declaration Consultation

#### **Main Motion**

Moved by A. Wong, seconded by F. Ballantyne, that the Board of Education declare the Southern Portion of the Fleming school site surplus to the educational needs of the District and authorizes staff to proceed with the disposition process as per Board Policy 20.

Trustee Wong spoke to the motion, which had been supported by a majority of Facilities Planning Committee members. Discussion followed.

## **Postponement Motion**

Moved by B. Parrott, seconded by J. Reddy, that the motion be postponed until the Indigenous community has provided input.

Following discussion, trustees voted on the postponement motion.

**DEFEATED** 

For: B. Parrott, J. Reddy

Against: F. Ballantyne, L. Chan-Pedley, C. Cho, J. Fraser, E. Gonzalez, O. Hanson, A. Wong

#### **Main Motion**

Trustees returned to the main motion. Following discussion, trustees voted on the main motion.

CARRIED

For: F. Ballantyne, L. Chan-Pedley, C. Cho, J. Fraser, E. Gonzalez, O. Hanson, B. Parrott, A. Wong Against: J. Reddy

## 6.1.2.3 Vancouver Project Office Memorandum of Understanding

Moved by A. Wong, seconded by E. Gonzalez, that the Board of Education approve the revised Memorandum of Understanding for the Vancouver Project Office.

Trustee Wong spoke to the motion, which had been supported unanimously by the Facilities Planning Committee members.

During discussion, Trustee Reddy informed everyone that as a Facilities Planning Committee member she is no longer in support of the motion.

Trustees voted on the motion.

**CARRIED** 

For: F. Ballantyne, L. Chan-Pedley, C. Cho, J. Fraser, E. Gonzalez, O. Hanson, A. Wong Against: B. Parrott, J. Reddy



### **6.2 FINANCE COMMITTEE**

## 6.2.1 Report: Meeting of May 12, 2021

The Chairperson of the Committee, O. Hanson, presented the report of the May 12, 2021 meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. The report includes information on:

- COVID-19 Funding Update
- Operating Fund Update to March 31, 2021
- Required Budget Estimate for replacement of School Liaison Officer supports
- Budget 2021-2022 Update

Moved by O. Hanson, seconded by E. Gonzalez, that the report of the May 12, 2021 meeting be received.

The Chairperson asked if there were any trustees not in support of the motion. There being none, the motion was

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

## 6.2.2 Matters Arising from the Meeting of May 12, 2021

## 6.2.2.1 Budget 2021-2022 Presentation and Discussion

The Secretary Treasurer presented and reviewed a report dated May 25, 2021 entitled **Draft Annual Budget for 2021-2022.** The report includes information on the development of the budget for 2021-2022, a bylaw for adoption (which includes the Operating Fund, Capital Fund and Special Purpose Funds), assumptions made and risk factors considered. The deficit in the operating fund is currently \$9.43 million, which is offset by surplus appropriation to produce a balanced budget within the operating fund. There is a deficit in the Capital Fund, which is allowed by the Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB), in the amount of \$2.4 million.

The Secretary Treasurer informed everyone the budget bylaw will be considered later in the meeting.

The Assistant Secretary Treasurer gave a PowerPoint presentation entitled **Annual Budget 2021-2022**, a copy of which is on file with the meeting agenda. In giving the presentation, he reviewed revenue and expense details of all three funds (i.e. the Operating Fund, Capital Fund and Special Purpose Funds). He also reviewed changes made to the Status Quo Operating Fund Budget for 2021-2022 since the May 12, 2021 Finance Committee meeting.

During discussion, the Assistant Secretary Treasurer provided clarification regarding the deficit in the Capital Fund.

## 6.2.2.2 Motion: English Language Learners (ELL) District Consultant

Moved by J. Reddy, seconded by A. Wong, that \$100,000 be allocated to the hiring of another English Language Learners (ELL) District Consultant so there can be one District Consultant at elementary and one at secondary.

Trustee Reddy spoke to the motion. Following discussion, trustees voted on the motion.

**DEFEATED** 



For: B. Parrott, J. Reddy, A. Wong

Against: F. Ballantyne, L. Chan-Pedley, C. Cho, J. Fraser, E. Gonzalez, O. Hanson

### 6.2.2.3 Motion: Indigenous Language Program

Moved by J. Reddy, seconded by E. Gonzalez, that a maximum of \$200,000 be allocated to the development of a robust Indigenous Language program led by an external Indigenous consultant with expertise in Indigenous pedagogy and language program design and implementation and developed in collaboration with Indigenous parents, including χpeỷ parents and χpeỷ PAC and local host Nations, as follows:

Phase 1- Research, development, consultation with the language schools of the 3 host nations (Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh) and presentation of report for approval by January 2022 (6months) at a cost of \$50,000

Phase 2- Implementation of Indigenous language program including infrastructure, recruitment, and building of curriculum at a cost of \$150,000.

Trustee Reddy spoke to the motion.

#### **Substitution Motion**

Moved by B. Parrott, seconded by E. Gonzalez, the motion be substituted with the following wording:

That the VSB fully supports robust Indigenous language instruction being provided in Vancouver schools, and that this motion be referred to the Superintendent to start conversations with the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Peoples and Urban Indigenous Groups that develop a plan and budgetary requirements for providing this instruction.

Trustee Parrott spoke to the substitution motion.

## **Amendment**

Trustee Fraser requested the substitution motion be amended to include χpeỷ Parent Advisory Council (PAC) and Indigenous Parents.

The Chairperson asked if there were any trustees not in support of the amendment. There were none and the amendment was

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

## **Substitution Motion**

The substitution motion now reads:

That the VSB fully supports robust Indigenous language instruction being provided in Vancouver schools, and that this motion be referred to the Superintendent to start conversations with the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Peoples, Urban Indigenous Groups,  $\chi pe\dot{y}$  Parents' Advisory Council and Indigenous parents, that develop a plan and budgetary requirements for providing this instruction.



During discussion, the Superintendent clarified that she would delegate work of the motion to the Indigenous Education Department. At the request of a trustee and the Superintendent, the District Principal-Indigenous Education provided feedback on the substitution motion.

Following discussion, trustees voted on the substitution motion.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## 6.2.2.4 Replacement of School Liaison Officer (SLO) Supports – Safe and Caring Schools Department

The Chairperson of the Committee presented the following motion, based on a proposal from staff that was discussed at the May 12, 2021 Finance Committee meeting. The proposal, for a Safe and Caring Schools Department, resulted from a motion approved at the April 26, 2021 Board meeting to discontinue the School Liaison Officer Program. The proposal was supported by a majority of the Finance Committee members and by the Committee Chairperson.

Moved by O. Hanson, seconded by E. Gonzalez, that the Board of Education approves the addition of \$1,372,542 to the 2021-2022 annual Budget to fund the Safe and Caring Schools Department.

During discussion, the Secretary Treasurer confirmed the \$1,372,542 includes nine Safe and Caring School Liaisons for secondary schools, as in the proposal presented at the Finance Committee meeting. The report presented at the Board meeting refers to the positions as Youth and Family Workers.

#### **Amendment**

Moved by B. Parrott, seconded by J. Fraser, to increase the amount by \$800,000 to include 9 additional Youth and Family Workers.

During discussion of the amendment, the Deputy Superintendent reported the Youth and Family Worker pay band, which is a School and Student Support B band, is being used to cost the new positions. The new title (Safe and Caring School Liaisons) is being used in order to work with the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) Local 15 to create a job description for these new positions.

The Superintendent requested the motion be re-worded, changing the name from "Youth and Family Workers" to "Safe and Caring School Liaisons". There was no objection and the wording of the amendment now reads:

To increase the amount by \$800,000 to include 9 additional Safe and Caring School Liaisons.

During further discussion, the Superintendent reported this is a pilot program that would be reevaluated after the first year. Following further discussion, trustees voted on the amendment.

DEFEATED

For: B. Parrott

Against: F. Ballantyne, L. Chan-Pedley, C. Cho, J. Fraser, E. Gonzalez, O. Hanson, J. Reddy, A. Wong

### Main Motion (Motion #1)

Trustees voted on the main motion.

**CARRIED** 

For: L. Chan-Pedley, C. Cho, J. Fraser, O. Hanson, B. Parrott, A. Wong

Against: F. Ballantyne, J. Reddy



#### Motion #2

The Secretary Treasurer requested a motion directing staff to provide funding for the Safe and Caring Schools Department by using surpluses in the District's benefit plans.

Moved by B. Parrott, seconded by L. Chan-Pedley, to fund the proposal of a Safe and Caring Schools Department in the amount of \$1,372,542 by using the surpluses in benefit plans.

**CARRIED** 

For: L. Chan-Pedley, C. Cho, J. Fraser, E. Gonzalez, O. Hanson, B. Parrott, A. Wong Against: F. Ballantyne, J. Reddy

## **6.2.2.5 Trustee Budget Amendments**

#### 6.2.2.5.1

Moved by A. Wong, seconded by B. Parrott, that the Vancouver Board of Education reduce Adult Education minimum class size from 26 to 25 students.

Trustee Wong spoke to the motion. There was no discussion and trustees voted on the motion.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#### 6.2.2.5.2

Moved by J. Fraser, seconded by A. Wong to further support student mental health with \$100,000 funding to support the Artist in Residence Studio (AIRS) program.

Trustee Fraser spoke to the motion. During discussion, the Secretary Treasurer provided information on where one-time funding could come from to support the motion.

Trustee Fraser requested "for the 2021-2022 school year" be added to the motion after "funding". Following discussion, trustees voted on the motion, that now reads:

To further support student mental health with \$100,000 funding for the 2021-2022 school year to support the Artist in Residence Studio (AIRS) program.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#### 6.2.2.6 Annual Budget Bylaw 2021-2022

## 6.2.2.6.1

Moved by O. Hanson, seconded by E. Gonzalez, that the Board of Education of School District No. 39 (Vancouver) 2021/2022 Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$650,117,681 be read a first time on the 25th day of May 2021.

Following discussion on the budget process, trustees voted on the motion.

**CARRIED** 

For: F. Ballantyne, L. Chan-Pedley, C. Cho, J. Fraser, E. Gonzalez, O. Hanson, B. Parrott,A. WongAgainst: J. Reddy



#### 6.2.2.6.2

Moved by O. Hanson, seconded by A. Wong, that the Board of Education of School District No. 39 (Vancouver) 2021/2022 Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$650,117,681 be read a second time on the 25th day of May 2021.

CARRIED

For: F. Ballantyne, L. Chan-Pedley, C. Cho, J. Fraser, E. Gonzalez, O. Hanson, B. Parrott,A. WongAgainst: J. Reddy

#### 6.2.2.6.3

Moved by O. Hanson, seconded by E. Gonzalez, that the Board of Education adopts the 2021-2022 Annual Budget Bylaw for School District No. 39 (Vancouver) at the May 25, 2021 public board meeting by having all three readings of the bylaw at that meeting.

For: F. Ballantyne, L. Chan-Pedley, C. Cho, J. Fraser, E. Gonzalez, O. Hanson, B. Parrott, A. Wong
Against: J. Reddy

The Secretary Treasurer reported a unanimous vote is required for all three readings to be done at the same meeting. Another Board meeting will be required for the third reading of the bylaw. Considering this, Trustee Reddy informed everyone her vote could be changed to avoid holding another Board meeting for the third reading.

The Chairperson asked if any trustees were opposed to this change, and there were none. The motion was

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## 6.2.2.6.4

Moved by O. Hanson, seconded by E. Gonzalez, that the Board of Education of School of School District No. 39 (Vancouver) 2021/2022 Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$650,117,681 be:

Read a third time, passed and adopted on the 25th day of May 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Chairperson announced the on-line link for submitting questions to this meeting will now be closed.

## 7. REPORT ON PRIVATE SESSION ITEMS

## 7.1 Meeting of May 5, 2021

The Chairperson reported that the Board authorized the Board Chair by consensus to report to the May 25, 2021 Public Meeting that, at the Private Session of May 5, 2021 the Superintendent informed the Board of her decision to end her contract to accept the position of Chief Executive Officer of the British Columbia School Trustees' Association.



## 7.2 Meeting of May 10, 2021

The Chairperson reported that the Board authorized the Board Chair to report to the May 25, 2021 Public Meeting that, at the Private Session of May 10, 2021, the Board discussed a personnel matter.

## 7.3 Meeting of May 25, 2021

The Chairperson reported that the Board authorized the Board Chair to report to the May 25, 2021 Public Meeting that, at the Private Session of May 25, 2021, the Board discussed business interests, personnel and property matters, and as per Policy 12, Appendix B, the Board reviewed the Superintendent's Performance Review.

#### 8. REPORTS FROM TRUSTEE REPRESENTATIVES

- 8.1 Report from Trustee Parrott on the Vancouver Public Library Board meeting held on April 28, 2021.
- 8.2 Report from Trustee Fraser on the Vancouver City Planning Commission meeting held on May 5, 2021.
- **8.3** Reports from Trustee Gonzalez on the Vancouver Food Policy Council meeting held on April 29, 2021 and the Vancouver Heritage Commission meeting held on May 3, 2021.
- **8.4** Reports from Trustee Chan-Pedley on the Special Education Advisory Committee meetings held on October 26, 2020 and February 22, 2021.

#### 9. NEW BUSINESS: None

### 10. NOTICES OF MOTION

## 10.1 Notice of Motion from Trustee Gonzalez: Stable and Adequate Funding

Trustee Gonzalez presented a Notice of Motion and requested it be considered at the meeting.

Moved by E. Gonzalez, seconded by L. Chan-Pedley, that the VBE write the Ministry of Education to request stable and adequate operational funding for school districts so that we may better achieve our vision of inspiring student success by providing an innovative, caring and responsive learning environment. This would include mental health initiatives; additional supports for vulnerable youth in ministry care; food programming; seamless childcare and extending the Safe Return to Schools Grant.

Trustee Gonzalez reviewed rationale for the motion.

Following discussion, trustees voted on the motion.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#### 11. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

The Chairperson responded to questions regarding:

- The role of the Safe and Caring Liaisons in schools.
- The Safe and Caring Schools Program.
- Advancing objectives in the School Liaison Officer Program Review.

The Secretary Treasurer responded to a question regarding the Olympic Village school lease.



Board Meeting Minutes	May 25, 2021
-----------------------	--------------

Trustees agreed to adjourn by consensus.	
The meeting adjourned at 10:19 pm.	
J. David Green, Secretary Treasurer	Carmen Cho, Chairperson



12. ADJOURNMENT

# In Memoriam Former Trustee Allen 'Al' Blakey passed away May 6th, 2021.

The Vancouver Board of Education would like to take a moment in memoriam to a former Trustee who made a tremendous contribution to public Education in British Columbia – and specifically for Vancouver.

Al began his teaching career in Cranbrook and Hixon. He then taught in Vancouver at Southlands, Carleton, AR Lord, Nootka, Nightengale and Simon Fraser Elementary School.

Al was elected president twice by VESTA (Vancouver Elementary School Teachers). Through this and other organizations, Al worked together with current Trustee Barb Parrot over the decades on many similar goals.

Al was elected BCTF president in 1979 and 1980.

Al was elected as a Vancouver School Board Trustee for 4 consecutive terms from 1999 – 2011. Including times as the vice-chair to the Board and most notably as chairs of Committee I and IV.

I was privileged to watch him create, in his first term, the foundation of ADVOCACY for the Vancouver School District. I witnessed his writing and refining of all the steps and processes to effectively ADVOCATE for adequate funding for public Education AND to showcase the many successes of Public Education in Vancouver. It was the start of his 2<sup>nd</sup> term that he MOBILIZED his ideas from paper to action.

People will remember the BLUE RIBBON campaign in 2002 – at the time, there was an intense atmosphere of optimism and understanding of the importance of public education in society. I remember the District launched the campaign with a celebratory Blueberry pancakes Day at the Education Centre. This was the beginning that brought together all stakeholders and the community to advocate collectively.

I clearly remember the scene during a standing committee meeting in room 400. While the meeting was occurring, all stakeholder representatives were MULTI-TASKING with excitement on the distribution of the blue ribbon (in support of and to celebrate PUBLIC EDUCATION). You could feel the excitement and passion in the room.

I thank Trustee Blakey, for creating the ADVOCACY KIT and bringing varied people together. A true leader.

Al fought for social justice wherever he saw inequity in Society. He fought for the underdog. He kept telling everyone that it is not only about Equity of Access; but the importance of Equity of Outcome. He did this not only in Vancouver, but around the world - Al was on the CODEV Board.

Al always supported the Students of Vancouver. As such, the <u>Allen Blakey Scholarship fund</u> with the Vancouver Board of Education, is being created to assist, annually, one student from a Vancouver inner city secondary school who has completed at least 50 hours of community service work during his/her graduating year, to be used for post secondary education (university, college apprenticeship, etc).

If anyone wishes to contribute in memory of Al, please contact the VSB or myself.