

# BC Wheelchair Basketball Society

## 2010-11 Annual Report



### From the Office:

*In typical BC Wheelchair Basketball fashion we took to the court in high gear early in 2010-11 and never looked back. The 2010-11 season was one of our busiest ever with expanded programming in both the participation based and high performance areas, enhanced coaching and officials development, and the introduction of our Let's Play program focused on kids 8 years old and younger across BC. Our thanks to Mike Prescott for his work in this very successful program! Our regional programming was also enhanced through the developing clubs in Comox and Powell River. Congratulations to club leaders Karin Kratz and Lindsay Peake for your work in these new areas. BCWBS's success is a direct result of our volunteer leaders, coaches, dedicated partners and hard-working staff. I am always proud to be a part of the community which is BC Wheelchair Basketball. I would also like to take the time to express our sincere sadness in the passing of past athlete, board member, and friend MJ Boudreault. MJ, you will be sincerely missed.*

- Carrie Linegar, Managing Director

### Athlete Development / Participation Based Programming:

**Let's Play:** The Let's Play program is helping kids with physical disabilities become physically active early in life... and encouraging them to stay that way. The program is intended to help kids with mobility limitations to become physically active early in life by helping to establish the fundamental skills, knowledge and abilities needed to confidently participate in play, sport and physical education with their peers. BCWBS has purchased over 100 wheelchairs and has been piloting this program in 8 communities in BC and through 25 identified children in our chair loan program. The program is directed at children in British Columbia 8 years of age and under with mobility related disabilities and provides them with:

- A sports wheelchair specifically designed for young children (incl. cushion, straps, etc.)
- Adapted sports equipment for program facilitators
- Training and best practices guide for teachers, parents, recreation programmers and other facilitators
- An online resource that includes activities to build knowledge, skills and abilities: [www.letsplaybc.ca](http://www.letsplaybc.ca)
- Expertise and guidance for organizations that want to deliver inclusive physical activity programs
- Additional resources and links

The Let's Play Program is the result of a cooperative effort between BC Wheelchair Basketball Society, the Rick Hansen Foundation and the Province of British Columbia.

**School and Participation Program:** The BC Wheelchair Basketball (BCWBS) Schools and Community Participation Program is designed to educate students, teachers, and community groups about the sport of wheelchair basketball and about disability awareness. In 2010-11 BCWBS delivered the SPP to over 23 schools and community groups. Special thanks to the Bridging the Gap Program and the RBC Foundation for your support of this great initiative.

**Wheelchair Loan Program:** BCWBS continues to manage a wheelchair loan program for BCWBS members and clubs and continues to access funds for the purchase of additional sport wheelchairs. Currently there are approximately 120 wheelchairs managed by BCWBS, in addition to the new Let's Play program wheelchairs purchased this season. BCWBS was also able to expand our equipment program with the support of the CPC Equipment Fund this year.

**Regional Programming:** BCWBS was pleased to see regional programming in a variety of communities across BC including Prince George, Nanaimo, Comox, Powell River, Victoria, Chilliwack, Kelowna, Kamloops and throughout the Lower Mainland largely in New Westminster at Douglas College, Langley at Trinity Western and Surrey. Our thanks to the regional club representatives who work so hard to keep these programs thriving!

**Junior Programming:** In addition to the regular junior focused weekly programming offered in Chilliwack, Surrey, and Prince George, BCWBS was pleased to offer our annual summer basketball camp and a series of elite junior training sessions through the Centre for Performance Program with WBC this season.

**2010 Junior Challenge:** The Junior Wheelchair Basketball Challenge was held at Hugh McRoberts Secondary with three teams in the Junior 10ft Division and two teams in the Mini Division. Thank you again to Trish Nicholson from McRoberts Secondary School and her leadership class for hosting this event. We would also like to thank all the sponsors for their generous support: Panago Pizza, Loyal Protestant Association, Save on Foods, Wheelchair Basketball Canada, Province of British Columbia, The Forzani Group Foundation.

**Mini-Basket Festival:** This year's Mini-Basket festival combined with a unique opportunity to participate in the Steve Nash Youth Basketball Challenge hosted by Basketball BC at the Langley Event Centre. 13 BCWBS players joined the festival to play games with each other and many of the stand-up Steve Nash teams in a very success event.

**City League:** The highly successful city league continued this season with 2 sessions offered at Douglas College in partnership with Bridging the Gap and Douglas College. The league saw 60 registrants with a remarkable 18 of new participants. Special thanks to the Rotary Club of New Westminster for your support and Holly Tawse for your program leadership. A city league manual was also created this year to assist new regions in initiating a league.

**Family and Friends Night:** The Tim Frick Family and Friends Fun Night was a huge success!! Over seventy people participated in the event that was held at Douglas College in New Westminster on November 9. Members of the City League brought out their friends and family to try wheelchair basketball often for the first time.

**Victoria Game Day:** Over 40 participants enjoyed two days of wheelchair basketball at the PISE in Victoria. Representatives from the BC Breakers, the Be Squad, Seattle, Nanaimo, and the Fraser Valley all came to the Island to take part in mixture of skills and games led by Joe Higgins. A special appearance by Steve Bialowas, Canadian Junior National Coach was one of many highlights during this weekend.

**All-comers Wheelchair Basketball Festival:** The inaugural All-Comers Wheelchair Basketball Festival was this Spring with over 24 participants attending. A mix of both veteran and new athletes came out to the event which saw seven first time participants to the sport of wheelchair basketball. The afternoon showcased 4 on 4 scrimmages, a team relay challenge, and a skills session, providing an opportunity for athletes to hone their skills in a fun and relaxed atmosphere hosted in conjunction with BTG and fabulous Holly Tawse.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Kelowna Jamboree:** This year 44 athletes plus coaches attended from Vancouver, Kamloops, Kelowna, Calgary, and Spokane which was a new addition this year! The jamboree was a great success with its focus on fun, camaraderie, and friendly competition. Special thanks to the Okanagan Thunder for continuing hosting this successful event especially Paul Clarke, Bryan Shore and Wendy Jansen and of course BCWBS Regional Coach Joe Higgins for your hard work and leadership.

**Powell River Skills & Game Day:** Regional Coach Joe Higgins traveled to visit the Powell River Ravens in a fun –filled day of games and skill development activities. Including team Higgins, over 50 people took part in this exciting event, with many more spectators looking on from the bleachers.

**BC-CWBL D1 & 2:** Two teams participated in the D1 BC-CWBL Season - the Douglas College Royals lead by Coach Cheryl Corrigan and the Douglas College Lions headed up by Coach Joe Higgins. After a great season of play, where all games counted in the standings for the season, the Douglas College Lions took the top spot in Division 1. An intense battle for the Division 2 title saw the Vintage Cable Cars take on Victoria where the Victoria proved too powerful in a 64-45 win over the Vintage. BC Wheelchair Basketball is very appreciative of the support from the Province of BC - Hosting BC program, Douglas College, Trinity Western University, Subway, Panago Pizza, Advanced Mobility and tournament hosts the Kamloops Bull-dawgs and Okanagan Thunder for their contribution to another great season in the BC-CWBL.

**BC-CWBL Division 1 Champion Team:** Douglas College Lions; **Division 2 Champion Team:** Victoria

**Division 1 MVP:** Ross MacDonald (Lions)

**Division 2 MVP:** Peter Colistro (Cable Cars)

**Division 1 All-Stars:** Shira Standfield (Lions), Bo Hedges (Lions), Anthony Purcell (Lions), Deion Green (Royals), Kevin Bowie (Royals)

**Division 2 All-Stars:** Jessica Vliegenthart (Victoria), Shelley Chaplin (Breakers), Deion Green (Victoria), Avril Harris (Canada Games), Erik Vliegenthart (Kamloops)

**League Awards:**

**Division 1**

Most Improved Player – Deion Green (Royals)

True Sports Award – Anthony Purcell (Lions)

Leadership Award – Kevin Bowie (Royals)

**Division 2**

Most Improved Player – Adam Gongos (Cable Cars)

True Sports Award – Andrew Pahl (Cable Cars) & John Arduini (Kamloops)

Rookie of the Year – Kelsey Dyck (Breakers)

## High Performance Programming & Development:

**2011 CWBL Open Finals Hosted by BCWBS:** BCWBS was thrilled to host the 2011 CWBL Open Finals in partnership with Wheelchair Basketball Canada and the City of Surrey. After three days of intense wheelchair basketball action at the South Surrey Recreation Centre, Variety Village was crowned the 2011 Champions, defeating the defending-champion Douglas College Lions by a score of 67-49. The bronze medal went to the Moncton Magic, who defeated the Douglas

College Royals 90 - 86. Our thanks to our event partners, volunteers as well as key supporters Hosting BC, the Province of BC, 49 BeSpoke, and the many other organizations who supported our championships.

**BC Junior Provincial / Canada Games Team:** This year's BC Provincial Junior team finished season consisted of a number of training camps, participation in D2 of the BC-CWBL, a Canada Games Invitational Tournament hosted by BCWBS and of course culminated with a seventh place finish at the Canada Winter Games in Halifax in February. The dedication of these athletes over the season was tremendous, and BCWBS would like to thank them, their parents and families for the support that made the year the success that it was.

**High Performance Camps / RTCs:** BCWBS was pleased to partner with Wheelchair Basketball Canada in presenting successful High Performance / RTC Camps in November 2010, January 2011 and a short camp post CWBL Open Finals. In addition, weekly RTC sessions were held at both Douglas College and the Richmond Olympic Oval for targeted athletes.

**BeSquad Program:** Under the successful leadership of Coach Joe Higgins the BeSquad was reinvigorated with targeted athlete and coach development through participation in the Tacoma Invitational, Seattle Sonics Tournament, Las Vegas Tournament, Victoria Game Day, and the very successful BeSquad Invitational. BCWBS in conjunction with Trinity Western University hosted an exhibition tournament consisting of two parts: the BC Breakers tournament and Be Squad tournament which saw Alberta, Tacoma, Seattle and Japan participate with our BCWBS High Performance players.

**Sr. Men's & Women's Provincial Team Programs:** Our congratulation to the BC Men's Provincial Team who captured their fifth consecutive national title with a 58-53 win over Ontario at the 2011 National Wheelchair Basketball Championships in Longueuil, Quebec. Bo Hedges and Erik Hagreen were named to the tournament all-star team. In addition to the weekly practices the team travelled to Defi Sportif and players also took part in the BeSquad Invitational. Thank you to coaches Joe Higgins, Scott Allen, Brian McLennon and Andy Paul for your hard work with this program.

Our Women's team the BC Breakers participated in D2 of the BC-CWBL, attended the Calgary Rollers tournament and also hosted a women's tournament with the BeSquad program in preparation for nationals. Congratulations to Team Quebec for winning their first ever Women's CWBL Finals in their home province. The BC Breakers were proud to participate in this event which saw the team place 4th.

## **Coaching & Officials Development:**

**Officials Program:** BCWBS was pleased to expand our relationship with the BCBOA – BC Basketball Officials Association with a presentation at the official's conference in the Fall. BCWBS also presented clinics in conjunction with the Victoria Game Day, Kamloops BC-CWBL, and BC-CWBL Finals. The WBC Officials Evaluator Form was also used on evaluating officials at the BC-CWBL Finals. Eight new officials were identified this year through our efforts. Thank you to both Dean MacKinnon and Kevin Bowie for their efforts in educating new officials for our programming.

**Provincial and Regional Coach Positions - Integrated Performance System:** The Integrated Performance System, which is a vertically integrated system of paid coaches and program support at the regional, provincial and national team level, continued in BC this past season. Through this program BCWBS employed Cheryl Corrigan as a full-time Provincial Coach and Joe Higgins as the Regional and High Performance Development Coach. These coaches benefited from a series of professional development opportunities and engaged in coaching and program development initiatives with BCWBS.

**Learning Facilitators, Evaluator Training, and Introduction to Competition Coaching Clinic:** In the Fall of 2010, BCWBS hosted a weekend of coach education with Douglas College. 12 candidate coaches signed up to learn more about wheelchair basketball and five current coaches jumped at the opportunity to learn from the best at Douglas College in New Westminster, BC. Thank you Tim for your fantastic leadership and insight in delivering these clinics.

## **Funding & Community Partnerships:**

- **The Province of BC** – BCWBS gratefully acknowledges the support of the Province of British Columbia through Hosting BC, Direct Access Gaming, and sport funding through the Ministry of Community, Sport, and Cultural Development in support of BCWBS programming and development!
- **BC Wheelchair Sports Association** – BCWBS is a member of BCWSA and receives many services including financial grant support, access to the provincial Athlete Assistance Program, the Bridging the Gap Program, and more.
- **Douglas College** – continues to provide incredible support to wheelchair basketball in their Athletic and Centre for Campus Life program with access to practice facilities, hosting of tournaments and camps and so much more.

- **Canadian Sport Centre Pacific** – wheelchair basketball continued as a targeted sport partner of CSC-Pacific through the Integrated Performance System and sport services for our targeted athletes.
- **Rick Hansen Foundation & Rick Hansen Institute** – For the support of the Let's Play Program, specified Quality of Life Projects this season, and BCWBS supported projects through the BC SCI Community Services Network.
- **Basketball BC** – BCWBS is a liaison member of the Basketball BC (BBC) Board of Directors. Basketball BC is a great supporter of wheelchair basketball in our province and this year we have enhanced our partnership through the creation of Memorandum of Understanding and our work together on subsequent program initiatives such as the Steve Nash Youth Festival and others.
- **Individual Donor Program** – BCWBS engages in a donations program to support our programs and activities through Xentel DM. We are very thankful for the continued support of the many individuals and organizations who have supported BC Wheelchair Basketball this past season.
- **Hoopfest 2011 Supporters:** The Burnaby Fire Fighters defended their title at the 18th Annual Hoopfest Fundraiser which raised \$8,750 for BCWBS. There were 8 teams competing in this year's Hoopfest with teams from Burnaby Fire, ICORD, The Rick Hansen Institute, Surrey Fire, Vancouver Fire, Vancouver Police Department, Delta Fire and WestJet. Our thanks to the teams and the many groups who donated prizes for the weekend.
- **WestJet** - Thank you for to WestJet who donated two return tickets to any WestJet destination for our annual fundraising event Hoopfest. Richard Peter was the winner of the draw which raised \$1,620!
- **Panago Pizza** – is the official pizza of BCWBS providing pizza and prizing to many of our programs and events.

## Our Congratulations to:

- 2011 Wheelchair Basketball Canada Annual Award winners from BC: Sr. Women's National Team athlete Janet McLachlan named Female Athlete of the Year, BCWBS Coach Joe Higgins who was honoured with the Leadership Excellence Award and Ross MacDonald who received the True Sport Award.
- Jessica Vliegenthart, BC Provincial team and Canadian national team athlete, for winning the athlete of the year at the 2011 Celebration of Women in Sport (WinS) event at PISE.
- Past BCWBS Cable Car Coach Bill Lyons who was inducted into the Basketball BC Hall of Fame as an Official
- BC Athletes: Steph Park who was named to the 1st ever U25 Junior Women's Canadian Team; Richard Peter and Bo Hedges named to the Men's National Team and Elisha Williams, Janet McLachlan and Jessica Vliegenthart who were all named to the Women's National Team squad for 2011-12.
- Kathy Newman, Executive Director at BC Wheelchair Sports, who was honoured with an In Her Footsteps Award which celebrated three women who have made a difference in sport in BC.
- Coach Tim Frick who had a New Paralympic Coach Excellence Award named after him by the Canadian Paralympic Committee
- Richard Peter was inducted into the British Columbia Sports Hall of Fame
- 2010 BCWBS Annual award recipients recognized for their outstanding contributions and achievements in the sport of wheelchair basketball in British Columbia:
  - Ross MacDonald, Burnaby BC: **Male Athlete of the Year**
  - Janet McLachlan, West Vancouver BC: **Female Athlete of the Year**
  - Nathan Bragg, Maple Ridge BC: **Junior Athlete of the Year**
  - Peter Taylor, formerly Surrey BC: **Coach of the Year**
  - Jean Luc Lagan, Victoria BC: **Volunteer of the Year**
  - Kevin Bowie, Vancouver BC: **Official of the Year**
  - Douglas College & Comox Recreation Centre: **Outstanding Community Support Award**

## 2010-11 BCWBS Board of Directors:

President: Ross MacDonald

Vice-President: Chris Samis

Treasurer: Aaron Wilson

Director at Large: Lindsay Thom

Director at Large: Robert Hedges

Director at Large: Jacynthe Simard

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