



September was a magnificent month with marvelous weather. October seems to have set some 'wet records'... what will November and December bring?

Several events turned out so well during September. The Bingo by DSSHO on Sept 12<sup>th</sup>. GVAD Vice President Peggy Fee was not there, but others mentioned how much fun it was, remembering past GVAD and other groups' Bingo fundraisers. Congrats to the DHHSO and WIDHH committee!

The Kickball Tournament organized by Forest Smith had 16 teams participating and many fans attending to cheer their favourite teams at Surrey's Sunnyside Park. The event's profits meant that \$1,300 was donated to each of three organizations – the Happy Hands Club, Deaf Children's Society of BC, and the Family Network for Deaf Children. Way to Go, Forrest & company!

Norwest Deaf Outdoors Club Scottish Festival was at Hazelwood Recreation Park on September 20, chaired by Wendy Bruce and Julie Lampitt. We'd love to hear more details....

Vancouver Community College hosted its Deaf Art Show September 23 to 26, including the BC Cultural Society of the Deaf evening with Deaf artists to discuss working together to encourage more Deaf artists and events. Vincent Chauvet was the gracious host...watch for more info re: Deaf Artists' Network.

BCCSD's annual International Day of Sign Language Picnic at Queens Park on September 27, was chaired by Roger Desmarais. A good number of adults and young people were there and plenty of food for everyone.

There were several memorial services for Douglas Eldridge, Gail Cowan, and Audrey Brooker. Our community shall miss these Deaf members, and send our condolences to their families.

The GVAD Annual General Meeting was held at the Old Navy Community Room at Metrotown Mall on October 25. Twenty-three members and three visitors were in attendance.

The members re-elected Leonor Vlug, Peggy Fee, Kim Wood, Eddy Morten and Marilyn Beal to the Board; with new recruits Jason Riggs, Vinu Abraham Chetipurackal, David McDonald, Donna Scoular, and Scott Jeffery. These Directors will serve a two years term 2014 to 2016. The Board will choose their officers and key committees at the next Board meeting on November 18.

One of the plans the Board has is to have Roundtable discussions with Youth and Diversity Groups. The first Youth meeting was on October 27<sup>th</sup> at Old Navy Community Room, with a small attendance. The young people agreed with the Roundtable moderator Scott Jeffery that a better day and time for more youth to attend would be on a Saturday afternoon. GVAD will find available dates and inform the community when the Roundtable will happen.

The Diversity Roundtable will be for people from different countries / cultures / First Nations and Inuit, Deaf people with added disabilities, GLBTQ community, and others. We are looking for a Deaf moderator who would help us run the Roundtable. If you are interested in this role, contact us at [gvadpresident@gmail.com](mailto:gvadpresident@gmail.com) or [gvadinfo@gmail.com](mailto:gvadinfo@gmail.com).

By the way, we wish two BC Deaf individuals best of luck in their community's elections – Arlene Brenner, running for Councillor at Large in Lake Country, Okanagan; Forrest Smith, running for School Trustee in Surrey. Get out and vote, people!