



52nd Annual General Meeting

Thursday, September 21, 2023

In Attendance:

Alex Lu	Jeany Lin	Ricky
Bal Lalli	Jerry Chen	Ruth Huang
Brenda Mah	Joanne Lau	Sabrina Sim
Constantine McQuade	Katalin Camara	Sangeeta Bhonsale
Debbie	Kate Prusova	Shannon Munoz
Diane	Liliana Hernandez	Solange Rubayi
Dipesh Shah and Family	Mark Batt	Stefanny Dorado
Jacqueline Chan	Navreen Gill	Winnie Chick
Jason Welch	Nicole Hurtubise	

I. Welcome & Introductions

Navreen Gill, Executive Director welcomed everyone to the AGM with a First Nations Acknowledgment and thanks for all those joining.

II. Recognition of Community Partners

Since 2016, BFL has taken time at our AGM to recognize Community Partner Award recipients. Community Partner Award recipients are those who have gone above and beyond the call of duty to support our programs and participants this past year. Program managers and staff up recognized tonight's recipients.

Ray and Roxy Abernathy

Nominated by: Moving Ahead

The Moving Ahead team would like to recognize the outstanding dedication and efforts of Ray and Roxy Abernathy, and the services they provide through the Helping Families in Need Society that have enabled numerous vulnerable families to set up their homes.

Ray is the founder of the Helping Families in Need Society, that is run by a small group of dedicated volunteers who, for the last 42 years, have been picking up and distributing used household items to women from transition houses, single moms & dads on income assistance, new immigrant families and needy families in our community.

Many of our Moving Ahead clients who are vulnerable immigrants and refugees have also benefited from this service as they have started their new lives in Canada. We therefore

would like to thank Ray and Roxy for their decades of volunteer service and support for families in need.

Brenda Mah, Vancity

Nominated by: Burnaby Intercultural Planning Table

Vancity has been a partner since the inception of the BIPT in 2007. They are active participants of the Council as well as the Employment Working Group and have been a great partner helping us engage other services that offer services to newcomers interested in entrepreneurship or self-employment. Vancity has supported the employment events and other community forums the BIPT has put together to better support the Burnaby community.

Even though Brenda was moved to the Maillardville branch in Coquitlam, she continues to be connected to the BIPT. This year she provided amazing support by connecting the Burnaby Heights Branch, Brentwood Branch, and the North Branch to facilitate the Employment and Entrepreneurship event hosted at the Ismaili Centre. With support like this, our events continue to have great success.

Team Awesome

Nominated by: Pregnancy Outreach Program

Thank you Team Awesome for putting together Christmas hampers for our program participants and their families. Your generous gifts really brightened the holiday season for these families.

Team Awesome is made up of over 70 individuals who come together each year to not only take the time to shop and customize each gift for the recipient, but they also make wonderful handmade cards and notes for the families to enjoy.

Their generosity not only spreads joy but also makes a positive difference in the lives of clients during the holiday season. Thank you Team Awesome for continuing to foster a sense of community and instill values of empathy and giving in future generations.

Dipesh Shah

Nominated by: Moving Ahead Program

Dipesh Shah stands as an independent Consultant and Financial Advisor, managing the demands of both his professional career and personal life. Despite these commitments, he remarkably carves out time to volunteer, extending his support to numerous families and individuals in need by aiding them with their tax matters. My connection with Dipesh dates back to 2014, when I sought a capable individual to help explain the intricacies of the complex income tax system for our vulnerable population within the Moving Ahead program.

Since our initial collaboration almost a decade ago, Dipesh has wholeheartedly dedicated himself to assisting hundreds of our clients in filing their taxes every year, even extending his expertise to address some of our most challenging cases. Dipesh's unwavering dedication has been a cornerstone of support for some of the most vulnerable individuals in our

community, providing them with the crucial assistance they need for their tax filings. It is with utmost appreciation that we recognize his extraordinary commitment and selflessness over the span of nearly a decade and we are deeply grateful for his exceptional contributions.

Families of SIM, Carella and Kitaoka

Nominated by: Moving Ahead Program

The Moving Ahead team is thrilled to extend its deepest appreciation to the Sim, Carella, and Kitaoka families for their exceptional commitment to aiding those in need through their consistent and generous donations of hampers.

Solange has had the privilege of knowing these remarkable individuals for the past 12 years, and throughout her acquaintance, she has remained continually inspired by their selflessness and steadfast dedication to making a difference in the lives of others.

These families have consistently exhibited a profound dedication to creating a positive impact on our Moving Ahead clients, particularly during the Christmas season. For the past 5 years, these families have demonstrated their compassion by putting together generous hampers for those in need by uniting in honor of their beloved Grandma Patrizia Carella and Aunt Gloria who was all about giving to others. Their united efforts have resulted in the assembly of numerous hampers, offering support to many of our vulnerable Moving Ahead families. This noble intention is a reflection of the values imparted by their grandmother and aunt. Through their actions, they not only keep their memory alive but also reinforce the importance of coming together as a family to aid those in need. The Moving Ahead team is truly honored to acknowledge and celebrate the Sim, Carella, and Kitaoka families for their exceptional generosity and dedication.

S.U.C.C.E.S.S. ISIP Burnaby

Nominated by: Burnaby Intercultural Planning Table

S.U.C.C.E.S.S. has become a great partner and supportive of the initiatives and projects executed by the BIPT and the Burnaby Together. Not only has SUCCESS accepted the role of Co- Chair of the BIPT, since Mark was appointed as Regional Manager communication has been more open to collaborate with the initiatives, research, and community conversations with different communities.

Their support in outreaching the Chinese, Korean and other cultural groups, engaging interpreters for the Anti-Racism Data Legislation, BC Human Rights Inquiry, Understanding and Dismantling Impacts of Racism in Racialized Communities in Burnaby, meeting space and active role in the Burnaby Newcomer Inclusion Initiative.

III. Special Presentation of Annual Report

Each year we prepare an annual report to profile the work the organization has done over the past year. This report is also an opportunity to highlight all of the exciting, and impactful, things that took place.

This year we saw many exciting things happen. All of our child care centres are now part of the \$10aDay initiative, we added new programs like the Support Group for Parents of LGBTQS+ children and youth, we implemented new technology to help better serve our staff and clients. And all of these things will help BFL have a lasting impact in the community.

Our annual report is a way to highlight the organization over the past year, but this is only a glimpse of the important work being done.

Video was played.

IV. Formal AGM

a. Call to Order

Jerry was introduced as board chair and called the meeting to order at 6:58pm

A quorum was present.

Board members present:

- Jerry Chen
- Ruth Huang
- Baljit Lalli
- Alex Lu
- Jason Welch

b. Welcome to our new board members-

Adriana Watkins joins our board as Treasurer. She is an experienced accounting and audit professional with over 15 years of leadership experience in the financial services and regulatory sectors. She currently serves as the Senior Manager of Real Estate Audit & Assurance at BC Financial Services Authority, where she is responsible for overseeing the province-wide Risk-Based Real Estate Audit Program. Welcome Adriana.

We welcome Alex Lu as a new Director. Alex is a dedicated professional with over 10 years of experience at Toronto Dominion. He is deeply committed to community welfare and as a first-generation immigrant, he understands the challenges faced by those seeking to establish themselves in a new country. This insight fuels his passion to contribute positively to the community.

Daniel Ofomi joins us as a Director. Daniel is an astute finance professional with over 8 years of experience spanning financial advisory, FP&A, asset management and project finance. Daniel currently works at Corix Infrastructure as a Senior

Financial Analyst. With experience in both private and public sector, Daniel adopts a wholistic view in problem solving and process mapping and we welcome his contributions to the board.

Paul Kwon also joins us as a new Director. Paul was raised in Burnaby and welcomes this opportunity to join BFL and engage with our community. Paul is an immigrant Korean-Canadian and currently works at UBC. Welcome Paul!

- c. Acceptance of the Annual Report
It was MOVED (Bal) and carried to approve the 2023 Annual Report.
- d. Approval of Agenda and Minutes
It was MOVED (Ruth) and carried to approve the 2023 AGM Agenda and previous year's minutes (2022).
- e. Audit Report present by Kate Prusova:
 - a. Management is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with financial standards. These financial statements were reviewed in advance by the audit committee and the board directors have approved the statements as presented tonight and shared in advance.
 - b. No unusual or significant transactions or issues were found. Full access was given to conduct the audit and accounting records were well organized and full cooperation was given.
 - c. All financials present fairly for year ending March 31, 2023
- f. Approval of Audited Financial Statements and report presented
The board has reviewed and approved the financial statements as they stand. Financial statements are posted on website with public access.
It was MOVED (Jason) and carried to accept the 2022-2023 audited financial statements.
- g. Appointment of Auditors Rolfe, Benson for 2022-2023

It was MOVED (Jason) and carried to appoint Rolfe, Benson as auditors for 2023-2024 year.

It was MOVED (Bal) to adjourn at 7:15 pm