

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

It has been my pleasure to join the SCY team of committed staff and board members in early 2009. First, I would like to extend a thank you to the Board, Ginny Gonneau, the Project Manager, and Tina Tam, the past Acting Executive Director, for the recent work that has been done to bring SCY to this point.

In 2008 we saw the completion of our **Youth Taking Action Project**, which resulted in an excellent, acclaimed, and very moving series of short films made by youth. We are nearing the completion of our **Youth with Disabilities in Conflict with the Law Project**, having just held our final Roundtable which focused on bringing key stakeholders, youth, and community partners together in responding to the needs of youth, and moving from vision to action. The **Success by Six Aboriginal Child Friendly Communities Project** has been a very important project this past year, building on earlier work of SCY in creating a child friendly community toolkit that can be piloted in Aboriginal communities. **A People's Project**, which is also nearing completion, is the first youth led rights-monitoring initiative of its kind in Canada.

Long term staffing and the continued development of our programs have been key themes for the past year. Long term financial sustainability and continued attention to our programs will be key themes going forward. 2009 is the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). Our **Child Rights Public Awareness Campaign** will continue to be a cornerstone of our work. The purpose of this campaign, which we are running in conjunction with our partners the Representative for Children and Youth and the BC Centre for Safe Schools and Communities, is to build awareness of the UNCRC and children's rights in BC.

We are happy to be part of a growing number of individuals, families, communities, organizations, and governing bodies who are taking collective action to ensure that our children and youth are properly cared for, and that their rights are upheld.

Thank you to all of our partners, funders, members, volunteers, and the Board of Directors, all of whom play a key role in this important work. There is much to celebrate on this 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of SCY!

Anne O'Neil  
Executive Director, SCY

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2008 was a very significant year in the life of the Society for Children and Youth of BC. As we entered 2008, we were in the midst of a continuing transition process. The SCY board was working with our consultant Tina Tam to review and reorganize aspects of our operations. In 2008 we identified a number of strategic priorities to focus on. The priorities were: board restructuring and development; long term staffing; long term financial sustainability; and maintenance and development of our programs and initiatives.

We have reviewed the operations of the board of directors with a view to developing a more effective governance model. We discontinued the designation of an executive committee. We plan to operate with a series of ad hoc committees in the future, utilizing the strengths of board members as issues present themselves. We have also restructured our board agendas to reflect the strategic priorities listed above.

Early in 2008, we engaged in a search process which resulted in the hiring of Ginny Gonneau as SCY's Project Manager /Administrator. Ginny has successfully taken on this important role, providing immeasurable support to the organization and its programs. Later in the year, we hired a permanent Executive Director, Anne O'Neil. Anne joined us in early 2009 and has integrated very quickly into the organization, taking on this complex role, managing the organization, its programs, and its internal and external relationships. We are very pleased that we have set ourselves up with a core staff that we hope will manage the work of the organization for years to come.

In 2008 we secured continuing funding from the United Way of the Lower Mainland, and the BC Gaming Commission. We have also committed to a renewed focus on fund development for the future.

The programs of the organization continue to shine a light on the unmet needs of children and youth in British Columbia and across Canada.

It has been an eventful year for our organization. We need to continue to build on our recent hard work and successes. I am confident that with our new strategic directions, and our excellent and committed staff and board, SCY will have a bright future.

Joseph Rosen  
President, SCY

## PROJECTS, NETWORKS, FUNDERS

### SCY'S CURRENT INITIATIVES

#### 1. Rights Awareness

- Child Rights Public Awareness Campaign
- Realizing Rights – Responding to Needs: Youth with Disabilities in Conflict with the Law Project
- A People's Project: Youth-Led Rights Monitoring Initiative
- Foster Care Roundtable: "Rights of Children and Youth in Care: Connection to Family and Culture"
- BC Child Rights Network

#### 2. Child and Youth Friendly Communities (CYFC)

- Mobilizing for Safer Communities: CYFC Municipal Toolkit
- Aboriginal Child Friendly Communities: Inclusion of the Early Years (0-6) Toolkit
- Child Youth Friendly Communities Awards
- CYFC Network

#### 3. Publication, Education & Information

- Website [www.scyofbc.org](http://www.scyofbc.org)
- Publications
- Speaking/Workshop Engagements

### SCY APPRECIATES THE CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY:

United Way of the Lower Mainland, Ministry of Solicitor General and Public Safety, Vancouver Foundation, Vancity, Justice Canada, Law Foundation, Heritage Canada, National Crime Prevention Centre, The Victoria Foundation

SCY would also like to thank all of the individuals and organizations who have generously contributed to SCY, including our sponsors for this year's 35<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of SCY, our table sponsor The Justice Institute of British Columbia and youth sponsor, The Law Society of British Columbia.



The Society for Children and Youth of BC is a United Way of the Lower Mainland Community Partner

## SUPPORT SCY

BE AN ADVOCATE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH.  
HERE ARE SOME WAYS!

1.

- Become a member
- Renew my membership

As a member I will receive SCY member updates, 20% discount on all SCY publications, and information on issues, initiatives and events.

### ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEE:

- \$15 Suggested Membership Fee for Individuals
- \$25 Organization

2. Make a tax deductible donation:

Here is my donation\*

- \$25
- \$50
- \$100
- \$500
- \$1000
- I prefer to give \$\_\_\_\_\_

\*donations and fees can be received by cash or cheque only

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address and Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form to an SCY representative along with your contribution or mail to the SCY office:

### Society for Children and Youth of BC

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604.433.4180

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## SCY BOARD

The Society for Children and Youth of BC works with a variety of funders, networks and individuals, all of whom provide valuable support and services. We appreciate all of our volunteers and associated organizations for their hard work and commitment.

### SCY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Joe Rosen – PRESIDENT

Caitlin Hertzman – VICE PRESIDENT

Gary Manson – PAST PRESIDENT

Gilles De Condappa – SECRETARY-TREASURER

### MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Gizachew Adamu

Shakeela Begum

Dana Brynelsen

Frances Grunberg

Tom Higashio

Sue Khazaie

Chelsea Peddle

Sheila Robinson

Desiree Sattler

Bernadette Spence

Lisa Sterling

### HONARARY OFFICERS

Tom Berger

Basil Robinson

Flora MacLeod

## SCY ANNUAL REPORT 2008/2009

# SOCIETY FOR children and youth OF BC



BC's Champion for Children's Rights for over  
35 years.

**FOUNDED 1974**

[www.scyofbc.org](http://www.scyofbc.org)