

Delbrook Partnership For Quality Childcare Association

3111 Stanley Avenue
North Vancouver, BC
V7N 4N6

President's Report: November 2004 – November 2005

(From the Annual General Meeting: November 29, 2005)

Thank-you for attending tonight's meeting, the second Annual General Meeting of The Delbrook Partnership for Quality Childcare Association (DPQC for short).

This past year has seen the DPQC, along with it's partner, Little Rascals Daycare, settle into a comfortable rhythm. All issues relating to the development of the property, the construction of the facility and start up issues have been cleared. All initial costs and short term financing have been paid off.

Little Rascals reports that the building is in excellent condition with no significant maintenance issues as would be expected with a 2 year old building. One refreshing note... Little Rascals installed a \$7000 air conditioning system this past spring which will make the facility very comfortable for children and staff throughout our warm summers.

The Little Rascals programs, as most families are aware, have filled up over the last year. In total, there are now over 150 children receiving childcare in 6 different programs in our facility. I'm happy to see that the facility that we battled so hard to get approved and built is now being fully utilized and is an integral part of the local community.

As you know, the reason for the existence of the DPQC is to ensure that our children continue to receive the quality childcare that they need and deserve. Our stewardship of this facility and the symbiotic relationship we maintain with Little Rascals is the key to ensuring that we accomplish this goal for our own families and for the many hundreds of future families in the community that will need quality care for their children too.

I'm happy to report that the vital partnership with Little Rascals remains healthy. All the capital obligations of Little Rascals have been met. As the primary tenant and primary childcare service provider for the DPQC members, Little Rascals is meeting all of it's month to month obligations as required by the Provision of Services Agreement and by the Community Facility Lease. These obligations include the provision of Quality Childcare for our children, the maintenance of the facility, payment of the mortgage, and contributing to a contingency fund.

We look forward to seeing this ideal partnership continue for decades to come.

For the next year, the DPQC is looking to be a little more active within the parameters of the Provision of Services Agreement and the partnership with Little Rascals. The three things that the current board is recommending the new board to accomplish in the new year are:

- 1) Increase after-hours rentals specifically for the purpose of childcare training through workshops and related courses such as first aid, etc.. This increase in usage must be weighed against the usage requirements of our main tenant – Little Rascals – ensuring minimal interference with their operation.
- 2) Encourage or work with Little Rascals to bring in more qualified volunteers for childcare related purposes. Specifically, Little Rascals, through it's relationship with the Capilano College Early Childhood Education program, will encourage students to do their practicum training in the facility. In addition to aiding the childcare community develop new skilled caregivers, it provides an excellent opportunity for Little Rascals to thoroughly assess and find new caregivers to provide quality care for our children.
- 3) Look at possible fundraising initiatives. The Delbrook Rec Centre is trying to upgrade and improve the main playground but does have funding limitations. Here is a possible area where we can fundraise and help out. This would benefit our own children and would further nurture good relations with our neighbour and landlord.

Every year that goes by, a new cycle starts for the DPQC. Inevitably, some of our children reach the age where they must move on from Little Rascals. When older children move on, the next generation of Little Rascals takes their place. Over time this cycle means that we have to say goodbye to some of our Directors and welcome new volunteers to the board.

This year we have to say goodbye to Ingrid Shepheard..... and Mireille LeClaire

Ingrid has been with the DPQC since it's fiery inception – back in the days when we were desperately fighting for the survival of the Daycare and the approval of the new facility. Though Ingrid will say that Mark and Sigrid bore most of the scars of battle back in those days, Ingrid played a huge role in the survival of the Daycare by volunteering to represent the parents and by becoming a Director of the board. Without the strong support and input from the original Directors like Ingrid, Mark and Sigrid believe they would have buckled under the burden of trying to keep the daycare operation going. Thank-you Ingrid from all of us!

Thanks also to Director Mireille LeClaire who will not be staying with us as her son and daughter have moved on from Little Rascals. Best wishes to Mireille and family – and thanks for volunteering to be a director this past year.

Two parents have come forward volunteering to replace the vacancies on the board. Upon the approval of the members, Karen McCredie and Lisa Barker will become the newest Directors to join the board.

Karen McCredie, along with husband Andrew, have 2 children, Callum and Grace, enrolled at Little Rascals. The McCredies have been at Little Rascals for 2 and a half years. The McCredies have shown strong interest and support for the DPQC and Little Rascals throughout the days of the fire and the construction of the new facility.

Lisa Barker, along with husband Jeff, have two daughters, Avey and Ella, enrolled at Little Rascals. The Barkers moved to North Van from Ontario last June. The Barkers have been enthusiastic supporters of our childcare facility and Little Rascals' programs.

Along with our new volunteers, Adelle Rennie, Colleen Smith and myself are volunteering for another year of duty on the board.

Though the responsibilities of a DPQC director today are less than they were in the days of the development and construction of our facility, as I've said, they are no less important. Without volunteers to be Directors on this board, the DPQC could not legally exist, and therefore, this childcare facility that we all heavily rely on for childcare, would not exist. On behalf of all the DPQC families, I thank Adelle, Colleen, Karen and Lisa for volunteering.

I also thank all the parents who attended tonight and those who submitted a Proxy Ballot.

I look forward to another great year of quality childcare for all our families in our own wonderful facility.

Thank-you.

Katherine Spencer
President
Delbrook PQC