



# 2006 AGM Summary Reports BC Art Therapy Association

June 03, 2006

YWCA Vancouver,  
535 Hornby Street

AGM 12:45–3:00 pm

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## Arts in Health: Trend continues...

Following the March 14 and 15, 2005, Forum on Arts & Health sponsored by the BC Arts Council there emerged a project for taking the next step. A regional inquiry about the efficacy, readiness of the community and professionals and interest in arts and health, which yielded many answers about the possibility of establishing a National Network of Arts in Health. Nancy Cooley and Associates embarked to discover all they could in two months, titled:

Canadian Forum on Arts and Health/Developing a National Network Initiative funded by Health Canada and the BC Arts Council. This project was not only tremendous for our profession, but also a step in a new direction – the BCATA received the grant monies and helped facilitate the process of the project.

Thank you to all on the Board for your work in making this possible.

For more information you can visit [www.culturescope.ca](http://www.culturescope.ca) or e-mail Cooley & Associates at [artshealthforum@look.ca](mailto:artshealthforum@look.ca).

You may also e-mail Liina MacPherson to receive a copy of the final report – [liina@uniserve.com](mailto:liina@uniserve.com).

## A message from the President: Liina MacPherson, MA, RCC, BCATR

Over the past nine months I have had the pleasure of getting to know a new team of impassioned individuals. Our involvement at the CATA conference, the Arts in Health Project, the continued Professional Development workshops, mentoring new Board members, fostering art therapy as a profession through various PR incentives and much more has made it a full year.

I would like to take a moment to reflect upon my involvement with our Association. I believe that we are all tremendously busy and also, that we are all tremendously impassioned about this field of art therapy. It is in the moment

that I realized that the Association, more specifically the Board, is a microcosm of the larger entity of Art Therapy as a profession that the “tremendous” weighed less. Over the past three years of my involvement I witnessed many moments of struggle, obstacles, trauma, surrender, joy, passion, and much more. It became apparent that the way the Board was feeling and thinking as an entity is in close parallel with how the profession of art therapy functions. During our Strategic Planning meeting this notion was fostered even further and I understood more than ever that our Board, our Association and

the profession of art therapy are one and the same. As art therapists many of us struggle, face obstacles, try to stick to the safe side, become impassioned, creative, daring, experience joy and frustration. In short, the Board is US, it is not THEM, and in order for the profession to rise to the heights it is capable of (just like each one of us) we need to actively engage in the journey, actively trust the journey, and be present to the Wholeness (i.e. a group of individuals functioning as one unit).

Thank you and all the best!

## Vice-President: Patty Patching, BFA, MA, Cert.BCSAT

In the spring of 2005, I became a member of the BCATA. Being absorbed in studying art therapy, my awareness of the important role of our association had not developed. I joined because of a meeting held in Victoria where I was impressed with a room full of amazing energetic people that I felt honored to be able to join. Just as I was finishing my art therapy program, Llona O'Gorman phoned me and asked me if I would be interested in helping on the board. I said I would, but that I really didn't know anything and that I would help wherever I was needed! Being taught and mentored by Kay Collis had certainly influenced my

feelings of becoming involved in this part of my new profession. That is the long beginning of how as a very new and inexperienced member I was nominated and placed into the position of VP.

Since September when my term began, I have been getting to know what the BCATA is about... something that would have been good to have done when I was still a student... however; I seem to be a one-thing-at-a-time person! I am very much still in the learning phase. Liina MacPherson's hard work, devotion and commitment as President have allowed me the time to sit in a position and take the time to understand what is happening. Kay Collis has

introduced me to the history of the BCATA and to the important work of the Task Group for the College of Counseling Therapists. I have been involved in recruiting new members and nominations to the new board. Presently, I am doing research for future insurance possibilities.

I am extremely appreciative of the people I have met who are serving on the board presently and to all those who have served in the past. This association is only here because of their efforts. I thank them all for their encouragement and mentoring. For the future, I would like to encourage others to get involved, get familiar and support the efforts of each other. Let's help share the workload.

Respectfully submitted,  
Patty Patching

## Ethics: Dr. Bruce Tobin, Ph.D, ATR

In the first year of my term as Ethics Chair I worked with other executive members to update and clarify our Ethics policies, bylaws and complaint procedures, particularly public access to ethics information on the web.

In the period since last year's AGM the Ethics Committee has been very quiet. We began the year with no ethics complaints open and no disciplinary action underway, and we have received no new ethics complaints or concerns regarding our members since last year's AGM. This is a reflection to the high degree of ethical awareness and professionalism among our practicing members.

To date this year I have received a total of four inquiries from our members and the public at large regarding ethical issues. Those

inquiries are now closed, and the Ethics Chair currently has no open business.

I am confident that our ethics bylaws, policies, procedures and information on our website are in order as we enter into a new year.

I have found it really rewarding to have served as an executive member for the past two years, and I recommend it to others. I have learned a lot about how the board operates, and it has been a great experience to be part of a team of dedicated and talented colleagues.

Though teaching duties prevent me being at the AGM today (I'm in a UVic classroom all day) I honor the members of the Elected Executive of this past

term, as well as those who will step forward to fill the current vacancies.

Though my term as Ethics Chair has come to an end, I remain open to continuing as an advisory member of the Ethics Committee under a new Chair. I will be pleased to consult with the new Ethics Chair and executive as requested.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Dr. Bruce Tobin, ATR  
Ethics Chair, BCATA



## Newsletter Liaison: Michelle Gilligan, MA, RCC

The Newsletter Liaison position was created in 2005 to fill an identified need for a BCATA volunteer to act as a liaison between the BCATA membership and the Newsletter Editor, who was at that time a volunteer from a publishing program and not an art therapist. However, following the AGM last June, our volunteer Newsletter Editor resigned. I decided that I would take on the additional tasks of editing, layout, printing and distribution of the newsletter until an editor could be found. We haven't found one yet. Over the course of the year, I was able to put together two issues of the newsletter. Many thanks to the BCATA members who submitted material for these issues. The biggest challenges that I faced were coming up with material for the newsletter and figuring out how to create a PDF! Thanks to BCATA, I have learned this valuable new skill! I am prepared to continue volunteering with BCATA as part of the Newsletter Committee, and I have found that I especially enjoy doing the layout and design. It is my hope that BCATA members will come forward to assist with some of the other aspects of the newsletter, as I am not able to manage all of it on my own anymore. If any members would like to be involved please contact me at my email address: [creativehealing@shaw.ca](mailto:creativehealing@shaw.ca).

Respectfully submitted, Michelle Gilligan

## Recording Secretary: Lesley Bruun, BA, DVATI

This past year has been a time of steady advancement for the BCATA. I have now completed my two-year term as recording secretary. As the recording secretary my primary responsibility was to record the minutes of the executive meetings, collect and integrate the executive members' reports, and distribute these completed minutes to the executive. I have enjoyed the time I have spent volunteering for the BCATA as the recording secretary, as well as the professional development chair and co-chair and student representative. I would like to thank all of the team members I have worked with over the past years for all of their dedication; it has been a privilege to work with, share ideas, learn from and be inspired by each of you.

## Treasurer: Shawna Paul, ATR

### Annual Treasurer's Report Fiscal Period May 1, 2005 to April 30, 2006

Income	
AGM & Conference Income 2005	903.00
Bank Interest	47.37
Cookbook	260.00
Grants	40,945.00
Late Charges	620.00
Membership Fees	13,200.00
Newsletter Advertising	29.78
Pro D Workshop Participants	1,187.50
Registration Fees	350.00
Student Membership Fees	240.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>57,782.65</b>

Expense	
Administrative Assistant	2,510.00
Administrative Expenses	113.34
AGM & Conference Expense 2005	1,449.80
Bank Service Charges	99.34
Corresponding Secretary	22.63
Dues and Subscriptions	272.80
Executive Travel	1,067.60
Grant related expense	13,974.20
Honorarium	750.00
Insurance	937.00
Membership Chair	680.21
Networking	427.50
Newsletter	123.42
Postage and Delivery	214.04
President	15.94
Pro. Development	269.79
Promotion	285.00
Recording Secretary	17.40
Registration	11.00
Room Rental	228.03
Task Force of the College of Counseling Therapists	380.00
Telephone	240.00
Treasurer	27.02
Vice President	2.28
Video Library	13.34
Website Fees	795.83
Other Expense	743.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>25,670.51</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>32,112.14</b>



## Membership Chair: Marna Lynn Smith, B.Mus, DBCSAT

When I received the call from Llona O'Gorman in the spring of 2005 telling me that I had been nominated to be on the board of the BCATA in the position of Membership Chair, I felt as though I had won the lottery. What an honor, what a privilege. The timing could not have been more perfect as I was in a thesis funk and this opportunity was exactly what I needed to help me focus. The position of Membership Chair became the much needed light at the end of the proverbial tunnel.

There was also a catch that added to the incentive; this opportunity was only possible if I was a Professional member of the BCATA and I could only become a Professional member if I had all of my schooling completed, which included my thesis. With the exciting possibility of being on the board of the British Columbia Art Therapy Association to look forward to, I completed my thesis.

A very special thank you goes out to Michelle Gilligan, the past membership chair, who held on to her position a little longer so that I could finish my studies. With my thesis completing the requirements needed for Professional membership, I was able to be a new graduate of the BC School of Art Therapy and step into the (big shoes) of the Membership Chair in the fall of 2005. Since then it has been a steady process of learning the

policies and procedures of the BCATA.

The BCATA membership has been steadily growing. In August 2005, the membership total was 131 members. My first membership chair report in January 2006 reported that we had 143 members and by March 2006 there were 147 members in good standing.

For the 2006 / 2007 renewal season, application forms were sent out at the end of March to the current membership. To date as of May 15, 2006, there are 114 members in good standing (thank you to those who renewed on time). There are 11 files on hold waiting documentation. The present membership breaks down as follows:

	June 1	
Registered Members –	45	47
Professional Members –	52	56
Student Members –	8	14
Associate Members -	4	4
Honorary Life Members –	5	5
	Total 125	

This represents 102 voting members and 12 non-voting members.

The talented and varied members of the BCATA live in all parts of B.C. including some out of province. The demographics are as follows:

Lower Mainland	– 49
Alberta	- 1

Vancouver Island	- 31
Saskatchewan	- 1
Gulf Islands/ Sunshine Coast	- 7
Manitoba	- 1
North Interior	- 14
Nova Scotia	- 1
South Interior	- 8
Yukon	- 1

The position of Membership Chair has the privilege of being on the front line and dealing directly with the membership. Some of the questions and requests from the membership have resulted in the following changes: in the coming year we will attempt to send out renewal forms that already have the member's information, that way you only add changes.

It is only my first year in the position of Membership Chair and it seems that just as I finally figure out how to do things, it will be time to turn the position over to someone else to start the learning process over again. It is important that as members of our own professional association, that we individually contribute our time and effort and consistency. Many hands make light work.

It has been an exciting challenge to learn the ins and outs of this particular BCATA position and I look forward to serving the members as their Membership Chair.

## Registration: Angelica Djamtorki, BFA, RCAT, BCATR

It has been a pleasure to be on the Board for the past two years together with very dedicated members and the registration committee in Victoria with Linda and Adeline. There were no applications for the May deadline and one application in January 2006.

Since I took the position as Registration Chair in 2004 we approved Avril Symington, Deborah Broadhurst, Liina MacPherson, Shawna Paul, Elisabeth Guenther Bay,

Tonya Sanai, Deana Yereaux and Lizzy Ambler.

Our membership is growing!

Thank you for your support and patience, since I had to learn a lot regarding basic computer skills, which I had avoided before.

I am looking forward to meet the new Registration Chair.

With warm regards,  
Angelica Djamtorki  
Registration Chair

## College of Counselling Therapists Representatives: Michelle Oucharek-Deo, BFA, BCATR, RCAT and Kathleen Collis, PhD.

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Over the past 15 years or so there was a key group of professional who wanted to work towards the regulation of Counselling in our province. There were many obstacles over the past decade and a half, countless man-hours and a great deal of money given by the associations involved in order that the groundbreaking steps of creating a regulatory body could begin.

June 2005- December 2005  
During June 2005–August 2005 the working committee continued their development of Phase 2 of the Competency Profile. In August the WC completed the task. In September the document was presented to the Task Group. The draft document was well received and the Task Group began working on the development of the next phase. The next piece decided on was something called VALIDATION. This procedure allows the document to be reviewed by as many members of all participating associations as possible. It was decided in the late fall that the most effective and cost efficient way to reach out to all our associations was to present the CP in a survey format requesting feedback on Importance and Frequency

of each competency.  
November 2005 – National Symposium on Counselling Regulation  
Detailed results of the symposium held in November 2005 can be reviewed on the BCACC website in their INSIGHTS on line newsletter. In general it was a great success; People across the country were able to see what we are creating. There was tremendous enthusiasm; respect and professional interest in all that work that had been done with the government and the Competency Profile.

January 2006-April 2006  
During this time segment the CP survey was created, test piloted and administered by the Working Committee and Dr. David Cane. All members of all our six associations were invited to take part in the survey. The goal for the BCATA to have a statistical number represented was 39; we had 29 members who participated. At the end of April the WC met to review the results of the survey and began a final edit process of the Profile.

May 2006  
In May the Working Committee

presented the final draft of the Competency Profile and the results of the survey to the Task Group. The Task Group has come up with a long-term plan of pivotal markers that need to be met in order for us to proceed with regulation. They believe that further work and data needs to be collected regarding a more culturally diverse sample of counselors and how the CP works and does not work for them. They are also looking for feedback from educational institutions to see how they react to the piece and its practical application to programs.

The working committee will be setting up another series of dates to address these issues and to identify ways that these tasks can be accomplished.

It has been both an intense and rewarding year while working with this team. The future clear that this is a real possibility, The College of Counselling Therapists is on the horizon.

For more information contact Michelle Oucharek-Deo  
[mlod@telus.net](mailto:mlod@telus.net) 604-515-0920

### Professional Development Co-Chairs: Nicole Miller and Carrie George

This 05/06-year we were able to offer 5 successful workshops with a variety of inspiring and informative presenters. The feedback from participants was positive. Our membership with The Alliance for Arts & Culture continues to be in good standing and will continue to be a great site for our workshops. Members have expressed interest in the following topics; EMDR & art therapy, art therapy in the field of grief & loss, grant writing, family therapy, links between art & play therapy, and web design. Your opinions are important to us, so if there are other topics you would like to see offered, we welcome feedback and suggestions. If you have a suggestion or interest in presenting a workshop please speak with Carrie George.  
Recommendations for next year:

Unfortunately we found attendance was lower than expected so we hope to combat this by offering a reduced rate for payment in advance. We will also put a heavy focus on marketing and promotion for the coming year. Towards this goal we have made a new agreement with the BCACC who have generously agreed to promote our future workshops.

Due to a new position at Family Services I will be resigning from co-chair of the Professional Development Committee. I wish to thank Carrie George and the Board for this invaluable experience of sharing, learning and commitment. It's been a pleasure working with the board and collaborating with Carrie and I know that she will do a great job of leading

the Pro-D committee. To help support Carrie and to insure that we are providing the best Professional Development for BCATA we are in serious need of volunteers. We have several unique and exciting positions to join this committee. If you have interest in Marketing/Promotion, Videotaping, Refreshments and/or Registration please speak with Carrie George. Let's keep this work growing and thriving!!

Nicole Miller & Carrie George  
BCATA Prof. Development Committee

**PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW  
WEBSITE ADDRESS:  
[www.bcarttherapy.com](http://www.bcarttherapy.com)  
[info@bcarttherapy.com](mailto:info@bcarttherapy.com)**