



Canadian Music Competitions BC Society

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President's Message

This is an exciting time as we count down the months to the CMC performances in BC in June. We have over seventy-five registrations for the competitions and look forward to seeing all of you perform your best. We know that the teams of family, students, and teachers are working together to prepare for the future competitions.

My question to the competitors is about your own personal strategies to achieve your goals. Look on the Internet for "goal setting" and you will find many ideas. Perhaps one of the suggestions that has stood the test of time is to write your goals out in detail. It seems that the more detail you include in your written goals, the more your subconscious mind can help you work toward achieving those goals.

Once you have decided on your personal goals for the competition and written them down, then review your goals daily. Self evaluate your progress and make changes to your goals as you continue to prepare for the competition. Many of you have lofty goals and have developed your own blue print to achieve them. Good for you! For others, an attention to goal setting may help you focus on what you need to achieve between now and June.

CMC also has goals. We are planning a fundraising dinner event for June 15. At the dinner we will recognize our Team BC members who will be going on to the National Finals in Sherbrooke, Québec. You will read more about it in detail elsewhere in this newsletter. We look forward to seeing CMC members, alumni, and friends at the dinner.

Music is all around us this spring. I recently heard Freddy Kempf and Richard Goode perform. How fortunate we are to have some of the best musicians in the world visit us in BC. I have also heard the CD of our Showcase Concert held in September 2006 and I am proud to be a part of CMC BC. What fine young musicians we have participating in our competitions!

Ann Warrender
President, CMC BC

Provincial Competition 2007

The provincial rounds will take place at the UBC School of Music. For location, go www.maps.ubc.ca and type *music building*.

First Round – June 1 – 3
Second Round – June 5 – 7

Check the CMC National website for a full schedule and latest updates www.cmcnational.com/horaire/vancouver.html

National Finals 2007 – Sherbrooke, Québec

The nearest airport is Montréal. For tourist information, go to www.tourismesherbrooke.com/en/index.html.

Treasurer's Report

The final numbers are in. British Columbia has registered 75 of the 780 participants across Canada in the 2007 Canadian Music Competition. To cover our portion of the costs of flying the same jury across the country to judge each Chapter's candidates, hotel costs, disbursements, salaries, and other national office expenses we have been assessed dues of over \$30,000 this year. In addition to this amount, we are, as always, paying for the local competition, gala concert, and local operating expenses (such as our website, mailings, and office supplies) which can cost upwards of \$10,000.

Registration fees, student membership fees, and performance fees make up almost \$25,000 of our revenues this year. We expect the cooperation of teachers to forward their teacher membership fees, totaling over \$3,000, as soon as possible to our local address. Adding everything up, we soon see that the members and Board of CMC BC are responsible for fundraising over \$10,000 each year to cover expenses.

Although this year's increase in student membership fees and performance fees of \$25 each no doubt poses a burden on some competitors, the extra revenue has been crucial to CMC BC's livelihood. The effect of this increase was an additional \$3,700 in capital that will be used to host this year's competition and provide better communications to our members while allowing us to pay down our previous debt to the National Office. Our enrolment this year has remained stable, and we hope to be able to offer scholarships and bursaries in the near future to maintain our policy of inclusiveness.

Despite this additional revenue, we still find ourselves with a shortfall this year. We are therefore setting a fundraising goal of \$10,000 at this year's Team BC Launch. The Launch will feature a fundraising dinner, a 50/50 draw, and a silent auction throughout the evening, as well as a performance by Quatuor Piano.

How can members help? You can all help by joining in our events throughout the year. If each member bought just a handful of tickets to the Showcase Concert and a pair of tickets to the fundraising dinner (which is also the launch of Team BC and a celebration of our national finalists), CMC BC would be fiscally alive for years to come. There is, however, the added task of volunteering and shaping our society. We are always looking for committed members to join our committees, staff our desks at the competition each year, and participate in Board of Directors' meetings. If you are interested or know someone who is interested, please contact us at info@cmcbc.com. We are always glad to hear from you.

Alasdair Maughan
Treasurer, CMC BC

Teacher Membership Fees Are Due Now

Some teachers have been uncertain about where to send teacher membership payments. To better serve you, we can quickly process payments at the local level and provide you with a tax receipt for the full value of your membership fee. Although other memberships have increased, the CMC BC teacher membership fee remains at \$75 for the 2006 – 2007 competition year. Please make your \$75 cheque payable to *Canadian Music Competitions BC* and mail it immediately to:

Canadian Music Competitions BC
228 – 1555 West 7th Ave.
Vancouver, BC
V6J 1S1

Please remember, according to the CMC Constitution and as posted on the CMC National registration site, teacher memberships are required to enter students in the competition. **Students of teachers who are not in good standing with CMC BC will not be allowed to play at this year's competition.** We will be notifying students in March of their status. This policy will be strictly enforced.

If you have already sent payment to the national office recently, we will be receiving that payment soon; we would like to thank you. Likewise, if you have recently mailed your membership fee to our Vancouver address, please accept our thanks and disregard this reminder. Your support and cooperation goes a long way to ensuring the success of the Canadian Music Competitions in BC and is always appreciated.

Save the Date! Team BC Launch and Awards Presentation Dinner 2007

This year's fundraising event is on June 15 at Gingeri Chinese Cuisine Restaurant in Richmond. This will also be the launch event for Team BC as they head to Sherbrooke for the National Finals. We will be presenting all of our National Finalists with their medals and want a great turnout to cheer them on.

The Board would like to introduce you to the members of our Fundraising Committee who are leading specific initiatives. The dinner is our most critical fundraising event, and we thank them for taking on this project.

Queenie Jang is handling the logistics of the dinner and is coordinating the Committee's activities.

Barbara Ho and **Judith Luk** are organizing the silent auction and raffle.



CMC BC Fundraising Committee

We are calling for items for our silent auction to be held at the Team BC Launch and Awards Presentation Dinner. If you would like to donate a prize or have contacts at local businesses, please email us at fundraising@cmcbc.com.

As we get closer to the date, we will be calling for volunteers to help with the event. We would like to encourage our members and their parents and teachers to get involved and help us make this our most successful fundraiser ever!

CD Release: Celebrating the Best in BC, Best in Canada

The CMC BC Board is pleased to announce the release of our promotional CD, *Celebrating the Best in BC, Best in Canada*. This CD will be an important tool in our efforts to raise CMC BC's profile in the local arts community and in our fundraising campaign.

The CD was recorded at our Showcase Concert at Christ Church Cathedral last fall. While we wanted to include all our performers, we were forced to limit the CD to eight tracks, due to issues of sound quality and the CD's capacity.

The CD Project was funded through the \$360 raised from the 50/50 draw at last May's Fundraising Dinner. The Board is pleased to report that *Celebrating the Best in BC, Best in Canada* was delivered on budget.

You can listen to the CD on the CMC BC website at www.cmcbc.com/soundtracks.html. Check it out!

A Past CMC Winner Shares Her Memories

Amanda Chan, a past CMC winner, competed in her first National Finals at the age of eight. Although there were many more CMC competitions in the years to come, it was her first CMC that she remembers with pleasure. CMC BC asked Amanda to share her memories.

I can still remember that thrilling night in a small town in Quebec many years ago. I was 8 years old and it was my first CMC National Finals. I had just finished my performance and the applause was overwhelming in the biggest hall I'd ever seen. What a rush it was to go out for a second bow!



Amanda Chan

I look back on those days fondly. It is hard to believe I participated in the CMC finals for about 8 years running and did quite well, winning many first places. But what stands out even more for me was going away every summer with my family to be with other kids across Canada who shared the same love and commitment for music. I realize now that I learnt so much from being a part of this national music festival, from developing good practice habits and performing under pressure to gaining a clearer sense of my own abilities.

I never stopped playing the piano and it has led me into a professional musical career. I teach, both in my own private studio and at UBC's School of Music. I also perform as a chamber musician. As one of the founding members of the Vancouver Piano Ensemble, we regularly give concert tours in Europe and China and it's a great joy for us to create music together as friends. There is so much laughter it is hard to believe it is supposed to be work! How wonderful it is to make a living doing what you love!

When I see young music students today working so hard towards their musical dreams, I try to help them along in any way I can because I can still feel the hot lights on my smiling face that thrilling night in a small town in Quebec....

Amanda Chan, MMus, BMus, FTCL, ARCT

Judging the CMC: A Memorable, Lasting Experience

Dr. Terence Dawson was one of the judges in the 2006 CMC competition. CMC BC asked Dr. Dawson to reflect on his experience.

One of the most gratifying things a teacher can experience, in my estimation, is to bear witness to a student perform in a way that exceeds expectations relative to past performances in lessons or studio classes. By this, I do not necessarily refer to the measurement of those expectations from a technical perspective. I am talking about spontaneity in performance, an involvement in the music, a sense of freedom of technique or an awareness of the presence of passion for the art of making music and sharing that music with an audience.



Dr. Terence Dawson

The experience of being one of the judges for the 2006 Canadian Music Competition was a privilege that was both humbling and gratifying. It reminded me daily that teaching continually probes and nudges us as, together with our students, we make discoveries, ask troubling questions, fan the sparks which these questions prompt, praise the attempted answers, and point out the paths that lead students to self-discovery. I was made aware, as we made our way across Canada, that the students that stood out to us as judges communicated through their performances that they truly believed in what they were doing. In addition, they wanted the advice and feedback from us as passionate fellow musicians, not only as “adjudicators”. As the General Director of the CMC, Louis Dallaire states in his letter to all participants for 2007, the “Canadian Music Competition aims to create an event that will stimulate the young musician to rise beyond his level, to develop his personality, to stimulate his critical mind and to bloom as a musician.” As jury members, we were united on one common front: we wanted to be moved! We wanted to experience performances from musicians who were speaking to us from their innermost being, and believed that what they were doing on a musical level was from their own belief. They were not necessarily repeating verbatim what their teacher has asked, but we were aware that they had truly internalized these directions and were “breathing on their own”. Of course, the technical evaluations were very much present, but only as a “means to an end”. Technique becomes the vehicle so vital and necessary to a successful realization of musical issues.

We heard the products of fine teaching from all centres, large and small and were very much aware that music making was “alive and well” across this country. May I take this opportunity to wish the participants of the 2007 CMC all the very best for both rewarding preparation and memorable performances.

CMC Trivia: 2007 Stats and Figures

Total number of registrants across Canada	780
Participants from BC	73
Participants playing in more than one category	2
Piano candidates	52
Strings candidates	18
Guitar candidates	2
Wind candidates	2
Voice candidates	1

Volunteers Needed!

CMC BC is a volunteer organization and we need your skills to build for the future. We currently need volunteers in these specific areas:

Provincial Competition at UBC on June 1 – 3 and June 5 – 7

Volunteer Coordinator — We need a coordinator to recruit staff for set-up and reception for the six days of the Provincial rounds. The coordinator does not need to be on location for the entire competition but is responsible for scheduling our volunteers.

Volunteer Receptionists — We need volunteers to set up and staff our reception area and lock away materials daily during the competition. Volunteers will sign up for 4 – 4.5 hour shifts. There will be three shifts per day (morning, early afternoon, and late afternoon).

Team BC Lunch and Awards Presentation Dinner on June 15

We need volunteers to help set up at the restaurant, take tickets, show people to their tables, and so on. Please contact the Fundraising Committee at fundraising@cmcbc.com if you can help.

Board of Directors 2007

President	Ann Warrender
Secretary	Mimi Ho
Treasurer	Alasdair Maughan
Director-At-Large	Wilma Suen

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