

Core Values

We value and promote respect for diversity of culture and experience.

We actively respond to unmet, emerging and changing community needs by reaching out to underserved groups and by sharing our expertise and knowledge with other organizations.

We strive to eliminate barriers to access by offering affordable, community based programs that encourage and support the participation of those most in need.

We provide quality childcare that enables women to participate and, at the same time, provides a positive experience for children.

We promote personal growth and development and assist participants to articulate and achieve their goals and to find strength, support and friendship.

We provide staff with support and opportunities for professional development and growth.

We value the contributions of volunteers and provide the training and support necessary to enable them to be effective in their roles.

We demonstrate our accountability to the community through fiscal responsibility, open and full disclosure, and meaningful, ongoing evaluation of our programs and services.

Mission Statement

The goal of PIRS is to ensure that immigrant women and their young children can participate fully in Canadian community life.



We welcome immigrant women of all ages, from all cultural, social, economic and educational backgrounds. For more information about our programs, to become a member or make a donation please call

604-298-5888.



A United Way Member Agency



Annual Report

2007-2008

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Report from the Board of Directors

The Pacific Immigrant Resources Society's Board of Directors has been working hard over the 2007-08 year to continue to implement the strategic priorities set by the Board in 2006. We are pleased to be able to share with our members and friends some of our accomplishments in moving forward with our vision.

At the core of the plan is expanding programming to meet the growing needs for programs for immigrant women and preschoolers in Vancouver and beyond. To this end, we have been successful in raising additional funds from a number of sources to expand our Story Time and ESL Parenting programs this year, and to extend our ESL Literacy and Beginner Level ESL Programs into Burnaby and New Westminster next year. Critical to this work has been building community partnerships for effective service delivery, particularly in Burnaby and New Westminster, where we know many new immigrant families are settling.

The Board has also made it a priority to increase funding in order to address staff recruitment and retention issues and ensure the continued operational efficiency and stability of the organization. This past year the Personnel Committee completed a major review of staff compensation packages and the Board approved new salary scales that will ensure that PIRS will continue to be able to attract and retain quality staff in what is becoming an increasingly competitive environment.

As part of the Board Development Plan, the Board undertook an extensive review of the Board Policies and Procedures and the Bylaws of the Society to ensure that our governance rules support the organization, reflect current best practices, and remain in compliance with the Society Act. The result of this work is the proposed new Bylaws of the Society which, if approved by the membership at the Annual General Meeting, will come into effect next year.

This year, we bid farewell to three Board members, Dora Fidler, Rosanna Santamaria, and Nicole Jeschelink and to long time core staff member, Carmen Contreras. We thank them for their dedication and contributions over the years. At the same time, we welcome new faces on our staff and Board. We are especially pleased to have recruited Liza Wajong, Jennifer Day, Katarina Jovanovic and Elena Fitenko to the core staff team.

In October, our Executive Director, Jean Maloney, announced her decision to retire in May 2009. Under Jean's visionary leadership over the past 22 years, PIRS has grown and flourished. The success of PIRS programs and services in the community, and the care and development for staff and volunteers are hallmarks of Jean's leadership. While a search is underway to hire the new Executive Director, we wish Jean well as she prepares for her new life chapter. Stay tuned in the coming months for plans to honor Jean's contributions.

Priya Ramu, Board Chair, and Jackie Ing, Vice Chair

Financial Statements at July 31, 2008

Revenue	2008 \$	2007 \$
Grants received		
BC Direct Access gaming funds	86,000	76,000
BC Settlement & Adaptation Program Stream -1 & 3	182,855	128,166
BC Settlement & Adaptation Program - Stream 3	184,640	123,072
CanWest- Raise a Reader	10,000	-
Canadian Heritage	-	38,062
City of Vancouver	69,771	62,905
Health Canada	31,286	30,000
Retired Teachers of Ontario	-	2,475
TELUS	10,000	-
United Way Success by 6	16,745	16,745
United Way allocation	49,421	49,421
United Way designations	1,599	1,268
United Way Immigrant/Newcomer Funding	30,130	-
Other Income [schedule 1]	72,440	62,756
Change in deferred revenue [note 4]	(104,698)	38,354
	640,190	629,223
Expenses		
Salaries and benefits	465,590	486,448
Rent - program space	46,956	49,733
Rent - office	17,126	16,027
Materials and supplies	16,466	11,197
Student transit subsidy	7,254	9,087
Telephone/fax and Internet	3,979	4,655
Insurance	5,359	5,445
Copying and postage	6,382	6,015
Honoraria	1,078	3,723
Audit	5,017	4,105
Travel and field trips	5,089	8,291
Staff development	4,425	1,804
Brochures/newsletter	472	1,139
Board expenses	1,242	589
Fundraising expenses	994	1,494
Computer expenses	2,666	1,814
Other	2,577	2,398
	592,672	613,963
Amortization expense	1,772	1,079
Revenue over expenses for the year	45,746	14,181

Complete audited financial statements available on request.

Program Staff and **Volunteers**

Program Staff

Senab Ahmadi, Zarmina Ali, Lida Amiri, Resochita Arma, Ann Asseltine, Carol Bond, Susan Bonham, Ana Sylvia Cabrera, Consuello Castillo, Christine Chu, Cindy Chu, Kwangyoung Conn, Carmen Contreras, Kim Dang, Jill Fitzell, Manjit Garsha, Jaswinder Gill, Mayra Guevara, Hilda Henry, Sylvia Hesby, Amy Hung, Zabeen Hussain, Maria Magdolna Kerekes, Wasima Khaliqi, Sonika Khosla, Audrey Lavers, Lan Ko, Wendy Kwong, Anne Lee, Margaret Leung, Loretta Linneberg, Carolina Lopez, Irene Lui, Leonilyn Lumbo, Laura Mak, Monica Meng, Aseefa Merali, Catherine Molnar, Janet Morrison, Hai Thi Nguyen, Paili Paiyzi, Yuji Pan, Ji Hyun Julia Park, Hoa Phan, Amy Koo Lai Ping, Kim Richards, Veronica Rock, Patricia Steiner, Amy Teng, Khan Tran, Agnes Tsang, Anna Tse, Ellen van der Hoeven, Sheila Virdi, Liza Wajong

ESL Volunteers

Erika Bachman, Rebecca Bennett, Maria Boni, Karin Brittain, Linda Bui, Soumaya Charfi, Susan Chiu, Jeanie Chuang, Sheila Clarke, Linda Elliot, Helen Gowans, Laurie Grant, Karly Grimson, Bei Bei Guo, Marika Hall, Amanda Huang, Jamie Huang, Polly Huang, Marilyn Kater, Vi Kilpatrick, Colleen Klassen, Mahnaz Kolahi, Tina Liao, Julie Lidell, Roberta Lowman, Mandy McCrae, Fiona Milis, Nicole Moore, Tami Nakamura, Heather Nugent, Alba Nury Correa, Kiera Pearkes, Elke Pincock, Colleen Power, Amy Rogers, Rita Santillan, Yeon Joo Seo, Jeannette Steiner, Natalia Tchaikoun, Anne Travis, Jony van den Bos, Theresa Wong, Sally Yang, Ping Yang, Jade Ye, Rosina Yip, Arlene Yip, Christie Zhang

Children's Volunteers

Senab Ahmadi, Giuliana Barros, Rizwana Begum, Celida Canizales, Melissa Chan, Dawn Cormier, Isobel Drummond, Ran Guo, Guida Heir, Heather Hoiness, Angel Huang, Amy Hutchinson, Christina Hsieh, Young Kim, Catherine Kim, Esther Lee, Ye Eun Lee, Elaine Lee, Sunny Lin, Kelsey Lindeman, Ada Liu, Laura Mak, Manzu Mirza, Cynthia Mollison, Naho Naguchi, Thao Nguyen, Yuji Pan, Perla Rangel, Fei Ren, Anna Sutton, June Wong, Joy Xiang, Mei Xu, Cindy Zou

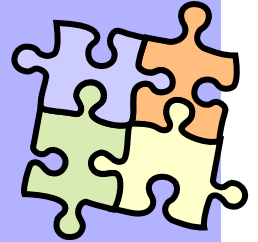
Office Volunteers

Jacqui Ross, Mandy McCrae

2007-08 Board Members

Thanks!

Chairperson	<i>Jackie Ing/Priya Ramu</i>
Secretary	<i>Lorri Lochrie</i>
Treasurer	<i>Eva Zhou</i>
Fundraising	<i>Nicole Jeschelnik/Heather Kennedy</i>
Personnel	<i>Inge Bailey</i>
Programs	<i>Dora Fidler/Esaine Mo</i>
Public Relations	<i>Madeleine Addison</i>
Members-at-Large	<i>Rosanna Santamaria</i>
	<i>Pamela Gao</i>
	<i>Amy Vozel</i>
	<i>Gloria Diaz</i>



Committee Members

Azar Aminolsharei, Fatima Annane, Donna Chen, Jude Coates, Dylan De Marsh, Bonnie Fenton, Maria Luz Fernandez, Dora Fidler, Kim Gilker, Ana Gomez, Mireya Hyvarinen, Caroline Lau, Christine Lee, Rebekah Mahaffey, Monica Meng, Michelle Mentore, Helene Rasmussen, Sheila Virdi, Sammy Yang, Jane Yong.

Core Staff

Executive Director
Jean Maloney
Accountant
Greta Ho
Administrative Assistant
Carmen Contreras/Elena Fitenko
ESL Program Coordinator
Patricia Steiner
ECE Coordinator
Katarina Jovanovic
LEAD/Building Bridges
Coordinator
Sylvia Hesby
Coordinator of Volunteers
Jennifer Day
Program Assistant
Liza Wajong

Board and Committee members contributed more than 900 hours of volunteer time.

PIRS Programs

In 2007-08 PIRS ran 21 part time group programs for immigrant women and their preschool children in Vancouver and 1 in Burnaby:

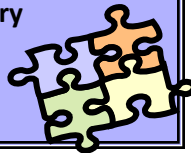
- 7 beginner level ESL classes 204 women and 72 children
- 3 ESL literacy classes 99 women and 29 children
- 1 intermediate level ESL class 49 women and 18 children
- 5 family literacy programs (Story Time) 122 women and 144 children
- 1 ESL parenting program 46 women and 60 children
- 3 leadership development programs (LEAD) 40 women and 11 children
- 1 facilitator training program (Building Bridges) 15 women

A total of 575 women and 334 children participated in these programs. They came from 37 different countries of origin with the largest number (27%) being Mandarin speaking, followed by Cantonese (23%), Vietnamese (10%), Korean (6%), Spanish (6%) and Dari (5%) speakers.

The majority of the children (56%) were aged 3 to 5, 36% were aged 18 months to 3 and 6% were under 18 months. Close to half of the children (48%) were participating in a group preschool experience for the first time.

Program Partners

- Burnaby Family Life
- Champlain Heights Community Centre
- Collingwood Neighbourhood House
- Frog Hollow Neighbourhood House
- Garibaldi Elementary School
- Lord Elementary School
- Marpole Oakridge Area Council
- Marpole Oakridge Family Place
- Moberly Elementary School
- MOSAIC
- Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House
- Nightingale Elementary School
- Quaker Meeting Place
- Queen Alexandra Elementary School
- Richmond Multicultural Society
- South Vancouver Family Place
- South Vancouver Neighbourhood House
- Sunset Community Centre
- Thunderbird Community Centre
- Trudeau Elementary School
- The Warehouse



Report from the Executive Director

2007-08 has been a year of modest growth for PIRS coupled with laying the foundations for future program development.

Thanks to a grant from TELUS Charitable Foundation, we were able to expand our Story Time Program at Moberly Elementary School, adding a second session to accommodate those families on the wait list. We are very happy to be able to offer this program in partnership with South Vancouver Family Place and the new Strong Start Program at Moberly.

Funding from the United Way Immigrant/Newcomer funding stream made it possible for us to expand our ESL Parenting Program as well. The new program, located at Garibaldi Elementary School and run in partnership with Frog Hollow Neighborhood House, has been extremely successful in reaching new immigrant parents. An unexpected outcome of the program was the community building that happened as a result of the push to keep Garibaldi School open – many of the ESL program participants were active in this community initiative, distributing flyers door-to-door and attending community and school meetings, and because of their work, we are going to be able to continue to offer the program at Garibaldi for the foreseeable future.

We were very pleased to be one of the organizations invited by the Settlement and Multicultural Division to participate in a Ministry committee looking at enhanced outcomes for families with young children who are enrolled in BCSAP funded ESL programs. As a result of this work, the Division has committed additional funding to support enhanced parent education and early childhood development activities in these programs in 2008 and beyond.

In anticipation of the need for additional core staff hours to support new and expanded programs, the position of Program Assistant was created. As well as a new Program Assistant, we began the year with a new Volunteer Coordinator, a new ECE Coordinator, and a new Administrative Assistant. I am happy to report that we were able to recruit extremely well qualified and competent individuals to each of these positions and we look forward to their long association with PIRS. A grant from the BMO Employee Charitable Foundation enabled us to upgrade our aging office computers. This has made a huge difference in the day to day work of the core staff, enabling us to perform the computer related functions of our jobs more effectively and efficiently.

As ever, I am extremely grateful to our staff and volunteers for their dedication and commitment to the mandate and vision of the Society. Next year will be my last year as the Executive Director, and, while I will be sad to leave PIRS after so many years, I am confident in the future of the organization knowing that I will leave it in the good hands of an excellent staff and volunteer team.

Jean Maloney, Executive Director