

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.



Annual Report

2008-2009

#205-2929 Commercial Drive, Vancouver, BC V5N 4C8

Web: <http://www.pirs.bc.ca> email: info@pirs.bc.ca

Tel. 604-298-5888

Fax: 604-298-0747



A United Way Member Agency

Report from the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors is happy to report to you, our members and friends, with a big smile at the end of this year 2008-2009. We are gratified that the dedicated, hard work of our staff, our Board, and all our volunteers is enabling more women and their young children than ever, to participate fully in Canadian community life.

Let me recall some highlights of PIRS' accomplishments during the year. As you all know, this was Jean Maloney's final year with us as Executive Director. We had a wonderful party in April for all our staff and partners to say goodbye and to honor Jean's commitment and dedication to PIRS. Thanks to Jean's excellent leadership, support and guidance the Board was able well in advance to plan for her succession. In May 2009 the Board appointed our new ED, Jennifer McCarthy Flynn, herself an immigrant. As Jennifer moves and grows into this role, a Board transition team is providing first-year support, and on occasion we have also drawn on Jean's expertise. Our thanks go to all who have contributed to making this change succeed – above all the core staff, who in their daily work have given exceedingly generously of their time and energies, and the Board members who shouldered many additional responsibilities in this process.

Even with this change the Board and Committees continued to work hard in other areas. Extensive research by the Personnel Committee with staff input, enabled the Board to reintroduce a core staff benefits plan lost to previous funding cuts. The expansion of the immigrant serving sector through better funding has been wonderful, but it has also presented human resources challenges for smaller organizations like PIRS. Therefore, the Board was very glad to approve further improvements to the salary scales of core and program staff that will ensure that PIRS will continue to be able to attract and retain quality staff in this competitive environment.

Our new, beautiful and highly professional brochures, the first major update in quite a few years, are the result of the hard work of the Public Relations Committee and the generosity of its volunteers. The committee has been working on an overall redesign of our image, which also includes review of our website. We hope the new site will 'go live' very soon.

The Fund Development Committee has done excellent work this year aimed at diversifying our funding base through two donor campaigns, the Christmas Gift Giving campaign and the Mothers Day campaign. They also led us in our successful application to the Raise a Reader fund. And, the committee came up with the idea of our first ever Walkathon, held on September 27 at Trout Lake and enormously successful. Congratulations to all the hardworking and hard walking participants! And one goal the Board has been pursuing for a number of years, is close to realization: a contingency fund equal to 2-3 months operating costs. This is required by some of our funders, and has been very difficult to achieve.

This year we said goodbye to our Chair, Priya Ramu and to our Volunteer Coordinator, Jen Day. We thank them for their hard work over the years. We are very pleased to have recruited Liza Wajong, formerly our Program Assistant, to the post of Volunteer Coordinator and to also welcome Nubia Mancilla Reyes as Liza's successor in the role of Program Assistant. We are very excited about the future of PIRS. We have wonderful programs in place but also new possibilities to explore. None of this would be possible without the energy, the passion and the commitment of our Board, committee and program volunteers and the many hours of volunteer time they have contributed. Congratulations to them and to the PIRS staff for all their hard work.

We would also like to acknowledge the Province of BC, the City of Vancouver, United Way of the Lower Mainland and our other funders as well as donors great and small, who have helped sustain the vision of Pacific Immigrant Resource Society.

Inge Bailey, Acting Chair

Financial Statements at July 31, 2009

Revenue	2009	2008
Grants received	\$	\$
BC Direct Access gaming funds	86,000	86,000
BC Settlement & Adaptation Program Stream -1 & 3	389,790	182,855
BC Settlement & Adaptation Program - Stream 3	198,250	184,640
CanWest– Raise a Reader	15,000	10,000
City of Vancouver	73,828	69,771
Health Canada	31,716	31,286
TELUS	-	10,000
United Way Success by 6	7,954	16,745
United Way allocation	49,421	49,421
United Way designations	1,324	1,599
United Way Immigrant/Newcomer Funding	30,130	30,130
Vancouver Foundation	23,000	-
Other Income [schedule 1]	32,594	72,441
Change in deferred revenue [note 4]	87,056	(104,698)
	1,026,063	640,190
Expenses		
Salaries and benefits	782,866	465,590
Rent - program space	24,050	46,956
Rent - office	17,497	17,126
Materials and supplies	16,735	16,466
Student transit subsidy	15,281	7,254
Telephone/fax and Internet	4,103	3,979
Insurance	5,748	5,359
Copying and postage	10,260	6,382
Honoraria	1,350	1,078
Audit	5,000	5,017
Travel and field trips	6,238	5,089
Staff development	5,701	4,425
Brochures/newsletter	2,442	472
Board expenses	1,430	1,242
Fundraising expenses	627	994
Computer expenses	4,332	2,666
Other	5,040	2,577
	908,700	592,672
Amortization expense	2,152	1,772
Revenue over expenses for the year	115,211	45,746

Complete audited financial statements available on request.

Program Staff and **Volunteers**

Program Staff

Senab Ahmadi, Zarmina Ali, Lubna Ali Abdelrahman, Maria Arico, Resochita Arma, Ann Asseltine, Carol Bond, Susan Bonham, Ana Sylvia Cabrera, Consuello Castillo, Christine Chu, Cindy Chu, Christine Chu, Kwangyoung Conn, Kim Dang, Claudia Diaconu, Ruth Fahlman, Jill Fitzell, Amira Gaber, Manjit Garsha, Jaswinder Gill, Gloria Gore, Mayra Guevara, Hilda Henry, Sylvia Hesby, Sally Ho, Theresa Howell, Amy Hung, Zabeen Hussain, Wasima Khaliqi, Ashima Khurana, Lan Ko, Phyllis Kuo, Wendy Kwong, Audrey Lavers, Margaret Leung, Sandria Leung, Loretta Linneberg,, Irene Lui, Leonilyn Lumbo, Laura Mak, Monica Meng, Hai Thi Nguyen, Andrea Nicki, Paili Paizyi, Yuji Pan, Regiina Paniagua, Ji Hyun Julia Park, Hoa Phan, Amy Koo Lai Ping, Fernanda Rezazadeh, Kim Richards, Veronica Rock, Patricia Steiner, Jessica Su, Amy Teng, Meen Rani Thakur, Khan Tran, Agnes Tsang, Anna Tse, Cuc Thi Van, Hazra Venkataya, Sheila Virdi, Liza Wajong, Rysia Wand, Leah Wong , Theresa Wong , June Wong, Gladys Yip

ESL Volunteers

Maria Boni, Alison Bradley, Soumaya Charfi, Irene Chen, Dina Cherevko, Natalia Chorna, Pauline Chow, Sheila Clarke, Katalin Cseh, Katie Dittrich, Alejandra Dominguez, Janice Froese, Anne Grange, Laurie Grant, Sonia Grewal, Bei Bei Guo, Hamed, Donna Hansen, Margaret Henderson, Maggie Huang, Doris Imbeau, Sandy Ingham, Janice Judd, Marilyn Kater, Delloula Khelifi, Vi Kilpatrick, Ji Sun Kim, Hillary King, Helen Kwon, Kimberly Lathigee, Loredena LeDonne, George Li, Tina Liao, Anna Maria Lionte, Sarah Marfa, Mary Jane Marita, Dana Osborne, Jessica Parish, Elke Pincock, Manjit Powar, Golnaz Rezaeian, Leah Ro, Hannah Schreier, Oana Sfat, Barbara Shuman, Judita Scott, Anne Travis, Ally Xuan, Jade Ye, Christie Zhang

Children's Volunteers

Rizwana Begum, Heather Hoiness, Jamie Kim, Keri King, Lydia Lee, Fang Lin, Ada Liu, Laura Mak, Kyoko Nakamura, Thao Nguyen, Vanessa Parada, Karen Pham, Phuong, Polly Rivera, Mona Sidhu, Sally Sutherland, Yulia Trifonas, Sherima Tufan, June Wong, Yvonne, Cindy Zou

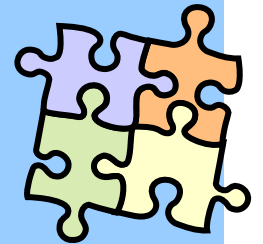
Other Volunteers

Junco Kumon, Wendy Kwong, Golnaz Yazdi

2008-09 Board Members

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

Thanks!



Committee Members

Azar Aminolsharei, Donna Chen, Jude Coates, Dylan De Marsh, Maria Luz Fernandez, Dora Fidler, Kim Gilker, Mireya Hyvarinen, Nicole Jeschelnik, Caroline Lau, Christine Lee, Rebekah Mahaffey, Monica Meng, Michelle Mentore, Helene Rasmussen, Devyani, Tiku, Sheila Virdi, Sammi Yang, Jane Yong

Core Staff

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

Board and Committee members contributed more than 1200 hours of volunteer time.

PIRS Programs

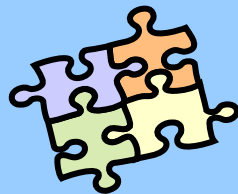
In 2008-09 PIRS ran 23 part time group programs for immigrant women and their preschool children in Vancouver, 3 in Burnaby and 1 in New Westminster:

- 10 beginner level ESL classes 219 women and 77 children
- 3 ELSA classes 75 women and 17 children
- 1 intermediate level ESL class 49 women and 18 children
- 6 family literacy programs (Story Time) 91 women and 126 children
- 3 ESL parenting program 67 women and 51 children
- 3 leadership development programs (LEAD) 40 women and 11 children
- 1 facilitator training program (Building Bridges) 15 women

A total of 556 women and 300 children participated in these programs. They came from 32 different countries of origin with the largest number (23%) being Mandarin speaking, followed by Cantonese (21%), Vietnamese (14%), Korean (9%), Spanish (9%) and Dari (7%) speakers.

Program Partners

- | | |
|--|---|
| • Burnaby Family Life (Edmonds Neighbourhood Resource Centre) | • Pierre Elliott Trudeau Elementary School |
| • Champlain Heights Community Centre | • Quaker Meeting Place |
| • Collingwood Neighbourhood House | • Queen Alexandra Elementary School |
| • David Lloyd George Elementary School | • Richmond Multicultural Society |
| • Frog Hollow Neighbourhood House | • South Vancouver Family Place |
| • Family Services of Greater Vancouver (Olivet Church) | • South Vancouver Neighbourhood House |
| • Florence Nightingale Elementary School | • Thunderbird Community Centre |
| • Garibaldi Annex | • The Warehouse Centre |
| • Henderson Annex | • Walter Moberly Elementary School |
| • Marpole Oakridge Area Council | |
| • Marpole Oakridge Family Place | |
| • MOSAIC | |
| • Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House | |



Report from the Executive Director

I am very glad for my first annual report for PIRS to be able to say this was an extremely successful year for PIRS. It is the mark of a strong and vibrant organization that in a year when the Executive Director was preparing to retire we were still able to add new programs and continue to develop innovative ideas.

With the support of the Vancouver Foundation we began a completely new program at Henderson Annex. The program is a combination of ESL classes and parent child activities and was very popular with local families. PIRS and Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House were successful in being chosen to pilot a new BC Settlement and Adaptation (BCSAP) funded program for senior immigrants. PIRS will deliver the ESL component and we are very excited to be beginning work in a brand new area for the organization. With the support of the Raise a Reader fund we were also able to begin 2 new Story Time programs at David Lloyd George & Nightingale Elementary Schools.

We have expanded our partnerships with Burnaby Family Life (BFL) and Family Services Greater Vancouver in New Westminster (FSGV). Together we deliver new enhanced childcare programs which incorporate additional parent education and parent child activities sessions into the existing blended model of ESL, outreach support and quality early childhood care.

Many of these initiatives began as ideas at the Program Committee and I would like to congratulate them for all their hard work and also the PIRS staff who have been so successful at transforming these visions into realities.

Staff and Volunteers have worked hard in 2008-09 to ensure the continuing high quality and professional standards of PIRS. In response to the needs of our participants we have standardized our fees and subsidies. We have reviewed and developed job descriptions for all our program volunteer roles and have produced a handbook to guide their work. To support the continuing professionalization of our employees, new childcare policies have been implemented on separation anxiety, illness and orientation sessions. And as ever the PIRS staff have worked hard to share our knowledge and expertise by participating actively in local and provincial networks such as the Windows of Opportunity Coalition, First Call, area service meetings and the BCSAP training committee.

Since I have joined PIRS I have been made extremely welcome by all staff, volunteers and board members. I would like to thank everyone for being supportive, generous with their time and knowledge and patient with my steep learning curve. From my first membership committee event in June, with a reading by Katarina Jovanovic, our ECE coordinator from her prize winning book to the Walkathon at Trout Lake when I watched a staff member dressed as a blue monster entertain the walkers, I knew I had joined an energetic and dynamic organization. I only hope that I can support PIRS, as well as Jean has, to continue to grow and develop over the next 35 years.

Jennifer McCarthy Flynn
Executive Director