



Issue: #1

Winter 2008

JA "Bring a Buddy" Contest

Recruit a colleague or friend to volunteer for JA, and you could win cool prizes!

The Prizes: For the **2 people** who recruit the most buddies: a **\$50 gift card donated by Future Shop** ! You'll also be entered into a draw for a chance to win one of 20 gift cards from Starbucks, White Spot or Tim Hortons!

The Rules: Fill out the online referral form at www.jabc.org by February 29, 2008. Enter your name, and your Buddy's (or Buddies') contact info. JABC staff will follow up with your referral(s). To be eligible, your Buddy must volunteer for a program by May 31, 2008. For every person you successfully recruit, your name will be entered into the contest. Winners will be contacted in early June.

Good Luck!

JA Alumni Network Board - Join us!

Volunteers and former achievers-do you want to reconnect?

Teachers-do you know former students who may want to get involved with us?

We are looking for volunteers to join our Alumni Network Board. We'll create events and activities for you to connect & network with past JA members of all ages, both in-person and online. Email anne.sashikata@jabc.org for more info.

Visit & join our **Facebook.com** group "Junior Achievement of British Columbia (JABC)". We're also on **MySpace.com**, **LinkedIn.com**, and **Xanga.com**

Regional News

Lower Mainland New



From Bubble Tea To Leopard-Print Scarves

New venture ideas are endless, especially if they're the result of 15 to 18 year olds brainstorming of how they can earn a profit. Want to hear some of them? Well JABC has an exciting opportunity for you get in on such a brainstorming session and in fact to help students turn one of their ideas into a business.

JA's Company Program – A Student Venture has the unique chance for you to mentor and inspire

students as they experience each phase of the business cycle. Share your knowledge and experience – especially those tough lessons that no one had told you about when you were their age – as you help students set up and actually run a company.

WE NEED YOU - We have several new Company Programs (both during and after-school) throughout the Lower Mainland starting in February which need your involvement. So for more information about the program and how you can make a difference, please call or e-mail Ursula Klein at 604-688-3887 ext. 231 or Ursula.klein@jabc.org

Remember, there's a world of new-venture ideas out there, from bubble tea to leopard-print scarves. Help teens make those ideas come to life!

JA Staff Spread Holiday Cheer Through Toy Drive

Inspired to help those in their community, the JABC staff donned their snazziest elf hats this past December and launched an internal Gift Drive to collect donations for the Lower Mainland Christmas Bureau.

Keeping in mind the creativity (essential when buying gifts for 10 to 16 year olds!) and resourcefulness that JA is known for, the staff team bought and donated over 4 large boxes full of gifts for low income families throughout the Lower Mainland. The holiday season truly was a little merrier for many in our local communities!

Way to go team!

Fraser Valley News

JABC Welcomes New Team Member in Fraser Valley

JABC is pleased to announce that Laura Addinall is the new Program Manager in the Fraser Valley. She will be recruiting volunteers and delivering programs in: Surrey, Delta, Langley, Abbotsford and Chilliwack.

“Laura comes to us with an outstanding background for a Program Manager,” said Anne Tower, Vice President, Programs with JABC. “She’s a former teacher, and has also worked in a wide range of positions in education, business, and government, including: Business Development Bank of Canada, Canadian Cancer Society, Community Futures and many more. Laura has also made significant volunteer contributions to the communities she’s lived in, through Chambers of Commerce and other organizations. And she has volunteered with JA.”

“The growth in the Fraser Valley presents both enormous opportunities and challenges,” said Laura, “I’m delighted to be part of the team that is making this happen.”

If you are a teacher who wants your class to experience a Junior Achievement program, or if you have skills to offer as a volunteer with a world-recognized leader of business education programs for youth, please contact Laura at **604-514-8850** or e-mail laura.addinall@jabc.org

Vancouver Island News



In preparation for Nov 14, RBC staff participate in an ESIS orientation session and are seen here learning the *Keys to Success* board game.

RBC Staff Make the Connection

If our sense of connection to each other is reflected through volunteerism, then RBC Financial Group is truly connected to JA in the Greater Victoria Capital Region.

On November 14, 2007, twenty-four senior staff from RBC Financial Group came together to share their knowledge and skills with more than two hundred Grade 10 students from around Greater Victoria. Presented as a one-day event at the University of Victoria; students descended upon the University to take part in ESIS. The event opened with

inspirational anecdotes from local acclaimed businessman and entrepreneur Mel Cooper, while lunch was enjoyed over informal conversation with Gary Reed, an Olympic athlete and part of the RBC Olympians program.

The team of RBC volunteers spent the day working with students to help them better understand personal finances, budgeting, employment opportunities, and matching lifestyle choices to earning ability.

The Vancouver Island region of JABC will be hosting a second ESIS conference scheduled to take place on February 21, 2008. Teachers interested in registering their Grade 10 classes can contact Jenny Leary, Program Coordinator at **250-478-5901** or by email at jenny.leary@jabc.org



JA students from Spectrum Community School celebrate the success of their holiday themed fair student designed t-shirts. Food booths and holiday music helped to create a festive atmosphere.

Spectrum Community School Students Apply Their Business Knowledge

JA Company Program students from Spectrum Community School's Creative Entrepreneurship 12 class put their business knowledge into practice when they hosted *A Christmas Miracle*, a holiday themed consumer fair held Saturday, December 8, in Victoria. The fair featured several seasonal activities including reindeer (horse) rides, pictures with Santa, games, face painting and much more. Holiday shopping was also an option at the fair: numerous retail booths featured hand-knitted winter wear and

JA's Company Program helps high school students appreciate and better understand the role of business. With support and guidance from their teacher and the business community, students organize and operate an actual business enterprise – it's an entrepreneurial experience like no other! Sandy Firth, volunteer business professional who advised the students at Spectrum said "This has been a real team effort with enthusiasm and anticipation building as the event date approached."

The students are donating a portion of the proceeds to a small school in Zimbabwe, Africa. The funds will be used to purchase a water-well so that the African students can have easy access to clean water.

Update...Island Expansion

During the summer of 2007, JABC expanded to reach more classrooms and communities across Vancouver Island. Victoria became headquarters for the Vancouver Island Regional Office, and a satellite office in Nanaimo was created. Regional Manager Deborah Wakeham, together with staff members Jenny Leary, Charlayne Jones and an active Regional Committee, has been working to place an estimated 184 JA programs in schools. Together they recruit the numerous volunteers required to assist in the delivery of business education programming in classrooms throughout the Capital Region and in many parts of Vancouver Island this year.

"JABC's expansion into the mid-Island provides a unique volunteer opportunity for local small business owners and operators. Volunteers share their business knowledge with students and show them what a rewarding experience owning and operating their own business can be." said Charlayne Jones, JABC's Program Manager stationed in Nanaimo.

JABC requires nearly 200 business professionals on Vancouver Island to help facilitate programs in the classroom. "Our expansion has had an enormous impact; we are currently partnering with educators from Saanich in School District #63 to the Comox Valley in District #71 and points in between." stated Wakeham. Similar to the many schools in the Capital Region, schools in Nanaimo have especially embraced the grade 10 Economics of Staying in School (ESIS) program. In the region, JABC offers seven different business education programs for students attending Grades 5 to 12.

Educators who are interested in bringing JA programming into their classroom are encouraged to contact staff in the region. Business professionals who are seeking a rewarding volunteer experience by mentoring the next generation of entrepreneurs are also asked to call or register on-line at www.jabc.org

Deborah Wakeham, Regional Manager:

T: 250-380-6765,
E: deborah.wakeham@jabc.org

Jenny Leary, Program Coordinator, ESIS, Capital Region:

T: 250-478-5901
E: jenny.leary@jabc.org

Charlayne Jones, Program Manager, Nanaimo & North Island:

T: 250-753-7578
E: charlayne.jones@jabc.org

Okanagan News



Winning Team from Vernon BC(Back row from left); students Brock Allen, Leon Hernandez, Angus Lunder, Mitchell Dejong (Front row from left)Jan Bell-Irving, President of JABC , students Shelly Potts, Meghan Ross, Colin Williams, Teacher Susan Egan, and Carl Queton, Recruiting and Communications Coordinator, Institute of Chartered Accountants of BC.

Vernon Students take top honours at JA Challenge

JABC is proud to announce high school business students from Vernon, BC won first place honours at our 10th annual BC Business Challenge, in Richmond earlier this month. As a reward for their acute business acumen, Team “Orion” earned a cash bursary of \$100 for each team member.

They beat out twenty other teams from across the province, collaborating through 18 quarters of business to bring their futuristic product, a miniature audio player capable of generating holographic images, to market.



Pictured are Miles and Lisa Laing receiving a donation of \$7500 from Great West Life in support of ESIS. Left to right: Elisha Riberio (GWL), Beth Veenkamp (JA), Matt Simpson (GWL), Lisa Laing (National Bank Financial), Miles Laing (MacKay), Greg Carter (GWL), Darlene Brule (JA).

The Midas Touch: The Laings team up to fundraise

Over 170 JA programs are delivered each year in the Okanagan. To achieve program delivery goals, JABC staff work with teachers to place dedicated volunteers in the classrooms. But behind the scenes and away from the classrooms, other volunteers are hard at work to ensure these valuable opportunities for youth are maintained year after year. Okanagan Regional Committee Co-Chairs Miles and Lisa Laing are two of these volunteers.

This husband and wife duo teamed up to support the fundraising efforts in the Okanagan. Each year Miles and Lisa spend countless hours raising funds, as well as hosting and attending several

networking events as JA ambassadors. They generously tap into their own networks to identify and secure new donors and other supporters – and their hard work is paying off!

JA salutes Miles, Lisa and the other fundraising volunteers who help JA to continue delivering programs at no cost to the participating schools. Thank you!

Kamloops News



Todd Stone, CEO iCompass

JA's ESIS Program Receives Rave Reviews

High school student Deven Sangha realized he's destined for rock stardom after participating in ESIS at Thompson Rivers University on December 18th, 2007.

The Grade 11 St. Ann's Academy student will continue his schooling and play guitar, with the goal of one day rocking out for a living. He could become a rocket scientist or teacher, but he's decided to pursue a musical calling after learning that sound career choices are made by following your passion. "It was really informative," Sangha said, "The volunteers were really friendly. They were just making you more aware of the choices you could make."

JA, in collaboration with the Kamloops School District and Thompson Rivers University, brought 400 students together for this fun, educational experience. Thirty community volunteers presented ESIS to 15 classes at the University campus. The exciting and inspirational wrap up session in the University's Grand Hall featured keynote speaker Todd Stone, President and CEO of Kamloops-based iCompass Technologies. He encouraged students to take advantage of all opportunities presented to them and follow their dreams.

Todd, a JA volunteer, believes the lessons taught to students relay the importance of education. "The [volunteers] keep it really light and fun for the students," said Stone, "Whatever we can do to encourage our students to stay in school is a very good thing."

The students also received some good advice on real-life topics. Lindsay Palmateer, a Grade 10 student from Chase Secondary, said "I learned a lot about interviews and the cost of living. The most important things learned were how much living on your own can cost and how to act and properly answer questions in a job interview."

Another Grade 10 student, Barry McClaskey from St. Ann's, shared his newly-acquired interview strategies: "You dress nicely - shirt and tie. Don't chew gum. You sit up straight, look the interviewer in the eye. I'm planning on applying to Safeway soon so it definitely will help."

Prince George News

Prince George Regional Committee Excited About Expansion

The future looks bright for JA in Prince George these days, thanks to a team of volunteers who believe in the power and potential of today's young people. The JABC Prince George Regional Committee has been formed to oversee the JA business education program delivery for youth.

Chaired by Don Gould, and supported by Program Coordinator, Jack Hooper, the committee members include: Chris Lear; Scotty Raitt; Valerie Giles; Leslie Gilchrist; Gail Roberts; Richard Hobson; and John Kason. Together, the group is working hard to reach more students in Prince George and other northern communities. They will also engage community partners, educators, volunteers and donors to help sustain new growth. By June 2008, the Prince George region will double the number of programs delivered last school year.

"I think we are all agreed how important the Junior Achievement experience is to youth", said Jack Hooper, Program Coordinator for JABC, "It feels great to be part of a team who are making a difference in the lives of our future business leaders."

If you are interested in getting involved with JABC as a volunteer or bringing a JA program to your school, please contact Jack at **250-563-3948** or e-mail jack.hooper@jabc.org