

Vice- President Canadian Report 2015

This is my fifth year in this role and I think we are doing pretty well.

Education

Education continues to be a priority. Hieth Eddleston continued to be the Canadian Education Coordinator for a third term and did an excellent job. His role was to set up clinics, (educational, not levels) create agendas and assign subject matter experts. As the coordinator he created a budget that was approved by the executive. The first clinic was again an all-day session in the LMD. (Thanks Rob for the classroom)

Four more sessions were held each month, July to Oct. We continue to rely heavily on video review and Hudl for all sessions except the exam review night. Big thanks yet again to Larry Rohan for all the video work. The heavy use of video replay was again a huge success and we continued to have good turnout at the sessions. As the video and Larry's comments were on line through Hudl it made it accessible for the outer "fringe" areas. CIS is now on board with Hudl as well.

A spring clinic was put on by Larry Rohan and Carey Anderson. It was also used as a "level" clinic for some newer officials. It was one of the best clinics we have had for overall information and dialogue in a long time. I thoroughly enjoyed it. It was well attended by both BCFOA and LMFRA members.

Education at the CIS level took a huge step in the right direction thanks to Larry Rohan. With all Canada West CIS on board with Hudl, all video review is now being done by Ross Hutchison. This provides much needed consistency in feedback for all western Canada CIS panel officials. The feedback from the video review is that we have some of the top officials right here in B.C.

Contracts

The BCFC contract was completed with minor increases in fees. The document was reworked to make it easier to adjust fee schedules in future years. Very few issues at the Junior level this year. Tier 2 was limited with only three teams. It still is a very useful tool in identifying and developing some junior officials and a way for our current officials to try new positions and even wear the white hat.

Contracts for community ball were also renewed and updated. We now have one contract template for all community ball we work.

Huge thanks to Mark Newlove who was the lead in all our negotiations for new contracts.

Final thoughts

Congrats to all those who were selected for playoff games this year at all levels. Photos of the crew for the BC Junior Final in Kelowna are attached.

I had the privilege and honour to be selected to represent B.C. at the Vanier Cup in Quebec City. It was a tremendous experience and a hell of a football game. We, the officials, were not even noticed.....perfect. Comments from the CFL representative at the game, Dave Hutton, said

he has never seen a Vanier crew gel together so well and as quick as we did. However, if anyone hears any stories about me, (unless there is video evidence) sorry, but I will have to deny any knowledge of any events that may or may not have occurred. Haha. It was FUN!!!

I wish everyone and their families to please have a safe and happy holiday season.

Nigel Bushe

VP (Canadian) BCFOA

VP CFOA