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## *For Immediate Release*

# Volunteer BC Appoints New Board for 2006-2007

October 5, 2006 - Volunteer BC is proud to announce the appointment of its 2006-2007 Board of Directors. The board members, elected on Friday, September 29 at the association's Annual General Meeting, are:

- Michael McCoy, President
- Barbara MacLellan, Vice-President
- David Kimpton, Past President
- Justin Ho, Secretary
- Kelina Kwan, Treasurer
- Dave Baspaly
- Ed Gavsie
- Jan Halliday
- Karen Howe
- Gail Joyce
- Jackie Rankel
- Bruce Rozenhart

These 12 individuals will play a pivotal role in growing and sustaining the foundations of quality volunteerism and a championing a healthy voluntary sector in BC at this crucial time for the province. Earlier in the week, the federal government announced sweeping cuts, eliminating its support of the Canada Volunteerism Initiative. However, with the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games less than four years away, there is an ever greater need for a strong voice to support quality volunteer activity in BC. A vibrant and well-supported voluntary sector in the province is equally important as British Columbians increasingly get involved in the years prior to the Games.

Also during the Volunteer BC AGM, John Mills, Assistant Deputy Minister for Sport, Recreation and Volunteers – Ministry of Tourism, Sport and the Arts provided greetings from Minister Stan Hagen as well as a keynote address. In his comments, he emphasized the provincial government's commitment to voluntary organizations across BC and in promoting volunteerism in the province. He pledged to continue working with Volunteer BC as it develops of specific strategies to support the sector.

### ABOUT VOLUNTEER BC:

Volunteer BC is a provincial association of volunteer centres, provincial voluntary organizations, community organizations and individuals working together to develop and strengthen voluntary action in British Columbia. We support and facilitate the work of voluntary organizations to develop resources and skills within the voluntary sector. Volunteer BC mobilizes the collaborative expertise and energy of voluntary organizations to foster and promote volunteerism in BC. The organization also acts as a bridge linking the volunteer sector to many other sectors including government, business, and labour, as well as other nonprofit organizations.

### PRESIDENT'S BIO:

Michael McCoy is the newly elected president of Volunteer BC and has been a board member since 2002. Michael has been the Executive Director of Touchstone Family Association in Richmond, BC, for the past 22 years. Previously, he was past president of Pacific Legal Education Association, past president of the McLaren Housing Society, former chair of the Gastown Historical Planning Committee and a past board member of Green Thumb Theatre for Young People. He currently is co-chair of the Richmond Community Services Advisory Council. Michael was also a recipient of the Queen's Jubilee Medal for being a leader in the area of family and child support and for building resiliency and independence with British Columbia's families.

### **For more information, contact:**

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