

INTRODUCTION

Hockey Canada, under the direction of Chairman of the Board, Rene Marcil approved a Minor Hockey Summit Process in the fall of 2005. Rene's vision was to produce a nation-wide forum for those involved in Executive capacities to interrelate to those involved at the grassroots level. The new Minor Hockey Summit was designed to create an unobtrusive forum for Branches to engage their local minor hockey association membership. Through the Summit environment, Branches would be able to present the opportunity for hockey participants and potential participants to connect in an "action-oriented" discussion on the game.

The Purpose of the Summit process is:

- ❖ **To engage the grassroots to discuss components of growing and promoting the game.**
- ❖ **To give the "community" a voice in how the game is currently managed and to define ways in which innovative ideas may provide new directions for the development of the amateur hockey community.**

In BC, the Summit process was developed around the premise that the opportunity be:

- 1) A Membership Communication Strategy**
- 2) A Branch Development Strategy**

To this end BC Hockey developed the Summit process with the following components;

- 1) A web based mechanism in the form of a questionnaire. The Summit Questionnaire allowed any BC Hockey member plus non-members from BC and the Yukon to constructively submit comments on the advancement of amateur hockey. The responses would then be used to construct the Summit platform. In addition, the questionnaire responses were circulated to the membership forming a communication mechanism focusing on innovative comments on the game.
- 2) A Minor Hockey Summit conducted in conjunction with the 2007 Annual General Meeting held in Whistler on June 23, 2007. The questionnaire information formed the discussion platform for the BC Hockey Summit. BC Hockey members and invited guests experienced presentations as well as an interactive forum.
- 3) Based on results of the Whistler Minor Hockey Summit, BC Hockey is circulating the results via this report. The BC Hockey Executive Committee will be dealing with the recommendations produced as a result of participant input.
- 4) BC Hockey continues to build and support similar Summit activities within BC Hockey districts and communities.
- 5) BC Hockey will represent our Branch views at future Hockey Canada National Summit initiatives.

Message from BC Hockey President, Al Berg

The Minor Hockey Summit process is one that BC Hockey strongly believes will move our organization forward. This special initiative has allowed the BC Hockey membership and general public the opportunity to communicate on the strategic direction to build minor hockey in BC and the Yukon. In youth sport, times are changing at a rapid rate and for our organization to keep on top of the needs of our constituents requires constant communication with those involved. The Summit process has allowed us this opportunity.



The Minor Hockey Summit initiative has proven successful in two ways; first, the process thus far has resulted in recommendations in areas of growth, governance and the game. These recommendations will now be handed to our Executive for further development of an action plan. The second benefit of the Minor Hockey Summit is the process built for member input. In this regard BC Hockey will examine other aspects of minor hockey through further Branch Summit activities as well as to support similar processes at the District and local levels.

The Summit process leaves no doubt in our mind that everyone's goal is to build a better place for those who choose to play our game. It increases our opportunities to work together. We can do this – together!

Message from BC Hockey Minor Hockey Chair, Rick Boekestyn



Through the initiative brought forward last year by Rene Marcil, Past Chairman of the Board of Hockey Canada, it was our challenge at BC Hockey to administrate, and facilitate a Minor Hockey summit. At our Annual General Meeting in Whistler in May of 2007, the following information was gathered from our membership, and will be used to help structure our strategic plan and the direction that BC Hockey takes in terms of prioritizing Hockey Programming in the future. The hope is to continue the Summit process at the district level, and gather the data so as to keep in touch with the needs of our membership, as we strive to make this game better for all those involved.

My thanks to the many volunteers that contributed their time in order to facilitate the Summit helping make it a success. Special thanks to Dan Moro, Paul Carson, and especially Bill Ennos who spent many tireless hours making sure that the spirit of what we were trying to accomplish remained the same from start to finish.

Lastly, my thanks to you our member Minor Hockey Associations, whose feedback and direction we need to help us govern, grow and develop the game, to keep BC Hockey at the forefront nationally.