

2007 Minor Hockey Summit
“A Membership Communication Strategy”
“A Branch Development Strategy”



SUMMIT WEB QUESTIONNAIRE



Summit Web Questionnaire

Introduction

The web based mechanism took 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 questionnaire was divided into 3 sections dealing with different aspects drawn from the current BC Hockey strategic plan. These sections were used as a starting point for discussion.

The questionnaire focused on initiatives developed in three pillars of the Strategic Plan; Growth, Governance and Game. Under each pillar, six initiatives were produced based on items in the BC Hockey strategic plan while the seventh initiative was left to the respondent to construct. Respondents were asked to rank the seven initiatives from one to seven in each of the sections (one being the highest, seven being the lowest). This rank reflected the respondents' opinion regarding the importance of the listed initiative to the overall section. In addition the questionnaire offered a limited space for expansion of the respondents' thoughts on their #1 ranked initiative. Space was limited as a protection device. In instances where further clarity was required regarding the supplied initiatives the site allowed the respondent to reference an expanded explanation/definition "HELP" icon.

BC Hockey's Minor Hockey Summit Questionnaire **Questionnaire information as posted on www.bchockey.net**

The questionnaire is divided into three (3) sections dealing with different aspects drawn from the current BC Hockey strategic plan which is being used as a starting point for discussion. Respondents are asked to rank the initiatives from one to seven in each section (one being the most important, seven being the least important). This ranking should reflect your opinion on the importance of the listed initiative to the overall section.

If you need help understanding the initiatives click the HELP button for further clarification.

The system will not allow you to rank initiatives the same.

The final initiative is for you to add. Please remember to include this in your ranking (not necessarily as #1).

We have then allowed a limited space for expansion of your thoughts on your #1 ranked initiative. Space is limited as a protection device. BC Hockey may contact you for further expansion of your ideas. Responses MUST be positive.

Remember the Summit process is designed to examine innovative ideas that may provide new directions for the development of the amateur hockey community.

Thank you very much for your support. Have a great hockey season!!

SECTION #1 GROWTH One mandate of BC Hockey is to grow the game of hockey in BC and the Yukon. Please rank the following (#1 being the most important) initiatives that you feel would best grow the game of hockey.

0	<p>Increase the number of facilities and access to these facilities. Show Help</p> <p>Self explanatory. This option allows respondents to rank the importance of the number of facilities and their access on the potential of the game as well as to respond on how this would affect the growth of the game. - Hide Help</p>
0	<p>Cooperate with the school system to introduce hockey to all students in BC. Show Help</p> <p>This option allows respondents to rank the importance of an all-encompassing approach to ensure all BC school students are taught baseline skills of the game as well as an appreciation of the sport of ice hockey. - Hide Help</p>
0	<p>Produce public promotion, relations and marketing campaigns to increase awareness of hockey. Show Help</p> <p>This option allows respondents to rank the importance of a multi-media public awareness of hockey. Items to be considered here would be the communication of benefits of the sport, how to become involved etc.. - Hide Help</p>
0	<p>Work to adjust costs associated with playing. Show Help</p> <p>This option allows comment on the importance of cost on the growth of the game. Does this negatively or positively affect the choice of hockey as a sport for a family? Respondents may consider cost comparisons to other sports and value for the money. - Hide Help</p>
0	<p>Bring all hockey under one organization. Show Help</p> <p>This option allows comment on whether the growth of the game is effected by the number of different organizations administering the sport. In addition to BC Hockey other organizations exist like; the Canadian Adult Recreation Hockey Association, BC School Sports, Summer Hockey leagues, and private enterprise leagues and teams. - Hide Help</p>
0	<p>Develop a multi-cultural emphasis to hockey opportunities. Show Help</p> <p>This option allows comment on the importance of hockey reaching non-traditional hockey cultures in order to grow. This option examines the potential of hockey as a sport for all Canadians and growth strategies would involve ways of reaching non-traditional hockey playing participants. - Hide Help</p>
0	<p>Your Initiative: <input style="width: 150px;" type="text"/></p> <p>Show Help</p> <p>Tell us about your initiative - Hide Help</p>

Expand your ideas on your highest ranked initiative above:

SECTION #2 GOVERNANCE The rules and regulations governing hockey have been developed over the years to maximize development, level the playing field, to standardize administrative practices and to be accountable to our members. Rank the initiatives which would better govern the game:

0	<p>Revise the on-ice playing rules. Show Help This option allows comment on the importance of changing current rules to better govern the game. Strategies would examine the outcome of changing specific rules. - Hide Help</p>
0	<p>Adjust the volunteer to professional (paid personnel) ratio. Show Help This option allows your comment on the importance of employing personnel in the amateur / minor hockey structure. Professional in this sense is defined as people employed in the sport as a profession. Strategies could examine the volunteer and professional pros and cons plus the interface of these two components. - Hide Help</p>
0	<p>Revise administrative demands. Show Help This option allows your comment on the importance of changing the current administrative demands to the governance of the game. Strategies may examine the spectrum of lessening the burden of administration through to the need for increasing administration to strengthen items like accountability. - Hide Help</p>
0	<p>Develop and audit an approved standard for organization acceptance. Show Help This option allows comment on adjusting the governance of the game so that only organizations meeting defined standards would receive endorsement status. Strategies may include the definition of these standards, how they are monitored, accessed and developed within organizations. - Hide Help</p>
0	<p>Develop alternative funding streams to reduce member fee dependence. Show Help This option allows comment on the importance of governing bodies like BC Hockey to seek ways to lessen their dependence on membership fees to both govern and program for the organization. - Hide Help</p>
0	<p>Adjust educational components / tools for administrators. Show Help This option allows comment on the importance of governing bodies like BC Hockey to supply education and tools for administrators in order to better the govern the game. Strategies may include the necessity of including or removing administrative components / tools. - Hide Help</p>
0	<p>Your Initiative: <input style="width: 150px; height: 15px;" type="text"/></p>
<p>: Expand your ideas on your best ranked initiative above</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 150px; width: 100%;"></div>	

SECTION #3 THE GAME As ambassadors of the Game our mandate is to preserve the intent, integrity and spirit of the game. How would we make the actual on-ice product, "the game", better?

	<p>Adjust the teaching sequence for skill development in view of Long Term Athlete Development. Show Help This option allows comment on the importance of adjusting the sequential player development process in line with the new LTAD model being considered by all sports across Canada. Strategies would include attention to items like season length, practice to game ratio, ties to teaching strategies like academy programs etc. More information on LTAD is available from PacificSport and SportCanada. - Hide Help</p>
<input type="text" value="0"/>	<p>Adjust equipment development. Show Help This option allows comment on the importance of adjusting the equipment to the advancement of the game. - Hide Help</p>
<input type="text" value="0"/>	<p>Adjust the playing rules. Show Help This option allows comment on the importance of adjusting certain playing rules to improve the game. Strategies may include either the addition or removal of certain rules and the effect this would have on the game. - Hide Help</p>
<input type="text" value="0"/>	<p>Adjust competitive opportunities. Show Help This option allows comment on the importance of adjusting leagues and teams to ensure meaningful competition. Strategies may include comment on where players are allowed to play, how teams and leagues are formed, how leagues could become more competitive. - Hide Help</p>
<input type="text" value="0"/>	<p>Adjust the attention and tools for athlete support personnel / mechanisms (parents, coaching, officiating, safety, mental/physical/emotional development). Show Help In this day and age athletes are surrounded by a network of support personnel including coaches, officials, sports psychologists, safety / athlete well-being personnel, nutritionists etc. This option allows comment on the importance of the attention given to the knowledge and tools available to these support people. - Hide Help</p>
<input type="text" value="0"/>	<p>Adjust emphasis on fun, fair play, equal opportunity, respect. Show Help This option allows comment on the importance of developing and implementing strategies that emphasize the role hockey plays in developing life skills through participant inter-relationship. - Hide Help</p>
<input type="text" value="0"/>	<p>Your Initiative: <input type="text"/></p>
<p>Expand your ideas on your best ranked initiative above:</p>	

WEB QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS

This following details information received from the BC Hockey Summit Questionnaire as obtained over the BC Hockey Web site March 1 through to April 15, 2007. In review, the web questionnaire allowed “members” to rank from 7 initiatives that they felt would;

- 1) Grow the Game
- 2) Govern the Game
- 3) Better the actual playing of the Game. Six initiatives were supplied and the seventh initiative was one generated by the respondent.

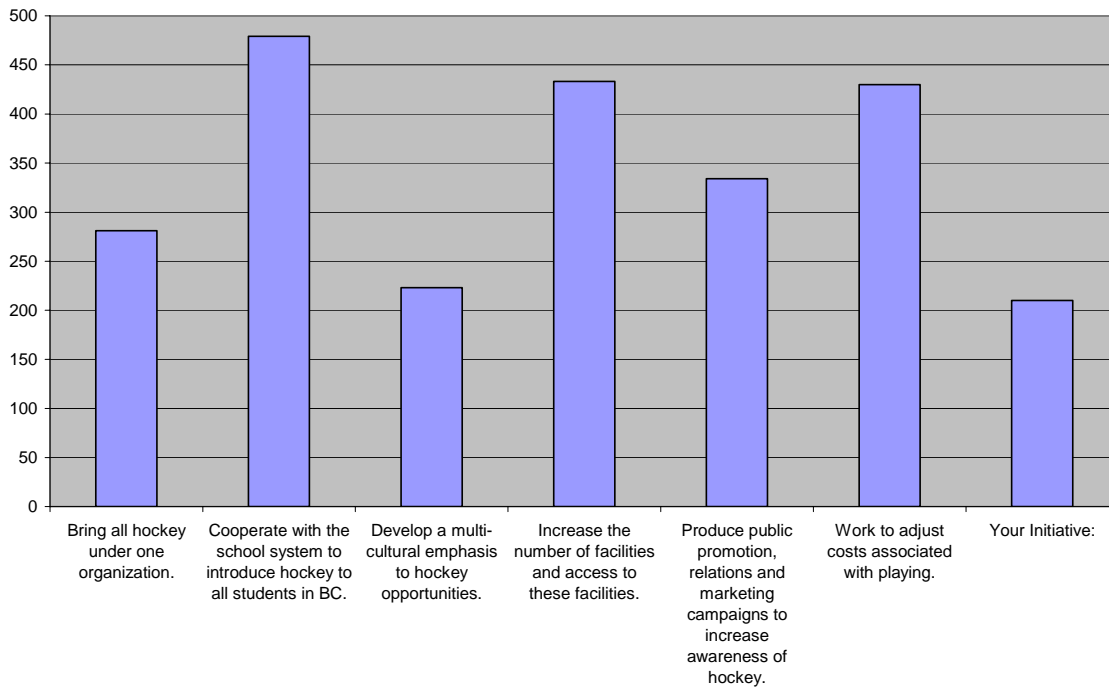
In analyzing the information we simply applied a “reverse ranking” system to tally the responses. In this system the top ranked suggestion received 7 points and the 7th ranked response received 1 point. The graphical display uses the total points calculated by this system. BC Hockey is aware of the statistical inadequacies of this type of analysis.

Based on the results the following three topics were selected to be integral components of the Whistler Summit presentation and discussion;

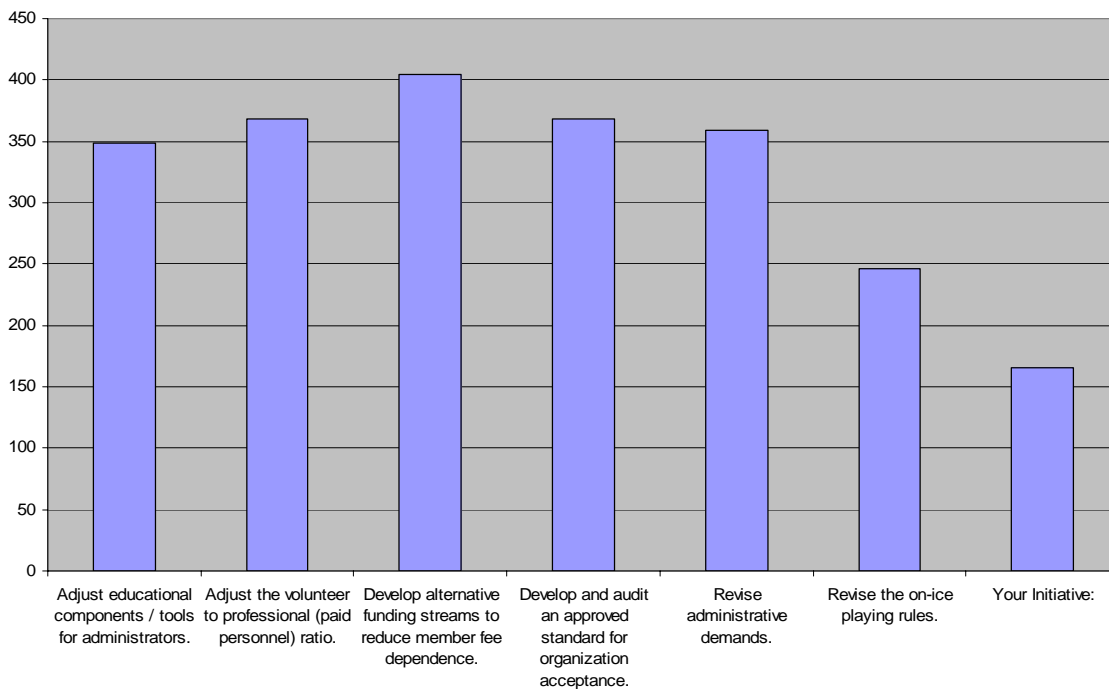
- 1) Growth – Cooperate with the School System to introduce hockey to all students in BC and the Yukon.
- 2) Governance – Develop alternative funding streams to reduce member fee dependence.
- 3) The Game – Adjust competitive opportunities

The following results are generated from all responses. Using the respondents' personal information the data can also be sorted to produce reports by district or by other personal characteristics, for instance, those who indicate they are a coach. These reports are not included in this summary but can be made available on demand.

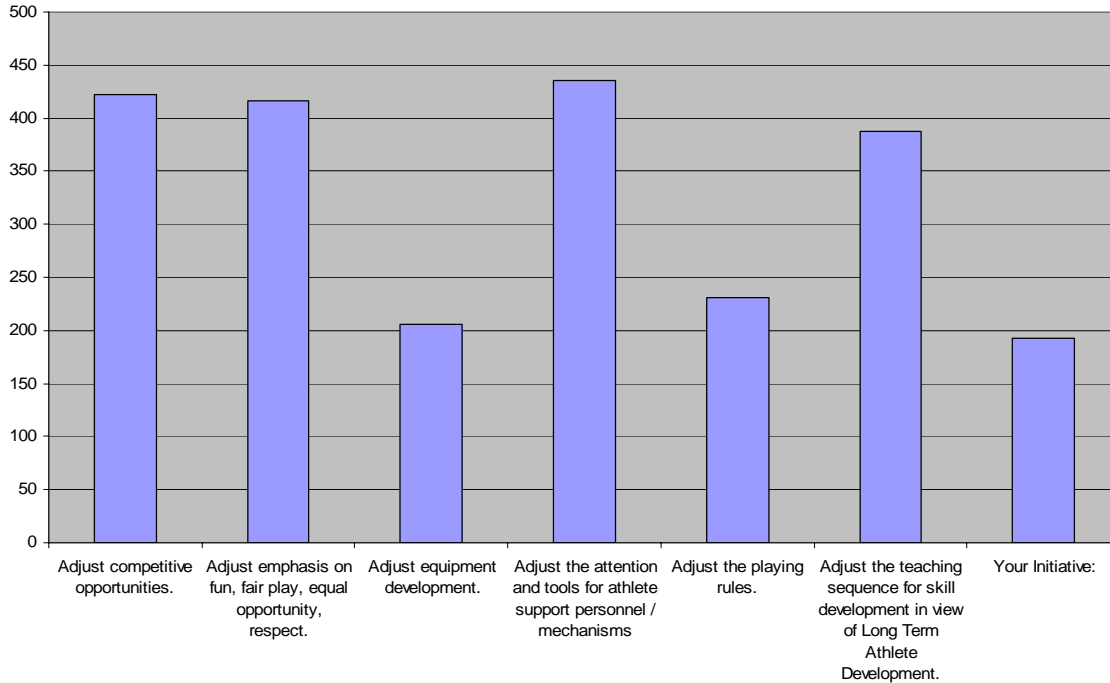
SECTION #1 GROWTH



SECTION #2 GOVERNANCE



SECTION #3 THE GAME



WEB COMMENTS

The Web questionnaires also captured comments made by respondents. The following 6 reports were generated exploring comments that our members made regarding the advancement of the game. This is, at the very least, good reading and can be a sound focus for us to develop the game.

The tone of the responses was very good. The underlying message is that these respondents are looking for someone to help better the game. There were virtually no derogatory comments but, as usual, the responses can be challenged based on ones' own view of the game. The comments proved an excellent opportunity to stay on top of what our constituents feel is important.

One of protections we felt necessary when building the web questionnaire was to limit space for comments in case someone was intent on abusing the process. The comments collected certainly do not validate this concern. Because of this, some of the responses appear unfinished. Although the idea of most of the entries is intact, we did reserve the right to contact any of the respondents if an expansion of any particular thought was necessary.

**Report #1 - Section 1
Growth**

There were 14 people that submitted their own initiatives that they ranked higher than the ones we supplied for them from our Strategic Plan. Following are their ideas;

Initiative	Explanation
complete reorganization	up to atom age: association max size 500 peewee age: atom associations merge up to a size of 1000 bantam: peewee associations merge up to a size of 2000 midget and above: players go where they want Oh, and abolish the winter clubs. All of them.
everyone participates	My top ranked Initiative would be to increase the opportunities for all kids to play hockey. However to achieve this one would need to work on a combination of several initiatives. We would need more access to more facilities.....
Associations appointed independently	I believe we should incorporate the Recreation Administration programs we have with universities and colleges and have their students "run" an association to take away the "parent" volunteers. I believe we rely too heavily on parents as volunteers
Assist in planning for skill development in rural communities.	Even at the rep level in the north and other communities out of central BC and the lower mainland, there is a lack of quality coaching, skill development programs, and most importantly game time to develop true AAA teams. There is a shortage of specialized programs.....
Lobby for meaningful tax write-offs to help offset the high cost of the game.	There's a big gov't initiative with Act Now BC and the 2010 Olympics to get our youth active and change lifestyles to promote health. Hockey BC needs to push this further and lobby our politicians for greater tax breaks to offset the cost of sports and hockey.....
Make hockey more lucrative for small town	Too much emphasis on those who can get to the large centers to develop and afford to develop. The provincial group needs to focus on the small town not just acknowledge it is there.
Increase female membership in the North	The needs to be an emphasis on bringing female hockey in the North to the competitive and participation levels level of those in the Southern Interior, and Lower Mainland/Vancouver Island.
Emphasize Role Models.	Kids need heroes and role models to look up to and emulate. Utilize pros and Olympians to promote the benefits of the game. Can also play the "scholarship card" and other potential personal development positives such as friendships and team play.
remove association boundaries for rep players	allow for players who can play at a higher level to move to neighboring associations; for example, allow a kid from a AA association to play AAA in a neighboring association
Develop programs for late entry into the game and ongoing opportunities past midget, develop a non competitive	It is very difficult for a child to enter hockey at the pee wee age and above yet many kids are interested at this age. Although the house program is the recreational stream, I feel it is too competitive for some kids and turns them off the game or keeps....

To give every child the opportunity to play the game.	In our MHA we collect all the gear we can to get less fortunate players playing. We also have a Sponsorship Program I would like to see more efforts put into house hockey like playoffs etc.
Support the minor hockey "COACH"	Restore the power of the coach and his staff. At the beginning of each season the coach and his staff of every team in the association should meet with the executive. Once fairplay, respect, sportsmanship, game plans and practice plans are agreed upon, then
Improve funding to development programs to attract high performance and developing athletes from other	Encouraging associations to work on more comprehensive player and official development programs through the use of professional instructors, for all levels of hockey. Most sports have paid professional instructors and coaches. In our sport we put too much responsibility on volunteers.

Report #2 – Growth

The second report examines the comments that Summit Questionnaire respondents made regarding **Growing the Game**. The respondents were asked to rank six supplied suggestions as well as a seventh option they could add on their own. They were then given the opportunity to further comment on their top ranked idea, in this case, regarding **Growing the Game**. Certainly not all participants chose to comment on their first choice but 45 did, supplying interesting information.

The following report includes the comments people made on their top ranked Initiative to Grow the Game. The responses have received only minor editing. Some comments obviously do not necessarily match the identified #1 initiative but rather represent the respondent's desire to comment.

Initiative	Comment
Bring all hockey under one organization.	As a person who was quite involved in minor hockey for quite a few years, I am still appalled that BC Hockey requires more out of its volunteers than people who get paid to coach. I know the BCHL is a business, but they still have to follow BCAHA rules
Bring all hockey under one organization.	As an Adult player, I have had a hard time finding out where I can play hockey and how to join a team, even in a recreational league.
Bring all hockey under one organization.	This would be acceptable providing that the reasons some of those other organizations exist is because they provide opportunities that don't exist under BCAHA for development.
Cooperate with the school system to introduce hockey to all students in BC.	Having played school hockey and Minor hockey at a young age and now as a coach for the past 35 years in Minor hockey I have been watching a new school program as of late bloom in our community. I feel the benefits of a school program in many cases outweigh minor hockey.....

Cooperate with the school system to introduce hockey to all students in BC.	The incidence of obesity among Canadian children is close to 20 % and still increasing every year. Yet, it is also one of the most easily preventable conditions. Prevention is indeed better than cure when it comes to childhood obesity. What better way to address the situation that through sport.....
Cooperate with the school system to introduce hockey to all students in BC.	In today's' Associations and in BCAHA, there are too many camps working against each other. No on is trying to set one direction for all to follow. The Lower Mainland tries everything to get it to go their way, but it hurt the rest of the Province
Cooperate with the school system to introduce hockey to all students in BC.	Hockey in schools already happens in cities. In rural areas, it could create interest in kids who had little understanding of the game. It could also help us to discover the "future superstars" who don't even know their talents.
Cooperate with the school system to introduce hockey to all students in BC.	Due to the high cost and high usage of rinks during prime ice times it makes sense to get public school systems involved. There would be more accountability from coaches who might possibly be teachers and whoever else the school boards hire.
Cooperate with the school system to introduce hockey to all students in BC.	Limited ice facilities and utilization of these facilities during school hours seems to make a lot of sense as these facilities are under utilized during school hours. Hockey academies have grown in popularity throughout Lower Mainland, we should try expansion
Cooperate with the school system to introduce hockey to all students in BC.	So often, players, coaches and fans act as though the rules of hockey belong to the officials - this is not the case. Referees are on the ice to make the game safe for the players through their interpretation of the rules.
Cooperate with the school system to introduce hockey to all students in BC.	For hockey to grow it must be introduced to a player when they are young. Cooperation with the school system will help make this happen.
Cooperate with the school system to introduce hockey to all students in BC.	Other sports, which are competing for the young athlete, are using the school system to promote their game. For example soccer, track & field, skiing etc. Where do you think those athletes are going to participate?
Cooperate with the school system to introduce hockey to all students in BC.	The school programs that are in existence seem to be a positive experience for all involved. Although hockey is not for everyone it should be introduced so minor athletes can make a choice where it may otherwise not have been an option.
Cooperate with the school system to introduce hockey to all students in BC.	Creating a BCAHA/School relationship will instantly make the sport more accessible to a large number of children.
Cooperate with the school system to introduce hockey to all students in BC.	There is a real opportunity to better utilize existing facilities to expand both recreational and competitive hockey programs. If this is done correctly, it may keep some players in smaller communities to be able to grow their potential ...

Cooperate with the school system to introduce hockey to all students in BC.	School programs usually introduce all different sports to children through the P.E. program. Skating is usually introduced but if we could also introduce hockey at the young levels and then get the school boards to buy into a program that gives school credibility....
Develop a multi-cultural emphasis to hockey opportunities.	When rebuilding or reconstructing existing arenas why not look at providing the Community Centre or the rink with two rinks. When the necessity to upgrade comes up, you leave the existing rink open; build a second rink beside, and when the one is done
Develop a multi-cultural emphasis to hockey opportunities.	There needs to be a buy in from the different cultures in BC, you need to market the game to the Chinese, and Asian demographic through the school system.
Develop a multi-cultural emphasis to hockey opportunities.	So many new Canadians in BC that don't have a history of hockey. This needs to be cultivated and developed to its fullest to bring these new cultures into the game. Events need to be created that keep hockey in the mind of people, and reach the brand new
Develop a multi-cultural emphasis to hockey opportunities.	We have school hockey in our school in Fernie and it has brought kids into hockey. We should be doing this all over the province
Increase the number of facilities and access to these facilities.	In Chilliwack our Association has come to its peak due to facilities available. We have this great new facility in Prospera but our access to it is limited. The biggest complaint I hear is the lack of available ice in the lower mainland.
Increase the number of facilities and access to these facilities.	I find that with the number of privately owned facilities that revenues are more important than providing space for minor sports. Some local governments are restricting access to facilities and capping the hours of ice that is subsidized.
Increase the number of facilities and access to these facilities.	Make it possible for more young people to learn hockey skills and play while not facing such high equipment and registration fees.
Increase the number of facilities and access to these facilities.	We need to ensure that adequate facilities are available in order to allow an increase in membership in most areas. We also need to assist in upgrades of existing facilities.
Increase the number of facilities and access to these facilities.	Lack of availability of ice time is a major limiting factor in hockey participation. It results in waiting lists at the association level, and public perception of hockey as having 5am weekday hockey practices.
Increase the number of facilities and access to these facilities.	Olympic legacy is to reduce the availability of ice between now and 2010. Nice work, boneheads. We need more rinks; we need lower costs for ice.
Increase the number of facilities and access to these facilities.	Some associations are very large and don't have enough arenas to house all players. These facilities can be used throughout the whole year for other sports.

Increase the number of facilities and access to these facilities.	Increased facilities give everyone more opportunities. Increased skating camps and practices will be better for everyone. Fair Evaluations. Too many father coaches the game has to go back to being about the kids and not the parents.
Increase the number of facilities and access to these facilities.	Give the players credit for physical education if they participate in High Performance or Reps programs
Increase the number of facilities and access to these facilities.	The single A associations are somewhat left out in the cold as the players try to improve, they are somewhat limited as to who they play. A single A team usually does not compete well at the Double A or Triple A tournaments.
Increase the number of facilities and access to these facilities.	Every district and association is all over the map with respect to Atom and Atom Development. Guidelines, structure must be mandated and established.
Produce public promotion, relations and marketing campaigns to increase awareness of hockey.	I think that the game of hockey still holds a bit of a bad wrap in the eye of the public. Working on educating the public about the game and the initiatives being put forth by Hockey Canada will help change these ideas.
Produce public promotion, relations and marketing campaigns to increase awareness of hockey.	More advertising, using kids and different organizations include families of what hockey has meant to them in their life.
Produce public promotion, relations and marketing campaigns to increase awareness of hockey.	In single A towns, hockey is troubled because of the division between rep and house. The small pool of children to draw from makes this a problem. I don't have any ideas for a solution, but definitely this is a challenge to hockey and registration issues.
Work to adjust costs associated with playing.	Hockey is a great sport in that the players learn more than just the game but many valuable life lessons. The political ring needs to be taken out of the sport and all players should be recognized regardless of income, family connections or parental influence.
Work to adjust costs associated with playing.	Tax deductions for travel and equipment in all sports after the first \$1000-\$1500. BC Amateur to do more fundraising to provide funding for low income kids. Build less opulent facilities so as to lower the cost of renting ice.
Work to adjust costs associated with playing.	Instead of spending money to attend huge annual general meetings and other such things, use that money to pay for equipment, registration fees, etc. I realize that this should be dealt with at the local level, but the governing bodies could possibly help.
Work to adjust costs associated with playing.	Local organizations must ensure that any child who wants to play hockey has the opportunity. Minor hockey must partner with other funding sources, such as JumpStart and Kidsport. Also, partnering with local men's teams to sponsor a child.
Work to adjust costs associated with playing.	I'm afraid the "cost" of participating is growing too high. Especially rep level costs.
Work to adjust costs associated with playing.	#1) From what I see and hear in my community hockey could be in danger of pricing itself out as a recreational (sport) option for youth. Currently the economic climate across Canada could be described as good but in an economic down turn.....

Work to adjust costs associated with playing.	Ice time/registration and equipment are expensive. Families with more than one player need a financial break somehow. Here in "small town BC" we need goalies in the worst way. Entire programs are at risk for lack of goalies, especially female.
Work to adjust costs associated with playing.	Costs are going through the roof and some kids just can't afford it. A fund should be set up so BC Hockey can pay for half the cost and each association the other to allow a certain number of less fortunate in to play the game.
Work to adjust costs associated with playing.	Not only can you compare costs between hockey & other sports but you could compare costs between hockey's players and goalies. Some associations decrease by half or more the association fees for goalies. The equipment costs for goalies far exceed the cost.
Work to adjust costs associated with playing.	Talk to any parent NOT in Hockey the number 1 reason is cost of equipment and registration.
Work to adjust costs associated with playing.	If we could work out some way of assisting with the cost of the first time player maybe we would be able to get more kids and parents hooked on hockey. Eg. work a deal with Canadian Tire (or an other store) to give first timers 50% off of gear.

Report #3 - Section 2 Governance

The following explores comments that our members made regarding **governing the game**. There were 26 people that submitted their own initiatives that were ranked higher than those we supplied for them from our Strategic Plan (although some are very close). Some responses have received minor editing:

Initiative	Comments
I personally believe in competitive categories paid qualified coaches should be put in place.	The problem I see arrive is the political side of coach selection within executives better coaches I believe would become available and would upgrade themselves if a stipend was instituted on a pay scale frame work.
Only qualified and those with intimate hockey knowledge allowed to take Presidential roles locally	Professional administrators or those that somehow think they qualify for such a role (mainly filling a vacuum) should not be allowed to guide associations with a demonstrated understanding of the game and how to specifically move it forward.
Develop an educational program for association administrators	The silent majority has allowed a minority group to take charge and dominate program planning and priorities. Do not let a small group of parents ruin it for everyone. From Chevrolet Safe Fun Parent Guides I would like to see more education.
Coaches should have to take clinics from initiation to required level before coaching.	Head Coaches of associations have huge problems with coaches and their certifications. If every coach had to take initiation, speak-out, development, etc. IN ORDER, up to their required level, there would be no interpretation needed.
Timely and thorough reviews.	Reviews of complaints, penalties and sanctions need to be completed in a timely and systematic manner. Several instances this year left our team in limbo or events occurred that there did not seem to be a complete investigation prior to decision making.
Make allotments for small town BC	
Mandatory coaching coordinators for associations.	These coordinators would be a paid position and are a direct arm in the BCHA chain of command. Providing another avenue of messages and initiatives from the top to filter down.
Site specific rules and regulations	It is very important to remember that what may be the best system in Vancouver WILL not be the best system in Golden. There are too many differences to use the same interpretation of the rules and reg's. The existing rules and reg's could work better.
Communication with members.	Need to develop better means of communication between hockey executives and other personnel such as coaches and especially parents. One AGM a year is not enough to keep people informed of the health of their local association. Quarterly open meetings.
More organizational support and feedback for associations	Minor hockey organizations need more support in terms of putting quality people in place and then ensuring the quality people get developed. Associations and parents also have to have a means of recourse when they are not happy with a person or a decision

Hire a development coordinator for Officiating	The officiating program has been run by volunteers and has lacked a firm direction in the province for the past 20 years. The program needs to be driven by experienced personnel. The BCAHA has to lead it's own program and stop relying on Hockey Canada.
Develop further education for parents, players and coaches on rules and regulations	Expanding the rules/regulation knowledge of all involved would clean up the game conduct (when it needs to be) provided the discipline is consistent and conveyed to members. The fair play code could be further monitored for compliance.
More emphasis on House Hockey	There is never much said about house hockey. There needs to be more organization for these players such as having Play offs for them. There is too much range in the calibre of house teams. Too many teams are going out to play other teams and not being competitive.
Reduce the number of Rep teams	One rep team per division. 1] Only the elite players and staff will represent your association. 2] Stronger players and coaches in the house divisions will promote better hockey as a whole. 3] Players always enjoy playing against other kids they know.
Rural Development Initiative	Rural hockey in BC has some tremendous obstacles created primarily by rules implemented to govern the urban areas. There should at least be accommodations made to aid the rural areas. i.e. gray boundaries or regionalization at multi-levels, peewee A, AA, AAA
Adjust rules/boundaries for female teams	Our female program, especially in smaller centers is being hurt by the boundaries and rules that govern the male rep program. Rules should be adjusted so that boundaries can be done by population or registered female players and then several smaller communities could join.
Remove some of the Burden from the volunteers	Minor hockey volunteers are expected to take numerous courses, why could some of these not be combined, such as SpeakOut! with CHSP with Coach Stream etc. The cost of travel and time are very high already without compounding the number of courses.
more evaluations of officials	Adjust the interference the way the "new rules" are is ruining the flow of the game.
More central governance	Minimize different rules/governance at the District level. Minimize different rules provincially.
Proper Official Training & Assessment	I think that officials seem to be unfocused, unsupported or inconsistent because there is insufficient follow-up and assessment of our officials.
More input from the grassroots individuals or groups.	
The governing body be more available to the members	
standardize the rules and regulations regarding player movements, releases and how BC Hockey does no	BC Hockey needs to review how it handles releases of players through player movement and draw zone regulations. This causes great unrest, stress and issues for many associations throughout the season. The rules must be black and white.....

Female Hockey should fall under the same rules as the male players	The government wants our kids to get healthy. Hockey is a great way to do it but cost is a factor. BC needs a tax break for all ages in Minor Hockey not just 15 and under. Juveniles usually pay their own way and deserve a break for staying with the game.
Offer camps for parents of hockey kids	Sometimes there is a lot of tension on teams that have been carried through the years by parents that have not always been received well by other parents.
Rules work best when all levels of hockey have compliance.	For the most part, administration in hockey needs more support. Parents, coaches and players stay awake nights thinking of ways to circumvent the rules which they believe lessen their on ice chances to perform optimally. This we and they attitude must stop

Report #4 Section 2 Governance

This following report examines the comments that Summit Questionnaire respondents made regarding **Governing the Game**. Respondents were then given the opportunity to further comment on their top ranked idea, in this case, on **Governing the Game**. Certainly not all participants chose to comment on their first choice but 24 did, supplying interesting information. Some comments obviously do not necessarily match the identified #1 initiative but rather represent the respondent's desire to comment. Some responses have received minor editing.

Initiative	Comments
Adjust educational components / tools for administrators.	For the most part, administration in hockey needs more support. Parents, coaches and players stay awake nights thinking of ways to circumvent the rules which they believe lessen their on ice chances to perform optimally. This we and they attitude must stop.
Adjust educational components / tools for administrators.	There needs to be of an effort on the education part of hockey.
Adjust the volunteer to professional (paid personnel) ratio.	BC Hockey is ineffective. Reduce the head count in Saanichton, and the number of district representatives. Reduce the administrative burden (on unpaid volunteers) by -for instance- allowing information filed with each district to be automatic.
Adjust the volunteer to professional (paid personnel) ratio.	BC Hockey needs to review how it handles releases of players through player movement and draw-zone regulations. This causes great unrest, stress and issues for many associations throughout the season. The rules must be black and white.
Adjust the volunteer to professional (paid personnel) ratio.	Having well trained and consistent people involved at the administration level is vital. Having people who are paid to perform administration will help make this happen. Volunteers are wonderful, but not all have the same goals.
Adjust the volunteer to professional (paid personnel) ratio.	I worry about the volunteers in our game. Some of them contribute so much to them game, and are prime candidates for burnout or heaven forbid stress-related disorders.

Adjust the volunteer to professional (paid personnel) ratio.	Paid personnel will result in a more professionally run program, and more support for volunteers.
Adjust the volunteer to professional (paid personnel) ratio.	Paid staff should be involved in raising the level of coaching skills. NOT administrative functions. NOT paper pushing. Esp. important in the northern interior where qualified coaching is not readily accessible. LESS POLITICS!!!!
Adjust the volunteer to professional (paid personnel) ratio.	Remove fees in lieu of volunteer time (i.e. mandatory "volunteer" participation); paid coaches, skating instructors and bookkeepers recommended.
Adjust the volunteer to professional (paid personnel) ratio.	Standardized rules would definitely help especially from the administrative level. Some Associations do a great job because of the people who are the leaders and others can be quite disorganized making the administrative roles very difficult to fill.
Adjust the volunteer to professional (paid personnel) ratio.	Volunteers are hard to find, especially good volunteers. More leagues with a paid staff to help with the administration of the association would certainly make the association more efficient and more responsible.
Develop alternative funding streams to reduce member fee dependence.	Again if we can lessen the costs we should attract more players.
Develop alternative funding streams to reduce member fee dependence.	BC gaming funds should be applied for every year to help decrease costs; don't get too caught up in the computer age with buying new equipment, etc. find sponsors, request competitive bids.; parents are putting a lot of money out to keep their kids active.
Develop alternative funding streams to reduce member fee dependence.	Cultivating corporate as well as local businesses for funding is a viable source. Also lobby the provincial and federal governments for funds.
Develop alternative funding streams to reduce member fee dependence.	Explore any funding sources tied in with 2010. Tap into corporate sponsorship. Don't be so restrictive on fund raising activities.
Develop alternative funding streams to reduce member fee dependence.	It is my belief that we have need to pay certain key individuals in our minor system. These individuals are the ice coordinator, referee in chief, association president and registrar. Time is valuable and to attract the best people to these strenuous jobs....
Develop alternative funding streams to reduce member fee dependence.	Sometimes there is a lot of tension on teams that have been carried through the years by parents that have not always been received well by other parents.
Develop alternative funding streams to reduce member fee dependence.	The government wants our kids to get healthy. Hockey is a great way to do it but cost is a factor. BC needs a tax break for all ages in Minor Hockey not just 15 and under. Juveniles usually pay their own way and deserve a break for staying with the game.
Develop and audit an approved standard for organization acceptance.	Governance is a necessary evil. You can't live with it and you can't live without it. Accountability in my view is not fully understood nor readily available for public review. In my 13 years of volunteer involvement with minor hockey, we need to train &
Develop and audit an approved standard for organization acceptance.	Somehow the "nutballs" that seem to believe that they can take a group from Tyke to the NHL need to be better controlled. Local Minor Hockey associations can sometimes be outflanked by these people. All associations should be held to account to deliver

Revise administrative demands.	Could there be more skilled people linked to administration who might provide hands on to volunteers at all levels: coaching, officiating, mentoring, safety?
Revise administrative demands.	I feel that we need to use the HCR to its fullest. The biggest headache to an association is registration and Player movement. The potential for this to be done through the HCR and reduce the mountains of paper work are there. Why are we not using it?
Revise administrative demands.	To continue what the BCAHA has been recently doing - streamlining administrative processes and using web-based systems to make administration more efficient.
Revise the on-ice playing rules.	I think that officials seem to be unfocused, unsupported or inconsistent because there is insufficient follow-up and assessment of our officials.

Report #5 - Section 3 The Game

The following explores comments that our members made regarding bettering the game itself. There were 13 people that submitted their own initiatives that were ranked higher than those we supplied for them from our Strategic Plan (although some are very close). They have received only minor editing:

Initiative	Comment
Adjust Coach Selection/Retention Criteria.	Above anything else, what keeps kids in a sport are the coaches. Coaches must be held accountable for the way they run their teams. Some sort of evaluation must be implemented such as a questionnaire for parents AND PLAYERS, so the governance can monitor....
Improve On-Ice Officiating	All the other ideas tie for last: they are either in player/parent control (equipment development), or vague ("attention and tools for athlete development..."). Get better refs. Identify bad refs (and they are out there) and get them out of the game.....
too many" important" games at the younger levels.	At the younger levels there is too much emphasis on competitive games and win/loss in atom and peewee. Winter Club teams dominate the season and you see these lopsided scores. Also there is too much importance on bantam second year players to make the bantam team.....
Monitoring of coaches	Coaches need to be better monitored. There are some nasty people on the benches, in my opinion they need to be monitored.
Accountability	Everyone has to be accountable for what happens on the ice. From the players and officials to Association Executives, BC Hockey, Parents etc. It seems we have lost sight of why we are here.

	I am a firm believer that minor hockey as we know it has 3 categories of players, not 2 that we currently acknowledge. We have a rep system and a house system. Two categories. What we really have in the players minds are "rep", "wanna be rep" and recreational.
	Little kids are doing too many drills. There should be more emphasis on having fun at first and then moving into more advanced/complex drills. I have seen atoms doing NHL drills. Silly.
mandatory weekly association skills development sessions for top rep team in every association	Mandatory skills development makes the on-ice product better. No-one wants to watch a game where one team is far outplaying the other. Equal competitors on the ice make an exciting game. Associations that make player skills development a priority & hire coaches.....
keep house and rep hockey separate	Rep hockey is supposed to be competitive. House hockey is supposed to be "you pay, you play." There is too much executive control over rep teams, in that coaches are afraid to shorten the bench in close games. (Our rep organization has the "fair play" policy)
Adjust Elite 15 / 16 / 17 Players Options	The BCAHA serves 2 distinct constituents. The first, and largest segment is the "House" component (which is working extremely well), and the second is the smaller "Rep" stream. My comments are to the "Rep" program, in particular Midget aged and older.
Make officiating a primary focus.	The game itself has improved immensely. However, a focus on the training and support of officials, particularly new officials and their retention will improve the game from Novice up, especially as new officials tend to officiate the younger age groups.
Perception of fairness	There is a real perception that a lot of the selection processes for High Performance teams etc are pre determined. Better interaction between BCAHA staff and local associations (at the membership level) would assist this. An annual visit, with discussion.....
Make equal opportunity for gender and community size	We have seen that making the focus of BC Hockey the Lower Mainland, the Island and the Okanagan, has not got anyone on the Olympic teams. Put the focus on outlying coaches and players as I think they are the true backbone.

Report #6 Section 3 The Game

This following report examines the comments that Summit Questionnaire respondents made regarding **The Game**. Respondents were then given the opportunity to further comment on their top ranked idea, in this case, on **The Game**. Certainly not all participants chose to comment on their first choice but 24 did, supplying interesting information. Some comments obviously do not necessarily match the identified #1 initiative but rather represent the respondent's desire to comment. Some responses have received minor editing.

Initiative	Explanation
Adjust competitive opportunities.	Actually teach the coaches how to teach. I have worked with many coaches and I have found out that some of the best coaches are teachers as they know how to teach kids. Include a section in your coaching clinics on ways to help kids learn.
Adjust competitive opportunities.	Adjusting competitive opportunities will put respect back into the game. Respect towards each other is probably the most important aspect that is missing. The respect goes far beyond just the players/coaches but also to the officials respecting players,
Adjust competitive opportunities.	I believe there is a real urban/rural split in the system. And the split is widening. The current rep system of A, AA, AAA -- does NOT work for the northern interior of the province. Rules that work in Greater Vancouver / Fraser Valley / OK / because of the large numbers do not work in outlying areas.....
Adjust competitive opportunities.	In smaller centers players often move away from home at an early age to play at a more competitive level. If we interpret the rules and reg's to call most small centers RURAL and REMOTE it could allow doors to open, instead of closing.
Adjust competitive opportunities.	Stop tiering players in smaller leagues. My son started out in Atom in an 8 team league that was not tiered. It allowed for a good mix of players with all skill levels. Rather than drag down the skilled players or discourage the less-skilled players, I
Adjust competitive opportunities.	There should be opportunities for skilled players at Bantam and above to play outside their catchment area in order to optimize their rate of development. A system similar to Soccer where a team can select up to 4 out of catchment area players would allow this.
Adjust emphasis on fun, fair play, equal opportunity, respect.	1] Practice skills and strategy 2] games... FUN 3] limit off ice team training 4) promote...watching higher level hockey with your coach in the stands 5]include and educate the parents 6]play with your friends.
Adjust emphasis on fun, fair play, equal opportunity, respect.	As a Level 3 official of more then 30 years experience... I am REALLY at my wits end with Parents and coaches of rec. teams screaming from the stands in negative content. There is NO accountability for a Parent in the stands
Adjust emphasis on fun, fair play, equal opportunity, respect.	As DCC I receive numerous letters from concerned parents and players with regards to fair play and equal opportunities. I see too many coaches trying to live a dream and build a career at the kids' expense. Is there anyone really listening to these concerns?
Adjust emphasis on fun, fair play, equal opportunity, respect.	By nature I'm a competitive individual, but if the game wasn't fun, I wouldn't still be playing and coaching. In the formative playing years (lets say through bantam) the emphasis needs to be on skill development, team development and keeping the fun.....

Adjust emphasis on fun, fair play, equal opportunity, respect.	I don't know so much if we need to adjust the implementation of fun and fair play, so much as we need to increase the control mechanism in managing our game. In management the control mechanism is what tells businesses that they need to perhaps make change
Adjust emphasis on fun, fair play, equal opportunity, respect.	More camps for coaches and parents.
Adjust emphasis on fun, fair play, equal opportunity, respect.	over-all can we look at ways that get young people into playing hockey, keeping it as much fun as possible with some reward system for development along the way...maybe like swimming and figure skating programs do.
Adjust emphasis on fun, fair play, equal opportunity, respect.	Rules of the game are fine. The reason kids play sports is because they enjoy the game. This enjoyment comes from many areas: the rush of playing the game, playing with their buddies, the thrill of competition, the excitement and memories of road trips
Adjust emphasis on fun, fair play, equal opportunity, respect.	The emphasis seems to be on winning to a point where those who don't win are in many cases looked at as under achievers. Fact in case you win to get the gold you win to get the bronze but you lose to get the silver.
Adjust emphasis on fun, fair play, equal opportunity, respect.	The prime reason most young people start a project or game is because of the fun they receive by participating at a level they feel comfortable at. If you want participants you HAVE to make the game fair and fun.
Adjust emphasis on fun, fair play, equal opportunity, respect.	This is what the game is about ultimately. Are they having fun, getting exercise, and learning? Learning life skills not just hockey skills: how to be a team player, to respect authority, respect your team, respect your opponent, respect yourself, to work hard.....
Adjust emphasis on fun, fair play, equal opportunity, respect.	Too much emphasis is given to competitive teams. Less than 1% make it to the NHL, so we should be concentrating on the other 99% who want to play a team sport and have fun. Minor hockey organizations have to give equal ice time, equipment and qualified coaches to recreational players.....
Adjust emphasis on fun, fair play, equal opportunity, respect.	Where does it start, this respect? One good place would be in the media. If you are a referee in hockey you are fodder for abusive language from the players, the coaches, fans and on up. The media could at least make some effort to depict referees in a positive light.
Adjust the attention and tools for athlete support personnel / mechanisms (parents, coaching, officiating, safety, mental/physical/emotional development).	Adjust playing rules to allow younger age groups to play games starting earlier in the season...young children want to play games, not work on skills - the skills should be worked on in conjunction with the games....young lose interest without games
Adjust the attention and tools for athlete support personnel / mechanisms (parents, coaching, officiating, safety, mental/physical/emotional development).	Adjust the amount of time we spend developing our young 12-16 year old Officials.

Adjust the attention and tools for athlete support personnel / mechanisms (parents, coaching, officiating, safety, mental/physical/emotional development).	I have noticed in trying to get people involved in coaching that it is sometimes difficult to get them the required courses. I have also noticed through officiating that some teams at the young levels are being heavily coached in team skills at the expense of individual skills.
Adjust the attention and tools for athlete support personnel / mechanisms (parents, coaching, officiating, safety, mental/physical/emotional development).	Increase recommended ice times. Have a strategic off-ice training program the same way the on ice one was developed. Increase the resources available to coaches
Adjust the attention and tools for athlete support personnel / mechanisms (parents, coaching, officiating, safety, mental/physical/emotional development).	Just teach them what a volunteer is and does and how valuable they are. If we lose the volunteers our game will be in BIG trouble.
Adjust the attention and tools for athlete support personnel / mechanisms (parents, coaching, officiating, safety, mental/physical/emotional development).	Let's make the Provincial Championships a competition where every team has the same advantage. This is not the case at present with club teams having significant advantages in recruitment and development opportunity.
Adjust the attention and tools for athlete support personnel / mechanisms (parents, coaching, officiating, safety, mental/physical/emotional development).	Many associations are all over the map and inconsistent on the terminology and who plays which level etc... Clearly establish parameters, terminology and rules on these levels
Adjust the attention and tools for athlete support personnel / mechanisms (parents, coaching, officiating, safety, mental/physical/emotional development).	More emphasis on officiating and safety needs to be a part of hockey.
Adjust the attention and tools for athlete support personnel / mechanisms (parents, coaching, officiating, safety, mental/physical/emotional development).	More mentors at all levels, recruit experience!!
Adjust the attention and tools for athlete support personnel / mechanisms (parents, coaching, officiating, safety, mental/physical/emotional development).	Parents have to try and back off. Not all players are going to make the NHL, WHL, Jr "A", Jr "B", MML or even Rep. Parents have to let coaches work with the players, and not be down the Coach's back if the player has reduced ice time.

Adjust the attention and tools for athlete support personnel / mechanisms (parents, coaching, officiating, safety, mental/physical/emotional development).	The key to me is providing more tools for coaches/officials and having attention focused on skill development with ongoing programs focused on this area and power skating. Coach mentors could be implemented and travel a region to assist coaches
Adjust the attention and tools for athlete support personnel / mechanisms (parents, coaching, officiating, safety, mental/physical/emotional development).	We need definitely need better SPORTSMANSHIP training for parents in the stands & coaches behind the bench, especially when it comes to missed/incorrect calls by the referee... in order to reduce conflicts on & off the ice. We need to provide a better support of our officials.....
Adjust the teaching sequence for skill development in view of Long Term Athlete Development.	#1) Practice to game ratio is vital to all players overall skill development. This is something that is well documented, yet the CHA/BCHA has not really emphasized particularly at the younger levels.
Adjust the teaching sequence for skill development in view of Long Term Athlete Development.	I think that female hockey in BC is given second class status.
Adjust the teaching sequence for skill development in view of Long Term Athlete Development.	Increase community involvement; for example, Saturday Shinny day where kids are still part of BCAHA but not "regular" league players. Allow for drop-in fees to cover insurance & ice rental in lieu of association fees; develop outdoor rinks.....
Adjust the teaching sequence for skill development in view of Long Term Athlete Development.	More ice time for practice. It is important for coaches to have structured ice time but kids also need some time to have "pond hockey" style ice time to develop their individual skills and imagination. Often practices plans are based too much on team play.....
Adjust the teaching sequence for skill development in view of Long Term Athlete Development.	Our Canadian game is massively over-coached, especially at the lower competitive levels. It is ridiculous to see team systems such as trapping implemented in Atom, Peewee, or Bantam. The emphasis on winning by coaches who need to soothe their egos