

Vancouver Branch
Royal Scottish Country Dance Society
Annual General Meeting
September 14, 2018

Agenda and Reports



Branch AGM Notification

The Annual General Meeting of the Vancouver Branch of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society will be held at the Scottish Cultural Centre, 8886 Hudson St., Vancouver, on Friday, September 14, 2018 commencing at 7:30 PM. Members are urged to attend the meeting at which there will be the opportunity to offer feedback on past events, provide suggestions for future events and activities, and to vote in the election of Directors and Officers for the 2018-2019 season.

There will be dancing to the music of the Kilburnie Station following the meeting.

A complete document package comprising the minutes of the 2017 AGM, the financial statement for the 2017-2018 fiscal year, our proposed new Bylaws, nominations and reports will be posted to the Branch website by September 10th.

Our motion to approve the Bylaws is as follows:

Be it RESOLVED, as a Special Resolution, that the existing Bylaws of the Society be cancelled and the form of Bylaws attached hereto be adopted as the Bylaws of the Society in substitution for the existing ones.

Reports from clubs, Board members, etc. which are to be included in the package should be sent to <chair@rscdsvancouver.org> by September 5, 2018 *at the very latest*.

Peter Richards

Chair, RSCDS Vancouver

Agenda

RSCDS Vancouver Branch AGM, September 14, 2018

1. Call to order
2. Confirmation of quorum (25 members)
3. Safety Announcement
4. Approval of Agenda
5. Approval of minutes of Sept. 15, 2017 AGM
6. Business arising from the minutes of the Sept. 15, 2017 AGM
7. Treasurer's report
8. Independent inspection of 2017-18 financial statements
9. Appointment of inspector of 2018-19 financial statements
10. Reports from Board of Directors
11. Approval of new Bylaws - Special Resolution
12. Reports from appointees and committees
13. Reports from area clubs
14. Report of the nominating committee
15. Election of Directors and Officers for 2018-19
16. Appreciation to outgoing Directors and all committee members
17. Presentations
18. Announcements - Love to Dance Workshop - February 9th 2019
19. New Business - items from the floor
20. Adjournment

Draft Minutes of the September 15, 2017 Annual General Meeting
See AGM 2017 DRAFT Branch Minutes posted on the Branch website:

<https://rscdsvancouver.org>

Under 'Branch Board Documents' under the 'About Us' tab

Reports from Board of Directors

Chairman's Report

This was my second and last year as the Chairman of your RSCDS Vancouver Branch Board and again it has been a busy one. We started the year by altering our Constitution to comply with the new Societies Act introduced by the BC government. That process was led by your incoming President, Heather Hankin, who took on the process and effectively secured the changes necessary to bring us into compliance.

We then needed to change our Bylaws for the same reason. This was a complex task and I have to thank Heather's committee of Stewart Cunningham and Francis O'Farrell and the members of the Board for their many reviews and comments. Our new Bylaws gradually evolved into the Document that is now before the AGM. I hope that you find the Bylaws presented are worthy of your vote and approve them.

We also reviewed our Privacy Policy which Paul Lowe advised us on. The changes were to keep us in-line with the Policies coming from Edinburgh headquarters and triggered by new European Union regulations. The new Privacy Policy which covers all our activities as a Branch is posted on the website for you to consult and perhaps comment on. Thanks to Paul for his conscientious review and suggestions.

I continued the practice of visiting the clubs in the lower mainland and my visits have been well received by all. I have even managed to cross the border and visited our Bellingham friends for the second year. We continue to be fortunate to have such a diversity of enthusiastic teachers and classes that anyone who wishes to dance - from beginners to experienced dancers can find a welcoming venue to attend. As a Board, we continue to support our teachers by providing them annually with the new Books and CD's which are published by the Society in Scotland.

This is a turnover year for Board members. We finally bid farewell to Patricia Jamieson (I said that last year but Patricia stepped back in at the last minute through 2018). Last year I wrote that Patricia has given us sterling service over the years and that's no less true today than it was then. Our membership numbers are holding up well although our ability to attract a new generation of younger members remains a challenge - and that is true for the many clubs and branches around the world. Farewell too to Francis O'Farrell who has been an enthusiastic liaison with the Children's program and can always be relied on to pitch in. Hamish Jackson, Denise Cunningham and Anne Brand are leaving too. I would like to thank them for stepping forward and working diligently on your behalf. Anne will continue to serve the Branch by extending her work on our

archives. Enjoy those first Saturdays of the month uninterrupted by the Board meetings. This year we had a new Treasurer, Stewart Cunningham - a familiar face, who stepped back in to sort out some problems with our previous financial auditing.

Unfortunately, his review has revealed that we have spent rather more than we are taking in. While there is no financial peril, we cannot sustain this level of spending and we must look at future initiatives with a firm handle on the budgetary implications. It will be one of the tasks that the new board will have to bear in mind.

Last year, I reported that we had lost in excess of \$3000 as a result of a fraudulent invoice. I am happy to say that most of the funds were repaid from our insurer. It was thanks to the diligence of the treasurer that we were successful in this recovery.

Our events continue to be successful with excellent support from the member clubs.

Last Fall our Lady Aberdeen Dance was hosted by the Gleneagles Club who raised \$2700 for Doctors without Borders. Congratulations are in order.

Our two signature events, the Burns Supper and the Heather Ball, run by Sally and Sandy Marshall and Gail Urquhart respectively were especially well attended this year. Although it is not our intention to make money, we made a profit from both events which was very welcome. This was the Marshall's last year running the Burns Supper and we had a terrific evening. Next year, Jennifer Shearman has agreed to run the Burns Supper and I am very grateful that she has taken this event on.

The effort to make the Heather Ball a little bit more special this year, with more emphasis on the catering while holding the line on a very reasonable ticket price paid off. This year, we are bringing over Neil Barron from Scotland who will play with the Cathy and Fred Collins and Judi Nicolson. Make that a date in your calendar too.

The B'twixt and B'tween Dance and Love to Dance workshop went off without a hitch, under the steady hands of Katherine Shearman and Fran Caruth respectively. A nod to the catering directors goes to Sandra Anderson, Denise Cunningham and a crew too numerous to mention who look after the eats at these events.

In addition to the above mentioned events, the Branch runs two Monday night classes and the Wednesday night Program Class. Monthly Ceilidhs, open to all, are as usual organised by Duncan MacKenzie and led by Alison Moen and Katherine Shearman. The Demonstration Team led by my wife, Kay Sutherland have been very successful this year in increasing their paid appearances. The team has managed to greatly improve their financial position, even though some of the big events at which they used

to dance, have disappeared.

And finally, we ran Dancing in the Park on Monday nights - and it is one of the venues that seems to attract new or returning dancers. We were forced to cancel one evening because of rain but fortunately we did not have to contend with poor air quality from the fires in the Interior. Thanks - once again - to Alison Moen and Francis O'Farrell and his little white truck without which the event would not be possible.

So, there we are. A busy last year with some financial matters to attend to in the new one. Enjoy the AGM dance - a tradition for the last two years and do encourage friends and acquaintances to come along and find out all that Scottish Country Dancing has to offer.

In closing, I would be remiss not to mention the invaluable help of Heather Hankin, my Vice-Chair, who has worked diligently this past year on the Bylaws and has stood in for me in my absences. The branch will be in good hands with her as incoming Branch President - her new title. And thanks too, to Stewart Cunningham for his expertise in all things Financial and beyond. He keeps us right. Thanks also to your Board who see that the Branch conducts its activities wisely. As Fran Caruth once astutely observed, our Branch by comparison with many others has a large reach and provides many opportunities for our members that other branches can only dream of.

Peter Richards
Chair RSCDS Vancouver Branch

Vice-Chair's Report

In any normal year, the two major responsibilities of the Vice-Chair are:

- 1) To book the dates and venues well in advance for the events that the Branch sponsors each year.**

Actions this year: Excel files with Room Bookings for 2018, 2019, and 2020 were created and sent to the Board for each Board meeting. To assist Members in planning their dancing and holiday schedules, Mary Ann McDevitt was asked to extend the online Calendar into 2019 and 2020.

- 2) To contact the clubs in the immediate area as well as those further afield to learn the dates of their events and to compile a Calendar of Events.**

Actions this year: The Calendar was assembled and sent to Stewart Cunningham for printing and to Mary Ann McDevitt for posting to our website. Each new and renewing member of the Branch will receive one for posting on the fridge.

In this rather unusual year, there were several additional tasks:

- 1) To file the transition of the RSCDS Constitution and Bylaws required by the new British Columbia Societies Act.**

Although societies were given until November 28, 2018, the completion of the task in September, 2017, ensured that the deadline was met well in advance and that our filing was accepted by B.C. Registries.

- 2) To file the RSCDS Annual Report with B.C. Registries following our September, 2017, AGM.**

This report confirms the name of our Branch, the address of our office at the SCC, the email addresses at which B.C. Registries can contact us, and the names and addresses of all Directors.

- 3) To lead the revision of the RSCDS Bylaws, last amended in 2008.**

The third item consumed most of the year. The individuals who worked with me on the revision of the Bylaws at various times were Sandy Caruth and Directors Stewart Cunningham, Francis O'Farrell, and Peter Richards. More Directors made suggestions at Board meetings and by email. Heartfelt thanks to all of them.

The rationale for the revision was:

- 1) Some Bylaws referred to the implementation of the 2008 Bylaws and were no longer applicable;
- 2) Some outlined procedures that were not followed in practice;
- 3) Several clauses in the Model Bylaws, offered by the province as part of the Regulations attached to the Societies Act, were important enough to include in our own;
- 4) Other changes were desirable.

You are probably not dying for the details of our journey. Suffice it to say that it began in the fall of 2016 and finished this past July 2018. It involved many hours of meetings and hundreds of hours of thought, discussion, emails, and rewrites of innumerable drafts. The result of our labours is the document you have before you tonight.

As we progressed, we felt that it was important for a lawyer to review our work to ensure that our revision was in compliance with the new Societies Act. Legal fees were a barrier. Stewart's suggestion to contact the Business Law Clinic (BLC) at the Peter A. Allard School of Law at the University of British Columbia proved to be invaluable and at

no cost. He also prompted me to contact RSCDS Edinburgh to be certain that any amendments to the Branch Bylaws would not conflict with our April 1, 1996, Agreement with the RSCDS.

The BLC accepted our application and assigned law student Qingqing Jiang to our case. She advised that 10 of our Bylaws were not compliant. We wrestled with various approaches and wordings, and contacted her supervising lawyer directly with the toughest questions. Eventually, we completed the document.

You may wonder why people subject themselves to such nitty gritty, grueling work. The simple answer is that governance is important. We have an excellent example of that right now south of our border. Our Branch Bylaws state our rules for Membership, for the actions of our Board of Directors, for elections. They help to protect us from fraud and liability. They don't belong to any one individual nor to any select group of people within the Branch. They are Our Bylaws.

They are also a living document. Today these revised Bylaws are the best we could make them in the time available. Tomorrow, we may find that something is out of date, that technology presents another challenge, that a particular Bylaw doesn't work as we thought it would, and the process begins again. That's the nature of living documents. Blessings on the future Directors who will sort it all out.

In August, the Board of Directors voted to repeal the current Bylaws and adopt the revised Bylaws. The final step is approval by you, the Members, at our 2018 Annual General Meeting. We hope that you have found them in order and will happily adopt them as the new governance, together with the Constitution, of our Branch.

And now, dear friends, let's dance!

Respectfully submitted,
Heather Hankin, Vice-Chair

Treasurer's Report

Ladies and Gentlemen, Fellow Members of our Dance Society:

The Annual Report for the Fiscal Year that ended May 31, 2018 has already been distributed to you and I will now make some comments about the Report.

The first and most obvious conclusion is that your Society is in a very good financial position with substantial funds available to pay for certain future operations and, in addition, a healthy surplus of almost \$19,000. It should be emphasised that our financial situation is very sound despite the loss appearing in the Statement of Operations of almost \$9,000. The previous year showed a small positive result, so, as you might expect, it is about this unusual loss in the 2017/2018 year that I will now discuss in more detail.

The usual Branch operations of classes and events were financially satisfactory and produced a total profit of \$3,013. The loss for the year is because there were some special, non-recurring, situations that were as follows:

First, an Accounting Adjustment of \$3,206 was made at the beginning of the year so that the accounts of the Branch then exactly corresponded to the bank balance. Bank statements were not reconciled to the Branch accounts for either of the two years prior to my becoming Treasurer so accounting adjustments were necessary at each of the two previous year-ends. That omission has been remedied and a proper bank reconciliation now takes place every month. In future, there should not be any accounting adjustments of this type.

Second, during the year we were the subject of an email scam that amounted to well over \$3,000. Fortunately, we were covered by insurance for this type of fraud, so, after payment of the insurance money, the loss was reduced to \$1,000.

Third, during the year your Board followed through on a major initiative to establish a new Branch identity. Part of this new identity was a new logo that I'm sure you have now all seen and appreciate. However, major initiatives cost money, and this was no exception to the extent of \$3,771. Included in this figure is the purchase of new signs and other material that have long been needed.

Fourth, \$1,000 was spent on unique publicity of the Vancouver Police Pipe Band with whom our Demonstration Team has a happy and on-going relationship.

Lastly, an amount of \$1,600 was set up at the year-end as a payable to our Accountants for their work in inspecting our accounts and preparing their report. This is an additional expense for this year only and results in two payments to Accountants being made in the current year as such a payable had not been set up in previous years. Such a payable should have been set up at previous year-ends as the Accountant's work is relative to the fiscal year that the Accountant is reviewing and so the cost should be incurred in that year.

The total of all these additional expenses amounts to over \$10,500. They should not reoccur, but there does remain the normal expenses of running the Branch operations. Overall, the exclusion of these unusual and non-recurrent expenses will make the financial results for the current year of 2018/2019 much more satisfactory. Again, please be assured that our finances are in good order and the Board will continue to look for ways to reduce expenditures and increase revenue so that we may continue to offer a full range of classes and events.

The Accountant's Report is before you and I hope that I have satisfied you with explanations of the main features, but if there are any questions I will try to answer them. If not, then I propose that the Financial Statements of the Branch for the year ended May 31, 2018 be adopted.

Stewart Cunningham
Treasurer
September 10, 2018

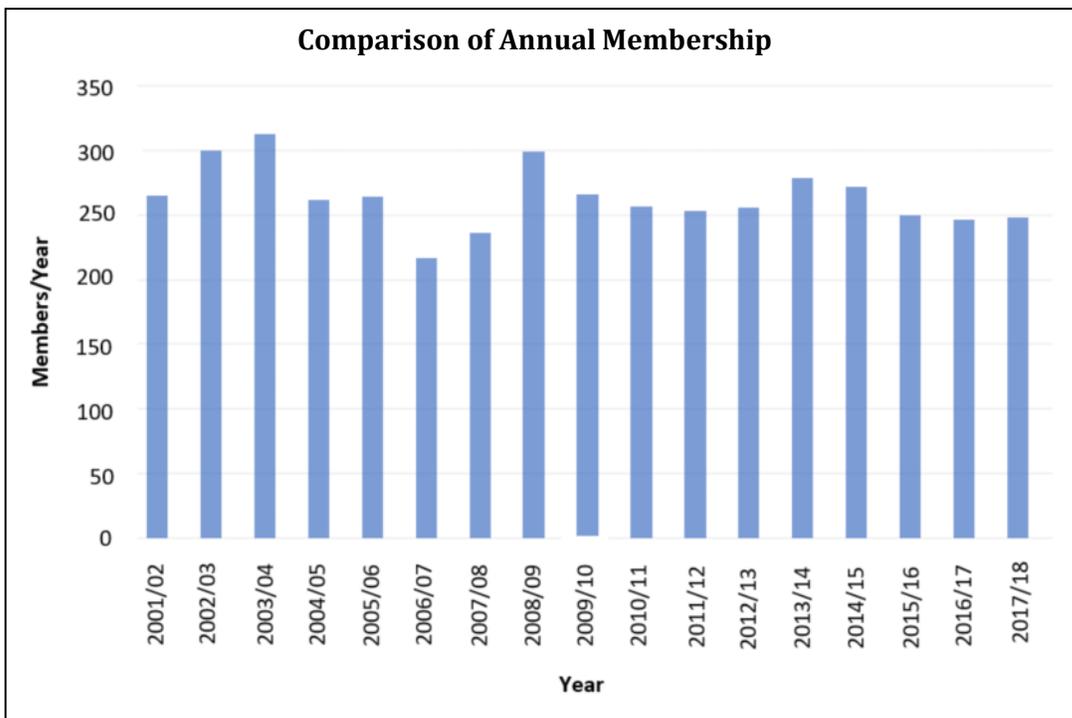
Membership Secretary's Report

Vancouver Branch Membership actually increased very slightly this past season. We had 249 members as compared to 246 in the previous season.

I have included a graph showing a comparison of Membership numbers over the last 17 years.

PayPal registrations are very convenient both for the registrant and the Membership Secretary. As our members like to be loyal to their clubs it is perhaps important to reassure them that they can do that when registering via PayPal.

All Branch members are encouraged to update their personal information on Edinburgh's website. Once members are registered with our Branch they can simply log onto www.rscds.org using their email address and go to **My Account**.



Patsy Jamieson
Membership Secretary

Corresponding Secretary's Report

The responsibilities of the Corresponding Secretary are to be the principle contact with the RSCDS Head Office in Edinburgh, and for all other correspondence of the Branch, and ensuring that information goes to appropriate Branch Directors, or is sent out to the Membership at large.

Email has definitely made communications easier, and most information for Members can now be shared through MailChimp - the Email Marketing Service used by the Branch RSCDS Edinburgh uses email to send out their Members Newsletter.

Written communications, such as letters of Congratulations, Thanks, Condolence and Get Well, are now written on cards featuring the Branch Logo.

At the end of my third year as Corresponding Secretary, my grateful thanks go to all members of the Board for their support and encouragement, particularly Peter Richards and Paul Lowe for their technical help.

Respectfully submitted,
Gillian Beattie.

Publicity Report

This past year has been one filled with challenges and successes. Getting the word out about Scottish Country Dancing in Vancouver made for a busy year in addition to the organization of events and displays throughout the lower mainland.

In April we participated in an event "The British Invasion" sponsored by the Royal Society of St. George which took place at the Roundhouse in Yaletown. We set up our RSCDS display alongside the tent advertising the Highland Games and both attracted a good number of visitors interested in Scottish culture and Scottish country dancing. The Demonstration Team performance drew in lots of people and many enthusiastically joined in with the audience participation dances. The following month another event "The Pull of the Nets" took place in Steveston. The RSCDS and the Highland Games tents attracted a fair number of visitors when we were able to promote our Scottish country dancing and again lots of people joined in with the easier dances led by the Dem Team.

This year's Highland Games & Scottish Festival on June 16th opened with sunshine and very warm temperatures. This encouraged a good gate and we had a large audience for our dance performances, the massed dancing in the morning followed by the

demonstration team dancers in early afternoon. Meanwhile, our RSCDS display tent manned by a great team of volunteers was busy for most of the day when we talked to many visitors about our clubs and classes. The large adjacent tent was the location for ceilidh dancing later in the afternoon. This was a very lively half hour with a large number of visitors enthusiastically joining in. We took advantage of this opportunity to talk with potential new dancers about our clubs and classes and about our summer Dancing in the Park. We will look forward to next year's Games when the location will be the park area near the lake just outside the stadium.

At all of the events the new RSCDS feather flags and banners were much in evidence, an excellent means of advertising our Scottish dancing. As well, we distribute flyers promoting clubs and classes, summer dancing in the park and Duncan's monthly ceilidh dances. When chatting with people, we emphasize the benefits of Scottish country dancing, not only the physical fitness and social aspects but the positive neurological effects. Research suggests that out of all forms of physical activity country dancing is the most beneficial.

I update our rack cards/flyers in September and those are distributed throughout the year to individuals and to various locations such as Tartantown, the House of McLaren, the Celtic Chest and other stores and companies who are willing to bring our Scottish dancing to the attention of interested clients.

I was on the point of applying for space in the July 1st Canada Day Parade when I was advised by Canada Place Corporation that they had decided to no longer host the parade because of increasing costs. This was rather disappointing since everyone was looking forward to it as a result of the great success of last year's grand Canada 150 parade. After some negotiation, the consolation was that the Demonstration Team was invited to perform on the main stage at Canada Place on Canada Day afternoon, an excellent venue to promote Scottish Country Dancing.

I am extremely grateful to all of our members who so willingly volunteer to help at events and to everyone who delivers flyers and makes the effort at every opportunity to promote our dancing. This concerted effort is the only way to bring in new members and, thereby, ensure the continuity of Scottish Country Dancing in Vancouver.

Janet Mason
Publicity Director

Revitalisation Committee Report

A number of people were willing to give thought to the future of RSCDS but only one person was willing to join a committee. The general message was that everyone in the branch and the clubs have been racking their brains for years on how to attract new dancers. ·

Only one suggestion was made on how to spend a large amount and that was to commission a professional video on the fun aspect of Scottish dancing.

We have great videos of the Dem Team and their polished performances to which we all aspire, but to get newcomers into a class we need to get the message out that there is much fun to be had in learning the dances and making new friends. Currently however we have one on our web page under the 'about us' tab. · It was pointed out that we have already done street parades – DITP – booths at Boomer shows – Highland games – bring a friend week – clubs have done activities in their neighbourhoods.

Regrettably no one had any new ideas to offer. ·

The lack of optimism for the future was wide ranging and focused on the scarcity of rentable venues for dancing; a lack of teachers and teacher candidates, and fewer beginners. None of these problems would be solved by a large infusion of money. It was suggested that new dancers in most clubs are few in numbers and are therefore included in the general class. They tend to find this intimidating and do not enjoy the experience, but without enough beginners there is no alternative. A catch 22. We are not alone in failing to attract members. Other dance groups I spoke to have the same problem and as one pointed out even well-established churches are closing.

Overall I think the message was to keep the money we have and spend it as we have been doing. Even as it trickles out it is keeping the community going until the great dance renaissance which is just over the horizon. . . .

Francis O'Farrell August 2018

Reports from Appointment & Committees

Ceilidh Dance Report

The Ceilidh Dances which are sponsored by the Branch are entering their 20th year which is a lot of playing by the members of the band. The band members turn up without being asked and are ready to play for any dance that we find. The Ceilidh dancers are indebted to the members of the resident band “Calanais” who are now led by Catherine Conings (Cathy Gibson Gregory retired after playing for the Ceilidh dances for 19 years) and include Carole Berger, Duncan Whamond, Janet Wright and many others. They are the main reason these dances are so popular.

Alison Moen is now the face of Ceilidh dancing as I do very little teaching now. Alison is due a hearty vote of thanks from all of us but especially from me. She is very able and is well liked by all the dancers. She has also taken on most of the weddings and such events.

Thanks are due to the many volunteers without whom we would not be able to continue. The main volunteers are Bonnie Volker, Francis O’Farrell and Gil & Richard Beattie but many more come and quietly do all the small things that make the dances run smoothly. The average attendance was about 60 for the six dances last season (the 7th was on a snowy night when the band & teachers nearly outnumbered the dancers!) with a large percentage of males and young dancers. Everyone seems to have fun and there are still a few who sign up for regular SCD classes each year. The hall has been reserved through to April 2019 and again this season we are running 7 dances. We also run Ceilidh dances for various other functions – fund raisers, weddings, etc. at which we promote SCD and the Ceilidh Dances.

Ceilidh Dancing has its own website www.vancouverceilidh.org and its own newsletter to which anyone can “subscribe” – it’s free!. I have been sending out this “Ceilidh Dance newsletter” for many years which apart from promoting the Ceilidh dances also lists all the local RSCDS and club events as well as other Scottish happenings.

My thanks to the Branch for continuing to sponsor these events – the financial aspects are included in the Branch financial report and continue to show a net profit. We are proud that we have never needed to ask for any monetary assistance.

Duncan MacKenzie, ceilidh@rscdsvancouver.org
August 1, 2018

Children's Committee Report

We had seven children ages five to fourteen two mums plus Erin and Anna who were a great help. A very enthusiastic group, the older children did step dancing with Erin and Anna then danced with the younger girls and helped them along.

We had an Easter party which the Easter bunny gave out the eggs, Santa came to our Christmas party which delighted the children.

I would like to thank all the volunteers who helped make it happen. We also attended the November 11th dance. We were made very welcome and enjoyed it.

A big thank you from the children's committee goes to Francis O'Farrell, board liaison officer, for his support and dedication to the children's NS Dancing class. We are hoping for a successful continuation of the class for the coming season,

Thank you,
Patricia Johnson

Dance Coordinator's Report

The Vancouver Branch of the RSCDS has a very active dancing community. It takes a lot of energy and commitment by a lot of people to ensure that each year we have many dynamic and interesting dancing opportunities. Throughout this report you will see the names of many of our dancers who contribute to the organization of our dancing programs. Of course everyone contributes when they join us on the dance floor.

Betwixt and Between – Katherine Shearman

Thanks to the generosity of Mary Wattum, admission to the Betwixt and Between dance, held on December 28, 2017, was free to all RSCDS members and three full-time students. 66 members of the Vancouver Branch attended the dance and the event brought visitors from Washington State, Vancouver Island, Quebec, Saskatchewan, Inverness, and Newfoundland. Admission was collected from four adults.

Mary Ross played incredible dance sets that raised our spirits and our feet, keeping a large number of dancers on the floor until the end. The dance program included both familiar and new dances for all levels and seemed to be well received.

The Scottish Cultural Centre provides their own holiday decorations to the stage area and around the room. This year a large decorated tree was erected at the front of the room providing lovely colour and atmosphere. Thanks to Jennifer Shearman, Alison Moen, and Alison's daughter Erin for their assistance in decorating the hall. Extra special thank you to Stewart Cunningham for opening the cultural centre so the decorating crew could get in to the hall. Having Stewart open the centre means that we do not need to pay for a caretaker to be there during the day; however, the necessary

keys from the care-taker, we were unable to access the RSCDS cupboards on the stage or under the stairs. (We need to remedy this for next year.)

Sandy Anderson and Denise Cunningham recruited excellent assistance in the kitchen and the catering during the intermission was smooth and plentiful. The cultural centre was specifically opened at 4pm for Sandy: however, Sandy was unable to access the kitchen when she arrived. The kitchen was in use by an external business (catering?). My understanding is that the user knew that the RSCDS had exclusive use of the kitchen after 4pm and acknowledged and promised to vacate the kitchen but did not leave until after 6pm. For future events, the Branch needs to confirm with the cultural centre, the kitchen will be available at the expected time and, if the kitchen is booked for Branch events, outside users of the kitchen cannot bar the catering committee access. We look forward to the tradition of dancing and music by Mary Ross continuing at the next Betwixt and Between on December 28, 2018.

Love to Dance Workshop – Fran Caruth and Jean Wagstaff

The 2018 Love to Dance Workshop and Dance was a great success even though the number of attendees was down.

Basic Class: 19 attendees (19 in 2017)

Intermediate Class: 26 attendees (43 in 2017)

Afternoon Dance: 26 additional dancers came in the afternoon (31 in 2017)

Total Participants: 71 (95 in 2017)

Reasons for the significant drop in attendance are not completely understood. For 2019 we have chosen a weekend that does not clash with the Edmonton Workshop which should help because in 2018, eight of our dancers were in Edmonton. We will continue to promote the event and hope that we can attract more dancers for February 9, 2019.

The Final cost for the event was a deficit of \$136.26. (Profit of \$1262 in 2017)

The Tutors were Kay Sutheland and Simon Scott.

The classes were very well received. The evaluation forms offering many complimentary comments about the teachers.

The Music: This also was enthusiastically received. Dancing to “live” music is really a treat for many of our dancers. The class musicians were Julie Smith in the Hebridean Room; Cathrine Conings and Natalie Thompson in the Cairngorm Room. This was Natalie’s first time playing for Love to Dance and together with Cathrine they provided wonderful dancing music.

The Afternoon Dance: The Tartan Players provided the music for the afternoon and their playing was very well received. This year we paid for a sound person (Rebecca did it gratis last year). We also put the music through the house system and this worked extremely well. I think Julie will be receptive to using this system again.

The Catering: This was a magnificent group effort by many wonderful volunteers. Sandra Anderson and Jean Wagstaff while being unable to attend the day, got all sorts of shopping and cooking organized in advance. On the day, Fran Hillier provided

amazing leadership to a large team of volunteers who made food, served it and cleaned up afterwards. This was the first year when we provided lunch to all the workshop attendees and cut back to a “tea and biscuits” type afternoon tea half way through the dance. There were absolutely no negative comments received about this major catering change and there were several positive comments about the luxury of having lunch provided.

Social Dancing at the Highland Games – Mary Murray

The social dancing at the Highland Games was again, a great success with 40+ dancers participating in a well-choreographed program by Mary. The people in the grandstand always seem to enjoy the demonstrations. On the Monday night practices, we have the added bonus of dancing with many dancers from a variety of clubs in an informal and happy environment. It’s fun and we always like to encourage as many dancers as possible to participate.

Dancing in the Park – Alison Moen

Dancing in the Park 2018 was a success again this year. A lively start with Burnaby and the music of the VFO (thanks to support from the Branch) attracted 150 people. The Vancouver Police Pipe Band and Vancouver Demonstration team and a fun program from the Branch brought out 250 people! We lost one week to rain, but had six more weeks of engaging programs, with 80-120 people each week dancing or watching. The support from the whole dance community in keeping this event going is gratefully acknowledged - from those who accept a formal role with transporting and setting up equipment and introducing and supporting the weekly teachers, the teachers who devise a 'summer' program back in April, and share it with both experienced dancers and passersby, to the dancers that brave traffic and parking each week and help with sweeping the pavement, inviting audience members to join in, and cleanup at the end of the evening. Vancouver Park Board also showed enthusiastic support this year with a small payment, ten parking passes, and lighting that worked, so that bodes well for the future of Dancing in the Park.

Branch Classes – Fran Caruth, Gill Beattie, Barbara Kisilevsky

Monday Nights

Attendances generally ranged between three and four sets. The dancers pay \$78 per term or \$7:50 for drop-in (No change proposed for coming year).

We have two teachers – Mary Murray and Katherine Shearman. They each receive \$35 for a two hours class as do all teachers, teaching at the Branch. Financially, there is a small surplus at the close of this dance year. The issues as always are numbers and the wide range of dancing skills.

We continue to explore ways to integrate new dancers – ensuring that they develop their skills but are also integrated into the dance community and enjoy their dancing. Based on the 2017-18 numbers and finances, we would propose that the Branch classes continue in a similar fashion through the 2018-19 season with adjustments as the numbers and skill of the dancers suggests. Mary and Katherine will be the Monday night Branch teachers in this coming dance year.

Wednesday Nights

After all the discussions and meetings before this past dance season, this dance year's Wednesday night class has been "successful". Many more dancers have participated and the class has more than covered its costs.

There is always a small core of regulars but also many drop-ins. There's rarely been less than two x three couple sets and the highest number of dancers was 21 dancers on the Wednesday prior to the Burns Supper. I would propose that the program continue in its current form, through the 2018-19 dance season.

The willingness of our teachers to participate in the teaching schedule should be noted.

Teacher Training – Fran Caruth

There was no Spring Examiners' tour in 2018 and therefore no training program in the 2017-18 dance year.

Book 52 Gift for Vancouver Branch Teachers – the Vancouver Branch Board.

As they have done for many years now, the Branch has provided the new RSCDS Book and CD to active teachers who are members of the Branch. This coming September, the teachers will be receiving Book 52. It is interesting to note that in May 2017 our dancers were invited to trial the dances submitted for Book 52 (although I don't know that we actually danced any of the selected dances because when we test the dances we only know them by a number).

It's all been fun and a great year of dancing. We now all look forward to the 2018-19 year and I especially look forward to dancing with everyone after the AGM on September 14.

Respectfully submitted

Fran Caruth - Dance Coordinator

Demonstration Team Director's Report

Team Director: Kay Sutherland

Team Manager: Louise Murphy

We have had a busy year with a **total of 29 performances** including the Highland Games (led by Mary Murray) when our numbers were supplemented by extra dancers from other clubs.

In addition to performances at Seniors Centres and Homes we had a varied year including a **Celebration of Life for Drew Simpson** when present and past men from the Team danced Reel of the 51st in his memory; we performed a **Flash Mob dance at Circle Craft** at the Vancouver Convention Centre (invited by the organisers); we collaborated with a dance devisor from New York eventually recording his new dance for the Scottish Country Dancing Dictionary. (He has asked us to help with another new dance).

We performed at various outdoor events and were lucky with the weather especially on **Canada Day** when we danced in Jack Poole Plaza on a wonderful sunny afternoon with the North Shore mountains behind us and crowds of enthusiastic onlookers.

We were accepted to participate in the RSCDS **Video project** and completed recording of Book 16 dances.

The members of the Dem Team have to contend with Vancouver traffic and are to be commended for their commitment to so many performances all over the Lower Mainland.

We generated income of \$4073. Some events were performed free for their publicity value. Detailed financial records have been sent to the Treasurer.

Many of the organizational tasks are shared by the team members which is a great help to Louise and myself. This includes costumes, equipment, taking videos, keeping track of videos, special events costumes and props, membership info, mentoring and general "stuff".

Classes begin again on Thursday September 20, 2018 at the Cultural Centre. Board members are always welcome to attend classes and performances to see what we do.

Submitted by Kay Sutherland

Team Director

August 6, 2018

Nominating Committee Report

BRANCH NOMINATIONS FOR THE YEAR 2018/2019

RETURNING TO THE BOARD (No Vote Required)

Officers:

Past Chair	Peter Richards
Corresponding Secretary	Gillian Beattie
Treasurer	Stewart Cunningham

Directors at Large:

Sandra Anderson
Janet Mason

NEW TO THE BOARD/RETURNING TO NEW POSITION (Vote Required)

OFFICERS:

Chair	Heather Hankin	2 year position
Vice-Chair	Vicki Downey	2 year position
Membership Secretary	Barbara Kisilevsky	2 year position

DIRECTORS AT LARGE:

Tereza Cabral	2 year position
Christine Cardinal	2 year position
Donna Main	2 year position

*RETURNING FOR ONE MORE YEAR: (Vote Required)

Recording Secretary	Sally Marshall	1 year position
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*Note: Sally Marshall has completed two full terms in this position. Since there are already three of the Officers coming into new positions this year she has agreed to complete one more year of service as Recording Secretary to maintain some continuity within the Board's Officer positions.

Fran Hillier

Website Report

The Branch website provides up-to-date information on Scottish Country Dancing in the Vancouver area, event photos, current news, the Branch Board members & appointments contact information, Branch documents, the White Cockade (newsletter) online, Branch membership information, and numerous other resources (articles of interest and links to other related sites). I am delighted to announce that Rosemary Coupe's book, Scottish Country Dancing in Vancouver - A History, is now available on the website at <https://rscdsvancouver.org/about>. This is a wonderful detailed history, including pictures, of Dancing in Vancouver from 1930 to 2015.

I have now completed my fifth year as web manager. There is always something to update or new to post and, at times, I am very busy. It is appreciated when you send your information early as it gives a little extra time rather than rushing to get the job done.

This past year, we have experienced some issues/glitches with our website, which have proved a bit challenging. Thank you to our webmaster, Darrell McLeod who runs interference when problems arise, and performs those tricky tasks that are beyond my abilities. And a special thank you to Paul Lowe, who sets up all those online registrations, PayPal, and maintains the Membership database.

I encourage all our members to check out our website for more than just the Events Calendar and Event Photos. You will find some interesting information and you might even come up with some new ideas for our website

Respectfully submitted by:
Mary Ann McDevitt, Website Manager

White Cockade Newsletter Report

I have now completed my second year as Newsletter Editor and looking forward to another exciting year of dancing news!

Thank you to my husband, Kerry McDevitt, for his invaluable input and all those photos. He also edits them for me. They don't always turn out as well in black & white or if the resolution is too low. So please send your photos in the highest resolution you can. I would also like to thank Merry Wood and Cathrine Conings. They not only do a

wonderful job proofing for typos, they also offer suggestions on grammar, wording and more! They are a big help in producing a clean, clear newsletter.

And thank you to Mary Anne Mackay, who took over the responsibility for picking up the newsletter from the Print shop, getting the mailing labels from the membership secretary, buying the stamps & envelopes and, mailing out the newsletters – all in a very timely fashion.

Lastly, thank you to everyone for your contributions to the newsletter and your compliments.

The White Cockade newsletter is published on the 1st of September, November, January, March, May and July. The deadline for submissions is the 10th day of the preceding month (i.e. October 10 for the November/December issue). All contributions of letters, articles, photos, etc are welcome. We will do our best to accommodate everyone as space permits. The newsletter must be in multiples of four pages, otherwise there will be blank pages. As a result, it may be necessary to reduce an article or put it over to a later issue.

Respectfully submitted by:

Mary Ann McDevitt, Newsletter Editor

Reports from Area Clubs

Burnaby SCD Club

The Burnaby Club continues to meet on Monday evenings with beginner class starting at 7:00pm and regular class from 7:30 to 10:00pm at the Scandinavian Community Centre located at 6540 Thomas Street in Burnaby (just north of the Kensington/Hwy #1 interchange).

Our numbers are down slightly this year but we are fortunate to have gained three new experienced members this year and always have a number of drop-ins from other clubs join our class.

The highlights of this year have included:

1. Our annual summer picnic at the Coupe residence

2. Our annual Christmas Ceilidh at our last fall class - Diane wowed us with a special Christmas themed programme of dances. Fabulous entertainment was provided by some of our talented members, organized by Gerry Stensgaard.
3. The Burnaby annual dance - It was held at Confederation House on March 3th with the music of the Vancouver Fiddle Orchestra. We were disappointed with the turnout, however, resulting in a loss on our financial report. As a result we have decided to hold our 2019 dance as a Sunday afternoon Tea Dance at a new venue which we hope will entice people who prefer not to drive at night. Look for more information coming soon.
4. Our Burnaby Entertainment Team, up to 18 members this year, entertained at several Seniors Centres during Rabbin Burns season with Rosemary Coupe directing us and organizing the dates and venues.
5. Burnaby Night in Stanley Park was June 18th, the first night of the summer event. We thank RSCDS Vancouver for providing the beautiful music of the Vancouver Fiddle Orchestra.

We have enjoyed our second year with Diane Coulombe as our teacher. She has provided us with great leadership as we develop and improve our dance skills. She challenged us with many new and different dances throughout the year. Unfortunately we must now wish her farewell as she is leaving us and moving to Ontario. We wish her all the best in her new home.

We have been fortunate to have Rosemary Coupe and Cathrine Conings as part of our group. With Diane leaving us we are delighted that Rosemary will come out of retirement and resume the role of teacher of the Burnaby class this year. Cathrine is always available to help out when needed. We thank them both and look forward to September classes starting on the 17th.

Vicki Downey, BSCDC President

Deep Cove SCD Club

Kay Sutherland and Alison Moen, our great teachers, continued to teach our Monday and Tuesday classes with Dorothy Hargreaves filling in when needed. Mary Ann McDevitt was our wonderful treasurer and Kerry McDevitt has videotaped dances from the club's book of dances written by Dorothy Hargreaves. Our numbers have stayed about the same in both classes.

Kay mainly focuses on teaching dances which are appearing in upcoming dances, but occasionally challenges us with new and unusual ones! Alison combines teaching technique and easier dances in her class, helped by some of the Monday class who attend and assist the less experienced dancers.

Our AGM and club party in February went well and our dance in April was a great success with about 80 dancers attending. We enjoyed the music of Mary Ross again.

Members of the club continue to support the branch by attending many other clubs' dances. This year five club members danced on the demonstration team, four members have been on the Vancouver Branch Board, Mary Ann McDevitt organized the Branch website and edited the White Cockade, Kerry McDevitt has photographed at many dances and finally Kay Sutherland has taught the Branch demonstration team.

Respectfully submitted by:
Annabel Herdman, Club President

Glenayre SCD Club

We had 36 members this year with one visitor, Naome, from Victoria Sept to January. Also had the privilege of having Michelle from VI , teacher candidate, join us for several months. A number of our members from last year were unable to join us due to numerous situations, travel, commitments and injuries, several are rejoining again this fall which were looking forward to seeing them again, and the possibility of some new members.

Jean and Fran continue as our teachers for all levels. We meet Tuesdays 7 to 10 pm at Burquest Jewish community hall on the corner of Mariner Way and Dewdney Trunk Rd. in Coquitlam. Beginners dance 7 to 9 pm with rest of our dancers 7:30 to 10.

Our Christmas and spring dances were a success, both held at St. Laurence church in Coquitlam. Members have been busy supporting other club dances, DITP, Balls, Robbie Burns Day, Demo group at Highland games, Dem at Astoria residence in Port Coquitlam.

Annual club BBQ was held July 29, in spite of the extremely hot weather 26 members, past members and spouses joined together for a wonderful afternoon. Our night at DITP held July 30.

Submitted by Sue Sochasky, club President

Gleneagles SCD Club

No report

Fort Langley Voyageurs

No report

West End SCD Club

Although a small club, the West End enjoyed another year of fun and dancing. We have a small group of core members (usually one set) and another set plus of part time drop in members. We have lost a few members to injuries, moving or other interests/reasons. New dancers are very transient.

We started the year with our 2017 Fall Frolic, dancing to the music of Two Thistles and a Rose. We had good numbers considering the long weekend and everyone enjoyed the evening. Unfortunately, it may have been the last Fall Frolic, as we had to cancel 2018 due to changes in policy at the Community Centre.

The year was spent mostly working on dances for upcoming socials as well as some dances with a "difference". A few of our members attended the White Rock Tea Dance for the first time. I continue to encourage them to attend more of the lower mainland socials and events. And we were lucky to have our musicians back from time to time over the 2017-18 year. Our DITP night was also a success this year and we received compliments on the program and evening.

As said the Community Centre policies have changed due to a new joint venture they entered into with the Parks Board. Our new contract states that classes will be evaluated and cancelled or re-negotiated if insufficient numbers. We hope to boost and maintain our 2018-19 numbers. We have had some interest from DITP and a couple of our members have encouraged friends to come try Scottish country dancing.

Respectfully submitted by:
Mary Ann McDevitt, Teacher

White Rock SCD Club

The White Rock Club meets on Wednesday evenings at 7 pm in Sullivan Hall, Surrey. For the 2017/2018 season we had around 30 members, and frequent drop-in dancers. So we always managed to have a good number of sets.

A Fall Dance Workshop was held in October with our teacher, Maureen directing and correcting our steps and form.

The Club held a number of social activities during the year:

- Halloween party – lots of fun with dancers being very creative with their costumes.
- Christmas party - in early December was an evening of dance, food and socializing. The Club collected money for the Food Bank and sent a donation to Surrey Food Bank.
- Burns party – entertaining evening complete with a piper and haggis.
- May Tea Dance – held in White Rock on a sunny Sunday, when 77 dancers came out to enjoy the music of Mary Ross.

We enjoyed our dancing year. Many thanks go to our teacher, Maureen Lyon for her dedication and enthusiasm.

Submitted by Marie Stirling, President

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

VANCOUVER BRANCH

Vancouver, B.C.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

May 31, 2018

**THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY
VANCOUVER BRANCH**

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TELFORD ASSOCIATES

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NOTICE TO READER

On the basis of information provided by management, we have compiled the statement of financial position of The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society - Vancouver Branch as at May 31, 2018 and the statements of operations and changes in fund balances for the year then ended.

We have not performed an audit or a review engagement in respect of these financial statements and, accordingly, we express no assurance thereon.

Readers are cautioned that these financial statements may not be appropriate for their purposes.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Telford Associates". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS

Vancouver, B.C.
August 10, 2018

**THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY
VANCOUVER BRANCH**

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
(unaudited - see Notice to Reader)

For the year ended May 31, 2018

	2018 \$	2017 \$
Income		
Membership fees	12,698	12,441
Less dues remitted to RSCDS Edinburgh	(7,668)	(7,104)
	<u>5,030</u>	<u>5,337</u>
Dance classes	9,557	7,847
Teacher candidate classes (Note 4)	-	3,284
Branch events and workshops	39,862	33,955
Demonstration team	3,735	2,750
Book and CD sales	286	348
Donations and miscellaneous income	3,142	400
Investment income	594	525
	<u>62,206</u>	<u>54,446</u>
Expenses		
Branch event and workshop	34,980	29,967
CD's and Books	213	698
Dance class hall rental, teacher and other	7,156	7,685
Demonstration team	4,290	3,333
Donations Paid	4,714	2,181
HST/GST Paid	956	561
Insurance	2,405	2,520
Miscellaneous and administrative	8,877	4,423
Newsletter preparation and distribution	1,453	1,125
Publicity	4,426	1,330
Teacher candidate classes (Note 4)	-	4,913
Accounting adjustment	3,206	(4,813)
	<u>72,676</u>	<u>53,923</u>
Excess of Expenses under (over) Income before allocation	(10,470)	523
Amount allocated to Funds	(1,497)	153
Excess of Expenses under (over) Income after allocation	(8,973)	370

**THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY
VANCOUVER BRANCH**

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
(unaudited - see Notice to Reader)

For the year ended May 31, 2018

	Mary Wattum Betwixt & Between Fund \$	Pearl Holmberg Fund \$	Mary Wattum Dance Fund \$	Unrestricted Fund \$	Total \$
Fund at beginning of year	28,284	28,775	600	28,843	86,502
Investment Income allocation	633	625	-	579	1,837
Less excess of expenses over income for the Betwixt & Between Dance	(1,064)	-	-	-	(1,064)
Less purchase of CDs and books given to teacher in appreciation of their work and dedication	-	(1,670)	-	-	(1,670)
Less excess of expenses over income for the 2018 Heather Ball	-	-	(600)	-	(600)
Total	(431)	(1,045)	(600)	579	(1,497)
Excess of Expenses over Income	-	-	-	(10,470)	(10,740)
Fund at end of year	27,853	27,730	-	18,952	74,265

**THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY
VANCOUVER BRANCH**

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
(unaudited - see Notice to Reader)

May 31, 2018

	2018 \$	2017 \$
Assets		
Current		
Cash	1,809	5,502
Term deposits	1,123	1,100
Investments (Note 2)	72,756	80,814
GST Recoverable	696	1,479
Prepaid expenses	1,395	832
Accrued investment income	3	117
	77,782	89,844
	77,782	89,844
Liabilities and Fund Balances		
Current liabilities		
Payables and accruals	1,740	1,350
In trust for YWW in BC	1,126	1,100
	2,866	2,450
Externally Restricted Fund		
Mary Wattum Betwixt and Between Fund (Note 1)	27,853	28,284
Internally Restricted Fund		
Pearl Holmberg Fund (Note 1)	27,730	28,775
Mary Wattum Dance Fund (Note 1)	-	600
Fund for Demonstration Team attire	381	892
	58,830	61,001
Unrestricted Fund Balance (Page 3)	18,952	28,843
	77,782	89,844

Approved by Directors:

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY VANCOUVER BRANCH

NOTES

(unaudited - see Notice to Reader)

For the year ended May 31, 2018

The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society - Vancouver Branch (the "Branch") is a not-for-profit society incorporated under the Society Act of British Columbia and registered as a Charity under the Federal Income Tax Act. The Branch's main activities are the preservation and practice of traditional Scottish Country Dances in accordance with the principles and standards laid down by the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society headquartered in Edinburgh, Scotland.

Readers are cautioned that a "Notice to Reader" does not require that any notes to the financial statements be presented. The notes contained herein are for clarification purposes only and no inference should be drawn that they are detailed or complete, or that there are no other notes that would be required had the financial statements been presented under a form of report other than "Notice to Reader".

Note 1 Significant Accounting Policies

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations ("ASNPO") and include the following significant accounting policies:

Fund Accounting

The Society follows the restricted fund method of accounting for contributions. Under this method, each fund retains the donations received and makes expenditures in accordance with either the stated purpose of the designated fund or as specified by the donor, as the case may be.

The Following separate funds are held by the Branch:

- a. The Mary Wattum Betwixt and Between Fund was established by a donation from Mary Wattum, a former member of the Branch, and its use is not within the control of the Board. The Fund is to be used solely for the purpose of paying the amount, if any, by which the expenses exceed the income of the annual Betwixt and Between Dance.
- b. The Pearl Holmberg Fund was established by a legacy left to the Branch by a former member, Pearl Holmberg. The Fund perpetuates the memory of Pearl Holmberg and the Board establishes criteria from time to time for distributing money from this Fund.
- c. The Mary Wattum Dance Fund was established with money given to the Branch by a former member, Mary Wattum. The Board has decided that this Fund is to be used to help defray costs of dance events organized by the Branch. The Fund was fully utilized during the 2018 fiscal year and, therefore, has no balance at the end of the year.

Revenue Recognition

The Branch follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions and other restricted revenue. These amounts are recognized as revenue in the year the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year they are received. Membership fees are fully recognized as revenue in the year they are received. The Branch writes off capital assets against operations in the year of purchase.

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY VANCOUVER BRANCH

NOTES

(unaudited - see Notice to Reader)

For the year ended May 31, 2018

Note 1 Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Contributed Services and Materials

A number of volunteers contribute a significant amount of their time and services to the Branch each year. Because of the difficulty in determining fair value, these contributed services are not recognized in the financial statements. The Branch records the fair value of contributed materials at the time of receipt, where such fair value is determinable, and would otherwise have been purchased. The Branch did not receive any such contributed materials.

Note 2 Investments

The Investments held as of May 31, 2018 with their values on that date are as follows:

	ACB	FMV
Phillips, Hager and North Total Return Bond Fund	34,871	33,267
Phillips, Hager and North Monthly Income Fund	37,885	36,607
	<u>72,756</u>	<u>69,874</u>

The investments are shown in the financial statements at cost plus divided allotments to the investments as they occur.

Note 3 Children's Committee

The Children's Committee of the Branch operates a separate account that is not included in these financial statements, but is reported on separately. Therefore, it has not been inspected or verified for the purposes of this report.

Note 4 Teacher Candidate Classes

Teacher Candidate Classes are usually held every two years; the class was held in 2017.

Note 5 Comparative Figures

The comparative figures were prepared by MacKenzie Burgess Kilpatrick, Chartered Professional Accountants and as such were not inspected or verified for the purposes of this report.

Certain 2017 comparative figures have been reclassified to conform with the financial statement presentation adopted for 2018.