



FIRST PEOPLES' CULTURAL FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT
08/09

Letter from the Chair of the Board

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am pleased to present the First Peoples' Cultural Foundation's Annual Report for the fiscal year of 2008/09. This report highlights our work in support of the preservation and community-based revitalization of First Nations arts, languages and cultures in British Columbia.

The focus of the First Peoples' Culture Foundation (the Foundation) was internal this year. We are in the process of recruiting a new Board of Directors, executive director and fundraiser to launch a new fundraising strategy and further develop the organization's infrastructure. Once this groundwork is in place, the Foundation will be more capable of raising funds and partnering with communities and organizations dedicated to First Nations languages and cultures.

The year was a productive and successful one for the *FirstVoices* program, which is administered by our sister organization, the First Peoples' Heritage, Language and Culture Council (FPHLCC) on our behalf. Five B.C. First Nations language archives were created for firstvoices.com, the language archiving tool, bringing the total of B.C. First Nations languages on the site to 41. These archives were strengthened this year through a partnership with TELUS, which provided the resources and expertise to create 225 short videos of "verbs in action," demonstrating 225 words and phrases already in the archives.

The Foundation, along with the New Relationship Trust, FPHLCC and the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation continued to help fund language nests this year. Language nests, which are language immersion childcare programs, are proving incredibly successful at creating new speakers and are vital for the survival of our languages. They must continue to receive support.

We have a compelling, positive and profound mission. We are in the midst of building our organization to greater heights than before and will soon be able to offer increased support to community-driven language and culture projects.

We look forward to our continued growth, new partnerships and the continuation of our work to celebrate Aboriginal languages, arts and cultures.

Sincerely,

Pauline Terbasket
Chair of the Board

About the First Peoples' Cultural Foundation

The First Peoples' Cultural Foundation is a non-profit society established in 2000 to preserve British Columbia's 32 First Nations languages and 59 dialects, as well as the cultural and artistic practices that are unique to B.C.

Originally created to enable the First Peoples' Heritage, Language and Culture Council (our sister organization) to access potential funding sources only open to non-profit societies, recent amendments to its constitution have broadened the scope of the Foundation so that it can more effectively fundraise and partner with other organizations dedicated to Aboriginal culture and languages.

This is the current situation for Indigenous languages in British Columbia:

- 60% of Canada's Indigenous languages are found in B.C.
- 3 languages have no remaining speakers
- 8 are critically endangered
- 22 are nearly extinct

Source: *2010 Report on the Status of B.C. First Nations Languages*, First Peoples' Heritage, Language and Culture Council

There is an urgent need to document Indigenous languages, cultural practices and art forms. In five to six years, many Elders—the fluent speakers and keepers of these practices—will be gone. However, young people are eager to learn and need help to preserve their culture.

Purpose of the First Peoples' Cultural Foundation

The Foundation solicits charitable donations to:

- Preserve and enhance Aboriginal heritage, language, arts and culture
- Increase understanding and sharing of Aboriginal knowledge
- Educate the public regarding the culture, heritage and languages of the First Nations of British Columbia
- Heighten the appreciation and acceptance of the wealth of Aboriginal cultural diversity

Key Partners

- The First Peoples' Heritage, Language and Culture Council – provides administrative services and office space for the Foundation
- New Relationship Trust
- Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation
- Ministry of Children and Family Development

Governance of the First Peoples' Cultural Foundation

The First Peoples' Cultural Foundation is governed by a four-member Board of Directors. The Foundation is a transparent, accountable and results-based organization. Annual audited statements are available to the public.

The Board members for fiscal 08/09 were:

- Pauline Terbasket, Chair
- Dan Smith, Vice-Chair
- Tyrone McNeil
- Tracey Herbert (Tracey Herbert served as the Executive Director in 2008/09)

Funding Programs

FirstVoices

The Foundation's flagship program, *FirstVoices*, is an internationally recognized online language archive and language-learning tool. It allows language communities to develop and manage their own language and culture archives and resources. *FirstVoices* is administered by the First Peoples' Heritage, Language and Culture Council, the Foundation's sister organization.

FirstVoices currently has 41 B.C. First Nations language archives in various stages of development, including five new archives added this year. *FirstVoices* also houses 22 language archives for languages outside the province of B.C.

Languages new to *FirstVoices* this year are Kwadacha, Nadleh Whut'en, Nuxalk, Nak'azdli and Yekooche.

This year, *FirstVoices* partnered with TELUS, which generously provided resources, expertise and internships to First Nations youth (valued at \$70,000) to develop 225 video clips of "verbs in action" that were added to the *FirstVoices* video library in the fall. These clips are available to any language archive to better demonstrate a word or phrase.

FirstVoices also implemented the use of the Belkin GoStudio iPod-based portable recording equipment to provide *FirstVoices* community-based language archivists with the ability to crisply record speakers in any quiet environment.

Pre-school Language Nests

Pre-school Language Nests are nurturing childcare environments designed to create fluency in young children through language immersion. The children learn and play under the supervision of teachers and fluent Elders who ensure that only the ancestral language is spoken. Parents are involved in the language nests as well, which strengthens the use of the language in the home.

The program's success is built on the principles that young children learn languages faster than any other age group and that immersion is the most effective way to create fluent speakers. The goal of the project is to create a new generation of fluent speakers.

Trust Fund Initiatives

Empowering Relationships Fund

The Empowering Relationships Fund is a \$500,000 provincial government fund used to support First Nations communities in northern B.C. in connecting with their children in government care through culture and language.

The Foundation, in consultation with child welfare experts, developed program criteria and the application process. A peer review committee of child welfare experts reviewed submissions and made funding decisions. The Foundation provided cultural expertise.

The Foundation, through FPHLCC, used the remaining \$248,249 of the Empowering Relationships Fund that had been deferred from 2007/08 to support the following communities and organizations:

- Burns Lake Band
- Carrier Sekani Family Services
- Gitanmaax Band
- Gitxsan Child and Family Services
- Haida Child and Family Services
- Heiltsuk Kasla Child and Family Services
- Moricetown Band
- Nezul Be Hunuyeh Child and Family Services
- Coast Tsimshian Academy of Lax'kw'alaams
- Desniqui Service Society
- Gitanyow Band Social Development
- Old Masset Village Council
- Skidegate Band Council
- Gitsegukla Band Council
- Nisga'a Child and Family Services

Early Childhood Development Fund

The Foundation contributed \$100,000 this year to the Pre-school Language Nest Program administered by FPHLCC through the Early Childhood Development Fund established by the Ministry of Children and Family Development.

A total of \$300,000 was committed over three years to provide language nests or immersion environments to help pre-school children and their parents become fluent in their traditional languages. This is the second year of that commitment.

The language nest program is also funded by the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation and the New Relationship Trust.

Funding from the Early Childhood Development Fund was used to support language nests in the Chemainus First Nation, Lower Nicola Indian Band and Heiltsuk Nation.

FIRST PEOPLES' CULTURAL FOUNDATION

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year Ended March 31, 2009

FIRST PEOPLES' CULTURAL FOUNDATION

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year Ended March 31, 2009

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Chris Cowland, CA*
Caroline Paterson, CGA*

*operating as a partnership of incorporated professionals

Auditors' Report

To the Members of
First Peoples' Cultural Foundation

We have audited the statement of financial position of First Peoples' Cultural Foundation as at March 31, 2009 and the statement of operations and changes in net assets and statement of cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Foundation's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

Except as explained in the following paragraph, we conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial information is free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In common with many charitable organizations, the organization derives revenue from donations the completeness of which is not susceptible of satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly, our verification of these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of the organization. We were not therefore able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to donations, revenue for the year, assets and net assets.

In our opinion, except for the effect of adjustments, if any, which we might have determined to be necessary had we been able to satisfy ourselves concerning the completeness of the effect referred to in the preceding paragraph, these financial statements present fairly the financial position of the Foundation as at March 31, 2009, and the results of operations and changes in net assets and changes in cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year as required by the British Columbia Society Act.

Cowland Paterson & Co.

Sidney, British Columbia
June 26, 2009

PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS

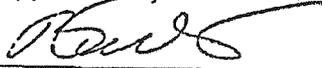
FIRST PEOPLES' CULTURAL FOUNDATION

Statement of Financial Position

March 31, 2009

	2009	2008
Assets		
Current		
Cash and cash equivalents (Note 2a)	\$ 2,135,964	\$ 2,346,028
Accounts receivable	71,020	6,405
Prepaid expenses	<u>555</u>	<u>750</u>
	<u>\$ 2,207,539</u>	<u>\$ 2,353,183</u>
Liabilities		
Current		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 70,784	\$ 20,612
Deferred revenue (Note 4)	<u>2,063,748</u>	<u>2,259,511</u>
	<u>2,134,532</u>	<u>2,280,123</u>
Net Assets		
Unrestricted net assets	<u>73,007</u>	<u>73,060</u>
	<u>\$ 2,207,539</u>	<u>\$ 2,353,183</u>

Approved By The Board


 _____ Director


 _____ Director

FIRST PEOPLES' CULTURAL FOUNDATION

Statement of Operations and Changes in Net Assets

Year Ended March 31, 2009

	2009	2008
Revenue		
Grants	\$ 368,578	\$ 291,316
Interest and other revenue	51,244	99,225
Donations	<u>100</u>	<u>293</u>
	<u>419,922</u>	<u>390,834</u>
 Expenditures		
Grants	348,249	304,710
Administration fees	15,000	10,000
Bad debts	-	682
Bank charges	323	349
Board of directors	411	2,200
Contractor fees	46,703	20,202
Equipment rental	-	628
Insurance, licences and dues	1,735	1,575
Inventory write-off	-	6,644
Jury / Peer Review Committee	-	1,716
Office	670	807
Professional fees	6,378	10,551
Travel	488	1,812
Workers Compensation Board	18	-
Amortization	<u>-</u>	<u>1,209</u>
	<u>419,975</u>	<u>363,085</u>
 Excess/(Shortfall) of revenue over expenditures	(53)	27,749
 Net Assets, beginning of year	<u>73,060</u>	<u>45,311</u>
 Net Assets, end of year	<u>\$ 73,007</u>	<u>\$ 73,060</u>

FIRST PEOPLES' CULTURAL FOUNDATION

Statement of Cash Flows

Year Ended March 31, 2009

	2009	2008
Cash Provided By (Used In):		
Operating Activities		
Excess/(Shortfall) of Revenue over Expenses	\$ (53)	\$ 27,749
Item not involving cash		
Amortization	<u>-</u>	<u>1,209</u>
	(53)	28,958
Cash Generated by (Committed to)		
Non-cash Operating Accounts	<u>(210,011)</u>	<u>1,846,392</u>
	<u>(210,064)</u>	<u>1,875,350</u>
Financing Activities		
Advances to First Peoples' Heritage, Language and Culture Council	<u>-</u>	<u>(48,637)</u>
Increase (Decrease) In Cash	(210,064)	1,826,713
Cash and cash equivalents, Beginning of Year	<u>2,346,028</u>	<u>519,315</u>
Cash and cash equivalents, End of Year	<u>\$ 2,135,964</u>	<u>\$ 2,346,028</u>
Cash Generated By (Committed to)		
Non-cash Operating Accounts		
Accounts receivable	\$ (64,615)	\$ 74,171
Inventory	-	6,645
Prepaid expenses	195	(750)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	50,172	11,435
Deferred revenue	<u>(195,763)</u>	<u>1,754,891</u>
	<u>\$ (210,011)</u>	<u>\$ 1,846,392</u>

FIRST PEOPLES' CULTURAL FOUNDATION

Notes to Financial Statements

Year Ended March 31, 2009

1. PURPOSE OF THE ORGANIZATION

The First Peoples' Cultural Foundation is incorporated under the Society Act of British Columbia and is a Registered Charity under the Income Tax Act.

The purposes of the Foundation are as follows:

- To preserve and enhance the heritage, language and culture of the First Nations of British Columbia;
- To increase sharing of cultural, linguistic and heritage knowledge amongst the First Nations of British Columbia;
- To educate the public regarding the culture, heritage and languages of the First Nations of British Columbia; and
- To heighten appreciation and acceptance of the wealth of Aboriginal cultural diversity.

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Financial Instruments

The Foundation's financial instruments consist of cash and cash equivalents, receivables, prepaids, payables and accruals.

Unless otherwise noted, it is management's opinion that the Foundation is not exposed to significant interest, currency or credit risks arising from these financial instruments. The fair value of these financial instruments approximates their carrying values, unless otherwise noted.

Cash equivalents consist of restricted funds invested in the Canadian Money Market Fund held with Phillips, Hager & North Investment Funds Ltd. The amount invested at March 31, 2009 was \$1,912,784 (2008 - \$1,864,177).

(b) Use of Estimates

In preparing the Foundation's financial statements, management is required to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the period. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

FIRST PEOPLES' CULTURAL FOUNDATION

Notes to Financial Statements

Year Ended March 31, 2009

3. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	2009 Net	2008 Net
Computer equipment	\$ 90,451	\$ 90,451	\$ -	\$ -
Furniture and fixtures	<u>706</u>	<u>706</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>\$ 91,157</u>	<u>\$ 91,157</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

4. DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS

The Foundation has continuing programs at March 31, 2009. Contributions related to the completion of these programs have been deferred as follows:

	2009	2008
Ministry of Children and Family Development		
Early Years Project	\$ 1,775,584	\$ 1,941,811
Empowering Relationships	97,454	317,700
First Nation Technology Council	15,000	-
First Peoples' Heritage, Language & Culture Council	<u>175,710</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>\$ 2,063,748</u>	<u>\$ 2,259,511</u>

During the prior year, the Foundation received a \$2 million grant from the Province of British Columbia, Ministry of Children and Family Development. The purpose of the funding was to establish a trust fund to support the development of resources for British Columbia First Nations' languages for early childhood development.

FIRST PEOPLES' CULTURAL FOUNDATION
Schedule of Operations by Program (Unaudited)
Year Ended March 31, 2009

	Administration	Cultural Programs	Total
Revenue			
BC Ministry of Children and Family Development	-	348,578	348,578
First Peoples' Heritage, Language and Culture Council	-	20,000	20,000
	<u>-</u>	<u>368,578</u>	<u>368,578</u>
Revenue - Other			
Donations	100	-	100
Interest and miscellaneous	2,637	48,607	51,244
	<u>2,737</u>	<u>48,607</u>	<u>51,344</u>
Total Revenue	<u>2,737</u>	<u>417,185</u>	<u>419,922</u>
Expenditures - Grants			
Grants	-	248,249	248,249
First Peoples' Heritage, Language and Culture Council	-	100,000	100,000
	<u>-</u>	<u>348,249</u>	<u>348,249</u>
Expenditures - Operations			
Administration fees	15,000	-	15,000
Bank charges	323	-	323
Board of directors	411	-	411
Contractor fees	26,374	20,329	46,703
Insurance	1,735	-	1,735
Office	670	-	670
Professional fees	6,378	-	6,378
Travel	488	-	488
Workers Compensation Board	18	-	18
	<u>51,397</u>	<u>20,329</u>	<u>71,726</u>
Total expenditures	<u>51,397</u>	<u>368,578</u>	<u>419,975</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue over Expenditure	<u>(48,660)</u>	<u>48,607</u>	<u>(53)</u>