



Welcome to **PICKLEBALLBC**!

Early December 2016, I applied for and was given the task / job of Provincial Ambassador for BC within the Pickleball Canada Organization.

As I learned what this task was all about - communicating with various PCO people and a whole host of British Columbians that enjoy pickleball, I realized a few things, many things.

There are a lot of people playing pickleball in many different locations throughout this Province. Some are addicted, many are social players, many are tournament rats. Regardless the severity of the affliction there is a commonality in the rewards received by playing this crazy game, the social aspects it encourages and the obvious freedom people have in sharing their knowledge with others - new or experienced, young or not so young. I have been bested by a 14 year old and by many septuagenarians!

But there is also a significant shortfall of support, particularly BC based support, support needed to continue the growth and enjoyment of pickleball. We have significant differences or widely diffused practices in areas where maybe some more consistent practices would be beneficial. There is not yet a common or centralized support mechanism.

I have a list of at least seven(7) areas where I think we could benefit by facilitated communications, investigation and understanding. I will not elucidate further at this time - I invite you to express your concerns and hopefully your ability to help address said concerns.

To get this whole process started I found a local pickleball player who has created a fantastic website for us - Ken Holman has been putting it all together. If you agree, email him at: [goodjobKen@pickleballbc.ca](mailto:goodjobKen@pickleballbc.ca) - I am sure he would love to know.

Karen Watson and Ken Witt have pulled together what I think is a great section on why you should join **PICKLEBALLBC**. They have included some future initiatives along with some information on the planned growth of **PICKLEBALLBC**. If you have not yet visited that page on the website I would ask that you do soon! And finish by completing the simple enrolment procedure.

One of the early objectives is obviously to establish a membership quorum representing pickleball players from across all of BC. I am told there are over 1,700 PCO members in BC. I expect there are at least another 1,000 that are just out there having a good time. **PICKLEBALLBC** is open to ALL pickleball players not only from the Province of BC but other locations as well. I invite you all to join, say you believe pickleball needs more, deserves more and you wish to be part of the growth engine!

You are worried about the cost. We are not asking for your credit card number - today it is free. It will not always be that way. Some of the initiatives will cost money. The more we are, the less it should cost per unit. And remember **PICKLEBALLBC** is now, and should be for a long time, run and managed by pure volunteers - no wages to anyone.

One of the initiatives, when the membership numbers and geographical representation is deemed 'enough', is registration as a society under the BC Societies Act. To that end Robert Boyd has been working on the so-called boring background stuff.

To meet the requirements of parts of the Societies Act, and the self set objective of truly representing and helping throughout the Province, not only should the members come from all corners of the Province - so should the directors. We cannot be comprised of a bunch of suits that drive downtown Vancouver to work every day.

So far two of us could drive downtown each day - and we are glad we do not have to anymore! Also a couple people are Islanders, one from the Kootenays - there is some diversity. I am counting on one or more from the Interior areas, maybe another Vancouverite, possibly another Islander to accept key roles. As we develop, there will certainly be room for you to express your off-court prowess.

This hello page is now gone beyond hello and come to **'thank you for reading, thank you for supporting - please go to the membership page and join PICKLEBALLBC'**. Then you may explore the rest of the website and contribute if you wish.

I am looking forward to not only helping pickleball grow in BC but also to meeting more of the pickleball players in this Province.

Sincerely,

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