

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Presented by VULS President Trisha Roberson

The past year has been defined by the global COVID-19 pandemic. For the VUL, no ultimate was played between March - June 2020. Modified practices and skills training resumed in June 2020, and modified leagues began playing in September 2020. On December 4, 2020, all adult sport in BC was again suspended under a public health order. We saw a 59% reduction in the number of members playing ultimate this year, and a 71% reduction in league revenue between 2019 and 2020. Given the reduction in revenue and ultimate, our staff voluntarily reduced their hours.

The VUL Staff and Board have worked hard this year on initiatives which included in particular:

- A major focus in 2020 was adapting programming to the realities and changing nature of COVID-19. This included responding to covid-19 public health regulations, viaSport Return to Play, and working with our Provincial Sports Organization partner, BC Ultimate.
- The VUL has selected a firm for the finance function and financial information systems project approved at the last annual general meeting (on January 29, 2020 to use *up to \$30,000 from the VULS capital fund over a 24 month period to upgrade VUL financial systems and processes*).

While we cannot predict when the covid-19 pandemic will end, we certainly expect to be playing ultimate in Vancouver when it does. We can promote resilience by safeguarding the VUL community we have built together. We want the VUL to be in a strong position to return to offering the rich selection of ultimate available in Vancouver and continuing our support of regional development.

The financial impact of the pandemic on the VUL's cash flows has been significant. The VUL has received nearly \$80k in wage subsidies, a \$40k loan, and grants. Adult sports have been suspended and the [Joint statement on B.C.'s COVID-19 response on Nov 19, 2020](#) including wording that "*League organizers should continue planning for 2021 with today's modifications in mind.*" Anticipating continued limitations on our ability to play ultimate in 2021 and revenue impacts, the board has approved a motion and recommends that members approve the use of a portion of capital funds toward the VUL's resiliency during COVID-19. The VUL is also accepting donations — thank you to members who have already donated almost \$9000.

Strategic Plan

The VUL is entering the final year of our 2017-2021 Strategic Plan. This plan has focused on 4 Pillars (Youth, Adult, Regional Support, Leadership) and 6 Foundations (Spirit, Facilities, Communication, Collaboration, Human Resources, Governance). A visual strategic plan report for 2020 was created by the Strategic Plan Committee Chair, Christa Hoy and I suggest reviewing it for details.

Along with continued crisis management, a major task for the 2021 Board of Directors will be to create the next iteration of the strategic plan.

Acknowledgments

Board and Committees

The current Board of Directors are:

Trisha Roberson, President 2016-2020 (Up for re-election)

Sarah Cawston-Stewart, Vice-President 2016-2020 (Up for re-election)

Christa Hoy 2018-2020

Ken Su, Secretary 2017-2021

Lisa Riddle 2019-2021

Zun Zhang 2019-2021

David Midgley, Treasurer 2019-2021

The current board committees are:

Strategic Planning Committee - Christa Hoy (Chair), Zun Zhang, Craig Woods*, Stuart Nash*

responsible for supporting the Board with strategic planning and advising the Board on long-term strategic direction

Human Resources Committee - Zun Zhang (Chair), Christa Hoy, Lisa Riddle, Trisha Roberson

oversee the human resources activities of the VULS, particularly related to the Executive Director (ED) of the VULS

Hall of Fame Committee - Ken Su, Christa Hoy, Anja Haman*, Edward Burnet*, Scott Lewis*

Advisors - Sarah Cawston-Stewart, Rob Adams*

oversee the governance of the VULS Hall of Fame and propose new inductees to the VULS Hall of Fame

Governance Committee - Lisa Riddle (Chair), Rob Adams*, Sarah Cawston-Stewart

solicit feedback from the board, provide guidance regarding the good operation of the board, facilitate its self-evaluation and encourage continuous improvement through consistent exercise of best practices

Finance Committee - David Midgley (Chair), Trisha Roberson, Ken Su, Craig Woods*, Rob Adams*

support the Board in providing financial oversight for the society

* non board-member

Staff

Great thanks goes to the VUL staff, who have been dedicated in managing the operations of the VUL despite all of the many new challenges and ongoing uncertainty. They have been able to adapt and have worked to offer members adjusted programs when possible. That membership satisfaction has risen to 92% this year is testament to the care and diligence of the staff in the face of crises and disruption. The senior staff are:

Craig Woods - Executive Director

William Arlotta - Youth Manager

Katie Berezan - League Manager

Michael Dorsey - Web Systems Manager

Kristine Salzmann - Acting Marketing Manager