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BC has a Premier and a Lieutenant Governor, but did you know it also has a Governor-Elect?

by Leona Frenette, SCP

Leadership comes in many forms, and one of the most challenging areas of leadership is in volunteer-based organizations.

By day, Patrick Ewing is the Manager of Intergovernmental Fiscal Relations within the Strategic and Corporate Policy Division. By night (and on weekends), he is a leader in Kiwanis International, a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world, one child and one community at a time (www.kiwanis.org). He is involved in the local region known as the Pacific Northwest (PNW) District, which includes Oregon, Washington, British Columbia, Alaska, and Yukon, as well as portions of California and Idaho.

story continued on page 4

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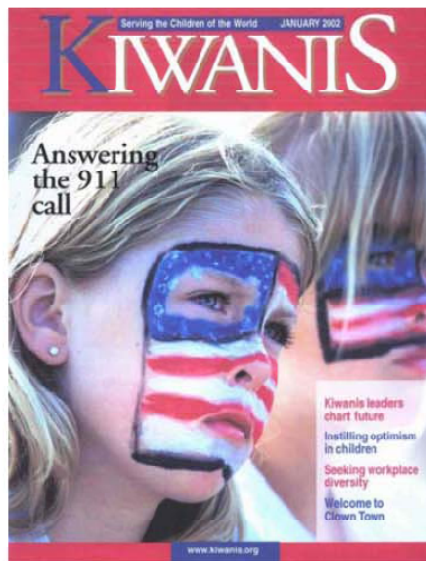


Patrick's volunteer "career" started in elementary school, when he was a Kiwanis Safety Patrol crossing guard at Monterey Elementary School. With over 20 years of membership, he has provided tens of thousands of hours of volunteer work and leadership activities, but his biggest challenge is about to begin. As the youngest Governor in the 95 year history of Kiwanis International, Patrick will be the first to have come up through the Kiwanis youth programs.

After a nine-month campaign, traveling over 30,000 kilometres to meetings and community service projects in the PNW, he was elected in August to serve as Governor-Elect for the Pacific Northwest District of Kiwanis International. He will be responsible for assembling a team of about 40 program chairs, training 47 Lieutenant Governors, leading a board of more than 50 voting members, and administering to a district of more than 10,000 members and more than 300 clubs.



Why would someone get so involved in volunteer activities? "There are rewards that go beyond money. I have had the opportunity to impact the lives of children and of people in need. I have gained leadership skills that will serve me in my career. And I have developed a network of friends throughout the Pacific Northwest and around the world. I have had wonderful opportunities to be successful and grow as a leader because other people saw the potential in me. Now my main challenge is to seek out the potential in others and give them the information, motivation, and latitude they need to be innovative and find success in their respective roles."



One of Patrick's most memorable Kiwanis moments - organizing a concert in Sidney, BC that raised \$10,000 to assist victims of 9/11

Patrick's Director, Rory Molnar and ADM Andy Robinson, have been very supportive - their willingness to accommodate Patrick's leave requirements makes a big difference. "They see the leadership experience I am gaining through Kiwanis and they know that my experience as Governor-Elect and Governor will enhance my ability to be a leader within the public service."