



# BCRC Newsletter

Volume 3, Issue 2

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## Executive Director's Message

### Special points of interest:

- Update on our young filmmakers
- Dr. Rosemary Brown
- Summer Camp is here again
- Fax & photocopier for donation

The coming of April marks the beginning of a new fiscal year for many of us in the community and public sectors. Undoubtedly, the end of March has been a busy time as we struggle to submit last minute reports or funding proposals to ensure that we can continue to do important work within the community.

For the team at B.C.R.C., we have had the opportunity to contrast our objectives for the past fiscal year with achieved results. In many respects, 2004-2005 will represent the continuation of a journey of dialogue, consultation and evolution begun in the last fiscal year, as we solidify our plans for the future with respect to our clients and partners. For instance, we have recently completed the second phase of our strategic planning and hope to hold community consultations in the next few months during which we will gain valuable feedback with regard to our pro-

posed activities for the upcoming year.

As well, in the next month we will be meeting with several organizational representatives to explore ways that B.C.R.C. can offer resource support to strengthen or extend operations. Included in our outreach to organizations is a survey of organizational needs in the community. The findings of this survey will help us to develop programming that can meet the specific needs of organizations requiring support.

In short, the new fiscal year brings with it the continuing challenge of facilitating exchange and mutual support between organizations. We look forward to facing this challenge with your support.

Sharon Springer (Executive Director)

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### Our young filmmakers & Project R.E.E.L. (Redefining Expression, Education, and Leadership)

On February 29, the group returned from seven exciting days of filming in New York City. During the week, the youth interviewed numerous inspiring individuals from a variety of community-based organizations. Among these, the group spent time with students from the Brooklyn 'Freedom School', conscious artists from the 'Black Out Arts Collective', politically active Bronx DJ's from 'Rise Up Radio', activists from 'Justice for Youth Coalition' and 'Global Action Project' and student organizers from Columbia University. Throughout the week, the group was exposed to a wide variety of individuals and experiences, each one offering a wonderful opportunity to expand the world view and understanding of the youth. Even

more exciting, however, is the extent to which the youth took advantage of these opportunities- following each new encounter, the youth would leave engaged in animated discussions (both formal and informal) about their experiences, reactions and perceptions. In all, the week was an amazing experience (according to both animators and participants). It was a chance to experience and learn about different cultures, different struggles and different perspectives.

Upon returning from New York (on February 29) the groups completed filming in Montreal and have since begun the process of editing their film. This phase will likely last until the beginning of May.