

August 2020

### **Vancouver Bridge Centre Financial Update and Game Time Changes**

It's been five months since all bridge clubs closed. It doesn't look like we will be reopening before spring of next year at the earliest. While many of us have adapted to online bridge, it's just not the same as playing in person. Like everyone else I so look forward to getting back to the table.

A big loss to the Bridge Centre is the approximately 60 or so eager and enthusiastic students, who were primed to join the duplicate world. They were to be the nucleus of a new 0-5 newcomer game in April. Hopefully we will get most of them back when we reopen.

The lease on our Kerrisdale premises expires at the end of August. With the generous donations from many people and the continuing support for the online games, we have been able to cover full rent for April and reduced rent for May to August. I have negotiated a month to month arrangement with the landlord from September 1<sup>st</sup> onwards for a storage fee of \$1,500 a month. Our landlord, ASK, is currently advertising the space but will give the Bridge Centre an option to reconsider should they find an interested tenant.

Our rent continues to be high and there are also director fees (a big thank you to Bruce McIntyre for running all our games) and GST. But with continued support for the online club games I am confident we can sustain these expenses.

Once again I want to give a big thanks to all who have donated. I was quite overwhelmed by the show of support and your generosity. It is very much appreciated and you have ensured the club can survive this pandemic. I am truly grateful.

Together, we will get through this.

Based on player feedback we are making changes to the start times of our Monday 0-750 game and Tuesday open game. Both will start at 10:15 **beginning August 24**. So Monday to Thursday day games begin at 10:15 and Friday through Sunday games will remain at 1:15. We also have the IMP league starting up again on August 25. This is a no charge, no masterpoint event. Register your team soon.

If you have comments or questions please contact me. Send a BBO chat to "Lochang" or contact Bruce McIntyre through BBO chat at "VACB154971".

Best regards,

Ken Lochang