

On behalf of the ASBC, I thank all members and persons who have generously donated their time and efforts volunteering for programs and activities. I personally thank the outgoing Executive Committee for their teamwork, and I thank the new incoming Executive Committee for their commitment and enthusiasm. To all the ASBC membership, I thank you all for your continued support of the ASBC.

Respectfully,

Eric McLay, ASBC President 2007-2008

INCOMING PRESIDENT'S LETTER

As this is my first President's Letter, I will introduce myself prior to espousing opinions on all matters archaeological. My archaeological education started at Simon Fraser University with a Bachelor of Arts, Major in Archaeology. Several years ago I completed my Master of Science in the Palaeoecology of Human Societies (Environmental Archaeology) at University College London in England. I have worked in consulting archaeology since 2000 and volunteered on a variety of projects prior to this. The majority of my fieldwork has taken place throughout British Columbia, though I have also worked in England and Turkey. My interests primarily lie in the archaeology of northwestern North America, environmental archaeology and the utilization of oral historical records in archaeological interpretation.

I have been a member of the ASBC since the late 1990s and have attended as many meetings over the years as fieldwork would allow. I am also currently a member of the executive of the BC Association of Professional Archaeologists and hope to bring these two organizations closer together. I have a great passion for archaeology in general, and while it is my job, it is also my hobby.

In the next year I would like to pursue several goals for which the preceding ASBC Executive has largely set the groundwork. I am also interested in new avenues of investigating BC's rich archaeological heritage while protecting it at the same time.

Public education in archaeology is a priority for the present Executive. In the next year, we would like to initiate a public archaeology program in cooperation with a local First Nation. Archaeology is a great way to expand dialogue with First Nations and to provide a common understanding of the material record of our province. I hope that a local public archaeology project can combine a productive First Nations partnership with the presentation of archaeological methods in a way that creates educational and outreach opportunities that can influence the public's disposition towards protecting archaeological heritage.

The Executive is also hoping to produce a special colour edition issue of *The Midden* focused on a specific theme. We hope that this effort will highlight some of the amazing archaeology being conducted in the Northwest. The new Executive also hopes to bring in some diverse and exciting guest speakers to participate in our monthly meetings. These two goals are also motivated by public education and highlighting extraordinary archaeology.

On the archaeological heritage legislation front, I would like

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to see further dialogue established between the ASBC and groups such as the Canadian Archaeological Association and the provincial archaeological societies. Through further discussion and as a united front, we can reinvigorate the push towards the creation of national archaeological heritage legislation. Furthermore, it is vital that we pursue revisions to BC's Heritage Conservation Act and confront the glaring inadequacies that are present in its current form.

I look forward to getting to know my fellow ASBC members and would appreciate any feedback, comments and ideas that anyone is willing to share with me. I can be reached at asbc.president@gmail.com. I look forward to seeing everyone at our next meeting in September!

Finally, on behalf of the ASBC executive, I would like to thank Eric McLay for his tremendous efforts over the last two years. I look forward to working with Eric over the next year. I have big shoes to fill!

Sincerely,

Ian Cameron, ASBC President