

## An informal historical snapshot of the ISABC

Year	Milestones in independent education and the Independent Schools Association of BC, formerly known as the PSA and later the ISA	School & Year founded
Early 1900's	No legal recognition of independent schools for the next three quarters of a century <b>"100 independent girls' and boys' schools sprang up in BC amid concentrated pockets of British immigrants in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century"</b>	1898 Crofton House School 1 1906 St. Michaels University School 2 1908 St. Margaret's School 3 1913 Norfolk House 4 1916 Shawnigan Lake School 5 1920 3.5% of BC children attend indep schools 1921 Queen Margaret's 6 1923 Brentwood College 7 1931 St. George's School 8 1932 York House School 9 1932 Glenlyon School 10
1930's	<b>Beginnings of the Private Schools' Association in BC (PSA)</b> Catholic Schools were petitioning for taxation relief The PSA offered the Catholic Schools honorary membership in the PSA – this was declined <b>Private Schools' Association enjoyed a true independence since there no legal recognition</b>	1935 3.8% of BC children attend indep schools
1943	Minister of Education proposed an Independent Schools bill. Attempt failed	
1943	<b>John Harker, Headmaster of St. George's School</b> wrote: "Recognition and control cannot be divorced .... What are we getting in comparison with what we are risking?" Negotiations with the province for legal recognition ended abruptly.	1945 4.1% of BC children attend independent schools
1948	Minister of Education proposed an Independent Schools bill. Attempt failed again	1947 Brentwood burns and closes 7
1954	<b>"We have no control over our independent schools" Ministry of Education official</b>	1955 5.0% of BC children attend indep schools
1957		1961 Brentwood re-opened 7
1964	<b>The 100 small 'university prep, British model schools' were down to 19 which were able to survive the harsh financial realities of being viable alternatives to the ongoing improvements in public school education.</b>	1964 6.0% of children attend independent schools
1964	<b>"Ned Larsen, Headmaster of Shawnigan Lake, proposed an organization unifying all non-public schools in BC"</b> Con-currently, Gerry Ensing, president of the Christian Schools (Dutch reform) movement, realised that they could not achieve recognition and possibly funding on their own.	
1964	<b>First tentative meeting of the Federation of Independent Schools Associations</b>	1968
1966	<b>FISA pursues 'legal recognition' as its first priority</b>  <b>Led by presidents from ISA schools, FISA adopts the strategy of 'low-key representations to government avoiding confrontation"</b>	1969 <b>14 schools in the ISA 3,159 students in ISABC</b>
1972	<b>ISA withdraws from FISA</b> , becoming an 'observer' for 3 years, since ISA members were (i) "no longer able to identify with the aims, objectives and methods of the FISA" and (ii) <b>"concerned that the government would attach unacceptable controls to funding"</b> .	
1973	Shawnigan Lake School joins the Associate Member Group of the FISA.	
1975	<b>ISA re-applied for membership of the FISA and the coalition was re-united</b>	
1975	<b>Political climate turns:</b> The three parties articulate their support (in different ways) for legal recognition and some funding. FISA proposed the creation of an Independent Schools <u>Council</u> <b>Most associations (including the ISA) agreed to the necessity of school inspections</b>	
1977	<b>Independent Schools Support Act.</b> The Office of the Inspector of Independent Schools originates from this time. <b>Funding levels were set at 9% and 30%</b>	1978 <b>10 schools in ISABC 3,556 students in ISA 4.1% of children attend independent schools</b>
1983	<b>FISA is acknowledged as the voice of independent education in the province.</b> <b>Mandatory grade 12 exams were introduced.</b> <b>ISA approved of this initiative although the other associations opposed.</b>	1982 Fraser Academy 11
1984	FISA debate resumes on the \$\$ levels of funding.	1984 Collingwood School 12
1984-6	ISA is lukewarm towards change in funding, being concerned over the likelihood of further controls. 3 new ISABC schools open prior to funding becoming available.	1985 Meadowridge School 13 1986 St. John's School 14 Choice School for Gifted Children 15

1987/8	<b>SULLIVAN COMMISSION</b> ISA stated that the Association did not want more than 35% funding. ISA was seeking less funding (than the other associations) for less regulation.	1986	Glenlyon & Norfolk House amalgamate as Glenlyon Norfolk School	-1
1989 1990's	Independent School Act established legal recognition of Independent Schools in BC. <i>The era of choice of education results in parents opening new independent schools in local communities.</i>	<b>1988</b>	<b>13 schools in ISA</b> <b>4,814 students in ISA</b> 5.8% of BC students within FISA schools	
<b>Past 20 years</b>	<b>Student enrolment in ISABC schools increases by 1655 students (52%) in the 20 years – 1968 to 1988</b>	1993	The Glenfir School	15
1993		1993	Mulgrave School	16
1995		1995	Southridge School	17
		<b>1995</b>	<b>15 schools in ISABC</b> <b>5,830 students in ISA</b> 8.4% of BC students within FISA schools	
1995		1995	Island Pacific School	18
1996		1996	West Point Grey Academy	19
			<b>16 schools in ISA</b> <b>7,475 students in ISA</b> 8.4% of BC students within FISA schools	
<b>10 years</b>	<b>Student enrolment in ISABC schools increases by 2661 students (55%) in the 10 years – 1988 to 1998</b>	2000	Southpointe Academy	20
		2000	Stratford Hall	21
		2002	Aspengrove School	22
		2004	Aberdeen Hall	23
		2004	Brockton School	24
2005/6		2005	<b>18 schools in ISA</b> <b>10,979 students in ISA</b>	
2007 23 Feb 10 years	Independent Schools Association of BC (ISABC) is incorporated under the Society Act of British Columbia <b>Student enrolment in ISABC schools increases by 4009 students (54%) in the 10 years – 1998 to 2008</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>The current era</b> <b>21 schools in ISABC</b> <b>11,484 students in ISABC</b> 11% of BC students within FISA schools	
2011		2011	Glenfir School closes <b>23 schools in ISABC</b> <b>11,744 students</b> 11% of BC students within FISA schools	
Refs	Many of the above quotations are taken from the book 'Justice Achieved' by Victoria Cunningham. FISA commissioned and published the book in 2002.		Dates were taken from school web sites. Apologies for any errors	

