

*Via E-mail*

April 15, 2019

Dear BC Soccer Members, Affiliated Organizations, and the soccer community in BC,

Re: Update from the President and BC Soccer Board of Directors

BC Soccer is committed to providing a safe environment for all participants in soccer and is providing this update in follow up to the [‘Open Letter’ shared on March 1, 2019](#) and its position through a [statement dated Tuesday February 26th](#).

Since our ‘Open Letter’, BC Soccer’s Risk Management Committee Chair and board of directors has focused on defining the scope for an investigative review/assessment and engaging an appropriately qualified independent third-party to conduct the important piece of work.

The independent third-party BC Soccer has engaged is [Rubin Thomlinson LLP](#) with [Ms. Marisha Roman, B.A., LL.B](#) as the project lead.

Jurisdiction for the investigative review/assessment is important. The troubling details within a blog released on Monday February 25<sup>th</sup> chronicling a series of disturbing allegations stemming initially from 2006-2008 and the subsequent statements thereafter, discusses programming and coach activity outside of BC Soccer jurisdiction. We understand this may be confusing to people in the soccer community as the alleged activity took place in our province. BC Soccer has oversight of amateur soccer in BC, this oversight excludes national programming and professional club operations. Further, we would like to state that our initial naming of this activity as an “Investigative Review” was incorrect. The term suggests BC Soccer is investigating specific allegations which, due to jurisdictional limitation, we are not able to do. The activity is better termed, an “Assessment”.

Safety in Soccer is the focus of the Assessment BC Soccer is commissioning. The assessment goal is to collect information about individuals’ experiences and perspectives on player safety as it relates to the systemic culture within soccer in BC. This will be completed by broadly engaging the soccer community allowing any individual within BC Soccer’s structure to provide input via an online survey. A targeted engagement with participants and personnel within the BC SPL and Provincial Program will also be undertaken. The survey will be augmented by one-on-one interviews as determined by the independent third-party firm. Additionally, the assessment is to identify, through a review of BC Soccer’s current by-laws, rules, regulations, policies, and good practice guides (‘policy review’) as well as a literature review, any gaps and/or barriers to supporting a culture of safety for players within the jurisdiction of BC Soccer.



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Rubin Thomlinson LLP is in the process of developing and designing the initial survey and once available we will share with our member and affiliate organizations and across our social media channels.

Thank you.

Per BC Soccer board of directors:

Kjeld Brodsgaard  
President  
BC Soccer