

Past GVCSS Board Member Paul Gauthier Wins Gold at Boccia World Cup!

It is with great pride and enthusiasm that we congratulate past GVCSS Board member Paul Gauthier on his recent Gold Medal win for the individual event at the Boccia World Cup Tournament which was held here in Vancouver at BC Place from May 10-19, 2007.

To provide a bit of background, Boccia is a sport which is similar to lawn bowling and played by athletes with cerebral palsy. The Canadian Team qualified for the 2008 Paralympic Games to be held in Beijing as a result of their performance at this year's World Cup. Some of Paul's past achievements in the individual Boccia event include a bronze medal at the 2000 Paralympics in Sydney, Australia; a silver medal at the 2003 World Cup held in New Zealand; and a gold medal at the 2004 Paralympic Games held in Athens, Greece.

As an advocate for individuals with disabilities in the community, Paul's achievements go far beyond Boccia. He has worked for years as a community advocate to help individuals living with disabilities, notably for his involvement in the CISL program (Choice in Supports in Independent Living) in the 1990's. He also has a longstanding association with GVCSS including involvement with ECPM (Enhanced Consumer Participation Model), past membership on the GVCSS Board of Directors and maintained an office at the GVCSS head office premises from 1999 to 2006 where he conducted work in consumer advocacy for those living with disabilities in the community. Paul is continuing his tireless work for individuals with disabilities and is currently a community capacity coordinator with the BC Paraplegic Association.

Once again, our warmest congratulations go to Paul on his gold medal win, and we wish him well in his future athletic achievements and his work advocating for those with disabilities.