



Fall 2025



Fall Greetings from the Editor of 'Open Road'



Now that summer has come to an end it looks like fall weather is with us for a few months. The leaves are always so beautiful at this time of year.

The BCRTA's AGM is always a reminder we are entering a new time of year! Our President, Gail Chaddock-Costello attended the two-day event along with Vice President Laurence Greeff, and George Gray, member at large, as your representatives. The BCRTA website has full summaries of all the events.

Our No Bell Picnic was once again a success with lawn games. Unfortunately, there was a fire ban so our hopes of having a bonfire to roast wieners and marshmallows will have to be put on hold until next year.

We hope to offer more day trips organized by Judy DeVries via *Enjoy the Journey*, so stay tuned.

We are busy planning our Christmas luncheon for Wed. Dec. 3rd (see details below) and are looking forward to having Lisa Hansen join us as a presenter. She will be updating us on the changes to BelairDirect (formerly Johnson Insurance) extended health services with a comparison to the coverage that Greenshield offers.

Hope to see you at the Christmas luncheon.

Maureen Wilson, Editor

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON AT ADRIAN'S

Our annual LRTA pre-Christmas get-together at *Adrian's at the Airport* will be held on **Wed. Dec. 3, 2025**.

You will have three menu items to choose from:

1. chicken souvlaki
2. schnitzel Neptune
3. spanakopita



And, to spread a little extra Christmas cheer again this year, we have a **SPECIAL CHRISTMAS luncheon cost of ONLY \$25!!!** This includes tea/coffee, entrée, dessert AND gratuity.

There will be some fabulous 'give-aways', as well, so plan on coming and share some Christmas cheer with us.

To pre-register email me [@lrta.35@gmail.com](mailto:lrta.35@gmail.com)

or phone me @ **604-916-0653**.

Deadline to pre-register is **Nov. 28th**.

Our Annual No Bell Picnic Was a Success!!!

The weather couldn't have been more perfect for our annual "No Bell" picnic held for our retirees at Derby Reach. Sandwiches and other goodies were supplied by the LRTA this year, so no homemade lunches needed to be brought. And even though we had set up croquet set up in the park, people preferred chatting with each other instead. Our lucky winners had smiles on their faces as they picked up their prizes.

Thanks to all for making it such an enjoyable event! Special thanks to those who helped with the planning and organizing of the event.



What a nifty logo on the Uplands retirees' T-shirts -- a gift from their staff!



Langley Retired Educators' Scholarship Team Report

~Submitted by Sue Mackenzie~



Once again it is time to think about the Langley Educators' Scholarship

program. The program was originally established by the Langley Retired Teachers' Association (LRTA) under the coordination and diligent work of former LRTA Executive member and retired administrator, **Maureen Pepin**. Sadly, Maureen passed away 2 years ago. This past year we were pleased to

announce that the Langley Retired Educators' Scholarship for Langley Secondary School will be awarded annually in memory of Maureen.

This scholarship program has been under the coordination and management of the Langley School District Foundation for many years. The amount of the scholarships awarded varies somewhat depending upon the amount of donations collected annually and changing interest rates. Students who wish to pursue their post-secondary education with the goal of teaching are eligible to apply.

The Langley Retired Educators are pleased to award eight scholarships of \$650 each for the 2024/2025 school year. Several secondary schools have been designated *'in honour of'*, with the newest memorial being for our dearly missed colleague, **Maureen Pepin**, who worked tirelessly on this scholarship program over many years.

Morgan Woodley	Aldergrove Secondary	Katrina Hui	Walnut Grove (In honour of <i>Dorothy Peacock</i>)
Emily Ann Condon	Brookwood Secondary	Iris Scott	Langley Secondary (In honour of <i>Maureen Pepin</i>)
Preston Bower	Langley Fine Arts (in honour of <i>Bob McCubbin</i>)	Ella Johnson	RE Mountain (In honour of <i>Rick Buck</i>)
Anna Robb	Langley Fundamental (in honour of <i>Helen Woolley</i>)	Amy Kehler	DW Poppy (In memory of <i>Marg Hunter</i>)

In addition to the eight scholarships, The Denny Ross Memorial Scholarship has been awarded to **Amelia Siefke**, a Langley Fine Arts Secondary student.

We would like to thank all of you who have generously donated to the fund in previous years on behalf of the Langley Retired Educators' Scholarship Fund. Without your support we would be unable to fulfill our desire to offer one to eight secondary schools in Langley School District. For more information, please contact: Sue Mackenzie spmackenzie2@gmail.com on behalf of Retired Educators' Scholarship Team (REST) or the Langley School District Foundation (office at the SBO) at 604-617-5140. Reminder - these donations are tax deductible, and receipts will be issued and sent to the email address you provide.

If you decide that you would like to contribute to the 2025 /2026 scholarships, please do so at **the following link:** [**Langley's Retired Educators Scholarship Fund**](#)

****Important.** Be sure to specify the donation is for the **"Langley Retired Educators' Scholarships."** Please remember to include your email address so a tax receipt can be sent to you.

*Also, please note that the campaign is over **December 31st** for donations for this year.*



TREASURER'S REPORT

Income Statement July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025



~Submitted by John Salmon~

REVENUE

Membership (BCRTA)	\$4,750.00
Programmes	
Total Revenue	<u>\$4,750.00</u>

EXPENSE

Administration	See Note A	\$857.99
Memberships (COSCO)		\$200.00
Miscellaneous	See Note B	\$735.67
Programmes	See Note C	\$3,040.25
Technology	See Note D	\$162.61
Total Expense		<u>\$4,996.52</u>

NET INCOME	<u><u>-\$246.52</u></u>
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Note A: Newsletters, postage, stationery, email, etc.

Note B: Membership appreciation, sunshine, etc.

Note C: Luncheons, outings, workshops (Net \$2,205.68)

Note D: Sound equipment (charged to contingencies)

SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

	BANK	GENERAL	CONTINGENCIES	ADVOCACY
Balance July 1, 2023	\$14,895.16	\$13,386.29	\$113.87	\$1,395.00
Receipts	<u>\$4,835.00</u>	<u>\$4,835.00</u>	\$0.00	\$0.00
	\$19,730.16	\$18,221.29	\$113.87	\$1,395.00
Payments	<u>-\$5,081.52</u>	<u>\$4,918.91</u>	<u>\$162.61</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
	\$0.00	\$13,302.38	-\$48.74	\$1,395.00
		-\$48.74	\$48.74	
Balance June 30, 2024	<u>\$14,648.64</u>	<u>\$13,253.64</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$1,395.00</u>

Cash on Hand June 30, 2025	\$200.00	
Bank Balance	<u>\$148,648.64</u>	Balance per Bank Statement and Account Records
Total Funds Available	<u><u>\$148,848.64</u></u>	



Gail Chaddock- Costello (President) Laurence Greeff (Vice President) and George Gray (member-at-large) attended this year's BCRTA conference and AGM. To access reports and conference videos, please click on the link: <https://bcrt.ca/conference2025/>



HERE'S YOUR CHANCE -- ONE YEAR FREE MEMBERSHIP!

Join the BCRTA and receive your first year FREE!!

Here is a direct link <https://bcrt.ca/join/> (you can copy and paste the URL into your browser window). **This offer is for anyone who has never joined the BCRTA, not only for new retirees.** So, if you know a teacher who has retired in previous years, but has not yet joined the BCRTA, please let them know of this unique opportunity.

SUNSHINE/SHOWERS REPORT

~Submitted by Jacquie Hollybow~



The LRTA sends cards to members who are experiencing a significant illness and to the family of members who die. Our '85 years plus' members also receive a Christmas card.

Please contact Jacquie Hollybow (604 888-7020; e-mail: jhollybow@gmail.com) if you are aware of a member who fits either of these criteria.



Often we have former colleagues who pass away while they are either still actively teaching, or who have retired, but have not chosen to join the LRTA. Because many of our members may have taught with them, we report on their passing, as well.



We are trying to be environmentally aware, as well as save on printing and mailing costs, by sending electronic copies of our newsletters, wherever possible. If we do not have your current e-mail address and you would like to be part of our 'green team' and receive your newsletter via e-mail, please let us know by e-mailing us at: lrrta.35@gmail.com

Thanks,

Maureen Wilson ~ editor of 'Open Road', the LRTA newsletter

MEMBERSHIP/BCRTA WEBSITE LIAISON REPORT

~ Submitted by Maureen Wilson ~



The Langley Branch of the BCRTA is one of the largest and most actively supported branches in the province. This year, we have a total of 561 members -- an increase of 27 members since June.

We are pleased to welcome those who have joined us this past year. We are hoping that some of our recently retired members who enjoyed their first year free, will consider continuing with us.

This year all retired teachers who have not yet joined the BCRTA, should fill in a registration form to receive a year of free membership in both the BCRTA **AND** Langley branch.

Here's a direct link to the BCRTA membership page - <http://www.bcrta.ca/membership> - where you can either *download* a BCRTA membership

application, fill it out and mail it in, or fill one out *online* and e-mail it to laurie@bcrta.com

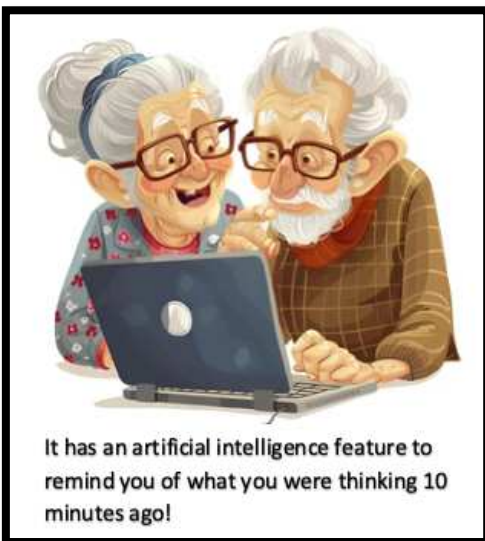
Don't forget to note that you would like to join the BCRTA **AND** the Langley Branch.

Belonging to the BCRTA provides us all with benefits and privileges that would otherwise not be possible. Yearly dues are necessary to support the effort of those that advocate for the rights and interests of retired teachers. At the branch level, the yearly fee is important as it allows the executive to plan luncheons, pay speakers and organize special activities. In addition, the Langley School District Foundation provides scholarships (the dollar amount depending on how much is donated that year by our members) each year to several Langley school graduates planning a teaching career.

Check out our website at <https://bcrta.ca/langley/>. Special photo credit goes to *Glen Mackenzie*, who took this beautiful photo of the Fraser River in Fort Langley.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

~Submitted by Maureen Wilson~



In past years, more people are getting more comfortable with communicating with technology. Of the 500+ members, all but 30 people receive our newsletters via Canada Post, a far cry from the 125+ that were being sent out when I first took over the publication of the LRTA newsletter many moons ago.

As we progress with technology (much of it because of COVID restrictions in past years), it is wonderful to see how many of our members feel more comfortable with their smart phones and tablets. I know so many seniors who are enjoying visits with their families via Zoom.

I do have an issue with some Shaw customers. If you haven't been receiving my emails, they may be in your 'spam' or 'junk' folder. Be sure to add lrita.35@gmail.com to your Shaw 'whitelist'. Here is a link for setting that up. <https://www.whitelist.guide/shaw/>

If you are receiving this email by SNAIL MAIL ONLY and are interested in receiving a phone call regarding future luncheons, please phone me (604-916-0653)