



February 2023



Maureen Pepin, a long time member of the LRTA, a valued member of our executive, and a long time friend to many of us, passed away on December 24, 2022.

I'm sure many of you have fond memories of Maureen may wish to attend her memorial. Her celebration of life will be held on Saturday, March 11th @ 11 AM at the Langley Golf and Banquet Centre, (21550 44th Avenue in Langley) Enter off 216th Street just south of 44th Avenue.

Upon reading Maureen's obituary, which appeared in the local newspapers, it is easy to see how involved she was in the community. We will miss her!!

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Maureen Pepin on December 24, 2022. She leaves to mourn her husband Alfred (Fred) Pepin, daughter Jane, granddaughter Chelsea, great-grandsons Liam, James and Andrew; Pepin relatives Ernie and Paige, Lynn (Dan), Noah and Jacob; brothers Terry (Norma), Derek (Irene) and sister Sandra, many nieces and nephews, cousins and their children.

Maureen was born in Vancouver, attended Lord Kitchener Elementary and Lord Byng Secondary. She then attended UBC, where she earned her BA (1955) and her teaching certificate. She later completed her M.Ed at Western Washington.

She taught at Kitsilano and Killarney Secondary Schools before moving with her husband to a south Aldergrove farm in 1962. After teaching at Clearbrook Junior for one year, she spent 22 years at Aldergrove Secondary as a teacher and vice-principal. She served as Langley Teachers' Association President in 1973-74, became vice-principal at Langley Secondary in 1984 and retired in 1992. She worked part-time at the Langley Education Centre for several years.

Married to A.E. (Fred) Pepin since 1977, Maureen and Fred have continued to live on their beef/horse farm in south Aldergrove. Paige (Alan), Jane, Chelsea, Liam, James and Andrew also live on the farm along with numerous horses. Maureen was an active member of the Fraser Valley Hunt Club for thirteen years and volunteered at the Valley Therapeutic Equestrian Association. She was Chairperson of the Langley Scholarship Committee for over thirty-three years, looking after all of the scholarships for the secondary schools in Langley School District. She was also on the Board of the Langley Foundation for nine years, before turning over all of the scholarship work to the Foundation.

Since retiring from teaching she has been an active member of the Langley Retired Teachers' Association, volunteered as a docent at the Langley Centennial Museum for twenty-four years, edited "The Place Between", a history of the Aldergrove area, and compiled the "Roads and Other Place Names in Langley", and the "History of Langley Schools".

She has also been a member of the Langley Heritage Society, along with her husband Fred. The Pepin picnic was her favourite event every August for many years.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to the Pepin Family Scholarship, Langley Foundation, Langley School Board office at 4875 – 222nd Street, Langley, BC V3A 3Z7.

Our Christmas Luncheon Was A Winner!

We have really been enjoying our luncheons since the pandemic restrictions have been lifted. And our December 5th pre-Christmas celebration was no exception. As well as an opportunity to get together with friends and former colleagues, several people had a start on Christmas gifts, being the winners of table centres, gift bags and a free to Adrian's. Congratulations to all of our 'winners'!

Our Winners



Cindy Silen



Donna Linke



Ruth Rissiek



Jacquie Hollybow



Jane Adler



Wayne Wiebe



Janie Popowich

Upcoming LUNCHEON -- Thursday, March 9th



Our next luncheon will be held on Thursday, March 9th and will feature two presenters. Arnie Lambert from the BCRTA will be updating us on pension and COLA. And, Lisa Hansen, a Johnson Insurance representative will be filling us in on the latest insurance updates.



SUNSHINE 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 '80 years plus' members also receive a Christmas card each year.

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

Members/retired teachers who have passed away since our last newsletter in June

Grant Fahlman	June 1, 2022	Hanna Neudorf	October 31, 2022
Rosemary Allen	June 28, 2022	Maureen Pepin	December 24, 2022
Gordon Emery	September 18, 2022	Jane Hamar	December 27, 2022
Lucia Soares	October 15, 2022	Kerry Herd	February 8, 2023
Evelyn Shindruk	October 19, 2022	Patricia Whitworth	February 9, 2023
Betty Lou Chell	October 28, 2022		

Let's Go Report



"Let's Go" has partnered with Enjoy Tours and things have been getting back to normal, as of late. Check out some of the upcoming Enjoy Tours available in their latest catalogue:
<http://www.enjoythejourney.ca/>

If you would like to be on the 'Let's Go' mailing list, please contact Judy de Vries at judydevries@me.com

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

~Submitted by Maureen Wilson~



Because we had not been meeting 'in person' since the pandemic, all of our invitations to our Zoom events have been done electronically. We have been successful in having our interested members pre-register for these events via e-mail, and everything has gone very smoothly. We are hoping to resume our 'in person' workshops very soon, so stay tuned.



Langley Retired Educators' Scholarship Fund

~ Submitted by Sue Mackenzie ~

As most of you know, Maureen Pepin, a long time member of the LRTA, a valued member of our executive, and a long time friend to many of us, passed away on December 24, 2022.

For 33 years, Maureen held the position of Chairperson of the Langley Scholarship Committee, looking after all of the Secondary School scholarships in Langley. When the Langley School District Foundation took over the LRTA program, Maureen volunteered on the Board of the Foundation for 9 more years. After that, she tirelessly continued to solicit donations right up until she passed away.

Maureen had not been feeling well in December. She called the last week before school closed for the Christmas holidays, as she was worried about some donations she had received that needed to be deposited through the Foundation by year-end. I was fortunate to enjoy a bit of a visit, as she explained what needed to happen and why it was important to be done immediately. I reassured her I was delivering them that day.

Maureen kept meticulous hand written records of every donation she received. We owe Maureen an incredible amount of gratitude for everything she did on our behalf. We had no idea that we were to lose her so suddenly.

In order to continue with this legacy, we ask that any members who would like to donate to the scholarship fund, please send directly to the following address:

Langley School District Foundation Scholarships
% 4875 222 Street
Langley BC
V3A 3Z7

So that all donations are properly directed, it is important for you to specify that the donation is for the:

“LANGLEY RETIRED EDUCATORS’ SCHOLARSHIPS”

Please remember to include your email address or mailing address for tax receipt purposes.

We will be awarding 8 scholarships @ \$750 for the 2023 year and are hoping we will be able to increase it for next year! The amount depends on the interest earned on the investment and the amount of donations we receive from our retired teachers. As you know the interest rates earned in 2022 were not very good.

Thank you for your past support and hope you will continue to donate to this worthy cause. I have agreed to be a liaison person for the Foundation and REST. The Team members are: *Sue Mackenzie, Heather Anderlini, Maureen Wilson, John Salmon, Yole Prosperi-Porta and Jacque Hollybow.* If you would like to join us, please let me know and we will add your name to our team.

For more information please feel free to contact me:
Sue Mackenzie, on behalf of the Retired Educators' Scholarship Team -- REST

lra.suem@gmail.com

604-831-7234

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 had several new members, and now have a total of 503 members. We are pleased to welcome those who have joined us this past year.

Until a few years ago, the BCRTA gave special recognition to members who reached the age of 85 and beyond by designating them as **LIFETIME MEMBERS** and no longer required the payment of yearly BCRTA or local RTA branch fees. Now, one has to reach the age of 90 for such recognition.

The LRTA executive felt that our members who were aged 85 to 89 also deserved some special recognition, so we have given them the honour of being our **DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS**.

LIFETIME MEMBERS - aged 90 plus (as of December 2022)

Erica Blackstock Jean Hope Eleanor Leblanc Faye Morelli Jake Sukkau

DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS - aged 85-89 (as of December 2022)

Ynolde Adams	Isabelle Clark	Jean Mark	Christine Toth
Margaret Bland	Lois Comerford	Robert Power	Donald Urquhart
Olive Burns	Peter Holuboff	Jean Ritchie	Luz Verzosa
Ralph Carter	Joan McLoughlin	Lily Suzuki	Kathleen Wagner

I apologize, in advance, if I have missed someone who qualifies for one of these prestigious honours. If you know of a member who should be on the list, please contact me (Maureen Wilson) at 604-916-0653, or email me at lrta.35@gmail.com.



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

Join the BCRTA, and receive your first year FREE!!

Here is a direct link <https://bcрта.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.



Our website has a new look!!!

Check out the format of our brand new website: <https://bcрта.ca/langley/> All of the information you need regarding our branch can be found on our new site. All of the executive members' names and contact information are listed on both sites. As Membership chair, I encourage both members and non-members to contact me with any membership questions or concerns at lrta.35@gmail.com.



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: lrta.35@gmail.com

Thanks,

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