



February 2024



Winter Greetings from Gail



A chilly hello to all of you as I sit here and contemplate a walk in the cold! This January freezing cold snap definitely has us thinking of planning a warm vacation next winter.

Many thanks to all of you who were able to join us for our Christmas luncheon in December. It was well attended and delicious as usual. The flowers, table gifts and two \$50.00 gift certificates were happily received as part of the gift giving season. We are busy planning another luncheon for March 6th at Adrian's at the Airport, with a speaker from the Langley Seniors' Centre. I hope many of you can attend.

Looking forward to seeing you in March!

MARCH LUNCHEON AT ADRIAN'S



Our next LRTA luncheon at *Adrian's at the Airport* will be held on **WEDNESDAY, March 6, 2024**. We have invited **Kate Ludlum**, Executive Director of the *Langley Senior Resources Society* to speak about the programs and activities that they offer.

You will have three menu items to choose from:

1. chicken souvlaki
2. spanokopita
3. schnitzel neptune

The luncheon cost is \$35. This includes tea/coffee, entrée, dessert AND gratuity.

Pre-registration will be required so watch for the email soon.

Your executive is looking forward to meeting again with our members.

If you would like to attend the upcoming luncheon, please email me (Maureen) at lrta.35@gmail.com Don't forget to mention what your menu choice is.

If you do not have email access, please phone **Heather Anderlini** -- (604) 866-3382 to pre-register.

About our luncheon speaker



Kate Ludlam, Executive Director

The Langley Senior Resources Society is a community leader on all issues affecting seniors. Through its dedicated and committed staff, it delivers recreation, education, and social programming as well as important community services including housing assistance, food insecurity, transportation and navigation of government systems and programs. It is the largest, independent, and free-standing seniors center in the province and runs the largest Adult Day Program in Fraser Health. It is a unique and critical resource for seniors in Langley that has tremendous impact, especially for our most vulnerable seniors.

Kate is responsible for leading the operations of the organization and building capacity for growth. Under her direction, the organization has leaned into its leadership role and is forging a new path forward to better meet the needs of seniors in Langley. Her early successes include securing a \$15,000 grant from the Township of Langley, a jubilant Seniors Week, Langley's first Silver PRIDE, the most successful Holiday Fundraising Campaign ever, and creating an organizational culture that is positive, inclusive, and purpose driven.

Thirty-five years ago, Kate made a conscious decision to work in the non-profit sector – she wanted her career to have meaning. She has worked for some of our region's leading charities including Vancouver Opera, BC Cancer Foundation and Langley Memorial Hospital Foundation. She is known to be a strategic and caring relationship- builder and a high-performing and skilled fundraiser. Career highlights include her 11 years at Vancouver Opera; opening the Abbotsford Hospital and Regional Cancer Centre; and leading the Langley Memorial Hospital Foundation's \$15million campaign for a new Emergency Department and MRI Suite - the campaign surpassed its target and raised \$17.6million.

A genuine and authentic leader, Kate proudly leads with her heart. Everyone knows her mantra – kindness, compassion, and gratitude.

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 received a Christmas card.

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.



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.

I am saddened to report that the following Langley educators have passed away since our last LRTA newsletter.

Glen White – October 23, 2023

Lionel Braithwaite – November 13, 2023

We want to thank Jacquie for sending cards of condolence to their family members on our behalf.



The Langley School District Foundation collected \$2700 in donations from November 1st to December 31st, 2023, through the campaign link online and individual cheques. These donations, combined with the earned interest on investments, will allow the Retired Educators to offer 7 secondary schools a scholarship to an applicant planning a career in education.

The amount may need to be adjusted from year to year depending on the donations that are received, and the interest earned.

In addition, it will also award 1 successful graduating applicant the \$1,000 Denny Ross Scholarship.

We will let you know the names of the students who are awarded the scholarships in the LRTA June newsletter.

We hope you will continue to support the Langley Retired Educators Scholarships in 2024 by donating through the following link:

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/langley-school-district-foundation/p2p/LREScholarshipFund2024/>

Remember the donations are eligible for tax receipts. If donating online through the link, you can receive your tax receipt right away.

We wish to express our appreciation on behalf of the Langley School District Foundation, the Langley Retired Educators Scholarship Team and the students who benefit from these scholarships.

We had a lovely time at our Pre-Christmas Luncheon!



President Gail
Chaddock- Costello



Maureen Wilson received a gift
from Sue Mackenzie, on behalf of
the LRTA, for her hard work and
dedication over the years.



Margaret Bland presented a beautiful hand-
made quilt to Heather Anderlini.

Margaret was Heather's grade one teacher!

Happy winners of the Christmas centre pieces, table centres and \$50 gift cards





Let's Go Report

Submitted by Judy de Vries – LRTA Member at Large

The weather is improving, flowers are poking through the ground, and it is a good time to get out and about.

There are so many opportunities to see our beautiful province without the worry of a passport or travel insurance.

Pamper yourself at the Kingfisher Resort and Spa April 2-4.
It is such a treat.



Visit Tofino April 22-25th. There is so much on the agenda.
I have done this trip several times and love it every time.



Have you been to Poets Cove and surrounding Gulf Islands?
This 5-day trip is so full of varied experiences.

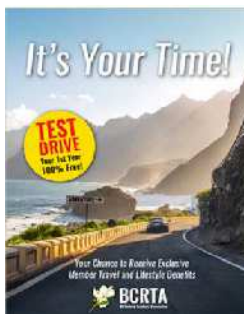


If you would like to sign up for any of these trips, call:
Enjoy the Journey 604-630-2434.

Mention that you are a B.C. Retired Teachers' Association member.

To find the full details for these events go to enjoythejourney.ca and while you are there browse through all the other exciting adventures available in the area.

If you would like to join the Let's Go Group and receive information as soon as it is available, send your email address to judydevries@me.com and be added to the list.



Join now and receive your first year of BCRTA membership for **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.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

~Submitted by Maureen Wilson~



I would like to thank those who have let me know that they are okay with receiving a digital copy of our LRTA newsletters. In past years, more and more people are getting comfortable with electronic communications. Of the 500+ members, I currently send out notifications via e-mail to 556 of our members. Approximately 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.

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).

Browsing the 'Net on a Snowy Day...

Submitted by George Main



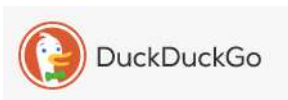
Many of our LRTA members took computer workshops from Linda Fawcus in the past. She held many workshops and courses for seniors making us all more digitally literate. But we lost sight of her and the courses she gave that many of us looked forward to continuing. I mentioned at our last luncheon that I found ten good lessons on SCAMMABILITY, on YouTube. During all the snow and nothing to-do I set out to find out what Linda is doing now. I know she was deeply committed to helping "older adults figure out today's technology."

Get Ready for Gluu Society's New Website

After spending a fascinating afternoon bouncing between the national [Healthy Aging Core Website](#) and the branch in BC that I didn't know about, <https://bc.healthyagingcore.ca/>, I found a reference to a new website for Linda's Gluu programs that is under construction but will be available sometime in January 202X (Government time.)



Better still, I used my trusted web search engine, [DuckDuckGo](#) and found a whole page of information on [LINDA FAWCUS](#), and the YouTube links on [HOW TO BE UNSCAMMABLE](#)



If we have another snow day you may enjoy using the links above and check out [DuckDuckGo](#), unlike Google, it doesn't track your researches.

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 519 members. 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.

A Little Bit of Humour...



**When you're young,
you play with them.**



**When you get older,
you start losing them.**



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