



February 2026

FEBRUARY LUNCHEON AT ADRIAN'S -- Good Price, too!!



Our next LRTA luncheon at *Adrian's at the Airport* will be held on **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2026, a bit earlier in the year than usual**. We hope that you have a bit more Valentine love to spread to your fellow colleagues on that day. **And to show that we love you all and hope you join us, we are reducing the cost of the luncheon by \$5!**

You will have three menu items to choose from:

- chicken souvlaki
- spanakopita
- schnitzel neptune

The luncheon cost **(\$30)** includes tea/coffee, entrée, dessert AND gratuity.

11:30 -- Doors open (coffee/tea available)

12:15 -- Lunch is served



Pre-registration is required.

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.

PLEASE NOTE: I will be accepting reservations by **email only**. As I will be lazing on the beach in sunny Mexico February the 9th-23rd, **I will not be able to take any reservations by phone**. If you are not comfortable using email, or if you have to cancel after Friday, Feb. 20th, please phone **Sue Mackenzie** at **604-831-7234** to pre-register.

We will have some great door prizes, as usual, as well as a draw for another Indispensable binder, donated by one of our members.

Parking spot clarification: You may park in any of the 'RESERVED' parking spots as they are reserved for Adrian's patrons. There are some parking spots which are restricted, so please make sure there are no signs indicating such: spots marked with a

- **Loading Zone**

- **'Tow away zone'**

- **NavCan**

- and the most obvious ones -- **EV** (unless you are plugging in an electric vehicle, and designated **handicap** spot, unless you have an authorized SPARC sign. For those who do not have difficulty walking a bit of a distance, there is an 'overflow' parking lot across the street.

We hope that your calendar is free on that day, as your executive is looking forward to meeting again with our members.

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



Gail and Lisa Hansen, our presenter



Wonderful Adrian's staff

Smiling Faces



Who has the lucky stickers?



Happy winners ...



Let's Go Report



Travel weather is almost upon us when we can get out and enjoy the beautiful weather

Click on the link below to download a copy of the 2026 Enjoy the Journey Catalog.

[Enjoy the Journey 2026 catalogue](#) or visit their website <https://enjoythejourney.ca/>

It is filled with well-planned adventures lasting for many days, a few days or just one day. The B.C. selection covers travel to most parts of the province. No travel insurance or passport needed. Many adventures go across Canada as well.

Day trips are always filled with interesting locations and a great lunch. Feb. 17th there is a Guided Snowshoeing Day on Cypress. March 26th there is a Mystery Tour with prizes (what fun). March 30th travel to CFB Esquimalt Navel Base for a guided tour. Bowen Island is available on March 31st. If you are interested in these events call 604-630-2434.

Enjoy the Journey conducts the day trips from the Langley Seniors Resource Centre as well. I am taking one in April which tours the CBC building and Rogers Arena. Book the trips from LSRC at the Centre.

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.

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 560 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.bcrtca.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@bcrtca.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://bcrtca.ca/langley/>. Special photo credit goes to *Glen Mackenzie*, who took this beautiful photo of the Fraser River in Fort Langley that appears on our homepage.



The Office of the Seniors Advocate has produced the following list of tax information and credits that may be used when you are filling out your 2025 tax return. To get all benefits you should be filing no later than April 30th.

Free Tax Clinics

The Canada Revenue Agency has a directory of community organizations hosting free tax clinics. Some clinics that are currently operating may complete and file taxes for free. These clinics mainly work with low-income seniors.

Claim all Eligible Expenses for Tax Returns

You may be able to claim medical expenses on your tax return. Canada Revenue Agency has a list of eligible items online and instructions about how to claim them on your taxes. Some common items include prescription medication, devices, equipment, services, travel expenses and renovations.

You and your spouse or common-law partner may be able to split your eligible pension income if you meet the requirements.

Tax Credits

Tax credits are deductions you may be able to claim when you complete and submit your income tax return. Tax credits can be based on income, investments, training or education, activities you're involved in, expenses you incur or the work that you do. See below for examples of tax credits that seniors are often eligible for.

- **BC Renter's Tax Credit**

New this year in B.C., a Renter's Tax Credit based on annual income will be available. The tax credit will provide up to \$400 to low- and moderate-income renter individuals and families with an adjusted income of \$60,000 or less. Individuals and families with an adjusted income greater than \$60,000 and less than \$80,000 may receive a reduced amount.

- **Disability Tax Credit**

The Disability Tax Credit (DTC) helps offset extra costs related to living with a disability.

- If you or a dependent spouse or common-law partner have a serious or prolonged physical or mental impairment, you may be able to claim

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- expenses related to assisted living, elder care, home care services and other services.

To determine eligibility, you must first complete a Disability Tax Credit Certificate—Form T2201—and have it certified by a medical practitioner.

- **B.C. Home Renovation Tax Credit for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities**

The Home Renovation Tax Credit for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities is also available for family members living with seniors to assist with the cost of some permanent home renovations to improve accessibility and daily living activities.

- **Age Amount tax credit**

You may be eligible to claim this tax credit if you were 65 years of age or older on December 31, 2022, and your net income is less than \$92,480.

- **Canada Caregiver Credit**

You may be eligible for this tax credit if you support a spouse or common-law partner, or a dependent with a physical or mental impairment.

- **Pension income amount credit**

If you reported eligible pension, superannuation or annuity payments on your tax return, you may be able to claim up to \$2,000 as a tax credit. Alternatively, you may wish to transfer the credit to your spouse or common-law partner.

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.

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



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.

Since our last newsletter, we have lost the following people who were either LRTA members, spouses of LRTA members, or who were Langley educators.

Kay Lotzer - LRTA member
Kerry Querns - Langley educator
Kerri Gregory - Langley educator and wife of Lanny Gregory
Wayne Cruchley - husband of LRTA member Diana Cruchley
Alice Turpin - Langley educator

We extend our condolences to their families.



The Langley Retired Educators' Scholarship fund was unable to collect the necessary funds required to award \$700 scholarships to 7 schools this year. A decision was made to reduce the scholarships to \$650 for the 7 schools. This is unfortunate, but understandable with inflation and financial concerns.

The \$1,000 scholarship for the Denny Ross scholarship is funded separately by a retired educator and will remain.

The School District Foundation has started the 2025 campaign using the following link.

[Langley's Retired Educators Scholarship Fund](#)

The amount and number of schools may need to be adjusted annually depending upon donations collected and interest earned on investment.



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

Join the BCRTA and receive your first year FREE!!

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).

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

