

RRTA NEWSLETTER



June, 2020
(Reports Edition)

Letter from the Editor

RRTA President's Report

This has been a difficult time for all of us. The RRTA has done its best to continue some of our programs using virtual means. We held our Spring Directors Meeting on Zoom. All Directors have volunteered to remain in their current positions until we are able to hold our AGM later in the year, as restrictions on meetings change. Unfortunately, the RTA has cancelled the Mix and Mingle Reception for new retirees. Our Back to School Without Us Luncheon/AGM has also been cancelled due to Covid-19. We have learned how to hold virtual training seminars for learning new skills such as computer uses, and other topics.

Our Scholarships that are handed out each year to deserving students will still be given out at virtual ceremonies.

We are all doing our best to keep in touch with friends and colleagues by telephone, email, and various virtual means.

A quick note to all retired teachers. Please be aware that your first year of membership in the BCRTA and the RRTA is free. If you are retiring this year, please join us. If you have been retired for awhile but never joined, take this opportunity to meet old friends and make new friends as you participate in our various programs. We encourage all members to give us suggestions for new activities. Please go to our RRTA www.richmondrrta.ca website for more information, and also check the BCRTA www.bcrta.ca website for more information on benefits available through membership.

Please continue to practice good hygiene habits, keep in touch with family and friends, and reach out to the RRTA for new opportunities to expand your activities as a retired person.

Keep smiling and continue to enjoy every day. We live in a great part of the world.

All the best!

David Bell
President RRTA

I hope this Newsletter finds you and your family well during the Covid-19 crisis. It has turned out to be an interesting RRTA season for everyone this year. When planning this year, the Directors could never have anticipated the turn of events that has shaped our season.

As for the newsletters, I must apologize for the low number of them published this year. After last summer's Reports Edition, I didn't manage to get the Fall AGM Edition out until January! I must admit, it was packed with photos and content covering pretty much all the events of our 2019-20 season. There was only one Speaker Series after the January Newsletter before the start of the Covid-19 lockdown.

Your Directors met on a Zoom Conference to make some decisions regarding our next year. Some of the results are that we will be postponing our Fall AGM until further notice and all of the current Directors have agreed to stay on until such time as we can find a way to safely hold our AGM. It was decided that we would send out the Summer Reports Edition Newsletter now so the RRTA Committee Chairs could report to you on the last season.

Additional decisions made were to cancel the Fall "Back to School Without Us" Luncheon, but to keep the Christmas Luncheon on the books until we see what happens with the virus in the fall. All Speaker Series are also on hold until further notice, although The Glue Society has made online technology courses available to our members. The Directors approved a 2020-21 budget; however, since our events have been cancelled until further notice, we will probably come in under budget for next season as we may not have expenses such as speaker fees, door prizes, and treats for our Christmas Luncheon entertainers for which we have budgeted.

So, with all of this said, I have prepared a Reports Edition Newsletter which will replace the usual one that comes later in the Summer. Take care everyone.

Gordon Smith
RRTA Newsletter Editor



January Speaker Series. Heather Knittel from "Good Riddance Professional Organizing Solutions Inc." presented lots of tips on downsizing and decluttering.



RRTA Directors 2019-20

www.richmondrrta.ca

TABLE OFFICERS

PRESIDENT -- David Bell

president@richmondrrta.ca

VICE PRESIDENT - Vacant

SECRETARY -- Amanda Hufton

TREASURER -- Vacant

PAST PRESIDENT - Gordon Smith

DIRECTORS (CHAIRS)

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS -- Loraine Martin

richmondrrta@gmail.com

FINANCE -- Vacant

HERITAGE -- Loraine Martin

richmondrrta@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP / PHONING -- Denise Gobbo

PROGRAMME -- Munjeet Booton

WELLNESS -- Lynne Farquharson

SUNSHINE -- Pat Walach (604) 278-9530

NEWSLETTER -- Gordon Smith

SOCIAL -- Mary Hardy

CHRISTMAS PROJECT -- Karen Holden

TRUST FUND FOUNDATION -- Glenn Kishi (Chair)

(604) 272-2408

gkishi@shaw.ca

DIRECTOR AT LARGE

Bob Jackson

Michael Gilles

Cathy Wozny -- Acting Treasurer

RRTA Committee Reports

Programme Committee Report 2019-20

Graham Best presented his “Retaining the Power of Memory Workshop for Active Seniors” in October 2019. It was well attended and included lots of practical strategies for daily life. In November, Linda Fawcus from the Gluu Technology Society returned to Richmond to present her “Travel and Technology Workshop” which was also very popular. We started the new year with Heather Knittel from “Good Riddance Professional Organizing Solutions Inc.” who presented lots of tips on downsizing and decluttering. Her session was well attended and interesting. We received lots of positive feedback regarding all three speakers.

Unfortunately our spring session on Sleep and Stress Management was cancelled amidst the current Covid crisis. We did however promote a series of online technology workshops by Linda Fawcus which will continue through June. She will return online in September with more sessions. We also shared information for other online opportunities such as free fitness classes for the benefit of our members.

Munjeet Booton
Programme Committee Chair

Heritage Committee Report 2019-20

The Heritage Committee focus has continued to be the Database Project. It has been a formidable task that is speeding up due to the additional computer allowing two people to input at each session. To date we have processed 924 items.

In the Fall we completed the installation of LED strip lighting in the three enclosed display cases. This has made a considerable improvement in showing the various artifacts. The cost for materials was \$113.66. Many thanks to Mr. A. Bovey for his assistance.

Unfortunately, several planned activities were cancelled. One was our participation in Education Week. District #38 changed the format this spring which made the setting up of our display too difficult. Lastly, the Covid-19 situation meant that our regular work sessions/meetings were cancelled, including the Heritage Open House planned for May.

If you have an interest in Richmond’s educational history and wish to help out contact rtaheritage@gmail.com

New members are always welcome.

Lorraine Martin
RRTA Heritage Committee Chair

Proposed 2020-21 Budget

Richmond Retired Teachers' Association						
	Proposed	Budget for 2019-2020				
	Proposed					
	Budget	To date	2019-20		Budget	
Expenses	2020-21	Comments	Feb 29 2020	Remaining	2019-20	
Contingency	\$150			\$150.00	Contingency	\$150
Heritage	\$250		\$123.71	\$276.29	Heritage	\$400
Newsletter	\$1,500		\$1,355.61	\$144.39	Newsletter	\$1,500
Operating	\$1,000		\$808.96	\$191.04	Operating	\$1,000
President	\$100		\$95.08	\$4.92	President	\$100
Programs & Speakers	\$600		\$401.19	\$198.81	Programs/Speakers	\$600
Programs' Events w/Revenue	\$600	name change	\$400.00	\$200.00	Tea Matinee	\$600
Special Events/Social	\$5,000	reduced by \$1500	\$4,212.46	\$2,287.54	Special Events/Social	\$6,500
Sunshine/ChristmasProject	\$300	*	\$248.95	\$51.05	Sunshine/ChristmasProject	\$300
Website	\$500		\$399.00	\$101.00	Website (new and amended)	\$500
Expense Totals	\$10,000		\$8,044.96	\$3,605.04		\$11,650
		(*includes \$150 estimate for poinsettias expense)				
Income						
Membership	\$4,300		\$4,615.00	-\$315.00	Membership	\$4,300
Programs' Events w/Revenue	\$600	name change	\$480.00	\$120.00	Speaker Series/Matinee	\$600
Special Events/Social	\$4,500	reduced by \$500	\$3,565.00	\$935.00	Special Events/Social	\$5,000
Bank Interest	\$1		\$1.07	-\$0.07	Bank Interest	\$1
Income Totals	\$9,401		\$8,661.07	\$739.93		\$9,901
Gain (-Loss)	-\$599		\$616.11	\$2,865.11		-\$1,749
Notes: Programs and Speakers may have a speaker requiring a cost to attendees. This is reflected in a separate budgeted income, plus a separate budgeted expense, in order to provide clarification.						
Heritage's expense budget is reduced by \$150 as the prior year reflected an anticipated expense, which has been resolved.						
Special Events/Social have been reduced to reflect 2019/2020 results.						
Further Reductions for expenses will likely result due to covid-19 cancellations but are difficult to predict at the time of budget preparation.						

Richmond Retired Teachers' Association						
	Budget 2020 - 2021			p2 of 2	(as of Feb 29, 2020)	
	Background Information					
Bank Balance as of	estimated 2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	
fiscal year end:	\$6,500	\$6,203	\$6,106	\$7,568	\$6,751	
(Note, bank balance as of Feb29, 2020 is \$6969.49)	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>	
	\$6,860	\$13,949	\$12,924	\$15,162	\$12,663	
Expense breakdown for Special Events/Social						
	Income	MayFair	Total	Price to	Indiv.	
	Sp Events	Lakes	Subsidy	Members	# Guests	Subsidy
Sep	\$1,675.00	\$1,826.29	\$151.29	\$25.00	67	\$2.26
Dec	\$1,890.00	\$2,107.54	\$217.54	\$30.00	63	\$3.45
	\$3,565.00	\$3,933.83	\$368.83			\$2.84 average
Choir Honourarium	\$100.00					Recap
Choir Bus	\$106.25					Mayfair Lakes
Choir treats	\$26.79					Door Prizes & Flowers
	\$233.04					Pointsettias (estimate)
						Choir
						\$4,398.26
						Social/Special Events Income
						\$3,565.00
						Net Cost
						\$833.26

Richmond Retired Teachers' Association Financial Report (April 2020)

This report includes a proposed budget for 2020-2021 (see previous page). The impact of likely covid-19 cancellations will make this budget outdated. It is an unknown that is best played out, as it could reduce both expenses as well as certain income, such as payments for at least one luncheon. The Speaker Series is also an expense most likely affected as well.

That said, I could run up another budget based on the historical net difference for these items. However it is not our intention to cancel far into the future. The net result in that case will not reduce our financial situation, because of the income from memberships. Therefore, a normal-case budget is presented for your consideration.

May all of us meet again.

Cathy Wozny
Acting Treasurer, April 6, 2020

Sunshine Committee Report

This past year a variety of cards have been sent out to members or their families. Words of condolence were sent to the families of Joyce Mahy, Bill McKittrick, Fred McLeod, Viviane McClelland, Mimi Schmidt, Rob Gresko, Bert Fergus, and Nettie Klimec. Our sympathies were extended to Amanda Hufton, Jack Lowe, Joe Eso and Holly Ramcharita for the loss of a loved one.

Many "Thinking of You" and "Get Well Soon" cards of encouragement were sent to members who were undergoing treatment or recovering from illness. With the ongoing Covid-19 epidemic cards were also sent to many shut-in members. Pat Walach relies on our members to notify her of people who need our support. If you know of anyone who would appreciate a note please contact her at 604-278-9530 or by email so that she can send out cards of caring, encouragement or sympathy.

Pat Walach
Sunshine Committee Chair

Communication Report June 2020

RRTA Loop

Thank you to everybody who checked the spam settings on their email accounts and added the RRTA email address richmondrtc@gmail.com to their Contacts list. The RRTA Loop is working much better.

RRTA Website

In the fall we made additional web design changes so that the website operates smoothly on all platforms. The web design update cost paid to Blue Creative (Vince Dimanno) was \$399.00.

We have retained the www.richmondrtc.ca domain name. The RRTA website can also be accessed at www.bcrta.ca/richmond.

Lorraine Martin and Gordon Smith
Communication Committee Co Chairs

Social Committee Report

We have some good news, and some bad news for you. First the good news. Mary Hardy, an RRTA Director at Large, agreed to become our new Social Committee Chair at our February Directors Meeting. Now the bad news. With Covid-19, we don't know when we will be resuming our social activities. At this time, the Fall Luncheon has been cancelled. Mayfair Lakes has been very understanding in that we are a group of seniors and therefore at greater risk from Covid. At this time we have agreed to keep the Christmas Luncheon on the books, but will cancel if it looks like Covid will still be an issue for us.

Gordon Smith and Mary Hardy
Social Committee Co Chairs

RRTA TFF (Richmond Retired Teachers' Association Trust Fund Foundation) Report

School District 38 plans to have some form of virtual convocation ceremony for the 2020 graduates. Jim Allison is in charge of the Scholarships for SD 38 and will let the RRTA know how we can best present our Scholarships this year.

Glenn Kishi
RRTA Trust Fund Foundation Chair

Feed-U-Cate 38

This message is from, Glenn Kishi. I am a retired teacher, Vice Principal and District Administrator from the Richmond School District #38. I retired 7 years ago.

I Hope you are all doing well during this COVID-19 pandemic. Just prior to my retirement, I started a fund called "Feed-U-Cate 38" to help schools who ran breakfast and lunch programs for students who came to school hungry. We have 16 schools (both Elementary and Secondary) that access these funds during the school year. This fund helps the schools purchase food for students who access these programs. All the funds are used to do this – there are no other administrative costs. As schools are now closed to students, these vulnerable students still have the need for food at home. We are using these funds to help purchase groceries that these families will pick up at their home schools. Currently we have identified 247 vulnerable students from 27 different schools who require this service. This is where we need your support! We are collecting funds to help with this program. We are working with the Richmond Food Bank, and the Richmond Food Security Society to ensure the success of the Richmond School District Food Program. There are a number of ways to donate to the program. You can send a cheque made out to the "Richmond School District #38 - Feed-U-Cate 38" to the Richmond School District - Feed-U-Cate 38, 7811 Granville Avenue, Richmond, BC, V6Y3E3. You can also donate directly to the program online at this link:

[https://www.sd38.bc.ca/Pages/donations.aspx#/="](https://www.sd38.bc.ca/Pages/donations.aspx#/=)

If you would like more information about this program or to donate, you can also contact me at: gkishi@shaw.ca and I will make arrangements to get your donation. Any donations over \$20 will receive a tax receipt. Please send your name and address with your donation so we can send you a tax receipt. Please feel free to share this message with others. Let's support these vulnerable students in Richmond! Take care and stay safe!

Glenn Kishi

Membership Report

Welcome to all our new members.

The Richmond Retired Teachers' Association (RRTA) is a branch of the British Columbia Retired Teachers' Association (BCRTA). At present our local membership stands at 492 members. Over the course of the past year several new retirees have joined the association. Also we have been pleased to note that many former retired teachers, who had not previously joined, have taken advantage of the free first year membership offer to become members of our association. Thank you to all for spreading the word and encouraging former colleagues to join.

Although we have had to curtail many of our activities due to the current situation, we look forward to seeing everyone at our lunches and workshops when it is safe to do so.

Remember to become a member of the Richmond Branch, you must first join the provincial organization, then check the box to join our local.

We do our best to keep our membership list up to date. Thank you for helping by remembering to let Loraine Martin know of changes to your e-mail, phone number, or address. Contact Loraine at info@richmondrrta.ca. As we are a branch of the BCRTA, at the same time that you contact Loraine, please also let the BCRTA office know of any changes by contacting Laurie at laurie@bcrrta.com.

Phoning Committee

Thank you to the members of our phoning committee: Marilyn Jones, Holly Ramcharita, Stella deGiorgio, and Roz Johns. These volunteers help to maintain contact with members who may have limited access to technology.

Submitted by
Denise Gobbo
Membership/Phoning Committee Chair

Joyce Mahy -- August 2019
Viviane McClelland - October 2019
James Gray -- January 2020
Mimi Schmidt - April 2020
Rob Gresko - April 2020
Bert Fergus - May 2020
Nettie Klimec - May 2020



**If you know of
any RRTA members
who could use some
sunshine in their lives
due to illness or a loss
in their family, please
let our Sunshine
Chair, Pat
Walach know.**

A Request from the Sea Island Heritage Society

In carrying on with our never-ending search for teachers who taught on Sea Island, the Sea Island Heritage Society is asking for your help again for any information, anecdotes, memories or referral contacts you may have for the following:

Helen Margaret Armstrong (Mrs.)

Dale Bergstrom (Miss)

Gladys Ethel Bloomfield (Miss) (passed 2007)

Roy A. Davidson

Adeline Enns (Miss)

B. Findlay (Mrs.)

Phillip M. Gibbs (passed 1988)

Dorothy B. Hohn (nee Mattson)

Margaret Isobel MacDonald (Mrs.)

Thelma Jean Marion (Mrs.) (passed 2015)

Don William Peterson (passed 1996)

Betsy Priddle (Miss)

Mary Romaniuk (Mrs. Ireland?)

Desmond Lewis Truscott

Kareen Wong (Mrs. Lou or Lui?)

Cara Edith Whatmough (Mrs. Forseng, Mrs. Lamoureux)

Please send any replies to Maureen Ross: ilaross@sympatico.ca or call 604-277- 3196