

November 2017
Issue No. 5

CRTA Newsletter

Christmas Luncheon – December 6, 2017

Burnaby Mountain Golf Course

7600 Halifax St. Burnaby, B.C.

11:00 am Social, bar open, tea and coffee



The CRTA is unable to reserve tables. Please arrive in time to secure group seating.

If saving seats for others please ensure they arrive by 11:45 am

12:00 noon Luncheon

Price: \$25.00 (includes tax and gratuity)

Pre-pay by cheque for \$25.00 made out to CRTA. Mail to:



Mr. Howard Spence
2288 Portage Ave.
Coquitlam BC V3K 2Z3



Payment must be received by November 29 to meet catering deadlines. This date is firm. We are unable to accept payment at the door.

Please remember a
Toonie for SHARE



Cash bar:
Wine and beer
\$8 including tax



Directions

Burnaby Mountain Golf Course is located at the eastern end of Halifax Street.

- From the Lougheed Highway, turn at Lake City Way, cross Broadway and continue on Arden Avenue, which follows around the golf course. At the four-way stop at Burnwood, turn left. Entrance to parking is on the left just before Halifax Street.
- From Hastings Street, turn at Kensington and continue to Halifax Street. Turn left on Halifax and continue to Burnwood Street.

Menu

- Assorted baked breads and butter
- Roast turkey with dressing and cranberry sauce
- Gravy
- Mashed potatoes
- Steamed seasonal vegetables
- Mixed organic green salad
- Assorted desserts

Mark your calendar!

Christmas Luncheon - December 6, 2017
CRTA General Meeting - February 7, 2018
CRTA General Meeting - April 4, 2018
CRTA AGM and Lunch - June 6, 2018



Coquitlam Retired Teachers' Association

CRTA 2017 –
2018

<http://www.bcrta.ca>

TABLE OFFICERS

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President's Report



On behalf of your Executive Committee, I welcome you all to this new year of CRTA membership. We are working hard to keep pace with the calendar! The back to school brunch in **September** was a great start! Members and several new retirees enjoyed a delicious brunch and much good conversation.

At our general meeting in **October**, CRTA member Kathleen Thomson presented her "Forever Young: Fitness for Folks Over Fifty" program. The combination of excellent information and active participation was enjoyed by all attendees. In **November**, we hope this newsletter will be an interesting and informative read. On **December 6th**, we invite you to join with friends and former colleagues as we welcome the Christmas season at our popular annual luncheon. If you know new retirees, encourage them to attend - it's the perfect time to catch up with former SD 43 colleagues.

As president, I represented CRTA members along with delegates Audrey Anthony, Jennifer Blenkinsop and Howard Spence at the BCRTA AGM in September. Our delegation participated in a busy agenda that included sessions on the BCRTA strategic plan and web site, budget, fitness, Golden Star Awards, nutrition, pensions and benefits, protection from elder abuse, R.R. Smith Memorial Fund, and technology. We were privileged to represent you and to confer with BCRTA members from across the province.



Bill C-27 has been in the news lately as Canadians have come to understand the potentially serious threats to the sustainability of their pension plans. **Bill C-27** will allow plan sponsors to **reduce future pensions, even for pensioners already retired**. Please contact your local MP right now to express your opposition to this Bill. Go to <http://bcrta.ca/target/> where the BCRTA has provided the following documents to assist you:

- Background to **Bill C-27** – What you need to know before contacting your MP
 - BCRTA's Action Plan – How to proceed
 - Sample letter – Use this to draft your own personal letter
 - Sample phone conversation with your MP.
 - List of all MPs' contact information sorted by Branches.
- Please report your interaction with your MP to Laurie at the BCRTA office: Laurie@bcrta.ca

Coquitlam Retired Teachers' Association

Membership/Member Contact

The Numbers: Membership currently stands at 784 including 27 life members.

Recent retirees- We hope that the recently adopted 'first year free' provincial membership incentive plan will increase the numbers. If you are planning to join, please contact Laurie at the BCRTA office (604-871-2260 or laurie@bcрта.com)



Members- CRTA used to receive contact information for new retirees. Due to privacy laws, this no longer happens. We would like to encourage more retirees to access the many benefits provided by the BCRTA and CRTA. Please help us to reach new retirees by forwarding this newsletter to your newly retired acquaintances. Thank you!

A Brief Financial Update



Your association ended its financial year on June 30 with a healthy balance sheet. We started the year with \$4,129, and ended with \$4,506, a net surplus of \$377, mainly as a result of more members receiving our newsletter by e-mail. As we are non-profit, we are attempting to ensure we come close to break-even over the years. For the coming year, we have budgeted for a deficit of about \$500, in an effort to balance out last year's surplus. This deficit will be achieved by offering more door prizes at our lunches and general meetings, and by continuing to subsidize lunches to a reasonable extent. Over the long term, if we maintain a year-end balance of around \$4,000, we remain in good financial shape, and able to easily cover any unforeseen expenses.

Green Shield Claims Resolution Process

1. Contact GSC directly at 1-888-711-1119 and request to speak with a supervisor.
2. You also have the option of contacting the Board of Trustees for the Teachers' Pension Plan. Their information is as follows:
Teachers' Pension Board Secretariat: PO Box 9460, Victoria, BC V8W 9V8
Email: TPBT@pensionsbc.ca
3. If not resolved after steps 1 and 2, contact laurie@bcрта.com She will forward your message to a member of the BCRTA Pensions and Benefits Committee.

CRTA 2017 – 2018 EXECUTIVE

DIRECTORS cont'd

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NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

EDITORS

Caroline Malm
Audrey Anthony
Jennifer Blenkinsop

Coquitlam Retired Teachers' Association

R.R. Smith- Communicating with Members

The R.R. Smith Memorial Fund Foundation is pleased to announce that they have a **new and improved website**. The website is an important tool used to communicate with BCRTA members. Please visit it from time to time: www.rrsmith.ca

Postscript magazine and **Summary of Reports** are the only publications that are mailed to all members. **Postscript** highlights the charities granted funding and tells some of the stories of their work. The **Summary of Reports** outlines the charitable activities undertaken by R.R. Smith over the year.

The **R.R. Smith Newsletter** is a more comprehensive quarterly report sent to members whose email addresses are on the R.R. Smith email list. It is essential that BCRTA members update their email addresses to receive the newsletter. Call the R.R. Smith office at 604-871-2260 to update. Newsletters can also be accessed on the R.R. Smith website.

Sunshine Committee

Sunshine coordinator Dale Linton sends get well and sympathy cards to members who are ill and to families suffering a bereavement. Please keep her updated by calling 604-937-5113.

CRTA Phoning Committee

The phoning committee is very active. Our volunteers phone any members who wish to receive reminders about luncheons and some other activities. If you have not let us know that you want to be phoned please contact me, Lynda Parsons, at 604-939-9897 or lrparsons@telus.net. If we already have you on our list you don't need to contact me. I will mail contact lists to the volunteer phoners in November. I hope to see you all at the Christmas Luncheon!

Committee Appointments

Congratulations to the following CRTA members who have been appointed to serve on BCRTA committees:

Caroline Malm: Excellence in Public Education;
Wellbeing

Howard Spence: Pensions and Benefits



In Memoriam

The CRTA regrets to announce the passing of the following District 43 colleague.

We extend heartfelt condolences to his family and friends.

Don Pegura October 15, 2017

