

May 2018
Issue No. 3

CRTA Newsletter

Annual General Meeting June 6, 2018

Gallery Room Winslow Centre

9:30 AM: Social- coffee, tea, cookies

10:00 AM: Meeting

Elections will be held for:

- President
- Vice- President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Directors
- and



- Three Delegates to the BCRTA Annual General Meeting: September 20-22, 2018

Nominations for Executive positions:

Nominations are being accepted at this time for the CRTA Executive Committee. An active or life member of the CRTA wishing to stand for election must signify so ***in writing or by email*** to the chair of the nominating committee at least two weeks prior to the AGM, ***except for nominations made and accepted in person at the AGM.*** All positions are for a one year term.

Please send written nominations for CRTA EC positions and Delegates to the BCRTA AGM to Audrey Anthony at louaud@telus.net by May 23, 2018.

Entertainment will be provided by *The Cutie Circle: Coquitlam Ukulele Tiny Instrument Enthusiasts*. They invite members to dress in tropical attire complete with leis. If you are a ukulele enthusiast, bring your tiny instrument and join in the fun. What a great way to welcome summer!

Lunch following the Annual General Meeting will be provided at no charge by the CRTA Executive. Come and enjoy good food and good company following the meeting.



SAVE THE DATE

**COMING
UP**

Intergenerational Day:	June 1, 2018
CRTA AGM:	June 6, 2018
Back to School Brunch:	September 4, 2018
Christmas Luncheon:	December 5, 2018

Coquitlam Retired Teachers' Association

CRTA 2017 –
2018

<https://bcrrta.ca/coquitlam/>

TABLE OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Caroline Malm
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VICE-PRESIDENT

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SECRETARY

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TREASURER

Howard Spence
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PAST PRESIDENT

Audrey Anthony
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DIRECTORS

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DOOR PRIZES/GIFTS

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June 1 is Intergenerational Day

Intergenerational Day - June 1- is recognized annually in Canada and abroad as a day for citizens to focus on promoting intergenerational programs and learning opportunities, and to assist in developing rich and sustainable connections between generations. As individuals, we can all participate in *Intergenerational Day*. On June 1, www.intergenerational.ca suggests that we connect with someone from a different generation:

- **IF you have a few seconds,**
-make eye contact and smile
- **IF you have 5 minutes,**
-call to say hello
- **IF you have 30 minutes,**
-sit down and have a conversation
- **IF you have an hour or two,**
-share a meal



Scholarship Opportunity from Johnson Insurance

Since 1998, the Johnson scholarship program has awarded over \$1,000,000 in scholarships and academic grants to students across Canada. Applicants must fall into **one** of the following categories:

- have a parent/guardian or grandparent who has a home or auto policy through Johnson;
- have a parent/guardian or grandparent who is a member/employee of a Johnson recognized group*, and has a home or auto policy or group benefit plan through Johnson;
- have a parent/guardian or grandparent who is a member/employee of a Johnson recognized group*, but does not have a home or auto policy or group benefit plan through Johnson.

Please see the [online application form](#) to obtain full requirements and submission instructions. If you require further information, please call toll free 1-866-544-2673 or email scholarshipfund@johnson.ca



Our annual Back to School Brunch, affectionately known as *"To Hell with the Bell"*, is scheduled for **September 04, 2018** at the Burnaby Mountain Golf Course with doors opening at 10:00. Please mark your calendars for this popular event. More information and a return form will be included in our August newsletter. We look forward to seeing you there!

Coquitlam Retired Teachers' Association

President's report



On April 4th there was standing room only at our General Meeting. Gerry Tiede, BCRTA First Vice- President and Chair of our Pensions and Benefits Committee, and Lisa Hansen, Johnson Insurance Representative, presented updates and answered many questions.

Gerry reported that our pension fund has been very well managed and we can look forward to future cost of living adjustments via the Inflation Adjustment Account. It was therefore most surprising to read Vaughn Palmer's comments in the May 9th edition of the Vancouver Sun. He stated that, "Only the teachers' pension plan lagged, with assets matching only 97 per cent of obligations, a shortfall of \$372 million. As the plan is joint trustee, the liability is shared equally between teachers and provincial taxpayers, needing a top up from both." In fact, Mr. Palmer used data that does not describe the current state of TPP assets. When asked, Gerry Tiede responded that Vaughn Palmer is just plain wrong. Dale Lauber, BCRTA Representative on the Pension Corporation Board of Directors, responded that, "the pension plan had a valuation in 2014 and that showed a **surplus** in the pension plan of 102% funded. There will be another valuation as of 2017 and the pension board is confident there will be even a bigger surplus. Looking forward to the next valuation that will be in 2020, there is every reason to believe that there will even be a surplus at that time. The pension board is confident that there will be a **contribution reduction** for members and employers at the 2017 valuation."

At our February General Meeting, attendees signed the CRTA's petition to **Withdraw Bill C-27** and Howard Spence subsequently delivered it to MP Fin Donnelly. Mr. Donnelly presented our petition in the House of Commons on April 18, 2018. Congratulations to CRTA members for taking action on this important issue! We believe that if Bill C-27 passes there will be huge pressures on all defined benefit plans to convert to target benefit plans because corporations and governments can get out of their future responsibilities with TB plans. In fact, if employers are encouraged to convert defined benefit pension plans like ours to target benefit status, recipients risk losing the defined benefit provisions they currently receive.

For more information on what's at stake and what we can do about it, go to the BCRTA web site: www.BCRTA.ca

CRTA 2017 – 2018 EXECUTIVE

DIRECTORS cont'd

PHONING

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Coquitlam Retired Teachers' Association

Green Shield Claims Resolution Process

1. Contact GSC directly at 1-888-711-1119 to speak with a representative.
2. If not resolved, ask to speak with a supervisor.
3. If not resolved, you 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



Phoning Committee Update

Thank you to our volunteers! The Phoning Committee is an important part of the CRTA. We phone those members who do not have email to remind them of important dates and to just keep in touch. We presently have eleven members who have volunteered to do the phoning.

Due to fewer people needing to be phoned our individual lists have become much smaller. If you are presently a member of the phoning committee but are no longer able to do the phoning please contact Lynda at 604-939-9897 or lrparsons@telus.net. If you would like to join the committee, please contact Lynda and she will add you to the list of volunteers. Thank you!



CRTA Sunshine Coordinator Dale Linton sends cards to those who are ill or to family members in the case of bereavement.

Please update her at (604) 937-5113.



In Memoriam

The CRTA notes the passing of the following District 43 Colleagues.

We extend heartfelt condolences to their families and friends.



Doreen Kenmuir, Life Member

April 19, 2018

Rosalynd Towgood

December 8, 2017

