Volume 46 Newsletter of the Burnaby Retired Teachers' Association

November 2018

President's Report-Guest Speakers for 2019. Mark your calendars for Thursday, February 21 and Thursday, April 25. We have two outstanding guest speakers scheduled before our luncheon for each of these dates. Each of the one-hour presentations are free and will start at 10 a.m.

Linda Fawcus will be speaking on February 21. Linda has 25 years of experience working in the technology sector. She is the founder of a non-profit society that helps older adults figure out today's technology.

We had the opportunity to hear Linda speak to us about a year ago. Her outstanding presentation on the state of technology was both informative and thought provoking. In February, she will be speaking to us about your data and how to protect it. Her presentation will focus on how to keep your passwords, financial, and personal information safe and protected from intruders and cybercriminals. Guests will also receive a complementary copy of an accompanying eBook that outlines best practices for protecting devices from threats.

Brad Baker will be speaking to us in April. Brad is a member of the Squamish Nation. He has been an educator for 24 years in the North Vancouver School District. For the past 7 years his position has been District Principal with the portfolios of Indigenous Education, Careers, and Safe and Caring Schools. He is currently enrolled in Doctor of Education program at UBC. Brad has had the opportunity to enhance the awareness of the values of Indigenous Education that leads to dialogue through his presentations across Canada and the United States. His presentation in April will touch on some of his personal experiences and into the reasons why the residential school crisis still affects Indigenous people.

If you would like to stay for the luncheon after Linda's presentation contact Ilse Armanini concerning cost and payment.



Isn't technology great... I just watched somebody break into my garage and steal my car!

EXECUTIVE MEETINGS-10:00 a.m. (2019), February 7, April 11, October 3, November 21.

LUNCHEON MEETINGS-Nov. 29 (Christmas Luncheon). Feb. 21, April 25, Oct. 17, December 5.

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Editor-Dave Carter. Production-Elizabeth Beer Distribution-Ilse Armanini, Marguerite Henderson

ANOTHER READ

TransAtlantic-Colum McCann-Bloomsbury-2013

Animal Envy-Ralph Nader-Seven Stories Press-2016

LUNCHEON UPDATE: DATE/TIME/PLACE: Thursday, November 29, 2018 at the Scandinavian Centre at 12:00 noon, doors open at 11:30 **MENU:** Traditional Turkey Dinner. **ACTIVITIES:** Christmas Carols with the Andante Choir, under the direction of Gail MacDonald. **PRICE:** \$30 If you haven't been notified, and would like to attend, please contact me by Saturday, Nov. 24, so I can order a meal for you. Ilse

BURNABY VILLAGE MUSEUM We're getting excited about the launch the 2018 Heritage Christmas season. Although our gates open at 1pm on November 24, the official launch of the season is on December 1 at 6pm. *Bright in Burnaby* is an evening for celebration, ceremony, and community. Join us for a Tree Lighting Ceremony, light refreshments and the opportunity to support the Burnaby Christmas Bureau (through the purchase of carousel tickets).

Our revamped 'Twelve Days of Christmas' Scavenger Hunt will be a challenge for all who take in on. Pick up your free Hunt Cards at the entrances. There is a lot more information, including our daily entertainment schedule, online at burnabyvillagemuseum.ca

BRTA TREASURER'S REPORT-October 30, 2018-Marguerite Henderson

Credits-Luncheon-\$700.00 Membership Fees \$10.00 Interest \$3.06

Debits-Scandia Rental-\$336.00 Catering-\$833.49

Newsletter-Printing- 106.77 Postage-\$100.11 Honorarium \$75.00

Balance-January 30th 8381.01 Balance-October 30th \$5930.90

WITH SADNESS-no longer with us-June Collins and Heather Mitton

BURNABY SCHOOL BOARD

Congratulations to our newly elected school trustees. They will be officially sworn in at the inaugural meeting of the Burnaby Board of Education on Monday, November 26.

Bill Brassington Jen Yang Mezei Peter Cech Ryan Stewart

Christine Cunningham Gary Wong (incumbent)

Larry Hayes (incumbent)

The Board of Education, in accordance with the School Act, is a policy-making body whose primary function is to establish procedures and guidelines for the operation of the public schools. Local boards of education are responsible for producing a budget, administering expenditures, and liaising with individual schools through the School Trustee Liaison Program. Trustees are elected for a 4 year term during civic elections.

BURNABY SCHOOL DISTRICT'S PUBLIC SPEAKING CHALLENGE 2018/19

Topic: I may be young but....

Zone Finals-Thursday, February 28, 2019

District Finals-Wednesday, March 13, 2019

R.R. SMITH MEMORIAL FUND FOUNDATION-The R.R. Smith Fund will be funding \$35 000.00 in grant applications in March of 2019. There are always many more requests than the amount that is available and for any individuals who would like to donate, please go on-line to R.R. Smith (www.rrsmith.ca).

The application forms for grant funding are also on-line and must be submitted by March 1, 2019. All grants are evaluated according to the R.R. Smith criteria and applicants will be notified whether funding will be granted. If you know of any organization or individual planning to apply please remind them of the March 1 deadline as applications received after this date will not be eligible for the 2019 grants.

Burnaby is well represented on this committee by three former teachers; Sarah Joyce, Steve Bailey and Dave Carter

BURNABY SCHOOL BOARD

School Administrators-Secondary

Alpha Tim Wozney South Victoria Lee

Central Dianne Carr Cariboo Hill Andy Chin

Mountain Lee Anne Kristmanson Moscrop Paul Fester

North Dave Rawnsley Byrne Creek Effie Aadland

School Administrators-Elementary

Armstrong Frankie DeVita	Kitchener	Deb Taylor
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Aubrey Shairoz Merani Lakeview Bruce Cornell

Brantford Kurt Gurney Lochdale Community Dino Klarich

Brentwood Park Jillian Lewis Lyndhurst Vicki Elworthy Moro VP

Buckingham Barbara Henderson Marlborough Karen Floyd

Cameron Al Post Maywood Community Kathryn Yamamoto

Capitol Hill Wally Kanno Montecito Heather Kimmie

Cascades Heights Anthony Yam Morley Lisa Pitt

Chaffey-Burke Claudio Bortolussi Nelson Marilyn Kwok

Clinton Lori Magri Parkcrest Andrew Lee

Confederation Park Helena Readman Rosser Christy Readman VP

Douglas Road Pauline McKay Seaforth Wendell Hiltz

Edmonds Community Sean Gaster Second Street Community Jeff Hutton

Forest Grove Kinder Jones South Slope Maria Perez

Gilmore Community Dennis Taylor Sperling Dave MacLean

Gilpin Blake Briscoe Stoney Creek Community Lisa Hartman

Glenwood Reg LaPlante VP Stride Avenue Community Jennifer Griffin

Inman Kelly Chow

Letter to the Editor-Re: Joining the BRTA Executive

Two years ago, after a great deal of hesitancy, I decided to expand my horizons beyond my two cats, Clawdia and Tabbytha and apply to become a member of the BRTA Executive. I want to state up front that it wasn't a "siren call' or a reply to the many blandishments, but a genuine feeling that it was time to give back to society and the environment. In only one meeting I changed from being deviant, abnormal, aberrant, a caricature, an absurdity, a farce, a charade and a travesty to become competent, deft, adroit, adept, omniscient and omnipotent. After getting to know the other people on the Committee, I felt a growing sense of veneration and hero worship; I was captivated and enthralled. They were totally devoid of astringency and incapable of tergiversation and their paramount goal in life was to disambiguate the dialogue, to avoid calumny and to seek veracity. There was a 'joie de vivre', an alacrity, a mental terpsichore and a jocularity with not a trace of platitudinous ponderosity. Not a whiff of pontification as all the items on the agenda are carried out in a perfunctory fashion. My friends noticed an instant change in me and commented, "you look ten pounds lighter and ten years younger!"

My cynosure was intensified when I spoke with a long serving Director who disclosed that she was a thespian although admitting to some ultracrepidarianism, pleonasm by accretion and adscititious actions while "chewing the scenery". Another associate confessed to be a picaroon inter alia and was also known to imbibe a wee drop of tincture for "medicinal purposes" while constantly being on the qui vive for any signs of teetotalism which she considered tantamount to heresy and that required instant avulsion.

Everyone was outgoing and friendly in their social intercourse. I have never witnessed one of them vexed, piqued, rankled or chagrined nor have I seen her/him take umbrage, feel dudgeon, raise hackles, show animosity, rancor or acrimony or even display asperity. Together, we chant our common mantra at the beginning of each of our annual four assemblages. "Da mihi castitatem et continentiam, sed noli modo". (Make me chaste and pure, but not yet!") It is obvious that their longevity is due to clean living, a clean body and a clean mind. They will all live to become venerable, hoary, antiquated and musty centenarians.

Before joining, I had no friends and my future looked dismal and hopeless. It is not an exaggeration to say that I owe everything positive in my life to the Burnaby Retired Teachers' Association. I now feel that anything is possible. If you are "tired and one of the 'huddled' masses yearning to breathe free, wretched and tempest-tossed," get on the phone or email any member of the Executive and find out how you can experience a life-altering change to your hum-drum existence. Act now! Telephone operators are standing by to take your call! The first fifty callers will have their initial registration fees waived! God might have created a more fun Committee, but She didn't! It's more fun than bubble wrap!

Ima Pedant-retired teacher of English

MARK YOUR CALENDAR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA

Friday, December 7
Edmonds Community School
4:30 - 7:30 pm

Refreshments Silent auction Visit with old and new friends

ADMISSION: \$10.00

DRAW FOR THE ANNUAL QUILT RAFFLE...

Raffle tickets will be on sale in October.
FIRST PRIZE: An exquisite "traditional" quilt for a single bed
SECOND PRIZE: Screen print by Les McKinnon
THIRD PRIZE: Lap quilt by Michi, Ruth and Loretta

\$20.00 per booklet (call Darlene – darlene.don@gmail.com)

BURNABY CHILDREN'S FUND-BURNABY YOUTH SOCIETY-Since 2006 the Society has distributed \$899,474.72: \$47,761.76 for programs which promote the positive social development of children and youth and \$851,712.96 to Burnaby Children and Youth and their families who live in poverty.

This summer the Society helped to send 125 children and youth to camp-32 day campers, 87 residential campers (Camp Jubilee and Camp Potlatch) and 6 campers to specialty camps (soccer, computer, art, etc.)

So far this year (January-mid September) the Burnaby Children's Fund has distributed \$22,700.00 for basic needs and \$13,000.00 for Summer camps. The Fund responded to requests from 3 Secondary schools and 20 Elementary schools to buy clothes and shoes, pay for mobility equipment (wheelchair repairs, walkers, etc.), support school programs, provide Real Canadian Superstore gift cards for food, buy glasses and hearing aid molds and sponsor children/youth for community recreation programs.

The Annual Trivial Pursuit Evening was held on May 4th and thanks go to David Rawnsley, principal of Burnaby North for arranging for the use of the Burnaby North Gymnasium. The event netted close to \$11,000.00 for the Burnaby Children's Fund. We thank the many volunteers who work hard to make the event such a success.

Donna Savoie has resigned from the Board of Directors after 20 years. Tara Hall has accepted the Board's invitation to rejoin the Board and Sheila MacTavish, Counsellor at Brentwood Park Elementary is a new Board member.

Inactivated Influenza (Flu) Vaccine

What is the inactivated influenza vaccine?

The inactivated influenza vaccine is made of killed influenza viruses. It protects against viruses that cause influenza, often called the flu. The vaccine does not protect against other viruses or bacteria that cause colds or stomach flu. Several different influenza vaccines are available in B.C., including a live attenuated influenza vaccine made from weakened influenza viruses. For more information, see HealthLinkBC File #12e Live Attenuated Influenza (Flu) Vaccine. All of the vaccines are approved by Health Canada.

In B.C., influenza vaccines are usually available in October. For your best protection, get immunized as soon as possible. Speak with your health care provider to find out if the vaccines are available or visit ImmunizeBC https://immunizebc.ca/clinics/flu to locate a flu clinic.

Who should get the vaccine?

In B.C., the inactivated influenza vaccine or flu shot is provided free this year to the following groups of people.

People at high risk of serious illness from influenza, such as:

- Children 6 months to less than 5 years of age
- Pregnant women at any stage of pregnancy during the influenza season
- Seniors 65 years and older
- Residents of any age living in residential care, assisted living or other group facilities
- Aboriginal people
- Children and teenagers required to take Aspirin® or ASA for long periods of time due to a medical condition
- Children and adults with certain medical conditions, including:
 - Heart or lung disorders that require regular medical care, such as asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease or cystic fibrosis
 - Kidney disease, chronic liver disease such as hepatitis, diabetes, cancer, anemia or weakened immune system
 - Those with health conditions causing difficulty breathing, swallowing or a risk of choking on food or fluids, such as people with severe brain damage, spinal cord injury, seizures or neuromuscular disorders
 - o Those who are very obese

People able to transmit or spread influenza to those at high risk of serious illness from influenza including:

- Household contacts of people at high risk
- Household contacts, caregivers and daycare staff of children under 5 years of age
- Doctors, nurses and others working in health care settings who have contact with patients
- Visitors to health care facilities and other patient care locations
- People who live or work in confined settings, such as correctional facilities
- Those who provide care or service to people at high risk in potential outbreak settings such as cruise ships



How to avoid a scam on the internet

By the BC Securities Commission (BCSC)

The internet can be a quick, easy, and cheap way for scammers to find potential victims for their investment scams. Often these scams play on peoples' interest in short-term investment options, new business or investment opportunities, or ways to make money from home.

How online investment scams and promotions work

The two examples below are focused on investing, but there are other scams on the internet and social media that go after bank accounts or personal information.

Online searches and websites

Be careful when searching for ways to make money online. Online investment scam websites can look as professional as legitimate financial services websites. What starts with a simple "easy ways to make money" search can lead to discovering a fraudulent investment. Be wary of websites that openly ask you to invest online, whether it's for their business or for another company.

Consult a registered investment advisor, lawyer, or accountant if you find an opportunity that appeals to you because sometimes scams look like the real thing. Seeking a second opinion from a professional independent of the investment is always a good practice.

Email scams

Email scams often start as an unsolicited message in your inbox. The sender may even try to look like a company or person you know. As with any investment communication, be wary of content that pressures you to act fast, put your money offshore, or invest funds with a "sure-thing" or "exclusive opportunity."

You may also see testimonials from people talking about how much money they earn from home, how easy it is to make a lot of money quickly, or how much their life has changed since starting the investment. Be careful; if it is a scam, these testimonials could be fake or a warning sign of a Ponzi scheme.

Investment email scams may also be phishing scams. Phishing happens when someone tries to steal information using fraudulent emails. Clicking on links in a phishing email can result in malware being put on your computer, which can result in identity theft or your computer being taken over by hackers.

How to avoid an online scam

Just as you would in an offline setting, be cautious of people who approach you with a "hot tip" or news report about an investment or company.

- Never give out your personal information online, including your home address, phone number, full name, or banking information.
- Don't expect to get rich quick or make a lot of money fast.
- Don't fall for claims that say this information is only for certain people.
- Research opportunities and the person offering you the investment before making a decision.
- Install anti-spam software.
- Don't reply to emails from people you don't know and never click links or download attachments in unsolicited emails.