CoquitIam Retired Teachers' Association

May 2020 Issue No. 2

CRTA Newsletter



President's Report

Since March, life has changed and we are finding different ways to live and learn. **This is for now and not forever**: these words encourage us as we do our part to take care of ourselves and others.

For example, the CRTA Executive Committee continues to collaborate, albeit from a distance and electronically. The BCRTA Board and Committees are engaged in advocacy, support and services for members, meeting via Zoom. CRTA Members have stepped up with empathy for community members, active teachers, administrators, support staff and each other. As retired teachers, we have a skill set that serves us well in difficult times.

I invite you to visit the BCRTA web site at <u>www.bcrta.ca</u> for news, important updates and Branch newsletters. During this time, it is good to know that we are connected to over 800 colleagues locally and 17000 across BC. We miss seeing one another but we will meet again. Until then, stay well.

Carolíne

AGM and ELECTIONS

Although there are uncertainties as to when we can hold an AGM and elections for the 2020-21 year, we are seeking nominations for all positions in preparation for voting in the future.

If you are a member in good standing and would like to nominate yourself or another member in good standing for an executive position, please submit the nominee's information in writing to Audrey Anthony at <u>louaud@telus.net</u>. The nominee must agree in writing to accept the nomination. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor at the meeting as long as the nominee is present to accept. Positions to be filled are:

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



Delegates to the BCRTA Annual General Meeting: October 2020

The current executive committee members have agreed to remain in place until a new executive committee is duly elected. Many thanks to this group of dedicated volunteers who continue to work efficiently during these unusual times.

Coquitlam Retired Teachers' Association

CRTA 2019– 2020

https://bcrta.ca/coquitlam/

TABLE OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Caroline Malm (604) 461-0008 caroline@malm.ca

VICE-PRESIDENT

Teresa Grandinetti (604) 230-5411 tgrandin@uniserve.com

SECRETARY

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TREASURER

Howard Spence (604) 936-8320 hwspence@gmail.com

DIRECTORS

SEPTEMBER BRUNCH Audrey Anthony (604) 937-3086 louaud@telus.net

MEMBERSHIP/ MEMBER CONTACT John Pope (604) 461-7355 tipope1@hotmail.com

DOOR PRIZES/GIFTS Margrete Wylie (604) 464-1788 stan wylie@telus.net



June 1 is Intergenerational Day



Intergenerational Day - June 1 - is recognized annually in Canada and abroad as a day for us to focus on promoting intergenerational programs and learning opportunities, and to assist in developing rich and sustainable connections between generations. During this time of social distancing and isolation, contact between the generations is more important than ever and requires a different approach. As individuals, we can all participate in *Intergenerational Day*. CRTA members are using Zoom, WhatsApp, Skype, Facetime, email, Canada Post and telephone calls to connect with grandchildren, family and friends. On June 1, make connections. Enjoy!

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 (BCRTA), 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 (BCRTA), but does not have a home or auto policy or group benefit plan through Johnson. Please see the <u>online application form</u> 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
- Completed application forms must be submitted by July 15, 2020 and must include a transcript for the period of September 2018 to December 2019. If you were not enrolled during this time, please provide marks for the last available terms.

<u>NOTE</u>: Due to the COVID-19 related difficulty in obtaining official transcripts, transcripts will be accepted whether they are official or unofficial.



BACK TO SCHOOL BRUNCH

Our annual Back to School Brunch, affectionately known as *"To Hell with the Bell"*, is tentatively scheduled for September 8, 2020 at the Burnaby Mountain Golf Course. Please pencil in the date and we will confirm event status as soon as possible. The Executive Committee will make a decision based on the health and safety of our members.

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.
- If not resolved, you have the option of contacting the Board of Trustees for the Teachers' Pension Plan. Their information is as follows:

Email: TPBT@pensionsbc.ca

 If unresolved, contact <u>laurie@bcrta.ca</u>. She will forward your message to a member of the BCRTA Pensions and Benefits committee.



Phoning Committee Report

The phoning committee is on hold due to Covid-19. However, we are going to stay together as we will most likely be needed in the future in our "New Normal". We usually contact CRTA members who do not receive information by email.

The list of members requiring a phone call is certainly diminishing. During this time of isolation when we were unable to produce a Newsletter in March, we contacted members by phone to tell them of the necessity of cancelling the General Meeting in April. The volunteers who are part of the Phoning Committee will be contacted by me when it is necessary to contact our members again. If you are a volunteer on the Committee and you no longer want to be a phoner, please give me a call or email me. In the meantime stay home, stay safe, and this will pass.

Lynda Parsons, 604-939-9897; Irparsons@telus.net



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.

CRTA 2019 – 2020 EXECUTIVE

DIRECTORS cont'd

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Coquitlam Retired Teachers' Association

In Memoriam

The CRTA regrets to announce the passing of the following District 43 colleagues. We extend our heartfelt condolences to their families and friends.



David Casson: CRTA Life Member: January 18, 2020

David taught power mechanics at Centennial Secondary School. He is survived by his sister Gertrude Sutherland; his children David (Heather), Bob (Cathy) and Ruth; five grandchildren, and eleven great-grandchildren.

Bill Christie: January 15, 2020

Bill was a teacher in Coquitlam for 35 years. He is survived by his wife, Kay; children, Randy, Cheryl (Mark), and Bob (Ross); seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Terry Coyle: January 8, 2020

Terry was a teacher and coach at Port Moody Senior Secondary School. He is survived by his wife Grace; daughters Colleen (Mat), Sherri (Tom) and two grandsons.

Jessica Nelson: January 28, 2020

Jessica was a long- time member of the CRTA Executive Committee and served on the Phoning Committee. She is missed by family and friends.

Shelora Sheriland (Mildred Johnston): November 24, 2019

Shelora taught at Miller Park, Cape Horn and Meadowbrook elementary schools. She is missed by family and friends.

Evelyn Wetmore: January 26, 2020

Evelyn considered herself privileged to work with children in classrooms. She is survived by her son Peter (Gislene), her daughter Jennifer (Dmitri) and two grandchildren.

Dorothea Norton: January 26, 2020



We know that some of our members have suffered the loss of loved ones and friends during the pandemic. We hope it helps to know that we are thinking of you.