

Coquitlam Retired Teachers' Association

August 2020
Issue No. 3

CRTA Newsletter

President's Report - submitted by Caroline Malm



The past year has been challenging for all of us. Our lives have been impacted in so many ways by the pandemic. Kudos to the **Executive Committee** for adapting to change and conducting association business via email, telephone and Zoom technology; we have endeavoured to provide useful information and updates during the pandemic. Many thanks to **CRTA members** for your support and encouragement throughout this unusual year. In addition, we very much appreciate the ongoing generous support we have received from the **CTA** and **District 43** both before and after the onset of COVID-19.

Between September and mid - March, we enjoyed several gatherings with members and others. Two general meetings at Winslow and our well attended Back to School Brunch and Christmas Banquet brought friends and former colleagues together for good times. Executive Committee members attended TPP seminars where we made contact with future retirees. We await the return of in person events so greatly missed at this time. **As** privacy legislation prevents us from accessing the names of teachers who retire in our District, we extend our thanks to the **CTA** for helping us to reach new retirees by publishing **CRTA** information in the **CTA** newsletter. Also, both **District 43** and the **CTA** placed our information on their web sites. This support is greatly appreciated. In fact, this year our Branch received a **BCRTA** Membership Award for percentage increase of membership.

BCRTA has provided excellent information and advocacy for members throughout the year. Many **CRTA** members joined the provincial campaign and petitioned the Federal Government to establish a national single payer **Pharmacare Program**. Visit www.bcrta.ca for up to date provincial and branch news.

In May we sought nominations for the 2020 - 2021 **CRTA** Executive Committee. All members of this past year's committee chose to stand for nomination and will continue to serve members while we wait for an election. At this time, we are investigating options in lieu of the traditional in person event.

CRTA members Audrey Anthony, Jennifer Blenkinsop, John Pope and Howard Spence will attend the **BCRTA** online AGM in October. I will attend as **BCRTA** Director.

Stay well, everyone. We will meet again.

Caroline

Calendar Update



Due to COVID – 19 health and safety considerations, September's **To Hell with the Bell Brunch** has been cancelled. Our **Christmas Banquet** scheduled on December 2 may also be cancelled. In order to be prepared for 2020 - 21, we have secured dates for CRTA General Meetings at Winslow Centre but cannot confirm any such events at this time. We will notify members when public health officials deem it is safe for us to meet again with appropriate conditions in place. We miss you!

Coquitlam Retired Teachers' Association

CRTA 2020 –
2021

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

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Treasurer's Report – submitted by Howard Spence

FINANCIAL REPORT of the COQUITLAM BRANCH of the BCRTA for the period July 1 2019 to Jun 30 2020. This report was submitted to the BCRTA for the 2019-2020 financial year, which ended June 30.

Receipts for the year:

Membership Fees	3,830.00
Sep Lunch Revenue	2,380.00
Dec Lunch Revenue	2,798.00
AGM Lunch Revenue	-
Interest	-
BCRTA Grant	95.00
Other Income	-
Total Receipts	=====> 9,103.00

Disbursements for the year:

Sep Lunch Expenses	2,736.33
Dec Lunch Expenses	3,369.15
AGM Lunch Expenses	-
Bank Service Charges	59.40
Christmas Cheer	-
Door Prizes	369.09
Gifts	75.00
Honoraria	184.67
Newsletters	475.99
Office Expenses	-
Refreshments	141.92
Sunshine	80.64
Total Disbursements	=====> 7,492.19

Statement of financial position as at end of fiscal period:

Chequing Account	4,504.32
Petty Cash	69.69
Prepaid Expenses	1,050.00
Accounts Receivable	-
Total Assets	=====> 5,624.01

Notes:

1. Prepaid expenses of \$1050 are deposits for our Sept brunch and Christmas lunch. They are not listed as expenses, but as an asset, because they are for activities in this present financial year. We have received a refund from Burnaby for the September brunch (officially cancelled), and it's now in the bank, but it arrived in July, so does not appear in the year-end report.
2. We started the year with \$4013.20 in assets, and with total year-end assets of \$5624.01, we have a surplus of \$1610.81. These funds will give us lots of flexibility to provide member benefits (e.g. lunch/brunch subsidies, high-profile guest speakers) once the virus crisis has passed, and we can once again enjoy getting together.

CRTA Bursaries Recipients 2020

This year the District Scholarship Committee awarded three CRTA bursaries to deserving students who met the requirements and exemplified the personal qualities described for worthy recipients. Congratulations to:

1. Athan Milonas from Centennial Secondary School
2. Jayden Bawden from Riverside Secondary School
3. Hayleigh Butcher from Riverside Secondary School



Coquitlam Retired Teachers' Association

Membership/Member Contact Report – submitted by John Pope:

Total membership is 828, making **CRTA** one of the largest branches in the province. A considerable number of last year's retirees accepted the offer of a free 1-year introductory membership in **BCRTA & CRTA**. We hope that everyone has enjoyed the newsletters, presentations and luncheons and will join us on a continuing basis. This membership year we lost too many of our senior members. It seemed as if not a week went by without another notification.



We have reached a milestone of sorts: 80% of members have chosen online contact with **CRTA** for newsletters and/ or messages.

Members who prefer the paper newsletter can, of course, opt to combine the paper newsletter with e-mailed messages. Signing up for messages gives recipients timely information, news, etc. which is not included in our print newsletters. During these Coronavirus months we have sent members up to date information, useful contacts and ministry documents regarding the pandemic. During the year we have also forwarded other useful and interesting material on a range of topics.

Can you help us to locate **CRTA** member Myra Eadie? The contact information in our files is no longer current.

Have you changed your email account or telephone number? Let us and the provincial office know:

CRTA coquitlamrta@hotmail.com or 604-461-7355.

BCRTA Laurie@bcrtc.ca or 604-871-2260 or 1-877-683-2243.

CRTA 2020– 2021 EXECUTIVE

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Presentations Report - submitted by Fran Mitchell:

Presentations this year have been cut short because of the pandemic, but the two presentations we did have were very interesting and informative.

Last October **Julianne Koenig** from the Canadian Preplanning Council did a presentation on how to prepare for your Executor. She touched on Probates, Power of Attorney, Representation Agreements and Joint Ownership which are vital to estate planning. The takeaway: being prepared brings peace of mind.

In February, the featured presentation was by **Karla Laird** from the Better Business Bureau. She reviewed various online & telephone frauds & scams, some old, some new, and some not yet encountered by everyone. This was essential information for us all.

Unfortunately, in April, we were not able to hear our very own **Howard Spence** give an account of our **Teachers' Pension Plan**. This is something we will all be looking forward to hearing when we can, once again, have a General Meeting. Of course, we all missed the annual June luncheon put on by our Bridge Group and members of the Executive Committee.

Coquitlam Retired Teachers' Association



Phoning Committee Report – submitted by Lynda Parsons:

The Phoning Committee is made up of eleven volunteers who are part of a phoning tree that phones members who do not use email. We phone to tell these members about upcoming social events and any pertinent information that we feel it is important for them to know.

During the past few months when we were not able to publish a newsletter to be mailed, we phoned these members to touch bases with them and to let them know about the various changes to our events because of Covid-19. We will continue to keep in touch with our non-email members. I will be in contact with the phoning volunteers when it is necessary for them to make a few phone calls. If you are one of my volunteers and are unable to continue phoning please contact me at 604-939-9897 or lrparsons@telus.net.

Sunshine Report – submitted by Dale Linton

This past year, on behalf of CRTA members, I sent five Get Well cards and sixteen Bereavement cards. Thank you for keeping me informed. Please contact me at 604 – 937 – 5113.

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.



Jacqueline Bunker: February 20, 2020: Jacqueline was a teacher and teacher-librarian at Winslow Jr and other schools in Coquitlam. She is missed by family and friends.

Judy Ellis: June 7, 2020: Judy taught at Rochester, Roy Stibbs and Riverview Park schools. She is missed by her husband, Don; her sister Sandra (Derek); her children Chris and Jennifer (Brad) and grandson Connor; her niece Margie and nephew Brendan; and step-children Brent, Jennifer and Jason Ellis; friends.

Kay (Kathy) Ferguson: April 25, 2020: Kay taught at Vanier Elementary school. She is survived by her son Dwayne and his wife Laurie; her grandchildren; her sister Mary-Lou; friends.

Irene Horne: May 28, 2020: Irene was teacher - librarian at Viscount Alexander elementary school. She is missed by family and friends.

Steve Kellas: June 15, 2020: Steve taught at Sir Frederick Banting and Centennial schools. He is missed by his wife Sue; his children Leslie and Alex (Marnie); grandchildren Turner, Anni, Xander and Emmie; brother Peter (Diane); niece Wendy and nephew Brent; friends.

Arthur Worsdale: June 22, 2020: CRTA Life Member: Arthur was a founding member of the CRTA and regularly attended the Christmas Banquet. He passed away at age ninety – nine. He is missed by family and friends.

Cheryl Pederson: April 27, 2020

Naga Terada: July 7, 2020

We are thinking of CRTA members who have suffered loss during the pandemic.