Year-End Langley Branch Report August 2020

Our year began with our annual "No Bell" brunch at Newlands in September to celebrate and welcome our new members and re-connect with all who were able to attend. We enjoyed a visit with Tim Anderson who joined our brunch and brought greetings from the BCRTA. It was great for our members to see what was happening at the BCRTA and some of the plans that were in the works.

Several of our executive attended the BCRTA AGM in October and reported back to our members through our "Open Road" newsletter.

We participated financially with the help of the BCRTA in 2 all-candidates meetings prior to the elections.

In November, we hosted a luncheon at Newlands and the Langley School District Foundation sponsored a silent auction to raise funds for their 9 available scholarships. In the same month, we joined Surrey and Delta in a workshop with Gerry Tiede who provided current information on our pensions and Extended Health Benefit plans. Special thanks to Surrey for organizing and including us in their event.

In February, we had 2 presenters at our luncheon. Linda Fawcus from Gluu Technologies who brought copies of the very first Gluu Guide publication entitled "The Complete Guide to Digital Security" for everyone and she discussed the benefits to seniors on the Apple watches. We can hardly wait for the second publication to come out. Also Heather Knittel joined us and presented her workshop on "Decluttering". This luncheon was very well attended and we received a lot of positive feedback regarding both sessions.

In April, we had several things planned that had to be cancelled due to the pandemic health warnings and closures. Needless to say everything came to a abrupt halt and we are anxiously waiting to get some activities going when safe to do so.

I am so pleased to say that our entire executive has jumped into the learning curve that surrounds online meetings and we have had several executive meetings and currently have taken a one year membership for Zoom meetings.

We have planned an outdoor picnic in a large provincial park in Langley for September 8th with everyone bringing their own lunches, masks, lawn chairs and hopefully a sense of humour as we try to connect with them from a safe social distance apart. If they currently are a part of a small social bubble, they can sit together with those people. We will diligently be monitoring the safety of our members at this event. We anticipate about 40 people, weather permitting.

Respectfully submitted by:

Sue Mackenzie - President LRTA