



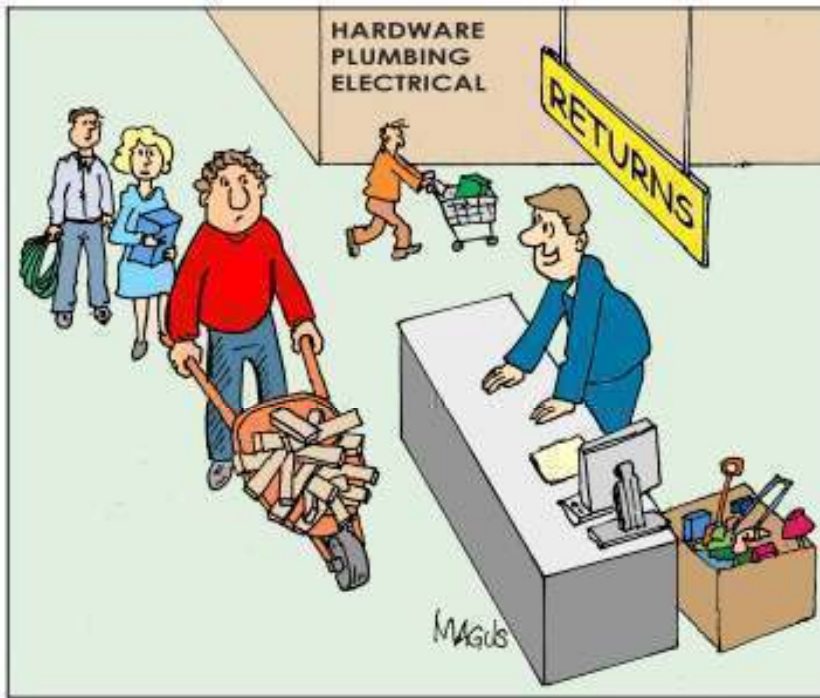
President's Message



It's exciting to let you know that the book on the history of Burnaby schools is complete and is being printed by the City of Burnaby. The City is printing a limited edition. We have ordered 100 copies. Currently, our membership has pre-ordered 54 books. The City of Burnaby will donate copies to Burnaby libraries and schools. Schools will also be receiving electronic copies. We are not anticipating any profits from the sale of the book. We have heard that the City of Burnaby 'might' make a small refund. At our recent Zoom meeting, the Executive felt that any refund should be donated to our Scholarship funds.

I will be in touch with those members who have made a pre-order when I receive the books from the City. I'll deliver most of the books to homes in the lower mainland. Some people might choose to pick up copies from my home. A few people outside of the lower mainland, might have to pay an additional fee for a mail delivery. With tax, each book will cost \$47.25. I will determine a mailing fee later.

I would also like to take this opportunity to wish you good health and much joy over the holiday season. I realize that our world, for now, looks different and that we might not be able to celebrate in the way that we have in the past. Hopefully, you'll be able to share some time, wine, and meals with a few close friends and family. Best Wishes!



Yes, we take returns on lumber, but we expect it to be in it's original length.



Photo taken at Burnaby Village Museum

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Burnaby Retired Teachers’ Scholarship and Bursary Foundation

c/o Burnaby School District, 5325 Kincaid Street, Burnaby, B.C, V5G 1W2

Yes, I would like to support the Burnaby Retired Teachers’ Scholarship and Bursary Foundation. I understand the money will be used to support graduating students in their future studies.

Enclosed is my cheque for \$25 \$50 \$100 other

A tax receipt will be issued

Signature

Address

Name (Please Print)

City Province Postal Code

Just letting you know that Helmut Lemke, a Burnaby retired teacher, has written another book, this time about his Mother. The book’s title is, “My Mother: The Story of a Courageous Woman”. It is a blend of history and biography. Among other things, his Mother lived through two World Wars, a depression, and a dictatorship. The book is available at Amazon, Barnes and Noble and from the author. **Rennie Maierle**

BRTA TREASURER'S REPORT - November 2020

Balance as of September 30 th , 2020		\$ 8241.62
Income	Membership Fees	\$ 4,960.00
	Expenses	nil
	Balance as of November, 2020	\$ 13,201.62

BURNABY VILLAGE MUSEUM-Everything is up in the air at the present time as the PHO order is in effect which prohibits community events and gatherings. Heritage Christmas is now cancelled until further notice. This order expires on December 7th and so if it is not extended, we could open on December 9th.

R.R. SMITH MEMORIAL FOUNDATION-R.R. Smith has now received the offer of free help to upgrade its website and to assist in advertising on social media. Stay tuned for more announcements in this area. Welcome to the newest member of the R.R. Smith Board, Helene McGall, from Courtenay, who has agreed to be the Secretary for this year. Just a sad note about the passing of Pat Brady, who was a major force with the BCTF and the BCRTA.

Gary's Lions Bikes Project-This is what Gary, Norm Brodie and Dennis Baker, another BBY/NW Lions member accomplished on Monday nights this year. 129 repaired and refurbished bikes that were delivered to the Burnaby Christmas Bureau at Brentwood Mall. If you see/hear of any old/damaged/no longer needed bikes, of any size, contact Ilse Armanini at zoepoodle3878@gmail.com.



**Though many years have come and gone,
My thoughts of you live on and on.
You hugged me and we sat and cried,
The time my little hamster died.
I always knew that you'd be there,
Not just to teach, but also care.**

**Your lessons spoke of love and giving,
And how learning is a part of living.
To be both generous and kind,
Forever with an open mind.
That special moments often start,
Not from a book, but from the heart.**

**I'm grown up now, and every day,
I remember words you used to say.
I live my life as you taught me,
To be the best that I can be.
You always made my world feel right,
My candle in the darkest night.**

Due to covid-19 the Burnaby Retired Teachers' Association will not be delivering poinsettias at Christmas to our colleagues who are 85+. We are pleased to say that we are donating to Burnaby Children's Fund on your behalf the funds that we would normally use to buy the poinsettias. These funds will buy essentials for local families in need. Thank you and we wish you a very MERRY CHRISTMAS.

HAPPY END OF COVID

Christmas Trivia Questions

1. What Christmas beverage is also known as “milk punch”?
2. In 1981, Bob and Doug McKenzie released their own version of what classic Christmas song?
3. In the early 1800’s the first gingerbread houses were inspired by what famous fairy tale?
4. What traditional Christmas decoration is a parasitic plant?
5. In the “Muppet Christmas Carol”, who played Scrooge?
6. In the movie, “A Christmas Story” what was the name of the next door neighbours whose dog ate the Christmas turkey?
7. Name the animatronic cassette-playing bear toy that every kid wanted for Christmas in the mid 1980’s.
8. In the 1964 classic, “Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer”, what was the name of Rudolph’s faithful elf companion?
9. According to the folklore of Austria, what horned figure punishes naughty children at Christmas time?
10. In the TV special, “How the Grinch Stole Christmas”, what three words best describe the Grinch?
11. What Christmas carol became the first song ever broadcast from space?
12. In what modern-day country was Saint Nicholas born?
13. What Christmas carol does the Peanuts gang sing at the end of “A Charlie Brown Christmas”?
14. “Twas the Night Before Christmas” was originally published under what name?
15. What holiday movie sequel includes a cameo by Donald Trump?
16. Who was the star of the movie, “Jingle All the Way”?
17. What name is given to a small sausage wrapped in bacon, a staple of a British Christmas?
18. What alcohol is traditionally added to butter and served with Christmas pudding?
19. Which Christmas food is considered good luck to eat each of the twelve days of Christmas?
20. Which was the first country to issue a Christmas postage stamp?

Answers on bottom of last page (page 8)

Seniors' Health and Wellness Institute (COSCO)

Free Zoom Workshops Available

From a single workshop on Falls Prevention 10 years ago to 44 sessions on topics ranging from health and wellness to practical information about financial and legal issues the Seniors Health and Wellness Society has grown to become a vital link for seniors across the province. Face-to-face presentations cannot be provided due to health and wellness concerns for our fellow seniors. The institute is offering 20 free virtual workshops to seniors' groups throughout BC. The workshops are presented by trained facilitators and provide practical information. The workshops have been developed in consultation with experts in their fields to ensure the information is up-to-date and accurate. The workshops are not intended to provide specific legal, medical or financial advice. Check out the workshop page on the website www.seniorshelpingseniors.ca to find a description of the workshops. To book a virtual session for a group of seniors, click on "How to Request a Workshop."

If you are looking for something to do in this time of COVID19 restrictions you may want to consider becoming a presenter or volunteer your time to preview or edit presentations to update them. The time commitment is up to you. You need not leave the safety of your home in order to volunteer. If you are interested please contact either Barb Mikulec mikulec@telus.net or Sylvia Helmer sylviahelmer42@gmail.com.

Inkwells to Internet: A History of Burnaby Schools-Classrooms have certainly changed since Burnaby's first students attended public school in 1894.

The growth and evolution of Burnaby's school system has been captured in *Inkwells to Internet: A History of Burnaby Schools*. This comprehensive history of Burnaby's schools is in the final stages of editing and will soon be printed. The book was researched and written by Dave Carter, Rosemary Cooke, Harry Pride, Janet White, and Gail Yip who expanded upon extensive research material compiled by previous school history book committees.

Funding to print the book has been provided by the Burnaby School Board and City of Burnaby, and staff at the City are completing the graphic design and will soon be printing the volume at the City's print shop. Complementary copies of the book will be provided to local school libraries and each branch of the Burnaby Public Library, and a digital copy of the book will be available to read online.

The book will be for sale for \$45, plus GST which includes a donation to a Burnaby Retired Teachers' Association scholarship fund. Details on where the book can be purchased will be available soon. Please check the link below for further updates and information on how to purchase the book.

<https://heritageburnaby.ca/news/inkwells-to-internet/>

Applications are now being accepted from those retired teachers who wish to join the Executive of the BRTA. The registration fee has been waived as has the physical examination. Please use the pass code "IAMWORTHY" on the envelope. As a bonus, each successful applicant will receive the first five answers to the annual "Trivia Challenge" which present members of the Executive must pass to remain a "Member in Good Standing". Good luck and Happy Holiday!!

Burnaby School Board-December 2020

Running for Terry

Schools throughout the District celebrated the 40th year of the Terry Fox Marathon of Hope, which has raised hundreds of millions of dollars for cancer research. Students walked or ran for the cause in Terry's name, as seen in these images from [Alpha](#) and [Burnaby North Secondary](#) schools, as well as [Montecito Elementary](#). The famous Canadian has become a role model for generations of students who have kept his dream alive. In addition to fundraising at [Inman Elementary](#), a Grade 6/7 class took a close look at Terry's strength of character and considered what traits they might aspire to in their own lives.

Supporting Orange Shirt Day

Every year staff, teachers and students wear orange to honour the survivors of residential schools. It's a time to reflect and reinforce that *every child matters*. Art projects are among the many ways schools create awareness. Class discussion and student projects help build understanding of the history of Indigenous people. Students also learn how we each have a role in working toward meaningful reconciliation.

Elementary Schools Featured as Case Studies

The learning opportunities at [Stride Avenue Community School](#) and [Montecito](#) were showcased by an education network focused on quality & equity. The two elementary schools were given the spotlight as case studies by Networks of Inquiry for Indigenous Education. They highlighted how the schools authentically and deeply incorporated Indigenous worldviews into their school culture – such as this months-long Indigenous Drumming Project, where both staff and students at Montecito gained an understanding of Indigenous perspectives and knowledge through experiential learning.

Anti-Racism: Learning and Unlearning in Burnaby Schools

The District continues its work to support an equitable, diverse, and inclusive environment for all staff, students, and their families. Organizational change is being championed by the Board, senior leadership, and our new Vice-Principal of Equity, Diversity & Inclusion: Beth Applewhite, shown here speaking with students at [Alpha Secondary](#). As part of her work, she has provided workshops throughout the District – sharing how to be an active anti-racist, as well as helping participants both learn and “unlearn” what they know about racism, including bias, privilege and micro-aggressions.

Bike to School Week at Inman Earns Award

[Inman Elementary](#) was one of 71 schools who took part in Bike to School Week this year and was among the Top Five Grand Prize winners. They were awarded with “Best First-Time School.” More than 4,000 student riders participated in BC, and at Inman, teachers and parents also got involved.

Continued on next Page

Burnaby School Board cont'd

Students New to Canada Gift Mural to their School

Grade 12 students **Ekaterina** and **Regina** created this magical mural for **Alpha**. The artists – both originally from Russia – began the three by six metre painting as part of their class work and spent nearly a year and a half completing it. For both students, Alpha was their first experience of Canada. They say they couldn't be happier to be leaving both a literal mark on their school and a legacy gift for their adopted community.

Healthy School Certified

Burnaby Mountain Secondary is among just eleven schools in BC to be certified as a Healthy School Community by DASH – Dedicated Action for School Health. It's an organization that celebrates school communities for promoting and enhancing health and well-being. School staff, students, and partners at Mountain collaborated over the last year with a particular focus on mental health. Highlights include a "kindness tree" and rocks in the student commons, as well as inspirational messages painted by students on bathroom stalls.

Secondary Students Awarded for Environmental Work -Two 2020 grads, **Azzam** from **Burnaby South**, and **Emily** from **Alpha**, were recently honoured with environmental awards from the City of Burnaby for their work during the last school year. The two were very active organizing several initiatives at the school level, while also serving as emcees at the district-wide sustainability conference "We Mean Green."

Embracing Nature's Classroom

Taking learning outside is a concept long embraced in the District, with many schools having permanent outdoor classrooms. With the emphasis on outdoor learning in our back-to-school restart plans, more classes are heading outdoors. Examples include everything from learning about Indigenous culture and plants, outdoor science experiments, and reading to studying trees and our environment. As temperatures cool, we're grateful to long-time community partners such as the Burnaby Children's Fund, the Rotary Club, and Bases Thrift Store who help students have equitable access to outdoor clothing.

Answers to Christmas Trivia-1. Egnog 2. The Twelve Days of Christmas 3. Hansel and Gretel 4. Mistletoe 5. Michael Caine 6. The Bumpuses 7. Teddy Ruxpin 8. Hermey 9. Krampus 10. Stink, Stank, Stunk 11. Jingle Bells 12. Turkey 13. Hark, the Herald Angels Sing 14. A Visit from Saint Nicholas 15. Home Alone 2 16. Arnold Schwarzenegger 17. Pigs in Blankets 18. Brandy 19. Mince Pies 20. Canada