



Abbotsford District Retired Teachers' Association
November, 2020
Newsletter

Everyone,

We have been in this strange Covid-19 time for so long—at least eight long months. It seemed easier in the spring when the weather was sunny and mild and we were able to have our driveway visits and backyard visits while social distancing. In November, it is so much harder with the weather so cold and often windy and rainy. With numbers increasing, we will all have to make do with a different style of celebrating this holiday season. Remember it is just for now, not for always!

There is optimism in the air with a vaccine coming in 2021. It does lift my spirits to know that we could soon be back to our joyful pursuits and being able to hug and shake hands again.

Even though we are unable to host events for our members, our executive is still working on behalf of our members. Recently, when news of the ATU building was confirmed, we had to move all of our belongings out of the building. Many thanks to Linda Baynes, Mado Gravel and Leona Oren for volunteering to do this with me. Extra thanks to Leona for offering to store our things at her home. Much appreciated. We will have to wait until the moving dust has settled before we will be able to move our things back into the new facility.

Stay safe, everyone!

Gloria Adam

President, ADRTA



BCRTA Zone zoom meeting held
in November, we learned:

- that we will probably receive **.5%** increase in our pensions in January. Yippee!

- Grace Wilson has succeeded Gerry Tiede as the new president of the BCRTA.

- Gerry Tiede has become the new president of ACER-CART.

(L'Association canadienne des enseignantes et des enseignants retraités –
Canadian Association of Retired Teachers)

ACER-CART is the national voice of retired teachers. It is a bilingual association of Members representing over 160,000 retired teachers from Canada's ten provinces and Yukon Territory. It has been in existence since 1991.

- It is the BCRTA's 75th Anniversary in 2021 and they have asked if we have anything historical we could contribute to their archives—documents, photos, etc. They will also have merchandise to distribute—cups, t-shirts, pens, etc. More details to follow.

ADRTA Bursary Fund

Many thanks to the generous donations we have already received. The directions for donating are below.



Here's how to donate to our bursary fund:



Using Canada Post:

Donors send cheques directly to VanCity payable to "VanCity Community Foundation/ R.R. Smith" The address is: #409-312 Main Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6A 2T2.

The memo line should read, "**Friends of Abbotsford District Retired Teachers' Association**". Your tax receipt will be issued and sent as soon as possible to your cheque address.

Right away, send an email to Erin (our treasurer) erinmquast@gmail.com and let her know the amount of your donation so that we can have an idea of how much money is being collected.

or

Using your computer, it's very easy, just follow these steps:

Go online to www.vancitycommunityfoundation.ca



At the top of the page, press “FUNDS”.

In the search button, type R.R. Smith. Press Search.

At the top of the page: “Together, more becomes possible—
Donate now.” Press button.

Choose your donation amount.

Billing address-make this gift on behalf of an organization. Tick box.

Type in: **Friends of the Abbotsford District Retired Teachers’
Association.**

Put in your information.

Do the credit card information

Donate now.

You will receive your tax receipt immediately.

**Forward your tax receipt to Erin or send her an email letting her
know the amount of your donation so that we have a general idea of how
much money we have for our 2021 Bursary.**

The Vancity Community Foundation and the R.R. Smith Foundation (part of the BCRTA) are providing us this service absolutely free, so that **100%** of our donation goes to the students.

Warning: If you do not put **Friends of the Abbotsford District Retired Teachers’ Association on the cheque or online, the money will go into a general revenue pot and we will not be able to use it for our bursary!**

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at gloriaadam@shaw.ca or 604-854-6194. This is our first year with this new system, so we will definitely have to work out any problems.



Please let me know if you hear of anyone who has passed away this year.

Heather Andrea Grant

October 4, 1943 - February 2, 2020

Heather passed away peacefully, Sunday, February 2, 2020, at Holmberg House in Abbotsford, BC.

Heather was born October 4, 1943, in Kimberley, BC, to Andrew and Jesse Grant. She was a loving mother, grandmother, and friend. Heather taught for many years in our school district and was a valued member of the ADRTA phoning committee. She will be greatly missed.



Pat Brady

Pat was born in 1937 in Vancouver but grew up in the Bradner area. He retired from teaching in 1995 after 35 years "in the trenches". During his teaching career, Pat served as President of his local teachers' association (Prince George); as President of the BC Teachers' Federation; and as President of the Canadian Teachers' Federation.

After retirement, he continued involvement with teachers organizations serving as President of the BC Retired Teachers' Association and President of ACER-CART. Known for his knowledge of rules of order and parliamentary procedure, Pat chaired the AGM of the BCTF for over 25 years. In 2011, he attended his 51st consecutive BCTF AGM. Pat was awarded the BCTF's G. A. Fergusson Award for "outstanding contributions to education". Pat was a member of the Abbotsford District Retired Teachers' Association and he will be missed.



Change of address

If you have changed your email address, please send the changes to Janice Brost (jbrost52@gmail.com) so you don't miss anything!



Christmas cards

If you know of someone who is 80 and older in our association, please send their name and address to Shannon Reidlinger (shbraun47@gmail.com) so that we can send Christmas greetings!

