

## CRTA Newsletter



### President's Report

As I write, BC Health officials are rolling out a much anticipated vaccination schedule. Exactly one year ago, we were preparing to deal with a newly declared pandemic, COVID-19. One year on, we are preparing to say goodbye to the virus.

I can't help but think of all the teachers who played a part in educating the scientists, health care providers and others who have contributed to our well-being throughout the last twelve months. Thank you, teachers and learners, each and every one!

We will receive our vaccine in order of age. To see the schedule and registration information, go to <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/covid-19/vaccine/seniors>

**Fraud alert: The Health Authority will never ask you for your SIN (Social Insurance Number), driver's licence number or banking and credit card details.**

**Reminder:** [Provincial Health Officer \(PHO\) orders](#) and guidelines remain in place for everyone, regardless if they have received the vaccine.

**To register for a vaccine, call the Health Authority where you live. A friend or relative can call for you if needed. Numbers to call between the hours of 7:00am and 7:00pm are:**

**Fraser Health:** 1-855-755-2455. On line registration also will be available in Fraser Health.

**Vancouver Coastal Health:** 1-877-587-5767

**Interior Health:** 1-877-740-7747

**Island Health:** 1-833-348-4787

**Northern Health:** 1-844-255-7555

So roll up your sleeve and enjoy the arrival of spring along with that vaccine!

*Caroline*

### AGM and ELECTIONS

Although uncertainties remain as to when we can hold an in-person AGM and elections for the 2021-22 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 [louaud@telus.net](mailto:louaud@telus.net). The nominee must agree in writing to accept the nomination. If we are able to hold an in-person meeting, nominations will also be accepted from the floor as long as the nominee is present to accept. Positions to be filled are:

- President
- Vice- President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Directors
- Delegates to the BCRTA Conference and AGM: October 2021



# Coquitlam Retired Teachers' Association

CRTA 2020–  
2021

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

## TABLE OFFICERS

### PRESIDENT

Caroline Malm  
(604) 461-0008  
[caroline@malm.ca](mailto:caroline@malm.ca)

### VICE-PRESIDENT

Teresa Grandinetti  
(604) 230-5411  
[tgrandin@uniserve.com](mailto:tgrandin@uniserve.com)

### SECRETARY

Lynne Sowerby  
(604) 939-5239  
[sowerby@shaw.ca](mailto:sowerby@shaw.ca)

### TREASURER

Howard Spence  
(604) 936-8320  
[hwspace@gmail.com](mailto:hwspace@gmail.com)

## DIRECTORS

### SEPTEMBER BRUNCH

Audrey Anthony  
(604) 937-3086  
[louaud@telus.net](mailto:louaud@telus.net)

### MEMBERSHIP/ MEMBER CONTACT

John Pope  
(604) 461-7355  
[tipope1@hotmail.com](mailto:tipope1@hotmail.com)

### DOOR PRIZES/GIFTS

Margrete Wylie  
(604) 464-1788  
[stan\\_wylie@telus.net](mailto:stan_wylie@telus.net)

## Rescheduled AGM:

Follow up to information published in the January 2021 Issue of the CRTA Newsletter:

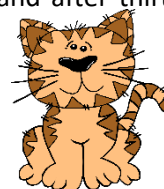
The Financial Statements and Minutes have been accepted as presented as of February 8, 2021.

## In Her Own Write: Congratulations, Naomi!

**Naomi Lane** recently retired from our district and has just published two books. In her own words, the author says:

**The Ultimate Cat: A Baby-Boomer's Guide to Retirement** is a light, humorous, autobiographical book. It is about my retirement with my husband after thirty years of teaching.

It is a humorous look at elderly parent care, selling the family home, dealing with disgruntled siblings and estates, and suddenly finding yourselves alone together.



It examines all the scary pitfalls of having too much time on your hands after working full-time since forever. Hopefully, everyone will see a little of themselves in this story, as we all must face the universality of life's inevitable phases. Will you laugh at yourself and make the most of it? Or will you just shrivel up into the fetal position and cry? That is the dilemma we must all face as we age.

<https://amazon.ca/dp/0228845246>

My second book called **The Ordinary Life of Nadia Lewis** is a tale of the trials and tribulations of lifelong friendship. Two girls met when Susan's family moved into the road where Nadia lives.

They hit it off straight away and became an inseparable force to be reckoned with. When they turned eighteen, they went their separate ways - Nadia to university, Susan quickly moved out after deciding that staying at home was too boring. Life moved on and the girls grew up and started doing 'adult things':



moving in with long-term partners, working full-time, getting married and having children. But as everyone knows, adult life is not always smooth sailing.

[https://www.amazon.ca/Ordinary-Life-Nadia-Lewis/dp/1788309014/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?dchild=1&keywords=nadia+lewis&qid=1611749676&sr=8-1](https://www.amazon.ca/Ordinary-Life-Nadia-Lewis/dp/1788309014/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=nadia+lewis&qid=1611749676&sr=8-1)

## Brain Teaser 1: How does a dog cross a river without getting wet?

A man stands on one side of a river, his dog on the other. The man calls his dog who immediately crosses the river without getting wet and without using a bridge or a boat. How did the dog do it?

# Coquitlam Retired Teachers' Association

## Your Pension Plan in Uncertain Times

We often hear our pension plan and other BC pension plans enviously referred to as "gold-plated" pension plans. Actually, a better description might be "bullet-proof Kevlar" plans.

BC Investment Management Corporation (BCI) is the organization that manages the funds of many BC plans, including the Teachers' Pension Plan. BCI recently provided some insight into their investment and corporate strategies, demonstrating their ability to weather our current very challenging financial environment.



As with other well run funds, planning is long term - think decades and well diversified, maintaining sufficient liquidity to continue paying our pensions, regardless of the short-term ups and downs of the market. For example, about two years ago, BCI started planning for an inevitable downturn, moving investments so as to ensure the funds' stability.

They sold investments in theatres, shopping malls, hotels and the like, raising cash so as to take advantage of investment opportunities in the future and to ensure funds are available for pension commitments without having to sell investments at a low price.

Those actions gave BCI a double advantage, providing them with better stability in times such as we are now experiencing in the stock markets, while also serendipitously providing some immunity from the waning fortunes of those businesses most affected by Covid-19.

A second example of BCI's and member plans' astute planning is that they were well prepared for the pandemic. For several years they made plans to ensure they could carry on their business under disastrous circumstances - think earthquake, terrorist attack, for example. They already had plans in place to move all personnel out of their offices to work from home, so when they sensed the potential severity of the pandemic, they began the process, with all operations being conducted out of office by March 2020. It was a massive undertaking that was managed exceptionally well as a result of BCI's careful early preparations.

Over the years, we will experience turmoil and financial ups and downs, but rest assured your pensions are secure and exceptionally well managed.

*Howard Spence*



## CRTA 2020 – 2021 EXECUTIVE

### DIRECTORS cont'd

#### PHONING

Lynda Parsons  
(604) 939-9897  
[lrparsons@telus.net](mailto:lrparsons@telus.net)

#### LUNCHEON/SOCIALS

Maria Santone  
(604) 936-2869  
[msantone@hotmail.com](mailto:msantone@hotmail.com)

#### WELCOME/DOOR PRIZES

Vicki Stacey  
(604) 936-9040  
[akrod@telus.net](mailto:akrod@telus.net)

#### SUNSHINE

Dale Linton  
(604) 937-5113  
[sewgrl1@gmail.com](mailto:sewgrl1@gmail.com)

#### POLICIES/PROCEDURES

Jennifer Blenkinsop  
(604) 461-4088  
[jennfb@shaw.ca](mailto:jennfb@shaw.ca)

#### GEN MTG SPEAKERS

Fran Mitchell  
(604) 936-1120  
[fmitchell@telus.net](mailto:fmitchell@telus.net)

#### BURSARIES

Henry Thiessen  
(604) 939- 9906  
[tsen@telus.net](mailto:tsen@telus.net)

#### DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE

Jeannine Silvestrone  
[Sylvr\\_star7@hotmail.com](mailto:Sylvr_star7@hotmail.com)

#### NEWSLETTER EDITORS

Caroline Malm  
Audrey Anthony  
Jennifer Blenkinsop

#### FORMATTING

Howard Malm



## Brain Teaser 2:

A patch of lily pads floats on a lake. Every day, the patch doubles in size. If it takes 48 days for the patch to cover the entire lake, how long will it take for the patch to cover half of the lake? It's tempting to say 24 but you would be wrong 😊.

# Coquitlam Retired Teachers' Association

**Wanted: Editor for CRTA Newsletter:** Volunteer will work with the President and co-editors to produce five scheduled four- page issues per twelve month period. Excellent ability to use Word and text box format is essential. Please contact Caroline Malm for more information.

lce: 47

## Mark Your Calendar!

Wed. May 12, 2021      CRTA Newsletter Issue 5

Wed. June 2, 2021      Possible CRTA AGM

## Tax Tips and More!

The BCRTA web site offers a wealth of information about taxes, immunization, and much more: [www.bcrta.ca](http://www.bcrta.ca)

## Phoning Committee Report



The phoning committee has been kept quite busy during the past year keeping in contact with the members who do not receive information on email.

A short phone call and chat with these members was always very enjoyable and appreciated. Our list of members requiring a phone call is very short. If you would like to be contacted by a phone call, just call me, **Lynda Parsons**, at **604-939-9897**. We have several volunteers on the committee who phone members several times throughout the year. If you are one of these volunteers and are not able to do the phoning any longer just give me a call or email me at [lrparsons@telus.net](mailto:lrparsons@telus.net). Also, if you would like to be involved in the association by being on the Phoning Committee, please give me a call. It's nice to be in contact with as many members as possible, especially during this difficult time. This will pass and we all look forward to being together again in person in lieu of a phone call.

*Lynda Parsons*



**CRTA Sunshine Director Dale Linton** sends cards to members who are unwell or families who have suffered a bereavement. Please keep her informed: 604-937-5113



## In Memoriam



The CRTA regrets to announce the passing of the following District 43 colleague.  
We extend our heartfelt condolences to family and friends.



**Sheila Beauregard:** January 25, 2021: Sheila taught at Port Moody and Centennial Secondary Schools. She is missed by husband, Gary, two stepdaughters, five grandsons, two brothers, nieces and nephews as well as many friends and former colleagues.



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.