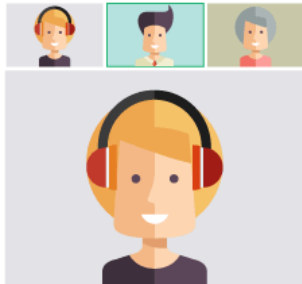


CRTA Newsletter



President's Report

To the popular tune of *Jolene*, Dolly Parton sings: "Vaccine, vaccine, vaccine, vaccine, I'm begging of you, please don't hesitate". For weeks now, those words have resonated as we have received the first dose. While we await the second jab, we reward ourselves with flights of fancy: hugs; gatherings with family, friends and colleagues; travel; indoor dining- the list is endless and filled with hope.

The CRTA Executive Committee continues to meet via Zoom. We even recorded a greeting to be broadcast in the fall at BCRTA's annual Conference and AGM! BCRTA's Board and Committees are actively engaged in advocacy, support and services for members. Visit the BCRTA web site at www.bcrta.ca for news, important updates and Branch newsletters.

Our connections to over 800 colleagues locally and 17000 across BC remain strong. In the classic words sung by Dame Vera Lynne, "We'll meet again"! In the meantime, in between times, stay safe and well.

Caroline

AGM and ELECTIONS

Although there are uncertainties as to when we can hold an 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 by **May 19, 2021**. The nominee must agree in writing to accept the nomination. If an in person meeting can be held, nominations will also be accepted from the floor at the meeting 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: mornings of Sept. 29 & 30; Oct.1, 2021

The current executive committee members have agreed to remain in place until a new executive committee is duly elected. A thousand thanks to this group of dedicated volunteers who continue to work for members during unusual circumstances.



BACK TO SCHOOL BRUNCH

Our annual *Back to School Brunch*, affectionately known as "**To Hell with the Bell**", is scheduled for September 7, 2021. Please pencil in the date and stay tuned. In person or virtual? The Executive Committee will make the choice based on the health and safety of CRTA members.

Coquitlam Retired Teachers' Association

CRTA 2020–
2021

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

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2. Bookkeeper
1. Stone

June 1 is Intergenerational Day!



Canada Province of British Columbia A Proclamation

ELIZABETH THE SECOND, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom,
Canada and Her other Realms and Territories, Queen, Head of the
Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith

To all to whom these presents shall come – Greeting

WHEREAS Intergenerational Day is meant to raise awareness about the power of making simple, respectful intergenerational connections, and

WHEREAS Intergenerational Day is a day to celebrate the profound positive influence that intergenerational connecting has on eliminating isolation and loneliness and on moving towards healthy, all-age friendly communities, and

WHEREAS Intergenerational Day celebrates the good things presently taking place between generations in local communities, and

WHEREAS Intergenerational Day encourages simple, fun intergenerational sharing, and

WHEREAS Intergenerational Day is a reminder and invitation for everyone to take one small, respectful step to bridge generations within their local communities;

NOW KNOW YE THAT We do by these presents proclaim and declare that June 1, 2021, shall be known as


“Intergenerational Day”

in the Province of British Columbia.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent and the Great Seal of Our Province of British Columbia to be hereunto affixed.

WITNESS, The Honourable Janet Austin, Lieutenant Governor of Our Province of British Columbia, in Our City of Victoria, in Our Province, this sixth day of May, two thousand twenty-one and in the seventieth year of Our Reign.

BY COMMAND.


Minister Responsible for Housing
(counter signature for the Great Seal)


Lieutenant Governor

Coquitlam Retired Teachers' Association

BCRTA GOLDEN STAR AWARDS 2021

Congratulations to all participants in these outstanding programs that feature the interaction of BC public school students with seniors:

Real Acts of Caring: Mundy Road Elementary School, Coquitlam: Teacher Harriett Chang

G is for Grandfriend: Ray Shepherd Elementary School, Surrey: Teachers Ellen Petersson and Lisa Tomé

Teens to Seniors Art: Sentinel Secondary School, West Vancouver: Teacher Laura Fitzpatrick

Intergenerational Program: Thetis Island Elementary School, Thetis Island: Teacher Genny Redman



Kudos to all involved!



CRTA 2020 – 2021 EXECUTIVE

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PENSION UPDATE: GOOD NEWS!

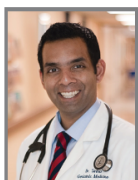
Here is the latest news from the Teachers' Pension Plan. Fund returns for the year 2020 came in at 10.5%. Annual returns from March 31, 2020 to March 31, 2021 were estimated to be between 16% and 17%. Our 5-year average is 8.1%, ahead of the 6% required for our pensions to be fully funded. So the news at this time is outstanding, especially considering all the uncertainties of the past year.

Of course, this can give rise to pension envy, with folks complaining that we are living high on taxpayer dollars. Just remind them that your pension is based on **your** contributions over the years, including employer contributions made in lieu of higher salaries. Your pension is also funded in great part by investment returns, and we are all so fortunate to have a pension plan which is so well managed. Of that, others can rightly be envious!

Howard Spence



RETIREE HEALTH EVENT



A National Seniors' Strategy Could Mean Healthy Aging in Your Own Home

Dr. Samir Sinha
Director of Geriatrics at Sinai Health System and the University Health Network in Toronto

With 40,000 Canadians on waiting lists for Long Term Care, Dr. Sinha will explain how clear policy options exist that would enable ageing in place and the overall sustainability of our health care system. But will those policies be enacted?



A Powerful Case for Pharmacare

Dr. Steve Morgan
University of BC's School of Population and Public Health

A compelling case for why Canada needs a national Pharmacare program, how it would improve our health and save money that could be directed to provide other health needs.

You are invited to a Canada-wide

FREE WEBINAR

Thursday, June 3

10:00 PDT, 11:00 MDT, 12:00 CDT, 1:00 EDT,
2:00 ADT, and 2:30 NDT

REGISTER

www.acer-cart.org/june3event

Presented by




www.acer-cart.org

Coquitlam Retired Teachers' Association

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Tuesday June 1: Intergenerational Day: Make connections!

Wednesday June 2: CRTA AGM: tba

Thursday July 1: Canada Day 

Wednesday August 4: CRTA Newsletter

Thursday, Friday September 29, 30: BCRTA Conference

Saturday October 1: BCRTA AGM

Food for thought...

1. What word of five letters has only one left when two are removed?
2. What English word has three consecutive double letters?

Answers appear elsewhere in this newsletter

Scholarship Opportunity from Johnson Insurance

Since 1998, the Johnson scholarship program has awarded over \$1,000,000 in scholarships and academic grants to students across Canada. Applicants must fall into **one** of the following categories:

- have a parent/guardian or grandparent who has a home or auto policy through Johnson;
- have a parent/guardian or grandparent who is a member/employee of a Johnson recognized group (BCRTA), and has a home or auto policy or group benefit plan through Johnson; have a parent/guardian or grandparent who is a member/employee of a Johnson recognized group (BCRTA), but does not have a home or auto policy or group benefit plan through Johnson. Please see the [online application form](#) to obtain full requirements and submission instructions. If you require further information, please call toll free 1-866-544-2673 or email scholarshipfund@johnson.ca

Scholarship Amount

Johnson will award 50 scholarships each valued at \$1,000 to students attending a post-secondary educational institution in Canada in the fall of 2021.



CRTA Sunshine Coordinator Dale Linton sends cards to those who are ill or to family members in the case of bereavement.

Please update her at (604) 937-5113.



In Memoriam



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



Shirley Shaw: March 23, 2021

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.

