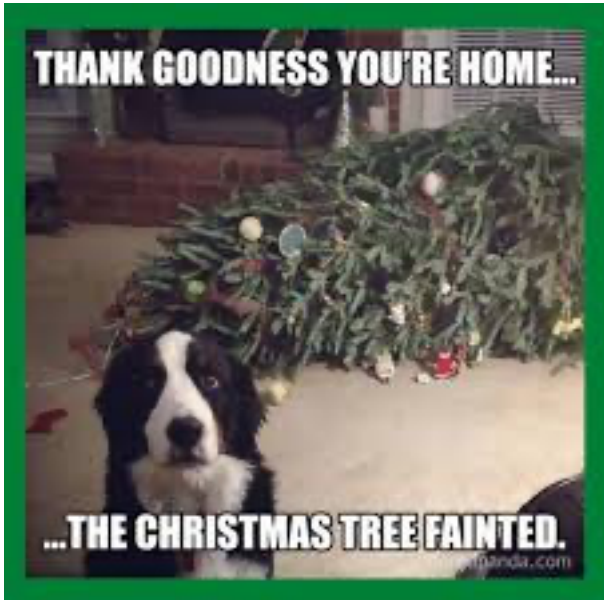





**Greetings from
the Executive of the
Mission Retired Teachers
Association**

As the year 2021 nears its end, we look back at all the tragedy we have witnessed: fires that wiped out families and an entire town, floods that devastated our neighbours, new COVID variants, among others. The normalcy for which we longed, did not appear. With BC travel restrictions again, due to the floods, some of us will be having Christmas where we are. It is especially important to find things for which we can be thankful. First on my gratitude list is that I am retired. Second is that I have a warm home, food, and a pension. Other things on my gratitude list include that I have wonderful friends, and that I have my mind and my health that enable me to give back to my community. We will have a full table of guests on Christmas day: my close friend and her children, my cousin who can't get home to Edmonton, and neighbours down the road who would otherwise be alone on this day of celebration. I am especially thankful that my new kitchen is mostly complete and I don't have to wash dishes in the shower. As you gather for this holiday, give yourself a hug for what you have come through this year, and be thankful for your resilience and the things that have made life better. The MRTA Executive wishes you a happy, healthy New Year; full of the creation of memories to treasure, and friends and family to cherish.



MRTA Executive:

President: Kate Patten kate.e.patten@gmail.com
Vice-President: Bill Elliot william_elliott@telus.net
Sec.-Treasurer: Bruce Gladwin bglad@shaw.ca
Members-at-Large: Sonia Elliot, Roberta Gladwin



**On-line
Coffee Gatherings**

Tuesday, January 4th; February 1st @ 11:00 a.m.
Get your favourite beverage and visit with colleagues. An email invitation will be sent out. It's a fun way to catch up with colleagues, some who have moved to distant locations and can participate because we are meeting online.

NOTE: Please consider becoming a member of the MRTA executive. Our current executive would like to step down. If no one steps up to take on the positions, we could lose our organization. Because of COVID, the new executive would have time to assume the roles before we resume our monthly in-person meetings, and the old executive is willing to help with learning the limited responsibilities involved. In the next issue, the roles and responsibilities will be outlined.