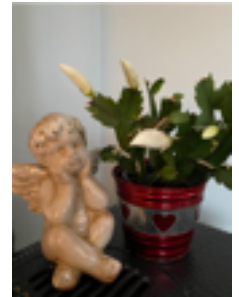


February 2022

♥ February Greetings from Sue ♥

It is hard to believe we are already well into February 2022 and hoping for a healthier and more “normal” year. It continues to be a challenge for your executive to plan ahead for in-person activities due to the on-going uncertainty of the pandemic. We were so fortunate to plan our luncheon at Adrian’s back in December before the Omicron variant became a cause for concern. Everything appears to be a bit out of the ordinary - including my Christmas cactus that decided to bloom now!!! I will take it as a good sign. Apparently they do thrive on neglect.



The executive has decided to pursue a goal this spring to change our website to be part of the BCRTA’s web program. Although there is currently a link to the LRTA branch from the BCRTA’s site, it has been suggested by our web host, George Main, and agreed by the executive, that it is time to change things to line up with many other branches that have joined the BCRTA web program. George has worked diligently for many years to keep it updated and available to those who are looking for information or just want to check it

out. As time goes on and technology changes, it becomes increasingly more important to plan for years down the road. It makes sense to the executive to make this move at this point. George will continue to assist with the changes along with a consultant we have hired to get the job done right. Our many thanks to George for his countless hours with the website and the historical data he has collected along the way. It will be a one-time expense that will cost \$2400. It is actually a discounted rate for the amount of work to be done. We have the funds available to do this and have decided it is better to proceed now than to wait indefinitely when it could be more costly.

We are also planning another Zoom **Spring Planting Workshop** through Port Kells Nurseries on ***Tuesday, March 29, 2022 @ 11:00.*** We will provide you with registration information ASAP. It was so well received last year that we decided to plan another one. Stay tuned in for more details and mark date on your calendar. I met with Cara (presenter from last year) and she is looking forward to doing it once again.



We also wanted to bring a program from Kwantlen Polytechnic to your attention. It is called **TALK - Third Age of Learning at Kwantlen.** It offers educational activities for all adults over the age of 50. There is an annual \$10 fee to become a member and eligible to register for the courses offered for a reasonable fee. The fee would depend on the number of sessions and the cost to put it on. For more information, please go to: <https://www.kpu.ca/talk>



This year our **AGM will be held on Tuesday, May 31, 2022** at 11:00 a.m., when we will elect a new executive. I have held the position of President for 4 years and that is the maximum duration for this position. We did hold an AGM in September since we missed holding an AGM in May of 2021 due to the uncertainty of the pandemic. We were required by the BCRTA to do that so we could proceed until this year with the executive that was currently in place. I will remain on the executive as Past President and will assist the newly elected President. At this point, many of our executive members have agreed to stay on, if elected, and we encourage anyone who is interested in being nominated, or would like to nominate someone else (with their permission of course) to let Maureen Wilson know at lrita.35@gmail.com. As current Past President, the election is part of Maureen's role.



Notice of Motion

Also, according to our Policy and Procedures, we would be putting forth a **Notice of Motion** to change the wording of a description in the LRTA Executive and Duties section of the Policies pertaining to "Members At Large" that states:

"Four to be elected" with proposed change to read: *"A Minimum of Three to be Elected"* so that we can elect or appoint members who would like to put their name forth to volunteer on the executive as "Member At Large" or only three if there are no additional volunteers. It was voted on, and approved, to put forward this **Notice of Motion** at the AGM. Once again, please let Maureen W. or me know if you would be interested, or would like to nominate someone for an executive position.

This is our list of "Nominees" to date:

President: Gail Chaddock-Costello

Vice President: Yole Prosperi-Porta

Treasurer: John Salmon

Secretary: (Vacant) _____

Sunshine: Jacquie Hollybow

Program/Events: Heather Anderlini

Newsletter/Membership: Maureen Wilson

Website: George Main (looking for 1 more person to assist) _____

Members-at-large: (Minimum of 3 to be elected - hoping for 4 or 5)

Judy deVries

Maureen Pepin

Annette O-Connor



The **Langley Let's Go Group** had participated in many events prior to COVID. For the safety of our members and in compliance with the COVID rules nothing was planned for the last two years.

I am hopeful that later this year the COVID restrictions will be eased and I will be able to plan a day trip for our group. It will most likely be a "*Mystery Tour*" -- different from the one taken in March 2020.

I book through the company called **Enjoy the Journey**- owned and operated by *Troy Oppen*. In January, LRTA members were invited to a zoom meeting about some of the trips available in the 2022 catalogue. The catalogue is available on line. Go to **Enjoy the Journey** and click on the 2022 catalogue.

Direct link: <http://www.enjoythejourney.ca/2022-catalog.html>

If you book any trip let their office know that you are a B.C.R.T.A. member. **Enjoy the Journey** supports the B.C.R.T.A. educational charity -- **R.R. Smith** -- and donates funds to support educational projects in B.C. and all over the world when they know a B.C.R.T.A. member books a trips.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy de Vries

LRTA Member at Large and Let's Go Chair

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

~Submitted by Maureen Wilson~



In past years, invitations have been sent out in past years for our brunch and luncheons by email or phone. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, we will be introducing 'in-person' luncheons, a little at a time, as restrictions are gradually lifted. We hope to have another 'in-person' event sometime in late spring and will be looking forward to seeing you again, if you feel safe in doing so. We will continue to arrange for some interesting sessions via Zoom until then --

beginning with the spring planting session, as mentioned above.

As we still have a number of members who have no access to email, we will need to have a phoning committee. If you are interested in helping out with the phoning, please contact me (**Maureen Wilson**) at [<lrrta.35@gmail.com>](mailto:lrrta.35@gmail.com) or phone me at 604-916-0653.

If you are receiving this email by **SNAIL MAIL ONLY** and are interested in receiving a phone call regarding future events that you might like to participate in, please phone me (604-916-0653).



RETIRED EDUCATORS' SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Thank you to **LRTA members** who continue to donate to the **Retired Educators' Scholarship Fund!**

For any donation of **\$25.00 or more**, you will receive a receipt for income tax purposes. You will recall that Service Canada rules do not permit the LRTA to donate monies received from members' fees. In addition, fundraising by the LRTA is not permitted. Your personal donations to the fund are therefore greatly appreciated! It is so easy to do and makes a real difference in the lives of the students who receive the scholarships each year. Simply mail a cheque to:

Langley School District Foundation
c/o Maureen Pepin
25323 12th Ave,
Aldergrove, BC
V4W 3N2

Please make cheques payable to '**Langley School District Foundation**'. Include your email address for tax receipts as they are only sent via email.



HERE'S YOUR CHANCE -- ONE YEAR FREE MEMBERSHIP!

Join the BCRTA, and receive your first year FREE!!

Here is a direct link <https://bcrt.ca/join/> (you can copy and paste the URL into your browser window). **This offer is for anyone who has never joined the BCRTA, not only for new retirees.** So, if you know a teacher who has retired in previous years, but has not yet joined the BCRTA, please let them know of this unique opportunity.

SUNSHINE/SHOWERS REPORT

~Submitted by Jacquie Hollybow~



The LRTA sends cards to members who are experiencing a significant illness and to the family of members who die. Our '85 years plus' members also receive a Christmas card.



Please contact Jacquie Hollybow (604 888-7020; e-mail: jhollybow@hotmail.com) if you are aware of a member who fits either of these criteria.

MEMBERSHIP/BCRTA WEBSITE LIAISON REPORT

~ Submitted by Maureen Wilson ~



The Langley Branch of the BCRTA is one of the largest and most actively supported branches in the province. This year, we have a total of 486 members. We are pleased to welcome those who have joined us this past year.

Our branch is represented on the web at www.bcrt.ca and on our very own web page at <http://www.langleyrta.ca>

By investigating these sites you will be able to find an abundance of information about our branch! All executive members' names and contact information are listed on both sites. As Membership chair, I encourage both members and non-members to contact me with any membership questions or concerns at lrita.35@gmail.com.

This year all retired teachers who have not yet joined the BCRTA, should fill in a registration form in order to receive a year of free membership in both the BCRTA **AND** Langley branch. Here's a direct link to the BCRTA membership page - <http://www.bcrt.ca/membership> - where you can either *download* a BCRTA membership application, fill it out and mail it in, or fill one out *online* and e-mail it to laurie@bcrt.ca. Don't forget to note that you would like to join the BCRTA **AND** the Langley Branch.

Belonging to the BCRTA provides us all with benefits and privileges that would otherwise not be possible. Yearly dues are necessary to support the effort of those that advocate for the rights and interests of retired teachers. At the branch level, the yearly fee is important as it allows the executive to plan luncheons, pay speakers and organize special activities. In addition, the Langley School District Foundation provides \$750 scholarships each year to Langley school graduates planning a teaching career.



We are trying to be environmentally aware, as well as save on printing and mailing costs, by sending electronic copies of our newsletters, wherever possible. If we do not have your current e-mail address and you would like to be part of our 'green team' and receive your newsletter via e-mail, please let us know by e-mailing us at: lrita.35@gmail.com

Thanks,

Maureen Wilson ~ editor of 'Open Road', the LRTA newsletter

