

## CRTA Newsletter

### President's Report



March is upon us and we are beginning to see early signs of spring. We welcome the snowdrops and daffodils, harbingers of warmer days ahead. As I write, sun is streaming through my windows. This ambience is in stark contrast to the news we see on television and in our morning newspapers. Covid-19 and war in Europe are challenging us to do the best we can to care for ourselves and to support others:

On March 3, BCRTA President **Grace Wilson** sent the following letter to the BC Investment Management Corporation: "On behalf of the BC Retired Teachers' Association, we are encouraged to see that BCI has been actively working to divest our pension portfolio of its Russian shares and assets. Given international sanctions and Russia's current economic state it is understandable that selling further shares has come to a halt for the moment. We do appreciate your continued efforts to rid the portfolio of the remaining assets."

Your Executive Committee has met via Zoom throughout the pandemic and continues to conduct Branch business efficiently. We have also attended virtual BCRTA Zone meetings that keep us in touch with Branches across the province.

Your CRTA Executive Committee is investigating the possibility of hosting in person meetings and events. We are hopeful that circumstances will permit us to gather safely for our AGM in June; we are conferring with the District about this and will notify Members of the outcome.

As always, we extend our best wishes to each and every one of you. Stay safe.

*Caroline*

### March is Fraud Prevention Month!

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure! Join the Better Business Bureau's (BBB) online and in-person events this month to learn about top scams targeting Canadians and how to protect yourself from fraudsters. Seniors are often the target of these activities – forewarned is forearmed.

<https://mailchi.mp/mbc/bbb-fraud-prevention-month-events-13769591>



### Mark Your Calendar!



Thurs. **March 17**

**St. Patrick's Day**

Wed. May 11, 2022

CRTA Newsletter Issue 5

Wed. June 1, 2022

CRTA AGM



# Coquitlam Retired Teachers' Association

CRTA 2021–  
2022

<https://bcрта.ca/coquitlam/>

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## **Attention Centennial Senior Secondary School Teachers**

### **Did you teach at Centennial between 1969 and 1971?**

Please join us - *The Class of '71* - for our



## **50 YEAR REUNION**



Saturday May 14, 2022 6pm – 1am  
Executive Plaza Hotel, Coquitlam (Lougheed & North Rd)

Contact us for tickets & more information

[centennial71reunion@gmail.com](mailto:centennial71reunion@gmail.com)

Join our Facebook group: "Centennial Class of '71"

## **Phoning Committee Update**



The Phoning Committee continues to contact CRTA members who do not receive information by email. I have updated the lists. We have ten members who have requested phone calls and four members, including myself, who make the calls. Those members are **Janet Andrews, Gwen Raycroft, and Sandy Sainiuk. Margaret Ellwood and La Verne Miller** are spares in case our list increases.

I have been very fortunate to have several members who volunteered to phone over the years and have now moved on to other projects. The retired volunteer phoners are **Doreen Blanchard, Eva Collins, Eileen Miyana, Judy Mukuda, and Ethel Sears**. Many thanks to each for their service on this committee.

Over the past two years it has been nice to chat with members and to pass on any information I receive at our Executive Zoom Meetings. Won't it be nice when we can tell members that we can meet in person like the good old days? Hopefully that day is coming. In the meantime we must all stay safe and do our best to control this virus. Take care.

*Lynda Parsons*



## **Congratulations!**



**BCRTA** members responded in droves to the **Valentine's Day** friendship basket contest. CRTA member **Joan Caldwell** received a luxury gift basket from Canadian favourite Murchie's, and her friend **Sue** received a matching gift.

There were nearly 3,000 entries!

# Coquitlam Retired Teachers' Association

## Daffynition Jeopardy

In our previous newsletter, you tried your hand at providing goofy definitions for words or phrases. Let's turn the process around. Given a definition or statement as an answer, can you determine an appropriate amusing or goofy question?



Here are a couple of examples:

1. **Answer:** They are circuits used in controlling a nuclear reactor. **Question:** What are fission chips?
2. **Answer:** This is a very short aria. **Question:** What is a singlet?

Now for the hard part. Can you provide a question for the following answers?

1. **A:** You are forced to listen to long speeches until you are dead. **Q:** What is...?
2. **A:** It is slightly larger than headsiz. **Q:** What is...?
3. **A:** You have given up all hope of ever having a flat stomach. **Q:** What is ...?
4. **A:** You absentmindedly answer the door in your nightie. **Q:** What is...?
5. **A:** An unscheduled passage performed by an orchestral string section.  
**Q:** What is a ...?

The following (slightly modified) are courtesy of **John Pope**. Thanks, John!

6. **A:** Fathers of French twins. **Q:** What are...?
7. **A:** Schwarzenegger, Retired. **Q:** What is...?
8. **A:** It's a crazy reason for doing something. **Q:** What is a...?
9. **A:** Read a favourite e-book again. **Q:** What is ...?

And now for the hardest part:

Can you devise a good **Daffynition Jeopardy Q and A?**

All submissions will be gratefully accepted.



A tip of the hat to  
**Howard Spence** for  
sharing his love of  
wordsmithing!

## Some friendly advice for seniors by Audrey Miller

1. Talk to yourself. There are times you need expert advice.
2. The biggest lie you tell yourself is, "I don't need to write that down. I'll remember it."
3. "On time" is when you get there.
4. "In style" are the clothes that still fit.
5. Your people skills are just fine. It's your tolerance for idiots that needs work.
6. You still haven't learned to act your age and hope you never will.



## CRTA 2021 – 2022 EXECUTIVE

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# Coquitlam Retired Teachers' Association



## 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



## Tax Tips and More!

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



## IN MEMORIAM



The CRTA regrets to announce the passing of the following District 43 colleagues. We extend heartfelt condolences to their families and friends.

**Darragh Hodson:** Darragh served on the CRTA Executive Committee and assisted with Bursaries and Newsletter duties. She is missed by family and friends.

**William Murphy:** September 7th, 2021: Bill taught and coached various sports at the Gr. 7/8 level. He is survived by his wife Doris, daughter Lisa (Bill Warner), grandchildren, his brothers and sisters, many nieces and nephews and friends.

**Paul Schleicher:** December 23, 2021: Paul was a CRTA Life Member. He taught woodworking and plastics technology at Port Moody Secondary School. He is survived by his wife Sue, children Nettie, Nora, John and Martin, family and friends.

**Alan Startin:** February 11, 2022: Al retired from Centennial Secondary School in 1997. He is survived by his wife Donata, as well as his children Nadine (Les), Leanne (Cal), and Kevin (Lisa), grandchildren, family and friends.

**Jane Strang:** November 13, 2021: Jane taught in Coquitlam and was Principal at Birchland Elementary School. She is missed by family and friends.

**Vivian Yee:** Vivian retired from elementary school teaching in Coquitlam in 1998. A long-time member of the CRTA Executive Committee, she was Telephone Co-ordinator for nine years. She is missed by family and friends.

**Su Atsuko Riskie**

**Freda Mellenthin**



We know that some of our members have suffered the loss of family members and friends during the pandemic. We hope it helps to know that we are thinking of you.