

North Island Retired Teachers' Association

Newsletter – Spring 2022

President: Greg Murray 250-949-7838, Secretary: Anne Whitney 250-949-8001,

Treasurer: Sharon Campbell 250-949-8009

PO Box 1040, Port Hardy B.C. V0N 2P0

President's Message

I hope, by now, that all branches are back to live meetings. It is important to remember the fallout (wave six) and some of the attendant issues that go with it. PCR test kits are available every twenty-eight days on the medical plan. It might be a good idea to get a few kits ahead of the coming fall.

BC Ferries announced today that some of their scheduled sailings have been cancelled due to Covid. They are finding it difficult to fill their crew requirements and alternate flights are being arranged for stranded passengers. Personally I am buying another box of masks (\$4 right now) and making sure that I am prepared for whatever comes our way.

NIRTA membership has remained basically static. We have lost some members and gained some new ones. Please encourage significant others, and newly retired teachers, to come along to our meetings. It's worth it just to get out of the house and socialize for a while.

Our organization is growing technologically as Zoom, and other digital services, work their way into our meetings.

We are now capable of having meetings anywhere on this planet. The possibilities are boundless. It would be possible for us to meet with another small branch as one of our meetings. That could be fun.

Fun. No one ever suggested to me that retirement could be fun. But, as I progress through this journey, possibilities are opening up, new choices become available, and pathway choices have to be decided.

Whatever you decide to do you are retired. Pick your favourite activity and go do it if you are able. It's really that simple.

Important Phone Numbers You Can Call

Emergencies	911
Vancouver Coastal Health	1-(877)-732-2899
Fraser Health	1-(877)-732-2808
Island Health	1-(844)-732-2899
Northern Health	1-(844)-465-7414
Interior Health	1-(844)-870-4754
Community Living BC (CLBC)	1-(877)-660-2522
Public Guardian and Trustee	1-(604)-660-4444
First Nations Health	1-(604)-693-6500
Senior's First BC	1-(866)-437-1940
National Anti-fraud Center	1-(888)-495-8501

New Provincial Executive

President : Grace Wilson

1st VP – Arnie Lambert

2nd VP – Caroline Malm

Past President – Gerry Tiede

Acer-Cart Rep – Steve Bailey

Our district Director – Stephanie Kororopatnick

When people talk about thirty years ago I think of the seventies but they actually mean 1991 and I need to lie down now. 😊

Common Fraud Scams

Here are some ways to recognize a telephone scam when you receive a call. There is also the National Fraud Centre, located in eastern Canada, where you can report a suspected scam.

1 Prize scam – You are asked to pay a fee before a prize can be sent.

2 Emergency Scam – A grandchild or friend asks for money to deal with an emergency. The victim has to guess who it is. Don't give any names.

3 Canada Revenue Agency Scam – The criminal poses as a tax official claiming that you owe money and will be sent to jail if it is not paid.

4 Computer Tech Support Scam – You are told your computer is not working properly but a technician can fix it. Don't give any passwords. They want your banking and credit card information.

5 Romance Scams – A stranger responds to your online profile and lives in your city. They can't meet because of their scheduling but will ask for money after several months of conversations.

6 Contractor Scams – You get offered a reduced senior's deal to fix a, supposedly, damaged part of your residence. You must book now and give a deposit.

Post Script Advertising

Classified ads in the Post Script Magazine are free if you keep it under thirty words. It is a great place to get your ads read.

Post Script is a great magazine. The articles are well written and fun to read. My favourite activity is to make a hot cup of Vanilla Chai tea and settle down with the crosswords.

A woman was trying to get the ketchup out of the bottle. During her struggle the phone rang and her four year old daughter answered it. "Mommy can't come to the phone right now, she's hitting the bottle"....

-PQRTA

Bear Smart Program

Spring is in the air. That means that beings that live in the forest are waking up and starting to forage for food. It is very important, at this time, to ensure everyone's well-being that garbage cans are sealed and anything that will attract them into your yard is covered.

The local conservation officer said that they are receiving hundreds of calls a day. If each one of us takes that few extra seconds to secure recycling and do our best to make their day go as well as ours.

Good luck to all the gardeners and berry growers. In a day-dream moment I had considered buying a propane cannon to keep animals out of my yard but I'm quite sure the neighbours would have an opinion.

I pulled into a gas station and asked for twenty dollars of gas. The attendant asked me if I would like that in a to-go cup....

Disposing of Medications

After the last two years many of us have a surfeit of medications around the house. It's easy to pour them down the drain or toss them into the garbage but the endpoint could mean that those medications get into something they shouldn't be in. Even old cough medicine may have enough kick in it to harm something if it is ingested.

Most pharmacies will accept old medications and dispose of them in a proper and safe manner. If you aren't sure then give them a call. It's better to be safe.

A recent advertisement caught my eye. It read "The Flat Earth Society has members all over the globe." Give it a minute...

Well, that's it for this issue. Please remember to mark your calendars for RTA meetings. This organization exists because of its active members. You may consider a committee position or simply attend functions and enjoy yourself. The social aspects alone are worth it.