

CRTA Newsletter



President's Report

Hello to all CRTA members! This time of the year is full of possibilities. At the time of writing this report, spring is less than one month away! While we anticipate spring's warmer weather, particularly after our February snow fall and below zero temperatures, we can take heart in the fact that we have returned to our usual winter rain. So, I encourage our members to keep dry and let the photo of the crocuses remind us of what awaits us with spring's arrival. Take care, all.

Your CRTA Executive Committee continues to meet regularly to oversee the business of the Association. They have met twice since the New Year, produced two newsletters, and held a General Meeting in February. With three additional Executive Meetings, three General Meetings, and one more newsletter, 2024/25 looks to be a productive year!

The CRTA General Meeting, held at its new location in Montgomery Centre Gym, on **February 5, 2025** was very successful. **Teresa Grandinetti** gave the President's report and reviewed the CRTA activities of the 2024/25 year. **Howard Spence**, who could not attend due to family illness, provided a financial report that was presented by Teresa. **Maria Santone** reported on our well attended festive CRTA Christmas Luncheon. The meeting listened to a most informative presentation about **Crossroads Hospice Society** by **Jackie Gorton** and **Shalon Morrison** who talked about the many services offered by the Society. (See page 2 for a detailed description.) **Diane Gorton, Judy Evans, Nick Magistrale, Jennifer Blenkinsop, Doug McSavaney, Henry Thiessen and Vicki Stacey** were the lucky recipients of door prizes.

Looking forward: The next **CRTA General Meeting** will be held on Wednesday, April 2nd in Montgomery Centre Gym. Read further in the newsletter for information about the event. I hope to see many of our members there!

Teresa

Coquitlam Retired Teachers' Association Bursaries

The CRTA offers **three bursaries of \$750 each** to students graduating from SD 43 secondary schools who **are relatives of either a current or deceased CRTA member**. Information should be available from high school counsellors. In some years there were no bursaries awarded because there were no applicants. Please spread the word to any and all eligible students.

The money is there to be spent!



Coquitlam Retired Teachers' Association

CRTA 2024– 2025

<https://bcрта.ca/coquitlam/>

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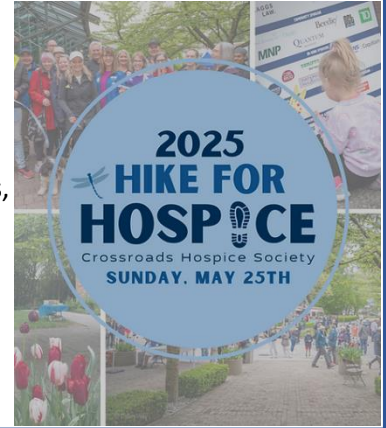
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February General Meeting Speaker Report

At our last General Meeting on February 5th, we hosted 2 speakers from the non-profit Crossroads Hospice Society. **Jackie Gorton** (Executive Director) and **Shalon Morrison** (Director of Philanthropy) spoke about the services that The Crossroads Hospice Society offers the Tri-Cities communities.

- The Thrift Store on Barnet Highway generates about 42% of the money needed to run the Society.
- The 10-bed hospice in Port Moody is a welcoming place for end-of-life patients.
- The Society offers grief therapy for both adults and young adults (13 - 29 years) and works closely with SD43 counsellors when a death at a school happens, often continuing therapy after the incident occurs.
- Help support and keep this vital service in our communities functioning.

Go to <https://www.crossroadshospice.org/hike-for-hospice> for more information.



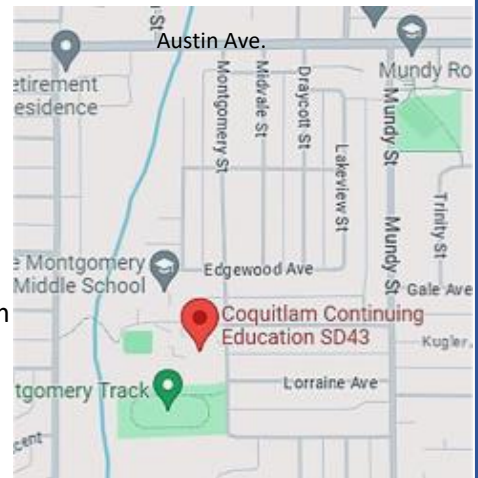
Next CRTA Meeting

Wednesday April 2: CRTA General Meeting Montgomery Centre Gym

BCRTA President **Caroline Malm** and First Vice-President **Linda Watson** will inform the meeting about our Teachers' Pensions and the BCRTA Advantage Program. Come and hear the latest news about our pension plan and the many ways that the Advantage Program can save CRTA members money.

All CRTA meetings begin at 10:00 am in the Gym at the Montgomery Centre located at 380 Montgomery St, Coquitlam.

Parking is at the **WEST** side of the building.



Mark Your Calendar!

Tues. April 1, 2025	April Fools' Day
Wed. April 2, 2025	CRTA General Meeting – Details above
Wed. May 7, 2025	CRTA Newsletter
Wed. June 4, 2025	CRTA Annual General Meeting



Coquitlam Retired Teachers' Association

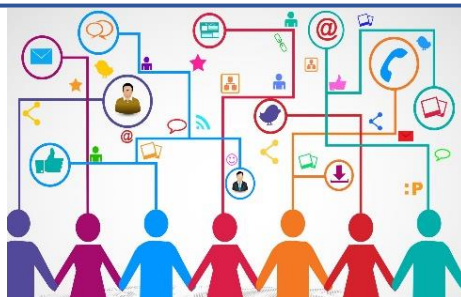


For many CRTA members who are no longer able to drive, attending a CRTA meeting can pose a challenge.

One solution to this issue, for some members, would be to access the Translink HandyCard, HandyDart and TaxiSaver programs. For information on eligibility and services, call 604-953-3680 or visit <https://www.translink.ca/rider-guide/transit-accessibility/handydart>

Social Media

BCRTA social media channels are reaching members and others with eye-catching posts featuring links to presentations from Conference 2024, PostScript articles and other items of interest.



Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/BCRTA>

Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/bcretiredteachers/>

X (Twitter) <https://x.com/BCRTA1>

BlueSky Social <https://bsky.app/profile/bcrta.bsky.social>

YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/@bcretiredteachersassociation>

BCRTA Golden Star Awards - 2025

These six awards recognize and reward established school programs in the public system that have, as the salient feature, the interaction of BC students and seniors. One of the six is a **Royal Canadian Legion** sponsored award for programs that include veterans in intergenerational projects featuring remembrance and patriotism. BCRTA has recently changed award amounts to **\$2000**.



Although there are six awards to be distributed each year, there have been only a few applications for the past few years. Many CRTA members have connections through colleagues or family who are still in the public school system and whose programs could benefit from this valuable award.

The deadline for applications is April 15 each year and teachers can find the application form here: [Golden Star Awards • BC Retired Teachers' Association](#) or contact the BCRTA office for more information: 604-871-2260



CRTA 2024 – 2025 EXECUTIVE

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Coquitlam Retired Teachers' Association

Fresh Roots: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Fresh Roots is an urban farming non-profit that operates schoolyard farms in Coquitlam and Vancouver. The farms focus on sustainable, community-centered farming, place-based experiential learning, and youth empowerment. You can find out more about Fresh Roots at <https://freshroots.ca/>

Fresh Roots hosts field trips for Grades K-12 at its site at Millside Centre (1432 Brunette Ave, Coquitlam), David Thompson Secondary and Vancouver Technical Secondary Schools, both in Vancouver. Field trips give students a unique opportunity to learn about food systems, experience first-hand how food is grown, and harvest some of the delicious produce grown on the farms! Click on the link above to obtain more information about the field trips offered and more details about volunteering.

Fresh Roots is currently looking for volunteers to help out with field trips this spring (April through June). Field trips are 2 hours long and are held Tuesday through Friday at 9:30-11:30 AM or 12:30-2:30 PM. Any interested CRTA members are encouraged to fill out this [application form!](#)



Missing In Action



CRTA asks members to send us a recent phone number or email address for **Christine Lauzon, Judith Douglas, Shirley Whittome** or **Louise Wunderlich**. Send any information to sd43.crt@gmail.com or call (604) 461-7355.

Members who change postal or email address are asked to contact us [and](#) the provincial office (office@bcrrta.ca)

Submitted by John Pope

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



THE GALLERY SINGERS
Vancouver's Early Music Chamber Choir
Directed by Jonathan Quick

BACHANDEL

Handel's "Foundling Hospital Anthem" and cantatas by Bach, accompanied by strings and continuo.

3pm Sunday March 9th 2025

Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Vancouver
1440 West 12th Avenue (at Hemlock)

Tickets through EventBrite or at the door:

Adults \$30

Students with valid ID \$15

Children 12 and under \$Free



IN MEMORIAM



The CRTA regrets to announce the passing of the following District 43 colleague.

We offer our heartfelt condolences to her family and friends.

Roberta Kennedy: June 28, 2020

