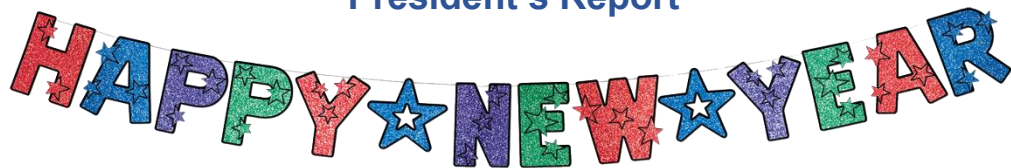


## CRTA Newsletter

### President's Report



On behalf of the CRTA Executive Committee I would like to wish a Happy 2025 to all our CRTA members and their families. I hope that the past holiday season was one filled with the warmth of family and friends. We have much to look forward to in the first few months of this New Year and your CRTA Executive is hard at work serving our members.

1. Your CRTA Executive Committee continues to meet regularly to oversee the business of the Association. They have met three times since September and produced three newsletters. With three additional Executive Meetings, three General Meetings, and two more newsletters, 2025 looks to be a productive year!
2. **The CRTA General Meeting on October 23, 2024** was very successful. The General Meeting was held at its new location in Montgomery Centre. Teresa Grandinetti gave the President's report talking about the CRTA activities of the 2024/25 year. Howard Spence provided a financial report; a BCRTA Conference and AGM report was given; and a preview of the CRTA Christmas Luncheon was offered. The meeting listened to a very informative presentation by Christine and Bryn from Fraser Health who talked about Advance Care Planning. Lastly, **Louise Grimshaw, Carol Ferguson, John Pope, Nick Magistrale, and Don Portelance** were the lucky recipients of door prizes.
3. **Our CRTA Christmas Luncheon** held on December 4th at the Burnaby Mountain Golf club was a very successful and enjoyable event. Thank you and kudos to **Maria Santone** who was the principal organizer of the celebrations. Read further in the newsletter for a recap.

#### ***A look forward into 2025:***

The next **CRTA General Meeting** will be held on **Wednesday, February 5th** at Montgomery Centre. Read further in the newsletter for information about the event. I hope to see many of our members there!

*Teresa*

### Teachers' Pension Increase for 2025



The BC Teachers' Pension Plan web site confirms that the 2025 Cost of Living Adjustment is 1.6%. READ MORE at: <https://bcrtca.ca/2025-tpp-cost-of-living-announced/>



# Coquitlam Retired Teachers' Association

CRTA 2024 –  
2025

<https://bcrrta.ca/coquitlam/>

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## Mark Your Calendar!

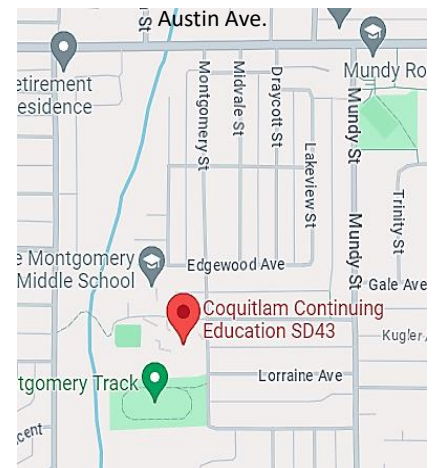


**Wednesday February 5:** CRTA General Meeting:  
**A representative from School District 43 Superintendent's Office** will introduce the audience to current and upcoming happenings in the School District. Be ready to be informed and see what has changed since you were teaching in Coquitlam School District.

**Wednesday April 2:** CRTA General Meeting

**Wednesday June 4:** CRTA AGM

All meetings begin at 10:00 am at the Continuing Education Center (aka Montgomery Centre) located at 380 Montgomery St, Coquitlam.



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

## 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. This past year 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!

## Christmas Brunch 2024: submitted by Maria Santone

Our Christmas brunch never fails to put everyone in a happy festive mood. This year we had 56 attendees who were happy to gather with friends and colleagues in a beautifully decorated venue to share news of the past months and their plans for 2025. As usual, we had a delicious buffet and many people commented on the variety and quality of all the food. It really is an exceptional lunch from beginning to the last dessert!



This year we were again entertained by the music of Jim Burton. As a special addition, Doug McSavaney led us in a Christmas sing-a-long. By the end of lunch we were all in a happy and festive mood.



We have reserved Wednesday December 3rd for our 2025 luncheon. **Mark your calendar NOW!**

# Coquitlam Retired Teachers' Association

## BCRTA Golden Star Awards 2025

Each year, the BCRTA *Excellence in Public Education Committee* recognizes outstanding **intergenerational** programs in BC's public schools.

If you know of a public school program involving **seniors and students**, please encourage the teacher to visit:

<https://bcрта.ca/about-us/golden-star-awards/>

Deadline for submissions is April 15<sup>th</sup> each year.



## CRTA 2024 – 2025 EXECUTIVE

DIRECTORS cont'd

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Audrey Anthony

Teresa Grandinetti

### FORMATTING

Howard Malm

### Exam Questions:

A Student Obtained 0% on this Exam. Do you agree?

1. In which battle did Napoleon die?
2. Where was the Canadian Bill of Rights signed?
3. The Columbia River flows in which State?
4. What is the main reason for divorce?
5. What can you never eat for breakfast?
6. What looks like half an apple?
7. How can you lift an elephant with one hand?
8. How can you drop a raw egg onto a concrete floor without cracking it?

Student answers  
on the next page

### Class Actions: An Update:

#### Lifelabs Data Breach Class Action – Settlement Approval & Distribution:

This class action was launched against LifeLabs after a 2019 data breach allowed hackers to access the personal information of up to 15 million customers. The approved Settlement ordered LifeLabs to pay a total amount of \$9.8M, and all class members who made valid claims have been issued an e-Transfer of \$7.86 or a cheque of \$5.86 (which includes the deduction of a \$2.00 cheque processing fee). Over 900,000 people had registered claims. While the dollar amount seems small, the judge who approved the settlement found that the data was not inappropriately used and no members of the class suffered harm.

**Apple - Smart Phone Performance Management Class Action:** \$11.1 and \$14.4 million. Approved March 2024

**Meta Platforms Inc. – Facebook Sponsored Stories Class Action:** \$51 million Electronic transfers of \$36.29 were issued to almost 900,000 Canadians in 4 provinces including BC who submitted a claim.

*A clear message was sent by people that honesty and data security are important and that companies can suffer financial and reputational consequences for failure to ensure customer data security and confidence.*

# Coquitlam Retired Teachers' Association



OFFICE OF THE  
**SENIORS ADVOCATE**  
BRITISH COLUMBIA

**Dan Levitt**, BC Seniors advocate was appointed January 2024.



## January 2025 OSA Update

Posted on January 6, 2025

The first OSA Update of the year is available now! This monthly newsletter includes resources and news about issues that matter to B.C. seniors:

- OSA Activities
- New resources
- Current issues
- Latest research

Click on [Read our newsletter](#)

## Sunshine Committee

Sunshine coordinator **Dale Linton** sends get well and sympathy cards to members who are ill and to families suffering a bereavement. Please keep her updated by calling 604-937-5113.

## Member Contact

Please let **John Pope** know if you have a **new** email address, home address or telephone number. We want to stay in touch!



1. His last battle.
2. At the bottom of the page.
3. Liquid.
4. Marriage.
5. Lunch and dinner.
6. The other half.
7. You will not find an elephant with one hand.
8. Any way you want. Concrete floors are very hard to crack.

Answers

## Phoning Committee



The phoning committee continues to phone members who do not receive information by email. We are always willing to add new names to our list so if you wish to have someone from the committee phone you periodically throughout the year, please give **Nick Magistrale** a call. Simply provide your name and number to be added to the list. If you would like to be a phoner, please contact **Nick**. This program was especially helpful during the COVID Pandemic as it was good to have contact with members and many enjoyed a chat with our volunteers.

Contact **Nick** at (604)936-7701 or [magistralenick99@gmail.com](mailto:magistralenick99@gmail.com)

## In Memoriam



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



**April Beckwith:** September 22, 2023: April taught in Port Coquitlam until retirement in 2012. She is remembered by her daughter Briana, family, friends and colleagues.

**Christine Tribe:** June 23, 2024: Christine is remembered by family, friends and colleagues.