

# Cowichan Valley Retired Teachers' Association

## January 2023 Newsletter

### Next Meeting

Arnie Lambert, who is the newly elected president of BCRTA, will be our guest at an upcoming social event on Valentine's Day, February 14<sup>th</sup>. It will be held at our favorite venue, the Cowichan Golf and Country Club, just south of Duncan.

Everyone is invited and encouraged to bring with them a member who doesn't usually attend and retired teachers who may not yet be members of the BCRTA and/or our local branch the CVRTA. This is a very timely opportunity to show your love for the CVRTA.

Coffee, tea, goodies will be provided.

This is strictly a social occasion with short introductions and a Q&A with Arnie, so if you have specific concerns and/or questions relating to the BCRTA this is the time to come.

### Membership

Our membership chairperson, Maureen Shayler and secretary Judith Blakestone have been working hard to update our membership lists. It is clear from the number of failed email addresses that a number of our members have overlooked updating their contact information with the BCRTA. Would you all please check with friends and associates who are members to update their profiles as needed.

If you happen to know of any active members that retired at the end of last year(December 2022) let Maureen know at

[mshayler17@gmail.com](mailto:mshayler17@gmail.com) or myself at [ddenyer@shaw.ca](mailto:ddenyer@shaw.ca)

One of the major stumbling blocks we encounter in attempting to reach prospective members is privacy regulations and policies. The BCRTA is pursuing a possible avenue of help with that and assisting us at least with making an initial contact.

I'm sure you were all pleased/relieved to learn that our pensions will increase in line with the inflation rate as measured by the CRA September 2021-September 2022 which stands at 6.9%. The protection of pensions and the financial security of our members is and always will be a high priority. Yet another reason for your continued membership.

## Bursary

Gil Heise, the vice president, is looking after our bursary fund. This fund is to provide financial assistance to students looking to pursue a career in teaching. The fund relies on contributions from you and your generosity, as you will see in this report from Gil, is securing a sound future for us to continue offering this support.

I would like to thank all the people who supported the CVRTA bursary fund at our December meeting. You were very generous. We raised \$960.00 in direct donations and my craft sale raised \$758.00, which I have also donated to the fund. Well done.

It is never too late to donate to our fund. You can do this at the SD#79 board office on Beverly Street. If any of our members have an idea for fund raising I would like to hear about it. Perhaps some of you might devise your own scheme for raising funds for this very worthwhile cause. We are offering two \$1000.00 bursaries again this year. Although our bursary requires an acceptable academic standing it is also based on the financial needs of the students, which is as great as ever.

Gil Heise  
Acting bursary chair

Mark your calendars for February 14<sup>th</sup>. I look forward to seeing you then. David Denyer President CVRTA

