

# Lower Vancouver Island Retired Teachers

## Summer August 2023 Bulletin

### President's Message

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

President: Sharon Lassey 236-478-7171  
Vice-Pres: Lynna Schaldemose 250-514-7527  
Secretary: Marg Eagle 250-478-1579  
Treasurer: Brian Tetlow 250-479-1947  
Membership: Bronwyn Taylor 250-592-4826

### President's Message Fall 2023

As we approach the new school year, and Fall as we retirees say, we continue to move towards new programs for our members. Our LVIRT Executive is working towards increasing our membership, overseeing Seniors' Issues and trying to increase our investment returns. Our LVIRT Learning Committee is busy making plans for the upcoming year. Many thanks for their hard work last year.

This year we say Good-bye to our long serving Treasurer, Paule Moor. She did an outstanding job over the years, always looking after our money as carefully as she would her own. We could count on her keeping of the books, her memory of how we spent dollars in the past and the time she spent working for you, our members. THANK YOU PAULE. Enjoy your trip back to Saskatchewan and your High School Reunion. We will enjoy keeping you as a Member at Large.

I have asked Brian Tetlow to assume that position and the Executive has agreed. He will officially take over in October after his trip to England.

At this moment we have 30 new members to add to our approximately 960.  
With luck we will increase that amount.

I am hoping we can find a few members to work on my vision of LVIRT Jaunts. By jaunts I mean, trips to other locations on and off the island as well as visits to interesting places in and around Victoria.

In closing, look carefully at our plans for an extended To Hell With The Bell.

Register to come for all or just part. New Members are free and regular members just pay for lunch. Please contact Pat Pawlett for your reservation.

Looking forward to seeing you all  
again soon.

Sharon

We now include  
SOCIAL LUNCHEONS  
THIS YEAR  
FIRST IS HALLOWEEN  
GET TOGETHER  
OCT.31



#### LVIRT "Hell with the Bell" Luncheon

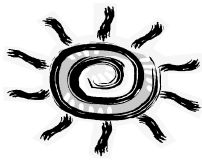
TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 5TH

10:00 to 1:30

AT THE Gorge Kinsman Park Japanese Pavillion

1070 Tillicum Rd. R.S.V.P. By August 28

phone Pat Pawlett at 250-391-6477 or email



**\*\*\*\*\*SUNSHINE COMMITTEE \*\*\*\*\***

The **Sunshine Committee** regularly sends cards to members who are celebrating a **special birthday or anniversary, to those who are not well** or to families of our deceased members. Sunshine Committee Chairperson, Berna Ruffell, ***bruffell@shaw.ca***, ***phone-250-532-4262*** welcomes names and contact information in order to send out our LVIRT SUNSHINE!!! If you know of a member who especially needs sunshine, please let Berna know!

\*\*\*\*\*

**Membership Report – Summer, 2023**

**In Memoriam:** Dan Young, Dec. 11, 2022; Beverley Carr, Jan. 7; Peter King, Jan. 15; Clara Ernst, Jan. 18; Margaret Parker, Jan. 25; Jean Conway, Feb. 24; Edward Friesen, Feb. 24; June Fleming, Mar. 4; Davies, Mar. 24; David Aspinall, Apr. 28; Ron Blasner, Apr. 29; Elaine Shirley, June 26; Jack Greenwell, June; Harold Jordan, July 6; Jim Nicholl, July 23; Teresa Hehn, July 31;

**Birthday Wishes** for our members celebrating 90+ birthdays this season:

Missed birthdays --

July – Beryl Borris, July 4, 1922; Don Stevens, July 8, 1930

August – none at this time

September – none at this time

If you turn 90 this year and wish to be added to the list of greetings, please contact me so you can be added to our list of venerables.

After each Bulletin is sent, if an envelope or email is ‘undeliverable’, I phone the last number available to us. If it is N.I.S., the name and address is removed from our mailing list, but not the members’ list.

All changes are recorded as I receive them, shared with Robyn & Sharon, as well I send them to the BCRTA.

I apologize for any inconvenience, and thank you again for reminding me of changes to be made to the e-mail and mailing lists after every Bulletin.

Many thanks, as always, to the dedicated volunteer group that sees to the mailing of LVIRT bulletins, and to Robyn Evans, who sends the email version.

To stay up to date with LVIRT’s up-coming special events, and those of the BCRTA, please make sure we, and Laurie at BCRTA [laurie@bcrtc.ca](mailto:laurie@bcrtc.ca) have your current contact information.

Thank you in advance,  
Bronwyn Taylor ([taylorbronwyn@shaw.ca](mailto:taylorbronwyn@shaw.ca) or 250-592-4826)

# LVIRT “Hell with the Bell” Luncheon

Meet old and new friends. Bring a visitor. Enjoy the lunch and entertainment offered.  
Spacious venue with lots of parking.

## TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 5TH



**10:00 to 1:30**

**AT THE Gorge Kinsman Park Japanese Pavillion**

**1070 Tillicum Rd.**

Agenda for the day

(People may attend all or part)

**10:00 Coffee 10:30 Introduction to Collette Gina Goranson**

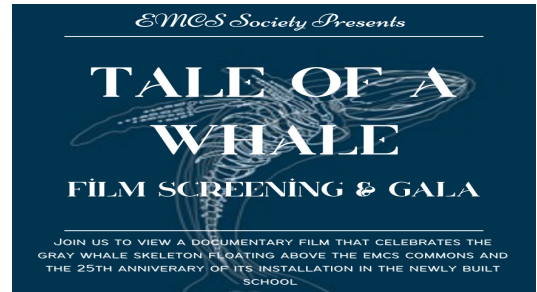
**11:15 introduction to Johnson Travel Insurance and Extended Health Lisa Hansen**

**12:00 Lunch Soup and Sandwich**

*(Please indicate allergies and special dietary needs when you register)*

**12:45 A Tale of a Whale**

**Story of the EMCS (SOOKE) sculpture in the rotunda**



**Informative WORKSHOP / PRESENTATION**

## **Reservations**

**RSVP by Aug. 25th Call: Pat Pawlett 250-391-6477**

**Email: ppawlett@telus.net All contacts will be confirmed**

**RSVP's are expected to pay even if they do not attend.**

**Cost : \$20. by cash or cheque only ( we have a stamp for cheques )**

**Sorry, no Etransfers or credit cards at this time.**

**New retirees receive complimentary lunch. If you have retired, joined and not attended your free lunch, call Pat to RSVP and claim your free lunch with her.**

#####

**October 31st @ 11:30 HALLOWEEN SOCIAL**

**Join the LVIRT group for lunch at the 4Mile Restaurant—order from**



TLC provides an opportunity for Indigenous adults and elders to learn English literacy skills at various grade levels. We also offer basic math and a computer literacy program.

The Literacy Circle Society is seeking registered working or retired **teachers** to work with Learners.

Currently classes are being taught in Nanaimo, BC but an expansion to Victoria, BC is coming together now and we want to be prepared for the fall.

If you are a certified teacher and are interested in becoming an instructor with TLC:

- Classes are two days a week with a minimum of 2 hours of instruction.
- We offer honorariums and complimentary lunches
- We offer access to an Indigenous Cultural Safety Program
- You will learn as much from the learners as they will from you.
- Caution! This work is rewarding for your soul.

Please visit our website and sign up on our 'Join Us' page.

[www.theliteracycircle.ca](http://www.theliteracycircle.ca)

[admin@theliteracycircle.ca](mailto:admin@theliteracycircle.ca)



The Literacy Circle provides an opportunity for Indigenous adults and elders to learn English literacy skills at various grade levels. We also offer basic math and a computer literacy program.

TLC is currently seeking a **Learner's Advocate** in the classroom. Classes are held 2 days a week and the Advocate works approximately 4-8 hours per week depending on the needs of the Learners.

This role is perfect for someone who loves to welcome and host people, listen and help break down barriers.

TLC offers an honorarium, complimentary lunch and access to an Indigenous Cultural Training Program.

Currently classes are being taught in Nanaimo, BC but an expansion to Victoria, BC is coming together now and we want to be prepared for the fall.

If you feel like you would like to work with Indigenous people and teachers, and are a good communicator with some computer skills, this might be a great opportunity for you.

Please visit our website and sign up on our 'Join Us' page..

[www.theliteracycircle.ca](http://www.theliteracycircle.ca)

[admin@theliteracycircle.ca](mailto:admin@theliteracycircle.ca)

## SOCIAL CONCERNS 2023 AUGUST Paul Hutcheson

With summer in full swing, and when we've been waiting so long for good weather and time with friends and family, it can be hard to focus on social maladies, let alone attend to them. A universal concern, and one that is personal to me, is the plight of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community. In Iran, individuals have been imprisoned or killed. Southeast Asia has seen demonstrations and deaths. In Africa, banning schoolbooks is happening in Tanzania and some of the harshest of laws have been passed in Uganda, while in Kenya, a Supreme Court decision has been disputed, and there is a wave of anti-homosexuality sentiments sweeping through the region. This rising homophobic sentiment is not random, as evidence suggests that US-based evangelical missionaries are at the root of the problem. Closer to home, various US states have passed "don't say gay" laws mirroring Florida's, where school districts across the "Sunshine State" have begun shying away from Shakespeare and have engaged in full-scale purges of school libraries and English department resource rooms. It makes our problems in Central Saanich and Nanaimo pale by comparison, but they are definitely cause for concern. Defacing Pride symbols, including flags and crosswalks, has been an increasingly common method of attacking the 2SLGBTQIA+ community in our local neighbourhoods. A soccer player in the Fraser Valley was accused of being transgender and subsequently harassed. Some political leaders have openly sided with the attackers or refused to discipline those involved. These are not isolated incidents. I invite you to take opportunities within your spheres of influence to object to homophobic rhetoric lest it take root in this province. As educators, we can continue to be a positive influence. Speaking up is the right thing to do and our brothers, sisters, cousins, nieces, nephews, children, grandchildren, and former students are counting on us to be role models. For ideas on how to intervene, please visit <https://righttobe.org/upcoming-free-trainings/>

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Is raising the prime rate fair to working class Canadians?**

We are the products of the "consumer culture." Like it or not, we have been programmed since a very early age to consume. Shopping malls are the new cathedrals. We might be exposed to thousands of commercials each day. Consumer goods are the elixir of life. Sellers will use every trick in the book to get the potential consumer to buy: advertising copy that appeals to all or any of the seven deadly sins – lust, gluttony, greed, sloth, wrath, envy, and pride. And successful ad agencies employ psychologists to aid in the goal of increasing sales. We are told that there are too many consumers chasing too few goods and hence price inflation in the marketplace. But who gets to suffer the wrath of the Bank of Canada—the same individuals who have been groomed to consume. There's something in this that is not fair. I know the Galen Westons of this world are not suffering, in fact profits are at obscenely high levels. Loblaw Companies Ltd. predicts its profits will grow faster than its sales in 2023 as the company's fourth quarter adjusted profits jumped nearly 12 per cent while Canadians continue to grapple with soaring food costs and inflation. There must be a better way to control inflation than penalizing families by saddling them with the burden of additional debt while corporations get off scot free and the Bank of Canada uses tactics from a bygone era that were unsound to begin with. The various "laws" of economics are human constructs and reflect the desire to continue an economic system that favours the 1%. What better time than now to consider alternatives that will benefit rather than disadvantage working class families, retirees and the majority who constitute the 99%.— PAUL H.

This article was published in last edition.

***Sharon received this Email from Gary Crocker of UVIC asking for LVIRT assistance in finding LVIRT members who are interested in assisting in the following: the need is for candidate(s) enrolled in the inaugural Indigenous Teacher Education Post-Degree Program (starting in September, 2023).***



There are two areas of need where I am hoping that the LVIRTA can assist: student accommodation, and practicum supervision.

Student accommodation --

There is a significant challenge finding suitable student housing. We believe our candidates, our future teachers, would benefit from knowing former educators who hold a wealth of knowledge and experience. This inspired the idea of exploring an inter-generational approach to the challenge of suitable housing while also supporting the notion of mentoring. The idea is to facilitate contact between retired educators in a position to rent out suitable accommodation (from a spare room up to an in-law type suite) and future teachers enrolled teacher education programs. Currently the need is for candidate(s) enrolled in the inaugural Indigenous Teacher Education Post-Degree Program (starting in September, 2023).

Practicum supervision --

One significant element of teacher education is practicum. There is an ongoing need for experienced educators to supervise practicum as university Field Advisors. If you are interested further information about this role please contact Gary Crocker, email: [ied.practicum@uvic.ca](mailto:ied.practicum@uvic.ca). Finally, please feel free to contact me (Gary) should you have any questions or want further information about University of Victoria, Faculty of Education, Indigenous Education Department's

**Gary Crocker** Email: [ied.practicum@uvic.ca](mailto:ied.practicum@uvic.ca)

PHONE 250-472-5698

Program Coordinator,

Practicum Placements.

Indigenous Education Department,

Faculty of Education.

# Walking Groups and Contact Persons

## SCRAMBLERS

**Thursday morning Rosemary Kelso 778-265-2657 [drkelso2@gmail.com](mailto:drkelso2@gmail.com)**

Socialization, Activity and Safety are important aspects of our walks. We meet once a week on Thursday's, beginning September 8<sup>th</sup> 2022 and will complete our SCRAMBLERS' Walks, June, 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023. All walks are in the Greater Victoria area. Starting time is 9:50am and we only wait 10 minutes after starting time for late arrivals. Our walks are approximately 1 to 1 ½ hours. Members take turns planning and leading a walk. At the end of our walk, we usually go for a coffee at the nearest coffee shop. If you are interested in joining our walking group, please contact Rosemary Kelso [drkelso2@gmail.com](mailto:drkelso2@gmail.com) or at 778 265-2657. Thanks, Rosemary

## RAMBLERS' WALKING GROUP

**Tuesday 10:00 CONTACT PERSON: Nancy Carson [nancycarson75@gmail.com](mailto:nancycarson75@gmail.com)  
250-477-2278**

Our walks are held on Tuesdays from 10:00-11:30, followed by optional lunch or coffee at a local restaurant. Routes are usually in the Greater Victoria area with easy terrain and modified to suit individual exercise abilities.

Occasionally, we visit various points of interest. In addition to our weekly walks, we plan an annual [Christmas](#) luncheon .

If you are interested and would like more details contact Nancy Carson

## WEDNESDAY WALKERS

Wednesday Walkers Wednesday morning

Terry Wendorf [twendorf@shaw.ca](mailto:twendorf@shaw.ca)

Marg Eagle [margeagle619@gmail.com](mailto:margeagle619@gmail.com) 250-478-1579

The Wednesday Walking Group began in the fall of 2012, with a core group of four or five walkers. We selected our walks one week at a time, as there were so few of us. Some weeks nobody could come but over time, we have increased our numbers and added to our walking repertoire. Many weeks, we have more than 15 women walking together. People walk at their own pace. We now have six-month lists of walks. We try to spread ourselves across the region, so never walking in one neighbourhood two weeks in a row. Walks are approximately an hour and end with a tea break. In the spring and at Christmas, we save Butchart's coupons from the paper and travel out to see the lovely gardens, at no cost. We also have some other seasonal favourites. No secret handshakes or membership dues – maybe give us a try!

\*\*\*\*\*

In the new season, we welcome clubs and may enjoy the future possibilities of a  
TENNIS CLUB, BIKE CLUB, BRIDGE CLUB, BOOK and ART CLUBS.

# GVRTA Scholarship Committee News

## News from Our April Meeting

The calibre of applicants for our Scholarships this year was as usual, extremely high. The criteria for selecting winners is based on Scholastic Achievement, Financial Need, Letters of Applications as well as Community Service and References. The Scholarship Committee was pleased to be able to fund 3 Scholarships this year for a total of \$5000. Erin Mugford will receive \$ 2000. Alex Tiller and Elizabeth Garvie were tied as runner ups and will each receive \$ 1500. You will find their photos and bios. below.

## Member Donations to the Scholarship Committee

As always, our committee is able to function only through the generous support of our membership. Thank you especially to those of you who make donations and to those who buy our 50/50 tickets at the luncheons. Additionally, we were able to raise about \$200 from the sale of jigsaw puzzles at the Christmas Luncheon last year. **We hope to have a new and exciting fundraiser coming up for Christmas this year.** Look for more details in the Fall Newsletter. Students today, more than ever are facing very difficult financial challenges. In recent years with Covid and the loss of the Thrifty Smile Card Program it has become more and more difficult to raise the funds for Scholarships. Please consider us in your estate planning as well as your yearly charitable donations.

If you wish to make a tax-deductible donation, your cheque is payable to:

### GVRTA Scholarship Foundation

**\*\*\*\*Please note that cheques go to our Treasurer, Philip Allingham.\*\*\*\***

Philip V. Allingham  
4965 Lochside Drive  
Victoria, B.C.  
V8Y2E6

**Philip will gladly issue you a tax receipt for your donations.**

**THANK YOU!**

\*\*\*\*\*

---

## Scholarship Recipients For 2023-24



### Erin Mugford - Winner of Our \$2000 Scholarship

Hello! My name is Erin and I am a teacher candidate in Uvic's Post Degree Professional Program. I completed my BFA with Honours in Visual Arts at Uvic in 2021. During my first degree, I found my passion for working with youth and children through my part time job at Esquimalt Recreation Centre - leading preschool , out of school care, youth nights, art classes and summer camps. I recently had the opportunity to teach art and textiles classes at Esquimalt High School for my first practicum. I had an incredible time getting to know the students and learning alongside them. In my free time I love to knit, swim in the ocean and spend time with my partner and our pet lizard, Oliver. I am looking forward to new and exciting adventures as I finish my program



**Elizabeth Garvie – Runnerup -\$1500**

My name is Elizabeth Garvie. I am thrilled to be receiving the runner-up scholarship from the Greater Victoria Retired Teachers Association. When I am not in school pursuing my career in teaching, I enjoy doing many activities. I grew up in the Okanagan where a love of skiing, hiking, wake-boarding, kayaking, fishing and horseback riding developed. I also participated in musical theatre for 7 years which I believe fostered my outgoing personality and animated character. My areas of passion are literature and storytelling. However, I thoroughly enjoy that “lightbulb moment” when a student suddenly understands a math or science concept. I believe that one of the most important aspects of being a teacher is bringing the joy of learning into the classroom. As well as joy, I hope to stimulate a sense of curiosity and to encourage the students' desire to learn.



Thank you again for selecting me to receive this generous scholarship.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Alex Tiller – Runnerup \$ 1500**

My name is Alex Tiller and I will be completing my music education degree after my 10 week practicum this fall. I completed my Music undergraduate degree at Uvic where my main instrument was the saxophone. I grew up in Fort Nelson, B.C. and found my passion for teaching music through my own high school music program.



Music was always something I could look forward to. Here in Victoria, I have completed my first six week practicum at Gordon Head Middle School. I was a teacher at Island Ukulele this year where I got to learn and teach ukulele skills to elementary students. This was always the highlight of my week! After my 10 week practicum, I hope to stay and continue teaching in any of the three Victoria area school districts. I love the scenery, mature and lifestyle that Vancouver Island provides. Thank you to the entire GVRTA for this scholarship.

# LOWER VANCOUVER ISLAND RETIRED TEACHERS 2023-24

<b>President:</b>	Sharon Lassey	236-478-7171	lvirtpresident@gmail.com sharonlassey29@gmail.com
<b>Vice President:</b>	Lynna Schaldemose	250-514-7527	lynnaschamose@gmail.com
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Brian Tetlow	250-479-1947	briantetlow1937@gmail.com
<b>Secretary:</b>	Marg Eagle	250-478-1579	margeagle619@gmail.com
<b>Advocacy:</b>	Paul Hutcheson	250-629-2074	skiver@shaw.ca
<b>Learning Committee:</b>	Debra Swain, Darinka Popovic	David Futter (email address below)	
<b>Bulletin Submissions:</b>	Marie Veintrop	250-658-8122	lvirtbulletin@gmail.com
<b>Note:</b> Name on lvirtbulletin@gmail.com reads as Lynna Schaldemose (disregard THIS name, it is going to Marie Veintrop, BULLETIN EDITOR) alsomarieveintrop@shaw.ca			
<b>Social:</b>	Pat Pawlett	250-391-6477	ppawlett@telus.net
<b>Membership:</b>	Bronwyn Taylor	250- 592-4826	taylorbronwyn@shaw.ca
<b>Social Concerns:</b>	Paul Hutcheson	250-629-2074	skiver@shaw.ca

## **Members-at-Large:**

Paule Moor	250-385-3697	
Berna Ruffell	250- 532-4262	bruffell@shaw.ca
Loretta Deutscher	778-430-0735	lorettarose@islandnet.com
David Futter	250-995-1943	futter.david@gmail.com
Debra Swain	msdebra.swain@gmail.com	
Darinka Popovic	popovic@shaw.ca	
Margy Ransford	margyransford67@gmail.com	
Sharon Gale	volvossharon@gmail.co	

*Next Executive Meeting* - Monday 10:30 ON ZOOM October 23 ,2023

- Monday 10:30 ON ZOOM January 29,2024

*Bulletins* -Are Released online– August 18, November15, February 19, AGM Apr 18

## Next Luncheons:

Hell With The Bell Tuesday, Sept. 5th 1070 Tillicum Rd.

Halloween LVIRT Get Together SOCIAL- Tuesday, October 31, 4 Mile Restaurant

Christmas Luncheon– Tuesday, December 12 University Club

LVIRT Spring Get Together SOCIAL– Tuesday, March 21, 4 Mile Restaurant

## FREQUENTLY REQUESTED NUMBERS

**BC Retired Teachers' Assoc., Vancouver** 1-877-683-2243  
[office@bcrtca.ca](mailto:office@bcrtca.ca)

**Greater Victoria Teachers' Association** 250-595-0181

**#5-515 DUPPLIN Rd. Vic. V8Z 1C2**

**Teachers' Pension Service** Victoria 250-356-9658

**JOHNSON: MEDOC Travel Insurance** 1-866-799-0000

Home Insurance 1-800-563-0677

Long-term Care Insurance 1-877-582-7526

**Green Shield (Greenshield.ca)** 1-888-711-1119

**BC Seniors' Line** 1-800-465-4911

**HealthLink 8-1-1** [www.HealthLinkBC.ca](http://www.HealthLinkBC.ca)