

# Coquitlam Retired Teachers' Association

January 2023  
Issue No. 3

## CRTA Newsletter

### President's Report

Welcome to 2023! Your Executive Committee wishes you a year of good health, prosperity and adventure. If a picture is worth a thousand words, then this is the longest report ever! As you will see, our Christmas Banquet was a resounding success. Many thanks to CRTA Member **Gail Berry** for the memories! We look forward to seeing you at our General Meeting on **February 8<sup>th</sup>** for a full update on our pensions.

*Caroline*



# Coquitlam Retired Teachers' Association

CRTA 2022 –  
2023

<http://www.bcrta.ca>

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## **Mark Your Calendar!**

**Wednesday February 8:** CRTA General Meeting:

At the General Meeting on February 8th, **Al Cornes** or **Linda Watson** from the BCRTA Pensions and Benefits Committee will speak about our **Teachers' Pension Plan**. The **COLA** (Cost of Living Adjustment) will be included in the presentation. Come out to hear about the post pandemic state of our pensions.

**Wednesday April 5:** CRTA General Meeting

**Wednesday June 7:** CRTA AGM

All meetings begin at 10:00 am in the Gallery Room at Winslow Centre



## **Teachers' Pension Increase for 2023**

The BC Teachers' Pension Plan web site confirms that the 2023  
Cost of Living Adjustment is 6.9%.

READ MORE at: <https://tpp.pensionsbc.ca/your-cola-is-keeping-up-with-high-inflation>



## **Howard's Wacky Word Games!**

In our fall issue, we presented some very clever **anagrams**, and asked for your contributions for this newsletter. I received the following email from **John Schembri**:  
*"Maybe you have received many entries to your latest 'challenge' in the newsletter. Maybe some have been cutting down the trees to see the forest. Maybe some have resorted to help from technology. Maybe some had a mother visiting. Shame on any of them who could not figure out that MAYBE is ...Bye, ma."* For that very clever connection, John is the recipient of a \$20 gift card. Thank you, John.

Before I leave the topic of **anagrams**, I would like to report that my grandson Liam contributed the following: "Howard Spence, Treasurer ... Teacher runs a word spree." He and I did a bit more brainstorming, and came up with an anagram for a political party: "To the Liberal Party: Try the plot. Be a liar."

Can anyone reading this create a suitable anagram for any other Canadian or Provincial political party? **The offer of a prize still stands.**

Now, for this week's topic. Imagine, if you will, a Ford Motor Company marketing department meeting. The department head says, "The new sport model, the Ford Gelding, is not selling at all. Can anyone come up with a better name? ...Yes, Alice."

"How about the Ford Mustang? Don't you think it has a bit more appeal?"  
And thus was born a legendary car!

So, now for this issue's challenge: **Come up with one or more fictional failed car names replaced with a winner.** And, just to get you started, here's another example: How about if the Honda Odyssey was originally named the Honda Oddity? There are lots of great plays on the well-known cars. Submit your best, and you may be the winner of a \$20 gift card. Email your ideas to **Howard Spence** at the email address listed elsewhere in this newsletter.



# Coquitlam Retired Teachers' Association

## Employment Opportunity: SD43

Hello Retired Teachers and Administrators:

I am hoping you are enjoying your retirement with friends, family and adventures.

No doubt you have heard of province-wide increases in student enrolment and the shortages of teachers for the 22-23 school year.

I am reaching out to interested retirees for **TTOC work** in School District 43 Coquitlam to assist us during these very complex times.

Your expertise, years of experience and knowledge of our practices and our sites could be a huge asset to our students and our teachers.

To apply, visit our district webpage at: [www.sd43.bc.ca](http://www.sd43.bc.ca) then click on **Employment Opportunities**.

Once you have completed your profile, you will have access to the job postings for TTOC (currently it is Posting T2022-0610).

Your online application requires a brief cover letter, resumé and active membership with the BC Teacher Registry Branch.

Our understanding is that a few of you may have questions about the 50% availability 'rule' we have. PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE: if you are interested, reach out to me either by phone or by email and we can talk through your specific situation.

I appreciate your consideration (and hopefully interest) and look forward to hearing from you.

*Nadine*

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## BCRTA Golden Star Awards 2023

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://bcrt.ca/bcrt-golden-star-awards/>

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





# Coquitlam Retired Teachers' Association

## Green Shield Claims Resolution Process

1. Contact GSC directly at 1-888-711-1119 to speak with a representative.
2. If not resolved, ask to speak with a supervisor.
3. If not resolved, you have the option of contacting the Board of Trustees for the Teachers' Pension Plan. Their information is as follows: Teachers' Pension Board Secretariat: PO Box 9460, Victoria, BC V8W 9V8 Email: [TPBT@pensionsbc.ca](mailto:TPBT@pensionsbc.ca)
4. If unresolved, contact [laurie@bcrt.ca](mailto:laurie@bcrt.ca)  
She will forward your message to a member of the BCRTA Pensions and Benefits committee.

## 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!

## 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 me, **Lynda Parsons**, your name and number and I'll add you to the list. Also, if you would like to be a phoner, please contact me. 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 me at 604-939-9897 or [lrparsons@telus.net](mailto:lrparsons@telus.net).

## In Memoriam



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



**Barbro Eriksson:** November 25, 2022: Barbro taught primary students at Central, Austin, Burquitlam and Mary Hill elementary schools. She is survived by her brothers Olof (Elizabeth), Sven (Laura), family and friends.

**Peter McConville:** November 28, 2022: Peter taught in SD 43 including at Harbourview elementary school. He is survived by his wife Carole, his children James (Michelle) and Nicole (Cristian), grandchildren, family and friends.

**Colette Holder:** September 29, 2021: Colette taught at Lord Baden-Powell elementary school. She is survived by her husband Myron, her two sons Scott and Brandon, family and friends.