

Powell River Retired Teachers' Association



Welcome to November and our first newsletter! I thought it might be helpful to send one of these every few months to keep you in the loop about important local and provincial events and news. This one's a bit long, since I'm kind of playing catch-up. Sorry!!

When you're talking to your retired teacher friends, please ask them if they received the newsletter too. If they didn't, it's because they aren't a member of our local branch! When you retire and submit paperwork to the BC Retired Teachers' Association, it isn't always clear that you need to also click the box beside "Powell River". It only costs \$10/year and it's not too late for them to sign up. Please have them contact me at prrtapresident@gmail.com.

Your **Executive** meets every few months to plan upcoming activities. Thank you to those who allowed their name to stand for election! For those who don't already know, your Executive for 2024/2025 is:

- President — Cathy Fisher
- Secretary — Faye Perry
- Treasurer — Warren Wiley
- Social convenors — Shireen Morton, Leslie DiZazzo

This year our focus is on **engaging, retaining and recruiting members**. Because this is your organization and because we need your input to revitalize things, we've designed a **quick and easy 3-minute survey**. You can access the survey at <https://bit.ly/40vwqZg>. If you could get this done by **November 15th**, that would be great.

Our **To Hell with the Bell** lunch at Blue Agave was well attended, and by all reports everyone had a great time. Lunch was amazing, and they provided us with some games after lunch as well, which allowed for more social time. It was nice to see new members attending, as well as some members we haven't seen in a while. Special thanks to **Shireen Morton** and **Lesley DiZazzo** for organizing this wonderful event, and for volunteering to take on planning our lunches all year.



After much discussion, your executive has decided that **our usual December lunch will be moved to the new year**. Attendance has traditionally been low, as people have other commitments at that time of year. Stay tuned for details on this next event!

At the end of September, Warren attend the BC Retired Teacher's Association **conference and AGM** in person and I attended virtually. The BCRTA's mission is "the maintenance and enhancement of the quality of life for its members specifically and other seniors generally". There was lots of interesting information and discussion, including an increase in membership fees to \$58/year, which isn't bad to get access to all the benefits of membership.

A presentation about **getting your affairs in order** is available at <https://bit.ly/4eadHp9>.

If you'd like an idea of **what's hot and what's not in the "family heirlooms" world**, you'll want to check out this presentation: <https://bit.ly/3AnmRRn>.

There are concerns that the **Retired Teachers of Ontario** have broken away from ACER-CART (Association Canadienne des Enseignantes et des Enseignants Retraites - Canadian Association of Retired Teachers) and are sending information about their insurance programs to retired BC teachers. The BCRTA believes that **ACER-CART**, which consists of representatives of every other retired teacher's' association in Canada, is the best organization to speak on behalf of all of us. If you receive information from RTO, please be aware this may not be in your best interests

Have you checked out the **BCRTA website** lately? There's lots of information there that could save you money on extended health, travel and all kinds of vendors. You can access the site at <https://bcрта.ca>.

If you have any questions or would like some assistance with anything regarding your retirement, benefits, etc., please don't hesitate to contact me right away.

Until next time,
Cathy
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