



# Prince George Retired Teachers' Association

October/24

Welcome to Autumn everyone! I hope you had a restful summer. At least the fire season was better this year. Fall always feels like renewal to me. As an educator, this was the time of year that everything was new – new staff, new students, new clothes, and new school supplies. I imagine many of you were like me and made this the time of year to start a new exercise plan, eating plan or some other new activity. As retirees, we have more time to spend focussing on the activities we like to do. Perhaps this will be the year you commit to attending our lunch meetings or to volunteering for the PG Retired Teacher's Association. We are always looking for help at our luncheon meetings. You could also help us out by sharing a review of a trip you have taken, a favourite funny school story, or a story about how your favourite teacher inspired you.

Looking forward to seeing and speaking to all of you this year.

Lori



## 2024/25 Executive

**President:** Lori Dennill (email to [pgrtaprez22@gmail.com](mailto:pgrtaprez22@gmail.com))

**Vice President:** BJ Foulds

**Treasurer:** Anjula Corbin

**Secretary:** Linda Campbell

**Advocacy:** Robin Mathis

**Awards:** Aleta MacFadden

**Heritage:** Kris Nellis and Cheryl Mikulasik

**Membership:** Rich Samborsky

**Newsletter:** presently vacant

**Social:** Bonnie Lamb

**Sunshine:** Bonnie Lamb

**Wellness:** Robin Mathis

## "To Hell With the Bell"

### Annual Picnic Sept. 4/24

It was a beautiful and sunny day on Sept. 4 for our annual picnic to welcome new retirees to our organization. There were 53 members in attendance with their lunches and all seemed to have a great time getting updated on what happened over the summer. Bonnie Lamb designed a homemade retirement cake for us all to enjoy, which was excellent as usual. Thanks to everyone who worked to make this a great start to the 24/25 year.



# Prince George Retired Teachers' Association



New members in attendance: Susan Klein, Brian Pataky and Gloria Evans  
Thanks to Bob Stevenson for the photos.

**ADVOCACY AND WELL - BEING:** Robin Mathis

## **GOLDEN AGE SOCIALS**

The “Golden Age Socials” are an opportunity for Seniors in our Community to enjoy an afternoon gathering with friends, while enjoying entertainment and light refreshments. Social interactions are beneficial to physical and mental health during the winter months.

The five afternoons scheduled for the season are: **Oct. 7, Nov. 18, Dec. 4, 2024, Feb. 12, and Mar. 10, 2025.**

The first social has the “Elk Elastic Band” performing. The doors open at 1:30 pm and the events run from 2 - 4 pm.

Gather a group of friends, maybe retired colleagues, and reserve a table (250-564-5888), or just come and meet new friends.

## **“ 811 “**

This number is a free-of-charge provincial health information and advice line available in British Columbia.

By calling “811” you can speak to a health service navigator, who can help you find health information and services, or connect you directly with a registered nurse, a registered dietitian, a qualified exercise professional, or a pharmacist. Any of these professionals will help you get the

information you need to manage your health concerns, or those of your family.

**PENSION LIFE (SUMMER 2024)**  
**COMPREHENSIVE CARE: CHANGES TO RETIREMENT HEALTH COVERAGE:**

Check the “What’s Changing?” effective Jan. 1, 2025 and what those changes mean to you. There is also a note about the CDCP and eligibility, see what applies to you.

## **AWARDS** – Aleta MacFadden

### **SD57 OPEN SCHOLARSHIP**

Our current balance is \$3866.34, which includes \$34.47 of interest from over the summer. This year’s recipient is Daisy Moon from College Heights Secondary School. The award is yet to be claimed and recipients have up to 3 years to claim the award.

### **UNBC EDUCATION BURSARY**

Our balance for this award hasn’t changed since the last report. The balance still stands at \$1867.00. This will increase with income from the book sale on Oct. 23/24. This year’s recipient is Megan Connell.

## **Launch for Heritage Committee’s Book** Kris Nellis, Co Chair Heritage Committee

The PGRTA Heritage Committee’s book *Reflections: Interviews of School District #57 (Prince George) Retired Educators* was launched at École Lac des Bois on Tuesday, September 24<sup>th</sup>. The book contains interviews of 43 educators, 29 of whom are still living in Prince George. Fourteen of them attended the book launch and had the opportunity to purchase the book. We were able to sell it for \$20, less than half of the printing costs, due to a \$1200 grant we received from the BCRTA. We will also be providing a complimentary copy to a number of community organizations, including the Public



## Prince George Retired Teachers' Association

Library, CNC and UNBC. This is possible because of the grant we received.

The other Heritage Committee members, co-chair Cheryl Mikulasik, Robyn Naylor, Maria Marchetti, Aleta MacFadden and Sandra Hay were also in attendance. Cheryl and Maria made and dispensed the beverages, Robyn and Aleta handled the book sales and receipts, Sandra snapped lots of photos and I welcomed everyone and read excerpts from a number of the interviews. Two PGRTA executive members, Linda Campbell and Debbie Page, also joined us as well as George Davison, the Chair of the City of Prince George Heritage Commission. Linda thought to invite George as she is also a member of the Heritage Commission. Everyone enjoyed chatting with the interviewees and hearing some of their memories read aloud.

The Heritage Committee is proud of the book, which was four years in the making, and was pleased to share it with the interviewees. Those living locally, but unable to attend, have been contacted and several have now had the book delivered. We hope that everyone enjoys re-reading their own interview and reading the interviews of their fellow



Kris reading excerpts from the book.



Geoff Eacott, first in line to purchase his copy from Robyn Naylor and Aleta MacFadden.

### The Fancy Purple Dress

While teaching at a northern rural school we had a very upset parent come in to the school to complain about her daughter's school photo. After examining the picture, we all complimented the parent on what a great picture it was of her daughter and how great the daughter looked in her fancy, purple dress. It turned out it was the dress itself that was the problem. It didn't belong to the daughter. We all looked at each other in surprise wondering how this could be. One of our Education Assistants piped up, "It's from the dress up box." LD



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is





# Prince George Retired Teachers' Association

**Wednesday, October 23, 2024 PGRTA**

## **Luncheon Notice**

**PLEASE NOTE VENUE and TIME FOR THIS MEETING**

### **Programs: BCRTA Benefits at Trip Merchants**

presented by Tom MacLean, Co-Founder /  
Director of Sales and Marketing for Trip  
Merchants Ltd. – Zoom Call

**PGRTA Budget Proposal for 2024 – 2025** from  
the PGRTA Executive

**Date:** Wednesday, October 23, 2024

**Time:** Doors open 10:55 a.m. Meeting begins at  
11:30 a.m. Lunch 12:15 p.m.

### **Place:**

*Hart Pioneer Centre,*

*6986 John Hart Highway,*

*Prince George, BC*

### **Lunch Menu:**

Ham  
Scalloped Potatoes  
Veggies  
Two Salads  
Delicious Desserts  
Coffee and tea

**Cost: \$15.00** Correct change is appreciated.  
(PGRTA will be subsidizing the continually  
rising cost of food by \$3.00 for this meeting.)

There will be a Book Exchange/Sale at this meeting for the UNBC EDUCATION BURSARY. A Donations Table will be available for the PGCOS Denture Program as well as SD57 Scholarship funds.

If anyone needs directions to our meeting location, please check out Google Maps or call Bonnie Lamb or Susan Flynn.

If you have to order or cancel at the last minute, please contact Bonnie Lamb directly at **250-964-7872** or at [bl\\_lamb@telus.net](mailto:bl_lamb@telus.net) and she will check with the catering staff to see if the change can be accommodated. However, no changes are possible after 1:00 p.m. Monday, October 14th. Please Note: If you tell us you're coming, and then are unable to make it, you are still responsible for the cost.

If you need a ride, please contact Bonnie Lamb, who will try to arrange one.

Hope to see you there

As this is a zoom meeting with Tom, we are attaching the zoom link in case you are unable to attend the lunch meeting but have time to attend the Zoom meeting.

You are invited to a Zoom meeting.  
When: Oct 23, 2024 11:30 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Register in advance for this meeting:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcu deCrqjouHNRB5XQ-yK8DkHUrVonFG5mK>  
After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.



**Prince George Retired Teachers' Association**