



Volume 2, Number 2

September 2024

PQRTA Newsletter

A publication designed for communication between the Parksville Qualicum Retired Teachers' Executive and PQRTA Members

Are you eligible to become BCRTA/PQRTA **Life Member?**

All you have to do is celebrate your **90th birthday**

(& be a BCRTA member for 10 years or more).

Please let us know when you turn 90 so we can update your status to

Life Member!



To Hell With the Bell Celebration 2024

We had a great turnout for our annual *To Hell With the Bell* brunch (Tuesday, Sept. 3rd) at Thalassa Restaurant. We would like to extend our thanks to Thalassa for the many years and events we have enjoyed there, both as active and retired teachers. Best wishes for their future endeavors. (Hint: Look for Extreme Pizza coming to Qualicum soon!) As usual, the food was yummy and many connections were made. Two brand new retirees joined us for their first PQRTA Event, along with two of our Life members, with loads of us in between those extremes. With more than three dozen attendees, many of whom chose to treat themselves to a delicious mimosa for the toast, a good time was had by all.



Our President Judy Stewart opened the proceedings at 9:00 a.m. precisely. After introducing our notable members, old and new, Judy made an appeal for donations for our two PQRTA fund-raising efforts including **ORES** (Oceanside Retired Educators Scholarship) Fund, with which we provide scholarships for local Oceanside students who plan to pursue a career in education, and **CHES** (The Canadian Harambee Education Scholarship) which raises funds to help young girls in Kenya attend school. Fundraising efforts for CHES will be focussed in October and November.

She also urged members to ensure they are registered to vote in the upcoming provincial election on October 19. For more details on the events and how to find which electoral district you reside within, click [here](#).

Judy also made an appeal on behalf of PQRTA, calling attention to our skeleton executive (see the purple box on the last page) and the fact that many executive positions remain unfilled, which will likely result in a similarly reduced program offerings for the coming year. We encourage anyone with a few spare hours to donate to consider joining the executive and helping us to create a fun-filled and vibrant year.

Our lucky door-prize winner for the free registration for our December Seasonal luncheon was **Graham Cook** (seated above, on the right)

Contact pqrtapastpresident@gmail.com if you would like to join us, or would like to donate to either one of our fund-raising efforts.

If your address, phone number or email address changes, please contact BCRTA (office@bcrt.ca) to update your contact information

Elder College

Did you know that our own PQRTA member **David Hobson** teaches a course at Elder College? His first course (of a series of 3!) is called *Vancouver Island History From Contact to Confederation 1774-1871*. It starts this September and it sounds fascinating. Consider taking the whole series!

If you are looking for something to do in the Parksville/Qualicum area this fall, consider checking out one of Elder College's Fall 2024 courses in the area.

Elder College will be pleased to provide you with updated, easy-to-read documents containing course descriptions, dates/times, locations, costs, and instructor information for your area — all before you register through our online store.

Please visit eldercollege.org for directions on how to register using our new system, Amilia. If you have any questions, feel free to email us at info@eldercollege.org or call 250-797-9055



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පිටුපස පිටුවක් බලන්න. මෙහිදී පාඨමාලා ක්‍රමයේ මූලාශ්‍රයන් සොයා බැලීමට පාඨමාලා ක්‍රමයේ මෙහිදී සඳහන් කර ඇත. මෙහිදී පාඨමාලා ක්‍රමයේ මූලාශ්‍රයන් සොයා බැලීමට පාඨමාලා ක්‍රමයේ මෙහිදී සඳහන් කර ඇත.

***This course is sponsored by Rosemarie Davnport and Deborah McKinley, to whom many thanks.*

ආරම්භක පැවැත්වෙන පාඨමාලා ක්‍රමයේ ප්‍රභවය

මෙම පාඨමාලාවේ ප්‍රභවය සැලකීමට පාඨමාලා ක්‍රමයේ මූලාශ්‍රයන් සොයා බැලීමට මෙම පාඨමාලාවේ මෙහිදී සඳහන් කර ඇත. මෙහිදී පාඨමාලා ක්‍රමයේ මූලාශ්‍රයන් සොයා බැලීමට පාඨමාලා ක්‍රමයේ මෙහිදී සඳහන් කර ඇත. මෙහිදී පාඨමාලා ක්‍රමයේ මූලාශ්‍රයන් සොයා බැලීමට පාඨමාලා ක්‍රමයේ මෙහිදී සඳහන් කර ඇත.

මෙම පාඨමාලාවේ ප්‍රභවය සැලකීමට පාඨමාලා ක්‍රමයේ මූලාශ්‍රයන් සොයා බැලීමට මෙම පාඨමාලාවේ මෙහිදී සඳහන් කර ඇත. මෙහිදී පාඨමාලා ක්‍රමයේ මූලාශ්‍රයන් සොයා බැලීමට පාඨමාලා ක්‍රමයේ මෙහිදී සඳහන් කර ඇත. මෙහිදී පාඨමාලා ක්‍රමයේ මූලාශ්‍රයන් සොයා බැලීමට පාඨමාලා ක්‍රමයේ මෙහිදී සඳහන් කර ඇත.

පිටුපස පිටුවක් බලන්න. මෙහිදී පාඨමාලා ක්‍රමයේ මූලාශ්‍රයන් සොයා බැලීමට පාඨමාලා ක්‍රමයේ මෙහිදී සඳහන් කර ඇත. මෙහිදී පාඨමාලා ක්‍රමයේ මූලාශ්‍රයන් සොයා බැලීමට පාඨමාලා ක්‍රමයේ මෙහිදී සඳහන් කර ඇත.



Here's an opportunity to support Wonderful World of Books

DONATE YOUR USED BOOKS to promote early literacy in preschoolers

In 2021, PQRTA's life member Eva Hilborn founded a registered charity called the **Wonderful World of Books** which gives quality book gifts to local preschoolers.

Each month, 50 volunteers deliver 250 brand new books to the homes of 3 and 4 year olds living in Qualicum School District. After two years, these children have a personal library of 24 books which is a wonderful head start to begin Kindergarten.

You can help promote early literacy skills in young children by donating your used books to the **WWB** account at Fireside Books in Parksville. When a \$1000 credit is reached, the **Wonderful World of Books** will purchase a month's supply of age-appropriate book gifts for preschoolers from Nanoose Bay to Bowser.

FIRESIDE BOOKS: 464 Island Hwy E #1 in Parksville <https://firesidebooks.ca/>

1. Put used books or jigsaw puzzles into a paper grocery bag or a small liquor store box
2. Label with a Post-It note, inside each bag or box: **Eva Hilborn WWB 250.752.6217**
3. During store hours (no appointment needed), drop off to the rack at the cashier desk
 - Used books and/or jigsaw puzzles in gently used condition
 - NO: magazines, readers digest, encyclopedias, DVD's, CD's, VHS, text books, damaged books, ex-library books, or books w/o original dust jacket/cover
 - No plastic bags or bins. Reusable bags are donated to the food bank
 - Credits range from \$1 to \$6 per book or jigsaw puzzle

Since the store only accepts a maximum of 2 paper bags or 2 small boxes per day, please contact WWB for pick up of any extra donations: wwbeec@gmail.com

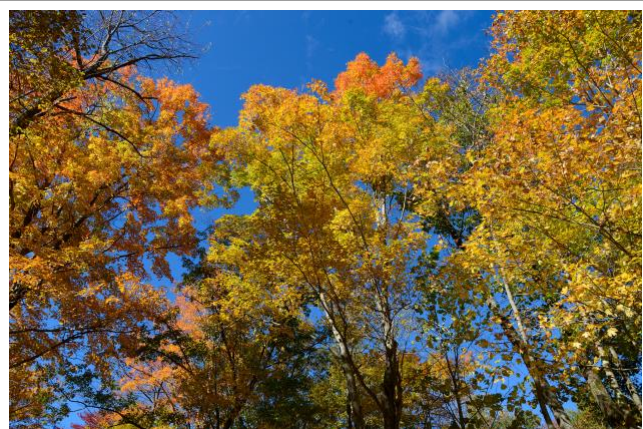
Eva Hilborn: 250.752.6989

Cathy Van Herwaarden: 250.248.0412

For more information: <https://thewonderfulworldofbooks.com/>

Thanks for helping to support early literacy skills in our local preschoolers!

Eva and Cathy Van



ORES Corner

It's September and we celebrate our local students returning to school. At this time, we'd like to remind our members that this month our focus is on collecting donations for our ORES scholarship fund for these students. You can send a donation by cheque (made out to S.D. #69, with a notation for ORES Scholarship) or by e-transfer. Mail your cheques directly to the School District, or to Cathy Van Herwaarden (Box#286, Coombs, B.C. V0R 1M0). Either way, you will receive a tax receipt. For e-transfers, send them to cathyvan@gmail.com, or call 250-248-0412

On June 27th the Ballenas Secondary Graduation Ceremony was held and ORES rep Stephanie Koropatnick attended to present our ORES Scholarship recipient **Jordyn Murphy** with a \$1000 Scholarship Award. We received this lovely, hand-written thank you card recently



Dear Oceanside Retired Educators,
I am writing to thank you sincerely for your generous award. It means a great deal to me, and will significantly help me pursue my goal of becoming an incredible educator and changing the lives of my students the same way my teachers changed mine. Thank you so, so much for believing in me. Your support has encouraged me to continue striving for excellence.
With appreciation,
Jordyn M.

Congratulations Jordyn & Best Wishes for your future studies.

PQRTA Executive

Parksville Qualicum Retired Teachers' Association Executive consists of PQRTA Members who share a passion for supporting our fellow members and other seniors in the community.

Judy Stewart	President	pqrtapresident@gmail.com
Cathy Van Herwaarden:	Past President	pqrtapastpresident@gmail.com
Vacant	Vice President	
Vacant	Secretary	
Ellen Coates	Treasurer	eacoates@telus.net
Vacant	Programs Chair	
Vacant	Membership Chair	
Vacant	Sunshine Chair	
Stephanie Koropatnick	Communications Chair	pqrtacommunications@gmail.com
Sharon Cox-Gustavson	Heritage Chair	sharoncg@shaw.ca

The PQRTA Newsletter is created and distributed by Stephanie Koropatnick, PQRTA Communications Chair. Please send comments & suggestions to: pqrtacommunications@gmail.com