



Volume 2, Number 4

November 2024

PQRTA Newsletter

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

If your address, phone number or email address changes, please contact us at partapresident@gmail.com OR BCRTA at office@bcrt.ca to update your contact information.

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!



YULETIDE LUNCHEON



WHERE: Black Goose Inn - 1051 Resort Dr, Parksville (located in Beach Acres Resort)
WHEN: Thursday, December 12th (11:30 Doors Open with 12:00 Lunch)
WHAT: Fine festive food with friends

Two choices for Lunch

1. Turkey Dinner

- ◊ Roast turkey & gravy
- ◊ Mashed potatoes
- ◊ Stuffing
- ◊ Vegetables
- ◊ Cranberry sauce

2. Vegan Dinner

- ◊ Mushroom Wellington
- ◊ Vegan Mashed Potatoes,
- ◊ Vegetables
- ◊ Mushroom Gravy

All meals include either coffee, tea, or pop. Please note that our menu does not include a dessert.

COST: Members \$30, (Life Members \$15) Guests \$41

Please pay at the door with cash or cheque (payable to PQRTA)

Please note that our meal is subsidized by \$11, which is covered by annual fees that are paid to PQRTA through BCRTA. It is our hope that you will consider adding this subsidized amount to Oceanside Retired Educators Scholarship which is our fund for local graduates.

Please register by Monday December 4th

Two ways to register

1. email: pqrtaevents@gmail.com
2. PHONE: 778-828-9975

Please provide

- a) your full name
- b) your meal option (turkey or vegan),
- c) whether you are a member, a Life Member or a guest
- d) if you require a ride to the event

...and remember that one lucky door prize winner will win the next lunch event free...but you have to attend to win!

Canada Pension Plan ~ Free ZOOM Webinar on November 22

BCRTA is pleased to join with other public sector retiree associations from BC to sponsor an informative ZOOM webinar presented by the **Canada Pension Plan Investment Board**. This webinar is suitable for retirees and those close to retirement.

Like millions of other Canadians, you are likely paying into or collecting from the CPP. How secure is our Canada Pension Plan income? Where are the Canada Pension Plan's funds invested and how are they managed?

You are welcome to come and learn about various topics, including how and where they invest, the Fund's performance, the financial sustainability of the CPP and more. **Access to this online webinar is free.**

Register by going to the BCRTA website and completing the registration

form. <https://bcrt.ca/cpp-investments-nov-22-2024/> You will receive an instant confirmation for the webinar starting 1:00 on November 22.



PQRTA MEMBERS UPDATE:

Welcome to PQRTA

to our new members:
Francine Bergink and
Marjorie Hagarty

and

Congratulations to our new **Life Member** Robert De Buyscher who turned 90 in March!

Do you have a grandchild (or great grandchild) born in 2022?

Consider registering them for **The Wonderful World of Books**.

Register by November 15th for monthly book deliveries beginning in January.
Register via email at wwbeec@gmail.com or
Contact Us at
<https://thewonderfulworldofbooks.com>

Canadian Harambee Education Society (CHES): HOW TO HELP

We are sooo close to our target of \$1300 for our annual CHES campaign to continue our support of Velma & Scovia. If you are planning to donate, please ensure that you submit your donations **November 15th**.

You will receive an individual income tax receipt from the Canadian Harambee Education Society (CHES).

Two ways to pay:

1. etransfer with auto-deposit: cathyvanh@gmail.com OR
 2. CHEQUE – payable to CHES
- (Note: CHES)

Two ways to send your donation:

Mail to:

Cathy Van Herwaarden
Box 286
Coombs, BC
V0B 1A0

Drop off:

2061 Pierpont Road
Virginia Estates, Coombs

Last month, you saw a letter from our sponsored student Velma Awiti. Now, here is a letter from our other sponsored student, Scovia Lutta. She would also love to receive a letter from you.

Scovia LUTTA,
HOLT CROSS EMALINDI GIRLS,
P.O BOX PRIVATE BAG,
KHWISERO, Kakamega
KENYA
1st APRIL, 2024.

Dear sponsor, Parksville, Qualicum RTA
How are you, I hope you are fine and of good health.
The main aim for writing this letter is to inform you
about our school and other academics and non-academics activities
that take place in our school.

As you know the culture of our school, it is always the
best in our sub-county when we talk about academics.
Not only our school performs well in academics but also
in non-academics activities such as drama and music
festivals. Before we went for half term, our school attend
in drama festivals and emerged to be position one.

In our school form one students are three hundred and
thirty one. We are divided into five streams. I belong into
form one East. We are sixty five in our class. The best
subjects I like are English, Kiswahili, Mathematics, Biology
and chemistry. I joined journalism club in our school. This
club ensures that the school is aware of what is happening
in, out and around the school.

Our school has many facilities that contributes to the
good performance. We have laboratories for studying
practical subjects, we have library which has many
books for revision. Teachers are good at teaching. Other
stake holders also contributes to good performance by

providing us with healthy food.

My family is doing well and they are very healthy.
This holiday, I will work hard so much and revise all topics
we have covered in school. I am going to set a pace
to ensure I add value on what I have got now.

Thank you for the scholarship and supporting me.

Yours sincerely,
Scovia Lutta.

Here's another 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.

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 pickup 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

Sad News

We say goodbye to Felicity Smith, who passed away on the 15th of September. Felicity lived in the UK and in New Zealand before coming to Oceanside and eventually moving to Avenir Memory Care in Nanaimo. A Celebration of Felicity's life will be held at St. Mary's Church in Nanoose Bay on Saturday, November 2nd at 11:30 a.m. To send a condolence to the family please visit www.yatesmemorial.ca. In lieu of flowers, consider a donation to the Alzheimer Society of B.C. or Canadian Mental Health Association - BC Division <https://bc.cmha.ca>

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	pqtapresident@gmail.com
Cathy Van Herwaarden:	Past President	pqtapastpresident@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	pqtacommunications@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: pqtacommunications@gmail.com