



Volume 2, Number 1

Summer 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!**



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

Welcome to August. Summer in Oceanside has been lovely as always...warm ocean breezes, beaches that go on forever, visits from jealous relatives...so many reasons to love summer in Oceanside. We hope you have had lots of relaxation, lots of recreation and are ready to start back to school in a few short weeks. Wait a minute! Noooo! None of us needs to worry about back-to-school prep; To hell with back-to-school sales, to hell with classroom prep, in fact "To Hell With The Bell!"

As we have done in the past on the first Tuesday of September, PQRTA Executive and Membership meet for our annual "To Hell With The Bell" Brunch. We are returning to Thalassa Restaurant for the last time on Tuesday, September 3rd. We are very much hoping for a good turnout as we all join in this annual province-wide tradition of chanting the *To Hell with the Bell toast*, as school-bells call our former colleagues to classrooms all over B.C.

Come join us for the camaraderie; Come join us for the food; Come join us to celebrate another year without bells, or if you are a new retiree, come join us to celebrate your first September of freedom!

Registration is Now Open:

Contact us at pqartaevents@gmail.com (or call at 778-828-9975) with the following info:

- Your name
- Member or guest
- Mimosa? Yes or No

What: 'To Hell With The Bell' Brunch Buffet
 Where: Thalassa Restaurant, 469 Memorial Ave, Qualicum Beach
 When: September 3, 2024
 Doors open 8:30 a.m.
 'To Hell With The Bell toast 9:15
 Breakfast Buffet to start shortly after

Cost at the door:	Members:	\$20 (\$30 with a Mimosa)
(cash preferred)	Guests:	\$32 (\$40 with a Mimosa)

P.S.

At the PQRTA AGM in June, member Phyllis Robertson was the lucky winner of the Door Prize of a free registration to this event. Who Knows? Maybe this time it will be YOU who wins a free registration for our Seasonal Celebration in December.

We look forward to seeing you there!

**Welcome Nancy Whelan as our newest Life Member!
Congratulations Nancy**

ORES Scholarship Award



On June 20th Pass/Woodwinds held their 2024 Graduating Ceremonies, where Judy Stewart presented a \$700 Oceanside Retired Educators' Scholarship to deserving graduate **Rin Ternes**

You are invited... to celebrate Eva Hilborn's 98th birthday on Sunday, August 18th from 2:00 to 4:00 at Eva's home.



No presents please ~ however, donations of used books for the WWB Fundraiser will be greatly appreciated. For more info: cathyvanh@gmail.com

AUGUST APPEAL FOR ORES SCHOLARSHIP 2025 FUNDING

PQRTA supports many charitable efforts, one of which supports our local students. The Oceanside Retired Educators Scholarship (ORES) is funded by contributions from our members. The criteria require a graduating student to summarize their education and life skills and write a letter expressing their intention to become a future educator.

Thank you to so many of our members who contributed to our 2024 ORES scholarship fund. This year, we were able to provide two SD69 students with scholarships. Our PASS/Woodwinds recipient is Rin Ternes. I was able to attend the PASS/Woodwinds graduation ceremony in June and hear glowing compliments about Rin from her teachers. Congratulations Rin, for your focus to graduate in June 2024 and best wishes in your future studies and career as an Educational Assistant.

As with everything these days, the costs of a post-secondary education have become so much more expensive. Our hope is that next June, PQRTA will be able to offer a one-thousand-dollar scholarship for a graduating student from each secondary school as well as the PASS/Woodwinds scholarship. That means \$2500 to raise between now and next March. As a result, we are beginning our campaign as the new school year begins. Contributions are tax deductible and administered by SD69.

Please help us with our goal by contributing to the scholarship by bringing your cheque made out to SD69 for the ORES Scholarship to our The Hell With The Bell event (see above). They will be forwarded to the SD69 office so that you can receive your tax receipt in the new year.

Look for our other recipient, a graduate from Ballenas Secondary School, to be featured in next month's newsletter.

Thank you ~ Judy Stewart

On Friday, June 7th, a group of more than 20 **Wonderful World of Books Book Elves**, many of them PQRTA members, met at Life Member **Eva Hilborn's** lovely home in Qualicum Beach overlooking the ocean for an Appreciation Tea with cupcakes styled to look like the Very Hungry Caterpillar.



Dan Levitt is the new Seniors' advocate for B.C.



Dan Levitt has replaced Isobel Mackenzie as the new Seniors' advocate. Prior to his appointment, he held leadership positions in senior-living and long-term care homes in the Lower Mainland for more than 10 years, where he helped shape a dementia-friendly future for seniors and their loved ones.

Dan is an adjunct professor of gerontology at both Simon Fraser University and a former sessional instructor at the BCIT. He has also been a surveyor with Accreditation Canada, reviewing quality improvement and person-centred care at long-term care homes and community-based service providers across the country.

He is a certified health executive with the Canadian College of Health Leaders and a candidate for fellowship with the college. In 2005, he received the Young Executive Award presented by the BC Lower Mainland Chapter Executive of the Canadian College of Health Leaders. On the global stage, Levitt recently served as a member of the board of directors of the Global Ageing Network and the International Federation on Ageing.

Dan earned an undergraduate degree from UBC and a Masters degree from the University of North Texas, Center for Studies in Aging. He has served on the board of directors for the Denominational Health Association, the Global Aging Network and the Alzheimer Society of British Columbia. He is inspired by the aging journeys of his grand-parents and great-grandparents, and is now supporting his parents, who are living life to the fullest in their mid-80s

(<https://www.seniorsadvocatebc.ca/about-the-advocate/>)

Do you want to see what B.C.'s Seniors' Advocate is up to? Follow this link for direct access to the Seniors' Advocate Newsletter and webpage: <https://www.seniorsadvocatebc.ca/>

GLUU SOCIETY – MOBILE DEVICE CARE 5 Easy Tips to Keep Your Phone and Tablet in Top Shape this Summer

1. KEEP YOUR DEVICE COOL

Heat is bad for your mobile device battery. Avoid leaving your device in direct sunlight of hot environments, such as your car or beach towel. Between 6°C to 22°C (62°F to 72°F) is the comfort zone.

2. USE A PROTECTIVE CASE

Invest in a durable, water-resistant case to protect your device from accidental drops, sand, and water exposure during outdoor activities.

3. MONITOR DEVICE TEMPERATURE

Certain case styles may generate excess heat. Heat can damage your battery. If your device is hot when you charge it, take it out of its case before charging it again.

4. GET RID OF TRAPPED DEBRIS

Dirt and sand can make your speakers sound quieter than usual. Blowing on them or cleaning them gently with a soft bristle brush will help to remove any trapped debris.

5. AVOID WATER DAMAGE

Even if your device is water-resistant, saltwater and chlorinated water can still cause damage. Use a waterproof pouch for extra protection.

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