

# BCRPVPA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES (VIRTUAL)

**APPROVED**

**Date:** Wednesday, May 12, 2021  
**Time:** 9.45.a.m. Social time: 9.30  
**Facilitator:** Christine Johnson  
**Co-host on Zoom:** Gerald Soon

## 2020-2021 BCRPVPA Executive & Roles

Christine Johnson: President, Gerald Soon: Vice President, Ted St Pierre: Past President, Celina Mau: Secretary, Lanny Young: Treasurer, Bonnie Deren: Membership, Marsha Arnold: Benefits, Jeff Larcombe: Scholarships, Allan Buggie: Scholarships, Eileen Phillips: Speakers, Joy Ruffeski: Survey, and Looking Forward, Vivian Rygnestad: History Committee, and Looking Forward

## Meetings for 2020-2021

<del>Tuesday, Sep. 15</del>	<del>Thursday, October 15</del>
<del>Tuesday, November 24</del>	<del>Wednesday, Jan. 20</del>
<del>Thursday, February 18</del>	<del>Tuesday, March 30</del>
<del>Wednesday, April 21</del>	Wednesday, May 12 (AGM)

<u>Item</u>	<u>Person</u>
1) Welcome to AGM with Zoom	Committee
a) Meeting was called at 9:47a.m.	
b) Attendance:	
i) Board Members: Absence: Allan Buggie. Presence: All board members listed above.	
c) List of attendees from general membership: Mary Laudien, Léon Lebrun, Brian Beck, Ragani Kapil, Sandra Kinnon, Paul Taylor, Yushy Wallace, Doreen Graham, Judy Harrison, Susan Phillips, Ed Wiens, Susan Chow.	
d) (Point of Information) Procedures were shared by our President as to how we would proceed with the AGM and how to utilize the Zoom functions to ask questions and/or to vote for motions presented.	
2) Approval of AGM Agenda	Committee
a) [Moved] Celina	
b) [Second] Eileen	
c) [Unanimous] Passed with all members in attendance.	
3) Approval of Minutes of AGM Meeting, May 13, 2020	Committee
a) The 2020 AGM Minutes were approved as corrected.	

- i) [Moved] Paul Taylor
- ii) [Second] Ted St. Pierre
- iii) [Unanimous] Passed with all members in attendance.

4) **REPORTS**

- a) Treasurer Report Lanny Young
  - i) BCRPVPA Statement of Operations (Unaudited) for the nine months ending March 31, 2021 was presented. No vote required
  - ii) 2021-2022 Budget Proposal was presented for approval, vote required.
    - (1) [Motion #1]: As treasurer, I move to adopt the Proposed Budget for 2021-2022 to be approved as presented.
      - (a) (Point of Information) Proposed budget was presented. History Project about the evolution of BCPVPA & BCRPVPA would soon be available in a book format and on the two associations' website.
      - (b) [Moved] Lanny Young  
[Second] Vivian Rygnestad  
[Unanimous] Motion was passed with all members in attendance.
    - (2) [Motion #2]: As treasurer, I move to retain the yearly membership fee of \$20 per member for 2022-2023.
      - (a) (Point of Information) retain membership fee
      - (b) [Moved] Lanny Young  
[Second] Marsha Arnold  
[Unanimous] Motion was passed with all members in attendance.

**BC Retired Principals' & Vice-Principals' Association  
Statement of Operations  
For the Nine Month Period ending March 31, 2021  
(Unaudited)**

	<b>March 31, 2021</b>	<b>2020/2021 Proposed Budget</b>	<b>2021/2022 Proposed Budget</b>
<b>Revenue</b>			
Membership Dues	15,180.00	15,000.00	15,000.00
Interest	0.00		
Scholarship Sponsorship	2,500.00		2,500.00
Affinity Program	1,306.00		
	18,986.00	15,000.00	17,500.00
<b>Expenditures</b>			
Communications & Technology	744.58	6,000.00	3,000.00
Membership Expenses	0.00	200.00	200.00
Meeting Costs	0.00	1,600.00	1,000.00

Student Scholarships	9,500.00	7,300.00	9,800.00
Hospitality/Sunshine	229.30	500.00	500.00
Governance	0.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
Historical Article	2,500.00	5,000.00	2,500.00
	<u>12,973.88</u>	<u>23,600.00</u>	<u>20,000.00</u>
Excess of Revenue over Expenditures	<u>6,012.12</u>	<u>(8,600.00)</u>	<u>(2,500.00)</u>

These statements are unaudited and are for management purposes only.

- b) Chapter Council and Vice-President Report (attached) Gerald Soon
- i) (Point of Information)
    - (1) Vice President Report was presented.
    - (2) Please see attached the full Chapter Council Report
  - ii) (Point of Inquiry) Comment was made about Principals/Vice Principals in managerial position and performed duties during all the strike periods.
- c) President's Report (attached) Christine Johnson
- i) (Point of Information) Concerns were raised by BCRTA & BCRPVPA about the BC Teachers' Pension Plan that chose Green Shields as the medical/travel insurance group. Since hearing the concerns raised, the BC Pension Plan staff have now scheduled a meeting in June to resolve this dilemma, addressing other insurance providers like Johnson & Prestige.
  - ii) (Point of Privilege) Thanks to executives for their incredible work!
- d) Past-President's Report (attached) Ted St. Pierre
- i) (Point of Information)
    - (1) June Newsletter article submission to [info@bcprvpa.ca](mailto:info@bcprvpa.ca). Watch for a reminder email sent by our President to all members.
    - (2) Mentorship Program in its 5<sup>th</sup> year for BCPVPA. Continuation of recruitment of mentors as the Association had more mentees than mentors.
- e) Membership & Sunshine (attached) Bonnie Deren
- i) (Point of Information)
    - (1) Membership Report: Currently, our association has 758 members. Members were reminded to update their contact information by sending an email to [info@bcprvpa.ca](mailto:info@bcprvpa.ca). Due to privacy clause, it has become increasingly difficult to search and obtain up-to-date information through the internet site!

- (2) Sunshine Report: Please continue to let our Sunshine Rep. know if a card would be needed to help/support our members.
- f) Communications Report (attached) Celina Mau
- i) (Point of Information) Attached report was presented, with emphasis to recruit someone into the position of Secretary.
- g) Affinity & Benefits (attached) Marsha Arnold
- i) (Point of Information) Report as presented
- (1) Similar to Christine's report about Green Shields as the chosen insurance company identified by the BC Pension Plan. Please read her attached report below about the differences between Green Shields and Johnson/Prestige.
  - (2) Watch for more information to come regarding Simply Connect (Rogers) designed to serve our senior members. In short, no frills!
  - (3) Trip Merchant planned to launch a new platform (version 2.0) at the beginning of October, featuring bi-weekly seminars and/or videos with up-to-date information. There would be some kickback to BCRPVPA.
  - (4) ACER would be offering a June 3rd (10 am PST) webinar featuring information about a National PharmaCare Program. Please go to ACER website to sign up for FREE, and do take note of the time in PST.
- ii) (Point of Appreciation) Many thanks to Marsha for her work!
- h) Scholarships (attached) Jeff Larcombe
- i) (Point of Information)
- (1) The committee would discuss the number of scholarships to be award to the recipients. Our last motion from a year ago stated up to 7 recipients, not 9.
  - (2) Summary of tasks completion in the Fall:
    - (a) Starting in September, the association committee would receive completed applications.
    - (b) In October, the committee would read applications and determine the number of recipients to be awarded the said scholarships.
- i) Speakers Update (attached) Eileen Phillips
- i) (Point of Information)
- (1) Today's AGM speaker was Sara Pedlow from DLA Piper Law Firm on Wills & Estate Planning.
  - (2) Survey results this year helped direct program planning. This year, we addressed topics of interest in legal, travel insurance, travels and health. Heading into next year, we might consider meeting members' needs in the following areas: Art, Hobby & Food?
  - (3) For consideration, some topics could be presented in the form of written articles to publish in our Newsletters.

- ii) (Point of Inquiry) A question was asked if diversity could be a topic for consideration in our program presentation.
- 5) Looking Forward and notice of Bylaw Change Joy Ruffeski & Vivian Rygnestad
  - a) (Point of Information) Attached report was presented.
    - i) Surveys conducted which led to change of Bylaws, but there would be no change to our Constitution.
    - ii) Bylaws change implied a change in association practice. In keeping to our Constitution, the change of our Association Bylaws would be advertized in the June Newsletter and then be presented at our October General Meeting. Changes would not take place until after the approval of Bylaws Changes at the October GM. This meant that between now and October, it remained as status quo.
    - iii) The key change in the Bylaws meant that the association executive members would work as a team!
- 6) New Business
  - a) Dates and Times of 2021-22 Meetings Christine Johnson  
 (Point of Information) The dates below would need approval from BCPVPA, for the purpose of securing the meeting room in the BCPVPA office.

MEETINGS	DATE & TIME 2018-2019	DATE & TIME 2019-2020	DATE & TIME 2020-2021	DATE & TIME 2021-2022
EXECUTIVE	Tues., Aug. 28, 2018 @ 10.00.am	TUESDAY, SEPT. 17, 2019 @ 10:00.am	TUESDAY, SEPT. 15, 2020 @ 10:00.am	TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2021 @ 10:00 a.m.
GENERAL	Wed., Oct. 23, 2018 @ 9:45.am	THURSDAY, OCT. 17, 2019 @ 9:45.am	THURSDAY, OCT. 15, 2020 @ 9:45.am	WEDNESDAY, OCT. 20, 2021 @9.45.am
EXECUTIVE	Tues., Nov. 27,2018 @ 10.00.am	TUESDAY, NOV. 26, 2019 @ 10:00.am	TUESDAY, NOV. 24, 2020 @ 10:00AM	TUESDAY, NOV. 23, 2021 @ 10:00.am
GENERAL	Thurs., Jan. 17, 2019 @ 9:45.am	WEDNESDAY, JAN. 22, 2020 @ 9:45.am	WEDNESDAY, JAN. 20, 2021 @ 9:45.am	THURSDAY, JAN. 20, 2022 @ 9.45.am
EXECUTIVE	Wed., Feb. 20, 2019	THURSDAY, FEB. 20, 2020	THURSDAY, FEB. 18, 2021	THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2022

	@ 10.00.am	@ 10:00.am	@ 10:00.am	@ 10:00.am
GENERAL	Tues., Mar. 19, 2019 @ 9:45.am	TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2020 @ 9:45.am	TUESDAY, MARCH 30, 2021 @ 9:45.am	TUESDAY, MARCH 29, 2022 @ 9:45.am
EXECUTIVE	Wed., Apr. 17, 2019 @ 10.00.am	WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 2020 @ 10:0.0AM	WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21, 2021 @ 10:00.am	WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 2022 @ 10:00.am
ANNUAL GENERAL	Tues., May 07, 2019 @ 9:45.am	WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2020 @ 9:45.am	WEDNESDAY, MAY 12, 2021 @ 9:45.am	WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 2022 @ 9:45.am

7) 2021-2022 Election of Officers

Ted St. Pierre

a) (Point of Information)

- i) As outlined in his attached report, the following was reviewed in preparation for the election of officers for 2021-2022.
  - (1) Stated the protocol and timeline inviting members to join the Executives;
  - (2) Outlined within our Constitution under Article 9 regarding the Executive Officers, their role and responsibilities, and terms of service;
  - (3) Reviewed briefly the Election of Officers protocol within the Robert's Rules of Order;
  - (4) Introduced the members standing for election (see attached report); and
  - (5) Explained how to fill a vacant position such as Secretary if still vacant after the election of officers.

ii) Sandra Kinnon requested to withdraw her name from the Members-At-Large nomination list.

iii) All proposed nominees, except Sandra Kinnon, were elected by acclamation.

iv) Congratulations to the newly elected Executive Board for 2021-2022!

President: Christine Johnson

Past President: Ted St. Pierre

Vice President: Celina Mau

Secretary: *Vacant*

Treasurer: Lanny Young

Members-At-Large:

Marsha Arnold

Allan Buggie

Ragini Kapil

Jeff Larcombe

Eileen Phillips

Paul Taylor

- 8) Adjournment (no motion required) at 10:54 a.m.
- 9) Break - 6 minutes
- 10) 11:00 am Speaker Presentation - Sara Pedlow from the law firm DLA Piper, on Wills and Estates
  - a) (Point of Information) Key information pertaining to Wills and Estate Planning was shared to members in attendance. This was followed by a few Q&A.
- 2) Lunch – on your own

## **ATTACHMENT OF REPORTS**

### **Vice President's Report for May 12, 2021 AGM**

**Submitted by Gerald Soon**

This year I have seen my role as one of support for the President and Executive. Having served in many roles, I felt it was how I could best serve the BCRPVPA this year.

In order to facilitate two-way communication with our membership, I wrote an article for the Newsletter on Yammer. Unlike Facebook, where posts by people are random and it is a loose means of connecting, Yammer is focused on a closed membership where communication can be two way and more enduring. For example, If a member wishes to read a thread of posts on Affinity benefits, they can easily go back and find the information. As a result of the article, I suspect that there will be many people who will wish to be approved for connecting via Yammer. Currently there are 280 members on Yammer.

One of the issues facing our executive is how to manage Yammer effectively. When our president asked me to look into why she could not approve requests, it caused me to delve deeper into why. I was able to solve the problem as to what was happening and why the president was unable to approve requests. In the meantime, I was able to make myself an administrator with approval rights. Though I am leaving the Executive, I will always be available for advice, and assistance, and wish the new Executive well in their endeavours.

### **Chapter Council Meeting on May 7, 2021**

submitted by Gerald Soon, Vice President

President Christine Johnston gave greetings to the administrators representing their Chapters, and encouraged them to convey to their members who may be retiring soon, what our group is and the benefits of joining.

Participants then began with a “check in” in small groups on Zoom, and I was able to speak with administrators about how they were dealing with schools during this pandemic. Secondary administrators had to suddenly rebuild timetables with cohorts in mind. And for this upcoming September, have had to build two – one scenario with cohorts, and one without. Whichever one will be used depends on the circumstances we will be in in the fall.

The President of the BCPVPA, Darren Danyluk gave a quote from Dr Robyne Hanley-Dafoe  
“Just because you carry it well doesn’t mean it is not heavy.”

The Minister of Education, the Honourable Jennifer Whiteside spoke about the importance of School Leadership and praised administrators for what they have done during the Pandemic. The government recognizes that there is an increase in anxiety in K – 12 and is committed to building the capacity for mental health of staff and students in BC. \$16 million is being earmarked to support this.

The government is hoping that September will see a more normal school opening with the vaccine rollout happening.

There was a presentation from the Wallace Foundation – a report by Dr. Anna Egalité, from NC State University, and Dr. Jason Grissom from Vanderbilt University. They did a study synthesizing what has been learned in the last 20 years on school leadership and student achievement. Basically, the importance of the school Principal may not have been stated strongly enough.

They have found between 1988 and 2016 that there was an increase in female representation in school leadership. From 20% to 50%.

Their research analysis followed principals and the achievement of students in the schools they were responsible for over time. They noted what happened to the achievement in schools when a weaker administrator was replaced with a stronger one. Schools with more effective principals had lower student absenteeism and chronic absences.

Three key elements were discussed: People, Instruction, and Organization.

People: How engaging the leaders were, how focused the interactions were with the leadership of the schools.

Instruction: How effective were their skills to support teacher classroom instruction

Organization: Usage of data, management of schools, ability to foster collaborative communities and managing personnel.



On top of all they discussed, they also focused on an “equity” lens, building a climate with all students that celebrated diversity. They spoke of the vital importance of principals of colour.

Implications were that there needed to be investment in principal preparation and support, for a high-quality workforce. A focus on high leverage skills and behaviours, and a focus on continuing to prioritize the needs of diverse learners.

### Negotiation Representation

The BCPVPA has actively advocated for more than six years, to achieve a standardized provincial approach to the terms and conditions of employment common to all school leaders, and to have the BCPVPA negotiate provincially on behalf of its members.

A chapter of the BCPVPA has requested through the LRB that they have the ability to unionize the administrators of the district. It has gone to closing arguments and submissions has centered upon the constitutional argument and whether Principals and Vice Principals have true managerial authority to do their work.

The argument hinges on the definition of Principals and Vice Principals. Are they managers with full managerial authority or is their role supervisory in nature? Managers cannot unionize. Supervisors can. Of interest, it is the traditional role that managers play in the work environment. It is generally accepted that managers do not do the work of the people that they manage. Yet, 65% of Principals and Vice-Principals carry a teaching load of up to 90% teaching assignments.

The day ended with speeches for President -Elect and Director candidates.

### **President’s Report, AGM, May 12, 2021**

The Executive members of the BCRPVPA haven’t let the pandemic slow them down. Our meetings have all been held on Zoom this year and last year and thanks go to our **Vice-President, Gerald Soon**, for acting as host which left me free to concentrate on the agenda. **Gerald** has also been a great resource in numerous areas, including Pensions, and Yammer.

**Ted St. Pierre** has been very valuable in his work as **Past President**. He has continued to offer good advice; has continued to communicate with the website organizer; and has even compiled editions of the newsletter.

The Minute taking of our **Secretary, Celina Mau**, has been of the highest quality and her correspondence to the other members of the executive has been very timely. Her work on the compilation of the newsletter has been great as has her work in sending out updates to the members. We are so grateful to Celina for keeping us informed.

Without the work of our **Treasurer, Lanny Young** we would have difficulty knowing where we are financially. She keeps track of all expenditures and will be presenting a financial update and the 2021-22 Budget to you today.

Many thanks to **Eileen Phillips** who contacted our guest speakers and tended to their needs. Our speaker lineup this year has responded to the needs of our members. Without her help too, the Newsletter wouldn't be mailed to those who have requested a hard copy. Thanks also to **Vivian Rygnestad** in this area,

To **Marsha Arnold** who looked after the **Affinity and Benefits** Program go much appreciation for all of the time spent and work carried out on everyone's behalf. Her bulletins to members and the postings to Yammer and the Website have ensured that everyone is kept informed.

Our Scholarship Program has been in the good hands of **Jeff Larcombe**. Together with his team of **Christine Johnson, Allan Buggie, and Gerald Soon** the difficult task of deciding upon the scholarship winners was accomplished. In 2020 twenty-four (24) grade 12 students applied and over thirty (30+) the year before.

Without the ongoing work of **Bonnie Dern** the membership list wouldn't be kept up-to-date and cards and tokens of understanding and appreciation wouldn't have been received by individuals.

To **Joy Ruffeski** and **Vivian Rygnestad** go congratulations and many thanks for the immense amount of work which they have dedicated in the past year to the surveying of the membership and the executive as they continued with the process of looking forward. Our principal goal this year has been to look at what we do well and to suggest ways of better serving our members as an executive team.

Many good wishes for the future to Joy, Vivian, and Gerald who are leaving the Executive after many years of tremendous work on everyone's behalf.

Our liaison with the **BCPVPA** offers us the use of a place to hold in-person meetings; to be involved with the **Mentorship Program**; and to receive help with printing, finances, and membership. We are also invited to the twice-yearly **Chapter Council Meetings** where we feature on the agenda.

This year we have increased our interactions with the BC Retired Teachers' Association through frequent Zoom talks about how best to share Affinities and Benefits and other things we have in common.

A number of our members have signed on to Yammer and we are very pleased that some members have written articles for the Newsletter.

The meetings for the year 2021-2022 are part of the Agenda and can also be displayed at the AGM.

We look forward to a very positive year for the BCRPVPA in 2021-2022

## **PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT by Ted St. Pierre**

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, WEDNESDAY, MAY 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

#### **1) 2021-2022 EXECUTIVE (Elections held at the AGM)**

Retired BCRPVPA Members were invited to consider joining next year's Executive. Invitations were in the February & April newsletters, as well as at the General Meeting in March. BCRPVPA Members are asked to email [info@bcrpvpa.ca](mailto:info@bcrpvpa.ca) for further information.

Members-at-Large positions can join the following 2 working committees:

a) Communications;    b) Members' Benefits / Services

#### **2) NEWSLETTER JUNE 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

Newsletter articles are invited for the final 2020-2021 newsletter.

BCRPVPA Members expressed appreciation for all the information found in the articles.

- Please consider submitting an article of interest to our BCRPVPA Members.  
**Submission Deadline: June 1, 2021.**
- Articles can be sent to [info@bcrpvpa.ca](mailto:info@bcrpvpa.ca)

#### **3) TECHNOLOGY**

The website [bcrpvpa.ca](http://bcrpvpa.ca) is up to date with a few minor changes under consideration.

A Website Committee in 2019-2020 strongly indicated a long-term goal is to modernize the website. Rationale - this was last done in 2016.

#### **4) MENTORSHIP PROGRAM, SEPTEMBER 2021**

The BCPVPA Mentorship Program will begin its 5<sup>th</sup> year this September. Interested retired BCRPVPA Principals are invited to check our website [bcrpvpa.ca](http://bcrpvpa.ca) for more information under the title MENTORSHIP.

There currently are many Mentees waiting to be partnered with Mentors.

Ted St. Pierre, Past President

# BCRPVPA 2021-2022 EXECUTIVE

**THE FORMAT FOR THE PROPOSED EXECUTIVE, ELECTED AT THE AGM, IS SIMILAR TO PREVIOUS YEARS.**

## **Invitations to BCRPVPA Members to join the 2021-2022 Executive:**

- February 10, 2021: All current Executive Members were invited to let Ted, Past President, know of wishes to remain on the Executive & in which desired position.
- February & April Newsletters invited BCRPVPA Members to consider joining the 2021-2022 Executive.
- March 2021 General Meeting: Members were invited to consider joining the Executive at the forthcoming AGM in May.
- BCRPVPA Members can get further information about joining the Executive by contacting the Past President at [tedstp@gmail.com](mailto:tedstp@gmail.com), as well as at [info@bcrpvpa.ca](mailto:info@bcrpvpa.ca)

## **ARTICLE 9 OFFICERS and EXECUTIVE MEMBERS (as per the Constitution)**

- 9.1) Officers of this Association shall be the President, the Past President, Vice-President, the Secretary, and the Treasurer.
- 9.2) The Executive Committee of the Association shall consist of the President, Past President, V-P, Secretary, Treasurer and 5 to 9 Members-at-Large.
- 9.4) If for any reason a vacancy occurs in the membership of the Executive Committee, the President, acting on the advice of the remaining members of the Executive Committee, may appoint a Member to fill the vacancy until the next Annual General Meeting.

**A Member-at-Large supports the Association by taking on responsibilities as needed.**

**Traditionally, some of these responsibilities include:**

- Membership & Sunshine; Program Topics & Speakers;
- Scholarships; Pension, Benefits & Affinity;
- Communications - Items sent out to members such as letters, newsletters, bulletins;
- Technology - Items posted such as updates to the website (liaison with the webmaster);
- Social/Refreshments; Communications' Committee: (2021)

**2021-2022 Executive Slate: Elections at the AGM:**

Noted in Robert's Rules of Order: If a ballot is not necessary, as in the case of our Constitution, when there is only one nomination for a position, then the Chair (namely the immediate Past President) need only ask once if there are further nominations. It is then announced that the nominee is elected if no further nominations are forthcoming.

**Named Positions:**

The positions of President, Vice-President and Past President are traditionally held for 2 years. However, because circumstances can change, this is not in our constitution and so these positions must be declared open each year. Additionally, it is possible for a person to hold these positions for a year and not two.

**The nominees for 2021-2022 are:**

**President:** Christine Johnson - Year 2 of an expected 2-year term.  
**Past President:** Ted St. Pierre - Year 2 of an expected 2-year term.  
**Vice-President:** Celina Mau - Year 1 of an expected 1-year term.  
**Treasurer:** Lanny Young  
**Secretary:** [vacant \(April 2021\)](#)

**5 - 9 Members-at-Large**

**The nominees are:**

1. Marsha Arnold
2. Allan Buggie
3. Jeff Larcombe
4. Eileen Phillips

**BCRPVPA Members who have indicated interest in joining Members-at-Large:**

- ❖ Ragini Kapil

- ❖ Sandra Kinnon (withdrew from the Members at Large)
- ❖ Paul Taylor

**The following current Executive Members are thanked for their many years of contribution to the BCRPVP Association:**

1. Vivian Rygnestad, President 2014-2016
2. Gerald Soon, President 2012-2014
3. Joy Ruffeski, President 2008-2010
4. Bonnie Deren, Membership & Sunshine for 3 excellent years.

**Membership & Sunshine Report for May 12, 2021 AGM**  
**Submitted by Bonnie Deren**

We presently have 758 members. Membership information can be found on the website at [www.bcrpvpa.ca](http://www.bcrpvpa.ca)

In order to continue receiving newsletters and meeting updates, members are reminded to notify us at [info@bcrpvpa.ca](mailto:info@bcrpvpa.ca) if your email, mailing address or phone number should change.

Sympathy, get well cards, etc. can be requested at [info@bcrpvpa.ca](mailto:info@bcrpvpa.ca).

**Communications Report for May 12, 2021 AGM**

**Submitted by Celina Mau**

In the course of this year, we have sent the following communications to our general members.

- 12 Members' Updates (May AGM Minutes to come) (emails only)
- 4 Newsletters (June 2021 issue to come) (emails and mail outs)
- 1 Special Bulletin on Affinity & Benefits (email only)

Our **Members' Updates** has evolved from just announcing meeting dates, sharing of time-sensitive topics and sending out our annual four newsletters, to now, which includes sharing meeting agendas + reports and Zoom links as well as general meeting minutes. All efforts were an attempt to reach out and build direct connections and relationships with our 750+ members!

With respect to our four **Newsletters**, many thanks to Vivian Rygnestad who reconnected with BCPVPA for the printing of our newsletters. A special and huge appreciation to Eileen for her strategic guidance in keeping our membership list up-to-date throughout the year, and despite the ongoing pandemic and health orders, she was also our designated executive to pick up our

printed newsletters at BCPVPA office front door. Once received, she (and/or Vivian) prepared them for mailing. To complete the task of our Newsletters communication, we posted them onto Yammer as an alert, and Ted St. Pierre coordinated with our webmaster to post onto our Association Website.

With great appreciation and my heartfelt thank you to Ted for stepping in to take over the role of Newsletter Editor since January 2021!

**New! Special Bulletin on Affinity & Benefits**

Furthermore, as of last month (April), we introduced the first issue of **Special Bulletin: Affinity & Benefits**. Many thanks to our President, Christine Johnson and Affinity & Benefits Rep., Marsha Arnold for the introduction of this e-Bulletin. This Bulletin has enabled us to share pertinent information with our members in a timely manner.

Last but not the least would be the on-going and onerous task of **updating our membership list**. Without our diligent, skillful and empathetic Membership Rep., Bonnie Deren, we would not be able to send out so many correspondences electronically to our members! Her accomplishments this year were: 1) to entice successfully many of our members to receive e-communication instead of postal mail outs, and 2) to reduce the number of bounced back emails from 20+ (Fall 2020) to nil (Spring 2021). We currently mailed out four Newsletters to less than twenty members. Bravo Bonnie! Because of Bonnie's efforts and success, we were able to improve our e-communication protocol to our members more efficiently and effectively!

So, members might wonder why the emphasis on (e-) communications this year? The improved communication strategy was a direct result of the Fall/Winter 2020 Surveys expressed by our general members and executives. It was our hope that, as your executive body, in time, we would be able to create a two-way dialogue with our general membership.

*"Replacing paper with a PC screen doesn't change the need for clear, precise communication." a quote by Kenneth Roman; Joel Raphaelson*

All in all, it was a very busy year as your Communication Representative!

In the role as your Association Secretary, I have also learned how to record minutes using Roberts' Rules of Order under the direct coaching of Vivian Rygnestad and continued support of Christine Johnson. Many thanks to both of them for their yearlong mentorship!

In closing, as could be attested from this written report, it was truly a collaborative team approach! I would like to express my utmost thanks to each of our executives for their guidance, assistance and feedback. Let us continue to communicate and build members' relationships amongst one another! Have a great summer everyone!

## Affinity and Benefits Report – May 2021

Submitted by Marsha Arnold

### Johnson Insurance

They offer home, life, long term care, health and travel insurance and subscribe to a Best Friend Advice policy. [www.johnson.ca](http://www.johnson.ca) or 1 888 739-1209 or contact Lisa Hansen senior consultant at Walnut Grove Commerce Centre 9440 202<sup>nd</sup> St, Suite 110, Langley 604.881.8915 [lhansen@johnson.ca](mailto:lhansen@johnson.ca)

BCRPVPA joined with BCRTA to create a Prestige health/travel insurance plan to lower costs and increase savings. BCRPVPA joined with BCPVPA to increase the subscribers across Canada for MEDOC travel insurance which reduces fees and increases options.

The 2019 options are still in place, but further options coming September 1, 2021. These include automatic extension of not fit to fly, electronic links for changes to trip dates, unexpected return home clause, loss of limb/sight in flight accident, guide dog provisions, etc.

In April Lisa Hansen, the Senior consultant for Johnson, made a presentation regarding travel and the new travel options that Prestige insurance will provide members. Please find her power point in Yammer under Travel.

<b>JOHNSON PRESTIGE INSURANCE FOR BCRPVPA MEMBERS</b>	<b>DEFAULT GS PLAN</b>
No Deductible	\$200 deductible per person per year
\$250,000 lifetime maximum	\$200,000 lifetime maximum
\$100 health education coverage per year	No health education coverage
\$1000 hearing aids every 5 years	\$1400 hearing aids every 4 years
Multi-trip travel included – 62 days per trip	No out of Canada coverage
Trip cancellation/interruption included	No out of Canada coverage
No 90-day stability clause or pre-existing condition language	90-day stability clause and pre-existing condition exceptions

See a complete comparison in the link below:



[Comparison-of-TPP-Green-Shield-and-Johnson-September-2019-.pdf \(secureservercdn.net\)](#)

**New Simply Connect** –A cellphone provider specifically for seniors, as part of Rogers, Simply Connect has lower costs, targeted packages, and less frills. There are live operators who live in BC and are ready to respond quickly to BC customers. BCRPVPA is working to partner with BCRTA so that we too, can get the discounts of a larger benefit group. More info to follow.

(We have other cell provider discounts through affinity partners Perkopolis and ESM, but these are not designed to specifically service seniors)

**Trip Merchant** – [www.tripmerchant.com](http://www.tripmerchant.com)

Password: [BCRPVPATM18](#)

Tom McLean, director of Trip Merchant, just shared the new platform plans with increased travel options that will be launched in October 2021. More info to follow.

While only BCRPVPA 136 members have signed up for their bi-weekly newsletter we are an active group. Generally, the members aged 61 to 70 are the most travelled. Visits to the Trip Merchant site has not gone down during the pandemic so we are still dreaming and scheming.

From contests to loyalty points, Private /Tailor Made & Group Departures and individual trip builder options, member discounts, private transportation, flash sales, solo travel club, prepaid gratuities, group travel app and much more. This is a terrific option to explore if you are planning a trip in the future.

Three of the BCRPVPA executive are taking a hard look at River Cruising in Europe for summer/fall 2022.

Come join us!

## **Retiree Health Event – Free Acer-cart Webinar**

### **A National Seniors' Strategy Could Mean Healthy Aging in Your Own Home**

With 40,000 Canadians on waiting lists for Long Term Care, Dr. Sinha will explain how clear policy options exist that would enable ageing in place and the overall sustainability of our health care system. *A National Seniors' Strategy Could Mean Healthy Aging in Your Own Home* By Dr. Samir Sinha *Director of Geriatrics at Sinai Health System and the University Health Network in Toronto*

### **A Powerful Case for Pharmacare**

by Dr. Steve Morgan *University of BC's School of Population and Public Health*. A compelling case for why Canada needs a national Pharmacare program, how it would improve our health and save money that could be directed to provide other health needs.

You are invited to a FREE WEBINAR

Thursday, June 3

10:00 am Pacific Daylight Time [ACER-CART Retiree Health Event - ACER-CART](#)

## Speakers Report for AGM May 12, 2021 Executive Meeting

Submitted by Eileen Phillips

### **Today's Speaker:**

**May 12, 2021** The speaker will be **Sara Pedlow** from the law firm **DLA Piper**. Sara will speak to us on Wills and Estate Planning. This is a topic that many members have asked for so we hope to have an excellent turnout. Sara is volunteering her time in order to be with us.

### **Previous Presentations for the 2020-2021 Year:**

- March 30, 2021 We were fortunate to have **Nikki Domanski** speak to us about the work of the UBC Pharmacists Clinic.
- Jan 20, 2021 The topic was *The Future of Travel* and the speaker was John Goranson from Collette Travel.
- Oct 15, 2020 We had two presentations:  
Hearing Life by Laurie Van Wyk  
Travel Insurance by Lisa Hansen and Mark Costales from Johnson's Inc

### **Suggestions for Future Topics and Speakers include:**

- PADS - Pacific Assistance Dogs - contact Tara [communications@pads.ca](mailto:communications@pads.ca)
- Nikki Domanski from the UBC Pharmacists Clinic has offered to speak again and has suggested the topic *bone health and osteoporosis*.
- COSCO - use them as a resource for speakers

If you have a speaker in mind who you think our members would enjoy hearing from, please let us know. Maybe YOU have a hobby or a volunteer position that would be of interest?

**Results of our 2020 Survey** indicated the interests of our members to be as follows:

Health & Wellness (89%)  
Legal (84%)  
Arts, Hobbies, Food (80%)  
Travel/Everything You Need to Know (78%)  
Volunteer Opportunities (71%)

### **Concluding the 2020-21 Year**

I think we have done an excellent job of attending to these interests via our Speaker Presentations and in the Newsletters. Special thanks to all the executive for contributing ideas and, in particular, to Marsha and Celina for making contact with some speakers, to Gerald for helping the speakers with their ZOOM presentations, and to Celina and Ted for editing the newsletters. It has been a pleasure serving the membership as our Speaker/Presentation person this year.

2021 AGM Report of the Looking Forward Committee

In order to know the needs and serve the BCRPVPA membership effectively, a survey was sent to all members in October. It covered the following areas:

- topics/speakers for meetings
- the newsletter
- the use of Zoom for meetings
- the website
- affinity benefits

The results of this survey enabled the executive to plan for the coming two years to ensure that the wishes of the membership will be followed.

In December, three surveys were completed by all executive members covering the areas of:

- communication practices
- meeting protocols
- succession.

Using this information, the BCRPVPA executive examined current practices and procedures of the BCRPVPA. The Executive felt it important to review both the Constitution (adopted October 24, 1997, revised May 2007, and reviewed March 2015) and the Bylaws (adopted January 20, 1998, revised May 2007, and revised March 2015) and consequently some Bylaw changes were approved by the executive and must now be approved by the general membership.

The 2015 version of the constitution and bylaws may be found on the BCRPVPA website [bcrpvpa.ca](http://bcrpvpa.ca) Following are the recommended changes from the 2015 version with respect to additions or new wording (as shown in red font):

#### Bylaws: Duties of the Executive Committee

##### 10.2 Duties of the Executive Committee

The President shall:

- g) chair the Communication Committee,
- h) meet with the BCPVPA regarding Mentoring partnership.

The Secretary shall:

- a) follow Robert's Rules of Order and maintain a record of the minutes of all meetings.

The Vice-President shall:

- d) chair the Member Services Committee with special responsibility for the areas of Membership and Sunshine.

The Past President shall:

- c) contact and arrange speakers for all General Meetings, upon the direction of the Executive Committee.

The Members-at-Large shall:

- a) serve and assume various responsibilities within the Communications Committee and/or the Member Services Committee to assist the executive committee. Areas of responsibility of the Communication Committee include Technology, Website, Newsletters, Yammer, Mail-Outs,

Mentorship, and Surveys. Areas of responsibility of the Members Services Committee include Membership, Sunshine, Speakers, Affinity and Benefits, Scholarships, and Pensions. Each area of responsibility will have several Members-at-Large serving on it and sharing the duties with the lead individual. The lead individual will change yearly to promote knowledge of the Association and succession.

A notice of motion will be made at the May AGM in order that the necessary changes to our Bylaws can be voted on at the October general meeting as per the legal requirement in Article 14: Bylaw Changes.

Submitted: Joy Ruffeski, Vivian Rygnestad