

BCRPVPA GENERAL MEETING AGENDA 604-689-3399
BCPVPA BOARDROOM: 525 10TH AVE. W., VAN., BC

Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2019

Time: 9:30 Social followed by meeting at 9:45/am

Executive Members 2018-2019: **President:** Ted St. Pierre | **Vice-President:** Christine Johnson | **Treasurer:** Lanny Young | **Secretary:** Celina Mau | **Past President:** Eileen Phillips | **Communications/Technology:** with Jeff Larcombe & Celina Mau | **Scholarships:** Allan Buggie / Jeff Larcombe / Christine Johnson | **Benefits / Affinity / Pensions:** Gerald Soon | **Pensions:** Gerry Tiede | **Membership & Sunshine:** Bonnie Deren | **Archives:** Vivian Rygnestad

BCRPVPA Meeting Dates for 2018-2019

Executive Meetings @ 10:00 am.

Aug. 28, 2018 (Tue.)
 Nov. 27, 2018 (Tue.)
 Feb. 20, 2019 (Wed.)
 Apr. 17, 2019 (Wed.)

General Meetings 9:30 Social & 9:45 Mtg.

Oct. 24, 2018 (Wed.) [**Now Tues., Oct. 23**] Jan. 17, 2019 (Thur.)
 Mar. 19, 2019 (Tue.)
 May 07, 2019 (Tue.) AGM

Order	Item	Owner
1.	Welcome; Call To Order at 9:45; Quorum – people attending Attending: Ted S, Gerald S, Eileen , Marsha A., Bonnie D, Geoff S., Joy R, Vivian R., Jeff L., Lanny Y, Gerald S,	Committee
2.	Adoption Of Agenda [Moved] Lanny [Seconded] Jeff Carried.	Committee
3.	Adoption of General Meeting Minutes January 17, 2019 [Moved] Bonnie [Seconded] Joy Carried	Committee
4.	Treasurer – Lanny presented her report (attached)	Lanny Y.
REPORTS	Chapter Council (February 22-23, 2019) Jeff is attending in place of Christine Jeff thanked Christine for the opportunity to attend in her place. He hadn't been at Chapter Council for about 15 years. He could see how the BCPVPA organization had matured and is valued as an educational partner. There was a presentation about the Teacher Pension Plan, and it was clear that not a lot of people know about their plan. BCPVPA receiving more calls from members thinking about going back into the classroom. Economic issues for admin was discussed. Some districts are refusing to provide letters of investigation to admin when an investigation begins. Tiered membership opportunities – allowing teachers aspiring to be admin and BC offshore schools admin to become associate members. Short course has been running for 42 years. Info given re possible job action of teachers as the prepare for contract talks. The Teacher Regulation Branch is encouraging an apology mechanism where there are public complaints about an admin. It does not in any way mean it is an admission of guilt on behalf of the admin.	Jeff L.

Order	Item	Owner
	<p>Cmolik Scholarship Foundation provides \$35000 scholarships across the province who would not normally have the means to attend university. There are approximately 75 students on scholarship and the foundation is aiming to increase the number to 100. There are mentors for each student, Allan from our executive was highlighted as one of the mentors. They are in need of sponsors for students.</p> <p>Comments: the executive encouraged those attending Chapter Council to ensure that the BCPVPA acknowledges them and allows them a few brief minutes to explain about BCRPVPA and promote membership. Chapter Council reps should be encouraged to provide information to those who may be about to retire. Ted and Allan will be at a Roundtable meeting giving presentations about the Mentoring process.</p> <p>Comments: It is important to promote BCRPVPA membership at the next</p>	
	Benefits; Affinity; Pensions (with Gerry T.) Report attached	Gerald S.
	<p>Scholarships (with Allan B. & Christine J.) Our scholarships are being advertised through the BCRPVPA bulletin. Deadline is Sept. 30.</p>	Jeff L.
	<p>Speakers Jeff Larcombe will be speaker at the AGM on gardening The exec will be working on the program at the next Exec meeting.</p> <p>Possibilities for next year: Graham Best on Retaining Memory for Seniors, Patti Lefkos – Nepal One Day at a Time. The story of rebuilding a school in a remote village in Nepal that was the epicenter of the 2016 earthquake. Proprioception Nutrition</p>	Eileen P.
	<p>Mentorship Program (with Allan B. & Celina M.) Lanny reported that before she became a mentor she felt that perhaps she didn't have much to offer. Her mentee as assured her that her role is important sometimes as a sounding board. It doesn't matter how long one has been retired. Retired members have much to offer. There is a need for more retired admin, as the program is using more "active, working admin" as mentors currently. If people are empathetic they would be valuable to the program.</p>	Lanny Y.
	Archives The committee will be meeting with the committee soon.	Vivian R.
	Membership Update 737 members. Email and contact info will be updated to ensure records are accurate	Bonnie D.

Order	Item	Owner
	Comments: Upcoming retirees need to be notified of possibility of membership and benefits of joining BCRPVPA. Executive members positions open for next year.	
	President's Report (Communications; Mentorship Program; Green Shield; Travel Insurance; Upcoming AGM) Communications – Ted spoke about the role of communications. He encouraged people to consider the role for the next executive in this role or any role, by contacting the executive at the email listed at the end of these minutes. Green Shield – if members have concerns they need to take it up directly with Green Shield. Complaints re; Green Shield will be forwarded to the Pension Corp. Teachers Pension Plan, P.O. Box 9460 Victoria, BC V8W 9V8. Members experiencing difficulties are encouraged to contact the Pension Corp directly with copies to our association. Travel Insurance – all our needs are different. It is up to individuals as to what they choose.	Ted S.
5. NEW BUSINESS	BCRTA forward email for Candidates as Principal of Non-Profit Music School (handout information only) attached	Laurie Boyd
	BCRTA Petition for Pension Security (handout for information to BCRPVPA Members to consider) attached	Gerry T.
	BCRTA Golden Star Award (handout for consideration) attached	Stefan Cieslik
	Advancing Alzheimer's Research in Canada (to consider) attached	Emily Eisner
	Invite to BCRPVPA Members to join the Executive	Ted S.
	The executive and membership would like to express thanks to Graham for his years of valuable service to our association. Moved Joy R. That the BCRPVPA recognize and to acknowledge Graham Mulligan for his many years of service. Seconded Vivian Carried	ATTN Bonnie
6.	Adjournment [Moved] Eileen [Seconded] Marsha Carried.	Committee
11:00/am-12:00/pm	Speaker, Paul Berry, Search Manager, President, and Information Officer of the Comox Valley Ground Search & Rescue. (please see below for more information). No-Host Lunch @ Local Restaurant	Vivian R.

Email Address: info@bcrpvpa.ca

GUEST SPEAKER PAUL BARRY HELD IN BCPVPA Board Room

#200 525 West 10th Avenue, Vancouver

Social at 9:30/am

Meeting from 9:45 to 10:45 a.m. followed by a short break

Speaker Presentation 11:00 a.m. Paul Berry, Search and Rescue.
No-Host Lunch to follow at Rogue Restaurant

Paul Barry is a retired principal from the Courtenay/Comox school district. Since his retirement he has become highly regarded as one of the most influential and knowledgeable people in BC in the areas of search and rescue and emergency management. Presently he is the Search Manager, President, and Information Officer for the Comox Valley Ground Search and Rescue.

He is also an instructor at the Justice Institute of BC for Search and Rescue team leaders, search management, and lost persons' behaviour. He is an instructor working with police, firefighters, and search and rescue personnel in "Incident Command Systems" i.e. the structure for how to respond to an emergency incident. For the past couple of years he has used his skills by becoming an integral part of the forest wildfires response management in BC. As a principal and as a retiree he has been working with school districts in their emergency management planning.

Paul is known as an entertaining, experienced speaker and we are fortunate to have him speak to us.

(Submitted thanks to:) Eileen Phillips

POTENTIAL CANDIDATES AS PRINCIPAL OF NON-PROFIT MUSIC SCHOOL

From: Laurie Boyd <laurie@bcрта.ca> **Sent:** February 12, 2019 2:54 PM

To: BCRPVPA <info@bcrpvpa.ca>

Subject: Seeking for Potential Candidates as Principal of Non-Profit Music School

We are forwarding this email to your Association in case this is something of interest to any of your members. We are also sending along to our Richmond Branch of the BCRTA.

Best regards, *Laurie Boyd* Administrative Assistant

Email: laurie@bcрта.ca Please contact this email address if interested in this Principalship.



From Gerry Tiede, President, BCRTA:

One of the goals for ACER-CART for this year is to defend defined benefit pension plans - the kind of plans that teachers across Canada generally have. We are asking government to protect pensioners: earned defined benefits should not be reduced, as would be allowed

with Target Benefit plans, and pensioners should be protected when companies with pension plans go bankrupt.

To make participation easy, ACER-CART has provided a website at pensionsecurity.ca. It provides a bit of background but most usefully it has a link directly to the government website. This makes it much easier to find as you do not need to go through the search process. But it is not necessary to go through our website. You can also do a search on the government at www.petitions.ourcommons.ca. The petition number is e-2039

We are also sharing this announcement with other like-minded associations and you are invited to do the same. I have shared this with Kevin at the BCPVPA. The petition can be signed by any Canadian citizen.



**Association canadienne des enseignantes et des enseignants retraités
Canadian Association of Retired Teachers**

Petition for Pension Security

The Canadian Association of Retired Teachers (ACER-CART) has posted **petition e-2039** on the House of Commons petition site to encourage government to increase the security of retirement income.

- The number of defined benefit pension plans in Canada have declined even though they are the most efficient and secure way to fund retirement income.
- The introduction of Target Benefit plans, whereby members surrender their secure defined pension benefits, would transfer the risk to plan members, which inevitably reduces pension payments to vulnerable seniors.
- Private sector pension plan members, like Sears Canada employees, suffer when a business closes because the pension plan promises are at the lowest priority, behind investors, management bonuses and corporate profits.

This petition asks government to affirm the principle that pension promises cannot be broken for any service that has already been earned. It also asks government to protect the pensions of retirees by providing an insurance plan, paid for by pension plans, that would guarantee the benefits of retirees if their plan closes.

It's easy to participate. Visit www.pensionsecurity.ca and follow the links to sign the petition.

THE PETITION CLOSES ON April 8, 2019

Petition e-2039

Whereas:

- Canadians throughout their working years have individually contributed to their pensions, and their employers have contributed to those pensions as deferred wages;
- Canadians who have defined benefit pension plans should not live in fear that their earned benefits might be reduced when they are in their most vulnerable senior years; and
- Canadians who have worked and contributed to defined benefit pension plans should be protected from the loss of their pensions through bankruptcy or mismanagement of their pension administration and investments.

Therefore, we, the undersigned citizens of Canada, call upon the Government of Canada to promote and protect earned pensions for **all** Canadians in the future, to withdraw Bill C-27, and to establish a national pension insurance program to ensure that seniors can live with financial security.

From: stefan_cieslik@telus.net <stefancieslik63@gmail.com>
Sent: January 29, 2019 1:54 PM
To: Tedstp@shaw.ca
Cc: Stefan Cieslik <stefan_cieslik@telus.net>; Kristi Josephson <kristi@bcrt.ca>
Subject: Golden Star Award Publicizing

Dear Ted St Pierre:

I am writing this e-mail as Chairperson of the BC Retired Teachers' Association Excellence Committee.

Every year we recognize the work of public school teachers and students who work with seniors on projects that require joint efforts. As well as recognition we provide a total of six \$1500 awards to support further efforts and to encourage future projects which involve cooperative efforts across the ages of the participants.

In past years the Retired Principals Association has helped to spread the word about these awards to your members. Please see attachment.

We would be very grateful if you would promote the Golden Star Awards in your upcoming publications. The deadline for applications is April 15th, 2019.

Yours truly,

Stefan Cieslik
Chairperson, BCRTA Excellence in Public Education Committee

cc Kristi Josephson, BCRTA Office Administrator

Attachment:

<https://bcrt.ca/bcrt-golden-star-awards/>



From: Emily Eisner <emily@oktrials.ca>
Sent:
To:
Subject: Opportunity to advertise Alzheimer's research in Canada

Good morning Ted,

Okanagan Clinical Trials is a clinical research company from Kelowna BC. Our clinic is involved in an exciting research program targeting the prevention of Alzheimer's disease with Novartis. We are looking for individuals, aged 60-70 years, who have not been diagnosed with any memory impairment, but have a specific form of a gene that can increase the risk of developing Alzheimer's. We are looking to host an event with a presentation on the genetic risks and potential prevention of Alzheimer's disease. Following the presentation there would be an opportunity for interested

AFFINITY / PENSIONS REPORT

Gerald Soon

PROBLEMS WITH GREENSHIELD

It became clear that a number of members were discussing problems with the Health Care and Dental coverage with Green Shield, via the old listserv. Copies were being sent to my email and I was responding to them individually. It seemed that many of our members were unclear about the move from Pacific Blue Cross and felt that the BCRPVPA had some say in the change.

To clarify I sent a message to the listserv and on Yammer explaining how the change came about, and how all retired employee groups had no say whatsoever.

Our members want our association to take some sort of stand and would like the Pensions Corp to know about the displeasure of members.

My suggestion is to create a poll and get a true sense of what our members are experiencing. We can't send a letter of complaint based on anecdotal information from a small percentage of our total membership. If we do a poll and can provide numbers and evidence then an informed letter to the Pensions Corp can be written and sent.

I suggested to the BCRTA that a joint letter between our associations regarding the problems with Green Shield be written. Gerry Tiede informed me that the BCRTA had already sent a letter outlining their concerns, and suggested that our association do their own letter. I received an email from Gerry Tiede today indicating that whenever complaints were received by the RTA they forwarded them on to the Pension Corp.

Pensions

From Pension Life January 2019:

Good news: as a retired member of the Teachers' Pension Plan (plan), effective January 1, 2019, you received a 2.2 per cent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) to your pension. This matches the increase in the Canadian consumer price index (CPI) in the 12 months up to September 30, 2018, meaning your pension is keeping up with inflation.

If you retired partway through 2018, your COLA will be pro-rated based on the number of months in 2018 you received a pension. For example, if you retired halfway through the year, your COLA would be 1.1 per cent (which is half of 2.2 per cent).

The plan rules allow the Teachers' Pension Board of Trustees to grant a COLA each year up to the annual percentage increase in the CPI; however, COLAs are not a guaranteed benefit and may not be provided every year. Once you receive a COLA, it is applied to your basic lifetime pension (becoming a permanent part of your pension) and, if applicable, to your bridge benefit and temporary annuity.

Members should be aware that the Pensions Corporation is now sending only one Pension statement to members annually instead of twice yearly. They should check their statement carefully.

Affinity Travel

If a member would like to organize a group trip for friends or family, he or she has the ability to do so. The steps are to:

1. Decide what type of trip you would like to have
2. Choose a destination, dates, and decide what group size
3. Fill out the inquiry form on the website <https://bcrpvpa.tripmerchant.ca/group-leader-benefits/>
4. Decide which travel provider you would like to use
5. Trip merchant will promote the trip amongst potential travellers on our travel website
6. Reservation forms and deposits are collected by a group specialist agent
7. Travel!