

**DRAFT minutes – pending approval
BCRPVPA General meeting March 13, 2025**

In attendance: Deborah Luporini, Marsha Arnold, Christine Johnson, Bonnie Deren, Lanny Young, Sher Baerg, Ted St.Pierre, Ian Kent, Sandra Kinnon,

On line attendance: Jessica Antonsz, Joy Ruffeski, Gerald Soon, Eileen Phillips
Guest speaker: Kathy Bell
Regrets: Jeff Lacombe,

Agenda:

- 1. Welcome - We give thanks and acknowledge that the BCPVPA office is located on the unceded traditional territories of the xʷməθkʷəyəm (Musqueam), Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh (Squamish), and səlilwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.
- 2. Approval of Agenda – unanimously approved
- 3. Approval of the last General meeting minutes: January 23, 2025 – unanimously approved
- 4. Treasurer’s report – Lanny
As presented

Financial Report as of December 31, 2024

Financial Position

Fund Balances as of June 30, 2024 - **\$ 47,824.78**
Fund Balances as of December 31, 2024 - **\$ 55,716.59**
(\$ 33,262.96 Funds to Vancity + In trust and GIC \$ 22,453.63)

Statement of Operations

Revenue from July 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024 - **\$ 26,377.50**
Membership – \$22,920.00
Hearing Life Annual Scholarship - \$ 2,500
Affinity Program Royalty (e.g. Hearing Life) - \$ 957.50

Expenditures from July 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024 - **\$ 18,485.69**
Communications/Technology - \$ 782.29
Student Scholarships - \$16,078.85
Meeting Costs/Governance - \$ 1,624.55

**Excess of Revenue over Expenditures – December 31, 2024 –
\$ 7,891.81**

- 5. President’s report – Deborah
As presented:

We welcome Sandra Kinnon, who joined us at the February 20 executive meeting, as a member at large.

I am arranging a meeting for the Fall, hopefully a presentation to the membership at the October General meeting. I have reached out to make a focused connection between the BCRPVPA and

the TPP Board, seeking Advisory capacity and a more prominent representation at these meetings, which occurs about 4 times a year.

A constitution update is coming: housekeeping items generally. These will be presented formally at the April executive meeting, and will go forward to the membership to meet the 6-week (constitution) 30-day (bylaw) requirement before the AGM.

Still looking for support in these areas:

There are a number of tasks which need individual support.

- *secretary for our meetings -Deborah will continue for this year.*
- *gathering information and details for our newsletters*
- *able to desktop publish our newsletter 4 times a year*
- *sending out eblasts: Marsha and Deborah are searching out options at this point*
- *look after connecting with one or more of our benefit carriers, generally one time a year – to be determined*

Membership update: Jessica

Members as of December 1: 801
Members as of January 1: 802
Membership February 1: 802
Members as of March 1 807(5 new members)
1 deceased
March 1 806 total

6. Vice-President's report – Marsha

BCRPVPA Affinity and Benefits/ Communications Report March 2025
Communications and Technology

Posted on our website, SFU's Julie Remple's presentation and DASH study info under Meetings, as well as Dr. Bells's study on the needs of 70–80-year-olds when moving. She is also looking for volunteers. So glad to hear about Elder Wisdom from Dr. Bell today. We know more than we think!
Responded to emails re insurance, Perkopolis signup, and other benefits
Edited the BCRPVPA brochure with Jessica and Deborah to help recruit new members.
Continue to provide links on our website– driving members to our website.

Affinity and Benefits – Focus on Canadian firms!



HearingLife: Cheryl Anderson will be popping into our AGM to send greetings and share some gifts.

Belairdirect (Johnson and Medoc): Contract provides 1.5% annually royalty paid out based on number of members designated as BCRPVPA members. Please **change your affiliation** to BC Retired Principals as you could get better rates!! [MEDOC® Travel Insurance - BCRPVPA](#)

[Home Insurance - BCRPVPA](#) Win with Belairdirect home insurance!

News: Johnson will change their name to Belair Direct and this will be announced June 1. They will launch a NEW health/ travel/dental insurance plan similar to Prestige with RTO. Members will no longer be required to join BCRTA to partake.

The plan will also be open to friends and relatives so BCRPVPA will need to decide how we might manage and charge for associate membership. BCRTA is also wrestling with this issue.

Contact **Lisa Hansen**, Manager, Group Benefits 1-866-440-8300 Ext: 67163

lhansen@johnson.ca for free friendly advice on any insurance matter.

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Endless Savings and More (ESM) offers discounts and savings from a variety of merchants in Canada.

Download the free app ESM. When you activate, you will view hundreds of available savings. [Endless Savings & More - BCRPVPA](#)

I R I S

[IRIS Advantage - BCRPVPA](#) Our BCRPVPA Optical Advantage Program offers are in addition to your existing extended vision care benefits and may be accessed for you and your family throughout the year from over 150 locations across Canada, many based in BC.

Trip Merchant:

Tom McLean launched their new travel website platform with *Trip Merchant*, designed exclusively for BCRPVPA members. Sign up at [Trip Merchant - BCRPVPA](#) So far only 71 members have signed up.

Member Benefits Include:

- Exclusive Member Savings
- Trip Merchant Loyalty Program
- Trip Contests
- Trip Itinerary Builder
- Online Presentations
- Exclusive Group Departures with *Trip Merchant Journeys*
- Travel Inspiration and more!

Step 1: Click this URL - <https://tripmerchant.com/register>

Organization Code: Please enter this code exactly as shown **4324**

Follow the 3 steps so you will now access the site by using this website login

link: <https://tripmerchant.com/login> , enter your email address and password you created.



humanworks offers services that assist and support people through personalized and comprehensive wellness initiatives. Their team of professionals specifically assist people in the education sector while working and through retirement changes.

Their Early Intervention Program (EIP) helps members gain greater clarity and control of your transition process into retirement. [Early Intervention Program - BCRPVPA](#)

BCRPVPA members are able to access counselling and other referral services either through online discussion sessions or in person, all at affordable rates.

Information on Seniors Issues

Presented by: Connected Canadians (contact [Connected Canadians](#)) Examples of yet one area they do workshops on. **Idea:** do a series for members. E.g. 1 online or in person workshop a month for 3 months. What interests you for workshop(s)?

INSTRUCTOR-LED Digital Literacy WORKSHOPS

We have contacted Connected Canadians to discuss which options best suit our community. Workshops can hold up to 15 people (or more on request) and are normally 60 mins in length.

Workshops could include:

ChatGPT: Navigating the Digital Conversation *NEW
Preparing to Learn Online *NEW
Online Banking and Financial Literacy
Accessing Government Services Online
Getting Help with Technology
Phishing Scams & Staying Safe Online
Recognizing Fake News
Digital Documents
Google Maps and Google Places
Safe Digital Communications
Getting Around Easily Using Technology
Music and Technology
Banking and Shopping Online
The Importance of Connection in Relation to Mental Health
Logging Out: Preparing for Your Digital End of Life
Making Technology Work For You: When Things are Hard to See
Making Technology Work For You: When Mobile Devices are Hard to See
Making Technology Work For You: When Movements are Hard
Making Technology Work For You: When Things are Hard to Hear
Making Technology Work For You: When Technology is Overwhelming

[Programs - BC Association of Community Response Networks](#)

Here is yet one example.



Introduction to Extreme Clutter

This presentation is about understanding clutter and hoarding disorder, including what it is, why it happens and how it affects people. It will help you understand and learn more about clutter and hoarding and looks at ways to help through community support, assessments and teamwork.

This presentation is aimed at families, agencies and the public who may encounter the issue of extreme clutter.

Newsletter and Help

Billed Belairdirect for the 1/3 of a page Medoc add/creative in newsletter. \$85.00 plus GST.

Belairdirect will pay for ads in our eblasts or newsletter from now on.

Comments and Suggestions?

What did you like, what catches your eye and what is of benefit to you?

Always looking for articles, quizzes, puzzles, jokes, items of interest.

Want to start a book club? Either online or in person?

Want to help us out with a small job

Webinars



- [What is effective in reducing ageism?](#) Burnes D. and Sheila Schuehle. (2022). *Do Interventions to Reduce Ageism Work? A Meta-Analysis Review Finds Promising Results* [Webinar]. Elder Abuse Prevention Ontario.
- [Revealing ageism in what the public hears, and how that impacts on older adult.](#) Lagace, Martine. (2023). *Mapping the Contours of Ageism In the Canadian Public Discourse and its Impact On Older Adults* [Webinar]. Elder Abuse Prevention Ontario.

7. Past President's report – Christine

Christine thanked Marsha for her help with selecting speakers for our general meetings. She let everyone know that Lisa Hanson is our guest speaker at our AGM in May.

Christine reminded everyone that we have our elections at the May AGM. Consider running for a position of joining as a member at large.

8. Scholarship's report – Jeff was unable to attend the meeting, but wanted to remind everyone of the March 31 deadline for applying for a scholarship and bursary.

On April 16 from 11 – 2 p.m. Scholarship and Bursary committee (Jeff, Ian, Christine, Ted, Jessica, Yolande) will be meeting at the BCPVPA office to select the winners for 2024-2025

9. Sunshine report – Bonnie

Bonnie updated everyone on how and why she connects to individual members of our organization. Everyone is reminded to let Bonnie know about members who may have passed away, are sick or ill or need a check in from the Association.

10. Website update – At the executive meeting we approved Phil Luporini, retired principal, to work on our website, updating information.

11. New business – Deborah

Questions discussed at the last meeting:

Do you have any suggestions for something similar to VIVA ENGAGE?
We received two suggestions:

SIGNAL <https://signal.org/>

And

MIGHTY <https://faq.mightynetworks.com/en/articles/6499145-where-can-i-get-help>

We encourage everyone to have a look at both sites and send us your feedback to info@bcrpvpa.ca

March general meeting question:

What do you want to know more about with regards to your pension?

Different ages of members may want access to different information.
Newly retired members may want to know how does it all work.
Given the world today, where and how is our money invested?
Historically there was some investment in property. Is that still happening and how has it worked out given the increase in property values?

Monkey survey to all our members related to information shared.
55-65 newer to the pension
65-75 feeling good and getting into the groove.
75+ life is changing and I need different information.

How do I ensure my will reflects my pension? What should it identify or state?

12. Next meeting:

Executive: Thursday, April 17, 2025 9:30 a.m. start.

General AGM: Thursday, May 22, 2025 1000 a.m. start

DRAW for attendance prize!

This meeting's winners were Lanny Young and Sher Baerg. Sher gifted her prize to an online participant. The winner was Gerald Soon.

Guest Speaker: 11:00 a.m. Dr. Kathy Bell

Dr. Kathy Bell spoke to us about the Wisdom of Elders.

Seniors offer priceless wisdom that comes from many years of lived experience. By listening and learning from each other using a specific wisdom model, we will gain valuable insights that may help attain a positive resolution to a problem. Please bring an object that is meaningful to you and/or a problem to discuss.

Contact Marsha Arnold for an audio recording.
You can connect with Kathy directly at:
kathy@transitionwise.ca
778-488-8700
www.transitionwise.ca

13. Adjournment was at 11:56 a.m.:

Everyone is invited to a 'no host' lunch.