

Minutes January 20, 2026
BCRPVPA General Meeting Agenda:

Executive: J. Larcombe, I. Kent, S, Kinnon, S. Baerg,
M. Arnold, D. Luporini, L. Young, B. Deren,

Regrets:
Y. Martinello, H. Grant, E. Thompson

Attendance:

Zoom: Jessica Antosz, Eileen Phillips, Elaine McVie

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m.

1. Welcome - We give thanks and acknowledge that the BCPVPA office is located on the unceded traditional territories of the x^wməθk^wəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh (Squamish), and səlilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

2. Approval of Agenda by consensus

3. Approval of the last General meeting minutes – October 16, 2025 by consensus

4. Treasurer’s report – Lanny

Lanny reviewed the financial statement of September 30, 2025.

Treasurer’s Report for Executive Meeting on Nov. 25, 2025

Financial Report as of September 30, 2025

Financial Position

Fund Balances as of June 30, 2025 - **\$ 38,473**
Fund Balances as of Sept. 30, 2025 - **\$ 60,123**
(Investments - \$ 17,940.98 + GIC \$ 20,532.02 + Cash \$ 21,650)

Statement of Operations

Revenue from July 1, 2025 to Sept. 30, 2025 - **\$ 24,455**
 Membership – \$23,760
 Investment Interest - \$ 695
 Hearing Life Annual Scholarship - \$
 Affinity Program Royalty
 (Hearing Life) - \$
 (Belaire Direct) - \$

Expenditures from July 1, 2025 to Sept. 30, 2025 **\$ 2,805**
 Communications/Technology - \$ 180
 Meeting Costs - \$ 237
 Governance and accounting fees for year-end- \$ 2,386
 Bank Charges (e transfers and wire transfers) - \$ 2

5. President’s report – Deborah

March General meeting date change: From Tuesday, March 17 to Thursday, March 5
 March 5th guest is Yolande Martinello. Vacation sketching.

Mid-winter update – reviewed details around: scholarship and bursaries, email changes, membership survey,

Survey – over 80 members have replied to date. Deborah will remind the members to fill out the survey as it will close on February 14.

Christmas luncheon – How about a spring luncheon? – Possibly Chaberton winery-this will be discussed at the next executive meeting.

CPP – information session opportunity.

Let’s join with the BCRTA.

Confirm if it will be recorded.

Could there be two sessions – one daytime one early evening?

Decision: Deborah will connect with Kate.

Deborah has connected with Kate. She needs to confirm the data and time with the BCRTA. Zoom will be an option for viewing.

6. Vice-President’s report – Marsha

Marsha outlined the details behind a number of the areas in her report. Generally, send her an email if you are having difficulty accessing a benefit of some kind. Marsha continues to check in with new members to remind them about the benefit options.

BCRPVPA Affinity and Benefits/ Communications Report Jan 2026

By Marsha Arnold

Communications and Technology

Responded to emails re insurance, travel, and other queries. Even signed up a new member on our recent Trip Merchant cruise in Vietnam and Cambodia.

Continue to update website and provide links on our website– driving members to our website.

New members are sent a brief overview of our Affinity and Benefits opportunities about a month after they join our association.

Free Connected Canadians Cyber Safety Workshop Series information is posted on our webpage.

From January to April this comprehensive series covers key topics helping members feel more confident and independent while navigating the digital world. These workshops will be held on Zoom. There are several topics and dates all held at 10:30 am each lasting an hour. [Click here to register for each session.](#) Questions: [Contact — Connected Canadians / Canadiens Branchés](#)

Affinity and Benefits

Reminding members that we have a wide range of benefits: [Benefits - BCRPVPA](#) Callia flowers, Perkopolis, Iris Vision, Park N'Fly, EMS savings, West Jet, Fresh Prep, Bell, Rogers, humanworks, Enterprise, Avis, Collette, Belairdirect Home, Extended Health and Travel Insurance, and more.

Belairdirect Insurance (underwritten by Intact)

Belairdirect (formerly Johnson and Medoc) Our contract provides 1.5% annually as a administrative royalty paid out to us based on number of designated as BCRPVPA members. We also receive payment for advertising their product which goes towards our scholarships as well.

Please change your affiliation to BC Retired Principals as you could get better rates!!

To get your **home insurance quote**, visit belairdirect.com/start-saving. Savings: If you have Belairdirect Insurance and have paid off your mortgage and/or have made improvements (e.g. Furnace, windows) you could get up to \$500 more off your premiums.

For your **travel insurance price**, visit belairdirect.com/travel-groups or call 1 833 583-3643 and mention BCRPVPA. Savings: If you have Belairdirect Home insurance you could get an additional 5% off Travel.

NEWS regarded Extended Health Options with Belairdirect expanded upon at our January meeting.

DECISION: There will be a presentation at the Feb 17 executive meeting.

Fresh Prep (Meal Kit by a Vancouver company)

New Savings totaling \$120 after first 4 orders. [Freshprep - BCRPVPA](#)

Trip Merchant

Trip Merchant, as our organization's travel agency has designed a travel platform exclusively for BCRPVPA members.

Sign up at [Trip Merchant - BCRPVPA](#)

Member Benefits Include:

- Exclusive Member Savings
- Trip Merchant Loyalty Program
- Trip Contests
- Trip Itinerary Builder
- Online Presentations
- Exclusive Group Departures with *Trip Merchant Journeys*

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

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

Collette Travel

Travellers can **save up to \$1,500 per couple** on worldwide tours!

Booking Window: January 12, 2026 – February 4, 2026. Travel between Jan 2026 and April 2027

Use code: NEWYEAR26 and also code: BCRPVPA to receive discounts, additionally if you use Trip Merchant as your booking agent you receive and additional discounts as a BCRPVPA member.

<https://bcrpvpa.ca/promotions-for-members/collette-travel-savings/>

HearingLife

For every free hearing test at any Hearinglife outlet, given that you tell them you are a BCRPVPA member, we receive money towards our scholarships. Last year we received more than \$900 towards scholarships. Always important to get a baseline assessment by their professional audiologists. Stats Canada reports that 47% of Canadians over 60 have hearing loss. Hearing loss contributes to dementia so get your test today! [Hearing Life - BCRPVPA](#) or <https://hearinglifeadvantage.ca/bcrpvpa/>

Newsletter

Did you enter either the Parkn'Fly, Belairdirect or Where in the World is Jessica A. Contests in the newsletter? Congratulations to David and Lanny our winners! Consider entering next time.

Added Book Corner for the first time. Any books that you would recommend?

HELP NEEDED - Always looking for articles, quizzes, puzzles, jokes, items of interest, photos, etc. communications@bcprvpa.ca or info@bcprvpa.ca

Thank you to Past President Eileen Phillips for posting the 7 newsletters that members have requested in lieu of online access.

7. Membership report - Jessica

As of January 1, 2026
1 new member
5 members deceased
821 members

As of February 1, 2026 new members and members who are now deceased will be noted in the next issue of Chronicles and Capers.

8. Scholarship's report – Jeff

Thank you to: Scholarship committee 2025-2026 members:
Jeff Larcombe, Don Boyd, Jessica Antosz, Yolande Martinello, Vivian Rygstead, Eileen Phillips

Jeff will send the next formal email to the committee after the March 31 deadline. The additional money for scholarships and bursaries from Hearing Life and Belair Direct use/advertising will be determined by Lanny as of March 31.

April – committee selection via submission on line

April 29 (Wednesday) – meeting in Vancouver (BCPVPA office) for final selection

9. Sunshine report – Bonnie

Bonnie was sorry to report that we lost 5 members since January 1. She sends the family a card on behalf of the Association.

10. New business – Deborah

November executive meeting question:

Compensation for executive members attending meetings: motion was presented at the November 25, 2025 meeting.

Marsha spoke to her motion at the meeting. Some questions were asked and comments were raised.

Moved/Seconded at the November executive meeting.

I move that we reimburse all executive members up to \$150 for travel expenses if they travel more than 2 hours per onsite executive meeting, retroactive to September 2025.

Reasoning - We wish to encourage those outside of the lower mainland to participate fully in our organization and presently it behooves us to reimburse both Deborah and Jessica (those who presently qualify) something for their efforts to attend each onsite Vancouver meeting or a specific special event such as the Christmas luncheon.

It costs them more than \$150 (e.g. ferry), but each of us also incur costs to attend/park, etc. so this is intended to make costs more equitable.

In my opinion, we can't afford **not** to do this given the challenges of getting executive participation and our wish to express appreciation of their commitment.

DECISION: This item will be referred back to the February 17 executive meeting for further discussion. There was agreement that some amount of money should be considered. Any proposed change to our constitution will need to be forwarded to the membership 6 weeks prior to the AGM in May. (before April 9)

COSCO (Council of Senior Citizens Organization) possible membership –

If the BCRPVPA becomes a member of this organization the cost for annual membership is \$200.00. This is based on our overall membership numbers. Membership entitles our membership to 3 delegates.

Many questions arose from the discussion:

DECISION: Deborah will contact Leslie Gaudette and ask her for information.

Are the meetings on zoom? They meet in hybrid format. In person is at the United Steelworkers office: 3920 Norland Avenue in Burnaby

What would the delegates role be?

The Delegate role is however the delegate can best serve as a liaison between COSCO and their home group and the time commitment can be as large or small depending upon interest and circumstances.

The basic role is to attend meetings, vote on motions and to elect COSCO Board members, report on any activities of interest to other COSCO Delegates, propose agenda items, participate in discussions and share information from COSCO back to their home group. .

Delegates may also serve on committees and be eligible to run for positions on the COSCO Board. They may also contribute to volunteer with COSCO activities such as tables at community events, or promoting campaigns that COSCO is supporting.

How often and where are the meetings?

Once a month except July and August, usually on the 2nd Friday of each month from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

DECISION: The Executive will discuss affiliate membership further at the executive meeting on February 17.

Jeff indicated that he was considering the delegate option. He needed more details.

ATTENDANCE PRIZES!!

Winners were:

Sandra Kinnon

Elaine McVie

11. Next meeting:

Executive: Tuesday, February 16: zoom

General: Thursday, March 5, 2025

12. The meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Guest speaker: Mrs. Cheese (Laurie Martins)

Guest speaker recording is on our website: