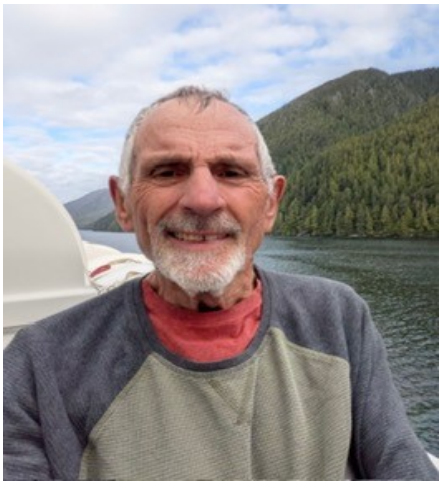
# Get To Know Our Amazing Members



## Spotlight on Wayne Spencer

My career following graduation from SFU spanned 41 years in SD 83, Salmon Arm including two years teaching in Queensland, Australia. I served as a teacher, counsellor, coach, school administrator, Career Supervisor, and district staff member responsible for student conduct matters referred by school-based administrators.

I began at Eagle River Elementary-Secondary School, teaching Grades 8–12 in Social Studies and English while counselling part-time and coaching volleyball. I later taught at J. L. Jackson Junior Secondary School, where I also coached volleyball and assisted with rugby. In Australia, I taught English, Social Studies, and Introductory Media and continued coaching volleyball.

After returning to Canada, I completed a master's program and moved into administration first as a vice principal for 9 years followed by one-year Acting Principal at Eagle River Secondary. I followed with five years as principal of J. L. Jackson Junior Secondary School and four years at A. L. Fortune Secondary School.

Ten years were spent as SD 83 Career Supervisor. With a dedicated team, I helped build provincially recognized programs that connected students to apprenticeships and post-secondary study through partnerships with Selkirk College, Okanagan College, Thompson Rivers University, Camosun College, and BCIT. SD 83 offered within district the first year of post-secondary Red Seal technical training in Chef Training, Automotive Mechanic, Millwright, Carpentry and Hairdressing, all offered by certified teachers with journeyman status. Additionally, our Okanagan College Carpentry students built a house every year for eight years.

I held several positions in the local BCTF Association and became a BCPVPA charter member following our expulsion by the BCTF. I held several local BCPVPA positions and contributed to school-improvement work, through Accreditation and Effective Schools' programs.

In retirement, I've focused on learning about climate change and environmental stewardship. Over the past five years, I have volunteered with local organizations, most recently supporting SD 83 K–12 student projects addressing greenhouse-gas reductions and climate impacts on our environment. This work has strengthened my

commitment to leaving a strong environmental legacy for future generations.

For the past two years we have offered the opportunity for 200 - 300 students from K-12 To participate in an Environmental Expo where students prepare environmental projects within a range of general categories including Nature & Diversity, Agriculture & Food, Energy & Buildings, Waste Reduction, Eco-friendly Transportation, Human Health &amp. Culture, Economy & Entrepreneurship. Additionally, students may choose a different topic. The students' results were amazing! This student success provides meaning to my volunteering.

