

RRTA NEWSLETTER



July, 2022
(Reports Edition)

It's Back!

“BACK TO SCHOOL WITHOUT US” Luncheon
(For members, spouses, and new retirees.)

(Masks and hand sanitizer recommended)

Wednesday, September 7th, 2022 11:30 AM
MAYFAIR LAKES GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB
5460 NUMBER 7 ROAD
(Half a mile north of Westminster Hwy.)

MENU -- ITALIAN LUNCH BUFFET

Garlic Bread	Chicken Parmesan
Caesar Salad -- croutons and fresh parmesan cheese	Assorted Cakes
Homemade Baked Lasagna	Freshly Brewed Coffee and Tea

Cost: \$30.00 (includes tax, gratuities and room rental)

Please let Munjeet Booton know if you are planning to attend, at 604 277-0618, or
mbooton53@gmail.com

**Make cheques payable to RRTA, and send to Munjeet by
Wednesday August 24th.**

Munjeet Booton
9911 Glendower Gate
Richmond, BC V7A1Z5

It is important that we give the chefs at Mayfair Lakes sufficient time to order and prepare our delicious meal. Please have your cheque in on time and remember, refunds are NOT possible for cancellations made after Wednesday August 24th.

*** For special dietary requirements, please contact:
Jennifer Kang, 604 232-2654 ***

The RRTA Annual General Meeting will follow the luncheon at approximately 1:15 pm.
The RRTA Trust Fund Foundation AGM will immediately follow the RRTA AGM.

RRTA Committee Reports for the 2021 AGM

Social Committee Report

It has been a rocky few years for social functions in the RRTA. We tried very hard to hold a Christmas Luncheon in 2021, only to end up cancelling it when informed that with restrictions in place at that time, we would NOT be allowed to move around the room and socialize. We would have to enter with masks, and immediately take our places at the tables. Masks to be worn at all times when moving around the room such as for visiting the buffet table or going to the washrooms. We felt this would not give our members the experience they would want, so, cancelled the event.

We are pleased to report that with the lifting of restrictions, we can now go ahead with a fall luncheon in the style to which we have become accustomed.

You will notice a cost increase. As you are aware, the cost of food has increased and that means a larger charge by Mayfair for the meal. In addition, in the past, Mayfair Lakes waived the room rental fee for us and only charged per meal. They have now decided to charge a reduced room rental fee as well. The RRTA will pay this fee and will continue to subsidize the meal cost, but the cost to members will still be \$30 for this luncheon.

Because we had very few expenses during the pandemic, the RRTA has built up their cash reserve so we can easily pay the room rental and subsidy, however, moving forward, we don't know how much we will be able to subsidize future luncheons. This means costs for future luncheons may increase.

Meanwhile please come and enjoy the Fall Luncheon and AGM. We are looking forward to seeing you all again.

Mary Hardy and Gordon Smith
Social Committee

RRTA Directors 2021-22

www.richmondrrta.ca

TABLE OFFICERS

PRESIDENT -- David Bell

president@richmondrrta.ca

VICE PRESIDENT - Vacant

SECRETARY -- Amanda Hufton

TREASURER -- Cathy Wozny

PAST PRESIDENT - Gordon Smith

DIRECTORS (CHAIRS)

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS -- Loraine Martin

richmondrrta@gmail.com

FINANCE -- Vacant

HERITAGE -- Loraine Martin

richmondrrta@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP / PHONING -- Denise Gobbo

PROGRAMME -- Munjeet Booton

WELLNESS -- Lynne Farquharson

SUNSHINE -- Pat Walach (604) 278-9530

NEWSLETTER -- Gordon Smith

SOCIAL -- Mary Hardy

CHRISTMAS PROJECT -- Karen Holden

TRUST FUND FOUNDATION -- Glenn Kishi (Chair)

(604) 272-2408

gkishi@shaw.ca

DIRECTOR AT LARGE

**Bob Jackson
Michael Gilles**

Heritage Committee Report 2021-22

2021 to 2022 was another challenging year for the Heritage Committee as we continued to share the General Currie Heritage building with the school's music teacher from Monday to Thursday. However, we were able to once again meet in the Heritage building on many Fridays.

The Heritage Committee's focus continued to be the Database Project. To date we have processed 1109 items and have substantially finished the Books section of the collection. We are now turning our attention to the Audio-Visual materials, Science apparatus and other teaching equipment and supplies.

We are also beginning to collate the extensive collection of various photos, programs, trophies, yearbooks, newspaper clippings, and personal recollections that have been donated to the Heritage Committee over the years into separate binders for each school.

Thank you to the Committee members, Lynne Farquharson, Gordon Smith Hilary Smith and Lauren Craze for all their support.

If you have an interest in Richmond's educational history and wish to help out contact rrtaheritage@gmail.com

New members are always welcome.

Lorraine Martin
RRTA Heritage Committee

Sunshine Committee Report

Over the 2021-2022 year a variety of cards have been sent to members and their families. Words of condolence were sent to the families of Andy Burt, Lillian Campbell, Elsie deRitter and Will Blackaby. Sympathy cards were sent to Carol Lodge on the loss of her husband and Lynne Farquharson for her brother's passing.

Many "Thinking of You" and "Get Well Soon" cards were sent to encourage members who were undergoing treatment or recovering from illness. Pat Walach relies on our members to notify her of people who need support. If you know of anyone who would appreciate a note please contact Pat at 604-278-9530 and she will send out cards of sympathy, caring and encouragement.

Pat Walach
Sunshine Committee

Membership Report 2021-22

Welcome to all our new members.

The Richmond Retired Teachers' Association (RRTA) is a branch of the British Columbia Retired Teachers' Association (BCRTA). Our local membership currently stands at 482. Thank you to all for spreading the word and encouraging new and former retirees to join and take advantage of the free first year membership offer.

When the free year expires, the BCRTA usually contacts you. We hope that after the initial free year, you will extend your membership and become active members of the local association. A reminder that to become a member of the Richmond Branch, you must first join the provincial organization, then check the box to join the Richmond local. For more information contact Laurie Boyd at laurie@bcrtc.com or call her at 604-871-2260.

We do our best to keep our membership list up to date.

Thank you for helping by remembering to inform Laurie Boyd at the BCRTA office laurie@bcrtc.com of changes to email, phone number or address. At the local level please let Loraine Martin know of changes by contacting her at info@richmondrrta.ca.

Phoning Committee

Thank you to the past members of our phoning committee: Marilyn Jones, Holly Ramcharita, Stella deGiorgio, and Roz Johns.

In anticipation of resuming our September lunch, I will be reaching out to these volunteers again to help in contacting members who may have limited access to technology.

Denise Gobbo
Membership

Where's Peggy?

Speaking of membership, we have lost contact with one of our members. If anyone can help us find Peggy F. MacDonald who used to live on Buttermere Drive, please contact us at :

info@richmondrrta.ca.

RRTA President's Report 2022

This has been another slow year due to Covid restrictions. We have met on Zoom for our meetings and have had very little social interaction again this year.

We have managed to welcome all the "new retirees from " 2020, 2021 and 2022, in a live personal meeting at the Quilchena Golf Club. This was attended by RRTA members and about a third of those who have retired in one of the above years. Attendance was not as high as wanted but understandable as many people are still very reluctant to meet in person.

Hopefully this year we will be able to meet more often with others in a group setting where we all are following current Covid procedures. The Directors cancelled our planned 2021 Christmas Luncheon due to Covid concerns. We have to plan ahead for these large meetings and decided to be safe. However we have planned an in person "Back to School Without Us" luncheon and AGM for this year. Details to be sent via The Loop, and in this newsletter.

To all current members, please reach out to teacher friends who have not yet joined the RRTA. The first year is offered at no charge to any retired teacher who has not yet joined us or any other retired teachers group. Last year our membership grew a little and we are all hoping that we will grow again this year. We welcome new members to a variety of activities that we are hoping to offer .

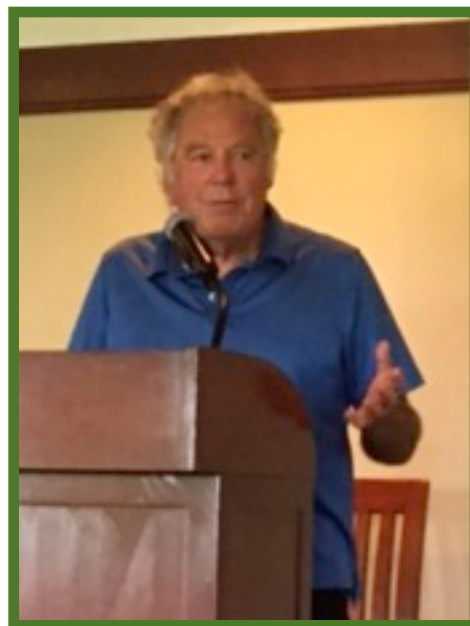
As President, I welcome your suggestions for new activities, and hope that we will get back to in person meetings where we can resume groups that we once had, such as the hiking group, yoga group, golf groups, exercise classes, and speaker luncheons where we have an opportunity to enjoy a meal with friends and listen to speakers on a variety of topics of interest.

As always we are looking for members to join our group of Directors who work together to plan all the activities, meetings, social events, book keeping etc. If you wish to be a member of this group please let me or Loraine Martin know, so that we can invite you to join us in a meeting.

Hope to soon meet in person and have fun again!

Stay Healthy, keep smiling!

David Bell
President RRTA



RRTA President David Bell speaking at the RTA Retirement Reception at the Quilchena Golf and Country Club

Programme Committee Report

In the absence of in-person sessions sponsored by the RRTA, our members have been resourceful in accessing a variety of services through Zoom. GLUU has continued to provide technology workshops which have been popular with retired teachers. Fitness classes, book clubs and workshops on a myriad of topics are available.

Hopefully there will be a return to in person workshops this fall.

Munjeet Booton
Programme Committee Chair

The Christmas Project

The Christmas Poinsettia Project was officially changed to a “Christmas Card Project” this year. It appears that due to continuing concerns about covid, the residences did not want us to bring plants to people. I sent out 19 cards to RRTA members saying, “Thinking of you at this special time of year. Seasons' Greetings from your RRTA friends.” I did not get any complaints and two of our members sent me a Christmas Card. We will continue with this practice for another year.

Thanks to Denise Gobbo for researching the list of members each year for the project.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Holden

Richmond Retired Teachers' Association Treasurer's Report (Summer 2022)

There is a lot of background detail in the 2022-23 budget, so this report will try to be much briefer. We ended the fiscal year with about \$12,050 in cash. This is about \$5,000 greater than pre-pandemic. We haven't been able to spend on our membership in the form of luncheons or programs and speakers, but membership income continued. The 2022-2023 budget reflects an estimated correction to lower our cash balance, by providing a greater than usual subsidy for the 2022-2023 luncheons and by offering complimentary luncheons to lifetime members, 'plus one'.

At the time of writing, attendance is unknown although we do know that meal costs have risen considerably. The budget is a worst-case scenario estimate with a safe bottom line. We can always change course by Christmas.

The other part of this report is to reach out for a replacement Treasurer. I can partner, train, mentor or just get out of your way. It is a way to give back to society as a whole, in any case.

Respectfully,
Cathy Wozny, Treasurer

Who Says There Is No Such Thing As A Free Lunch!

During the pandemic, activities in the RRTA were non-existent. Consequently, our funds in the bank continued to increase. Since we need to spend some of this money on our members, the Directors decided that a good use of some of these funds would be to offer our Life Members (and their spouses or care givers) an opportunity to attend the Fall Luncheon for free. It is our way to say thank you to them for their years of membership. An invitation is being extended to them by our Social Committee Chair, Mary Hardy.

Nominations for the RRTA Board of Directors

Once again it's time to ask the RRTA membership to step up and allow their name to stand for election to the Board of Directors.

Our directors have been on the board for many years now, and although their experience is greatly appreciated, a number of them feel it's time to relinquish their positions to younger, more recent retirees.

We are looking for people to bring new ideas to the board and introduce programs and technology more in keeping with the current group of retirees.

The time commitment is not great. We meet three or four times for Directors meetings. In the past we held these either at the Currie Heritage Building or in the RTA Office. During the pandemic we met via Zoom.

There is also from time to time the need for volunteers to do other tasks for the organization such as phone, collecting cheques for luncheons, and possibly writing Christmas cards for our Life Members.

If you can help out, please contact us at:
info@richmondrrta.ca

Proposed 2022-23 Budget

Richmond Retired Teachers' Association								
Budget for 2022-2023								
As of June 5, 2022								
	Budget		Actual	2021-22		Budget	Budget	Budget
Expenses	2022-2023	Comments	2021-2022	Remaining		2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
Contingency	\$150			\$150.00	Contingency	\$150	\$150	\$150
Heritage	\$250		\$62.00	\$250.00	Heritage	\$250	\$250	\$400
Newsletter	\$2,000	See notes	\$1,089.36	\$410.64	Newsletter	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500
Operating	\$1,500	See notes	\$978.70	\$21.30	Operating	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
President	\$100			\$100.00	President	\$100	\$100	\$100
Programs & Speakers	\$700	See notes		\$600.00	Programs/Speakers	\$600	\$600	\$600
Programs' Events w/Revenue	\$600			\$600.00	Programs w/Revenue	\$600	\$600	\$600
Special Events/Social	\$10,950	See notes	\$450.00	\$2,550.00	Special Events/Social	\$3,000	\$5,000	\$6,500
Sunshine/ChristmasProject	\$300			\$300.00	Sunshine/ChristmasProject	\$300	\$300	\$300
Website	\$500		\$52.50	\$447.50	Website	\$500	\$500	\$500
Expense Totals	\$17,050		\$2,632.56	\$5,429.44		\$8,000	\$10,000	\$11,650
Income								
Membership	\$4,300		\$4,470.00	-\$170.00	Membership	\$4,300	\$4,300	\$4,300
Programs w/Revenue	\$600			\$600.00	Speaker Series/Matinee	\$600	\$600	\$600
Special Events/Social	\$3,250	see notes		\$1,500.00	Special Events/Social	\$1,500	\$4,500	\$5,000
Bank Interest	\$0		\$0.41	\$0.00	Bank Interest	\$0	\$1	\$1
Income Totals	\$8,150		\$4,470.41	\$1,930.00		\$6,400	\$9,401	\$9,901
Gain (-Loss)	-\$8,900		\$1,837.85	-\$3,499.44		-\$1,600	-\$599	-\$1,749
Background Information								
Bank Balance as of	est 2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017		
fiscal year end:	\$12,057	\$10,192	\$6,857	\$6,203	\$6,106	\$7,568		
	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011		
	\$6,751	\$6,860	\$13,949	\$12,924	\$15,162	\$12,663		

Richmond Retired Teachers' Association							
Notes	Budget 2022-2023			(p2 of 2)			
Due to Covid-19 restrictions, most expenses have been estimated, based on 2019 figures, unless other reasonable information is available.							
<p>Newsletter and Operating expenses are increased because actual is close to the existing budget. The other significant expense, an extra subsidy to luncheons, has been estimated for two subsidies in the coming fiscal year (See the notes below). If we are able to hold a Christmas luncheon, we have room to decide if a second subsidy is reasonable. The Christmas luncheon has more costs: menu price, choir and pointsettias.</p> <p>We are not permitted to spend on donations. The Canada Revenue Agency requires that we spend only for the benefit of the membership. Luncheon subsidies meet this stipulation. Based on the 2019 cost of just under \$30 to Mayfair Lakes in September, a greater subsidy to members is offered for consideration. 67 members attended the Back to School luncheon in 2019. The willingness and ability of members to attend such a gathering is unknown. While fairness to members who are unwilling or unable to attend is always a difficult consideration, another option has not appeared, except to increase Zoom utilization for Programs, and those are already available through many platforms. However, Programs and Speakers budget has been increased slightly in the hope that more excellent opportunities will surface.</p> <p>The new 2022-2023 Budget shows a loss, which would only occur if every budget allocation was fully exhausted. No such requirements have come to light at this time. It is a precaution.</p> <p>The Balance Sheet of actual income and expenses for 2021-2022 shows a gain of \$2,288, due to membership income having been offset by very little expense. This is reflected in another increase of bank balance again at the end of 2022. Our current goal is to trim cash in hand while benefitting membership.</p> <p>Therefore, a great deal of number-crunching came about because the Finance Committee considered the possibility of subsidizing one luncheon more generously, then offering one luncheon paid to new members, but we realized we would have difficulty pinpointing cut-off dates (before Covid, during Covid) and possibly high numbers came up. So then we considered lifetime members and their spouse, companion or caregiver. There are about 20 lifetime members and I have over-estimated 15 lifetime members plus companion, for complimentary luncheons. As well, I have included a larger than the usual \$5 subsidy for regular guests.</p> <p>Mayfair has given a starting cost of \$30 for September's luncheon. Sep 2019 was \$22. I have budgeted September at \$50, and \$70 for December, allowing for GST, gratuity and a new room charge of \$450. Final figures are complicated to estimate due to the unknowns of attendance, both member paid and complimentary. The social committee continues to explore other venues but Mayfair is still the best value when accessibility, parking and buffet format are considered. This is an unusual budget and we don't want to be as generous for just luncheon-goers in future. The CRA-driven goal is to reduce cash reserves.</p> <p>The bottom line for 2023 could be a loss of \$8,900. Cash <u>could</u> drop to \$3,600 by June 2023, only if we spent all of the budget in all of the accounts, and it's unlikely, yet still provides a safety net. Although the Board of Directors has voted to accept this budget, please remember it is just a budget, not actual expenditures, and that we are able to and will, monitor and adjust, cash flow as estimates become reality.</p>							
Cathy Wozny, Treasurer							

Scholarship Thank You Letters

June 25, 2021

Dear Mr. Glenn Kishi,

Thank you very much for the Richmond Retired Teachers' Association Jean Myron Scholarship. My Name is Allison Veilleux and I am graduating from McMath Secondary this year.

I have always loved Social Studies and languages and hope to one day open a Speech-Language Pathology Clinic. This scholarship will greatly help me pay for tuition at the University of British Columbia, where I plan to study Linguistics and Psychology next year.

I am so grateful to receive this scholarship and want to thank you again for your kind and generous donation!

Sincerely,

Allison Veilleux

June 11, 2021

Dear Richmond Retired Teachers' Association

Thank you very much for awarding me the Richmond Retired Teachers' Jean Myron Scholarship. I am sincerely honoured to have been selected as the recipient of this prestigious award.

I will be pursuing my post secondary education in Applied Sciences at Simon Fraser University this fall. I will hope to give back in the future and help someone else as I have been helped today.

Thank you again for your generosity.

Sincerely,

Syed Amaan Sha



June 11, 2021,

Dear Glenn Kishi,

I am writing you to thank you for the Richmond Retired Teachers' Jean Myron Scholarship. I deeply appreciate being selected as the recipient, and would like to express my sincere gratitude.

With this scholarship, I will be able to pursue a post-secondary education in computer science with a lighter financial burden. You have given me the opportunity to focus on my studies and aspirations. I will do my best to honour this scholarship throughout my education and continue to strive for excellence.

Thank you for your generosity and support, I am truly ecstatic to learn I have been granted this opportunity.

Yours sincerely,

Alison Co,
Class of 2021 – Hugh Boyd Secondary



Alison Co
Hugh Boyd Secondary

Communications Report

During the pandemic, The Loop, our email notices, have continued to be sent out by Loraine Martin. These have served to keep you informed about various items of interest.

We continue to maintain a website which can be accessed either with our own domain name or through the BCRTA website.

Vince Dimanno continues to be our web trouble shooter when we have issues, and makes sure our domain name is paid annually.

Although little is happening in the organization, we continue to get out a newsletter although the content is far less interesting without the colourful photos of our events. Hopefully this situation will change with the return of our Fall Luncheon.

If you know of any RRTA members who could use some sunshine in their lives due to illness or a loss in their family, please let our Sunshine Chair, Pat Walach know.



**Lucille Challoner Nov. 2021
Brigitte Knoepfel Dec. 2021
Elsie deRidder Dec. 2021
William Blackaby Jan. 2022**