



Vancouver Retired Teachers' Association FALL 2024 Newsletter – PRINT EDITION

Promoting The Interests & Welfare Of Our Members



COME AND JOIN US AT OUR
SEASONAL CELEBRATION
AND MORE
DECEMBER LUNCHEON
TUESDAY DEC. 10—11 AM
FRASERVIEW GOLF
CLUBHOUSE
7700 Vivian Drive

President's Greetings

Welcome to our newsletter in a new format for October and November. This PRINT EDITION is a revised edition of DIGITAL (emailed) VRTA FALL NEWSLETTER; it has fewer images as generally we only print 8-page newsletters.

This issue will give you News of upcoming Member events & how to register

- prepare you for Remembrance Day with an online event on Migrants Serving Canada
- the highlights of the recent BCRTA AGM and Convention,
- Live Stage Offerings and provide some local news.

The executive have been busy with the September three-day in person BCRTA conference and AGM and are now preparing for a busy November and December with exciting in-person events to learn from and make new friends. We want to meet you and hope to see you at our Christmas Luncheon and many of these events. This new format for VRTA news has been chosen as our Editor, Lilly Lin, has taken time off to complete her studies and we continue to look for a new Editor to resume our quarterly TABLOID. Meanwhile, the software tool, Constant Contact, is allowing us Amateur Board members to announce events and write articles to keep you informed. If you would like to explore with this tool as well, and help us with this digital newsletter, PLEASE contact me at: roskellett@gmail.com OR presvrta@gmail.com -Rosalind Kellett

Save These Dates: Register NOW for these EVENTS

NOVEMBER TOUR of VSB ARCHIVES & HERITAGE SITE

Tuesday November 12 – 9:30 AM

Meet at 9:30 AM at the doors of the Vancouver Board of Education 1580 West Broadway. Limited free underground parking off Fir street and West 8th Avenue. Please Register early to avoid disappointment. Max. 12 attendees.
PRE-REGISTER with presvrta@gmail.com

NOVEMBER WORKSHOP – MONEY SMARTS FOR SENIORS

Monday November 18 – 10 AM A COSCO sponsored presentation from the Seniors Health and Wellness Institute

10 AM - Location in transit accessible place - to be confirmed
PRE-REGISTER with mikulec@telus.net

DECEMBER 2024 CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Tuesday December 10 - 11:00 AM

At the Fraserview Golf Clubhouse, 7700 Vivian Drive, Vancouver
MENU - Turkey with all the trimmings; seasonal dessert;
Vegetarian option available

Entertainment & Games- singalong, choir & speaker
Cost \$50 Minimum payable to scholarship fund; Payment options given below
REGISTRATION form at Bottom of this Newsletter for mail-in registration

DECEMBER LUNCHEON – PAY to Scholarship fund -Friends of VRTA

TUESDAY DEC. 10—11 AM

FRASERVIEW GOLF CLUBHOUSE

7700 Vivian Drive (near Elliott Street in south-east Vancouver)

REGISTER <vrtatreas@gmail.com> or 604 327-7734

by Thur. Dec 5 and Pay *Minimum of \$50

PAY for your meal by Cheque or Online by donating to the

DONATE BY CHEQUE TO -

Vancity Community Fund-RR Smith Foundation;

MEMO –Friends of VRTA

Mail to Dave Ellis, 2086 Newport Avenue,
Vancouver, BC. V5P 2H8

OR

DONATE ONLINE TO

as described below:

Go to Vancity Foundation vancitycommunityfoundation.ca

Click “Funds” at the top of home page, Type R.R. Smith in the “Search” area, Click on “R.R. Smith Community Fund”, then Click on “Give to this Fund” and Fill in details. Designate the funds by typing Friends of VRTA in “Leave a comment” space. Donations over \$20 get a tax receipt immediately.



Remembrance Day

Respect Remembrance Day EARLY -by attending

ONLINE Event NOVEMBER 7 - HONOUR our MIGRANTS

Pat Parungao, retired VSTA librarian and active President of Pacific Canada Heritage Centre – Museum of Migration Society, invites you to listen to and appreciate the Stories of Migrants on Thursday Nov 7 5pm- 6pm PST online. To attend this event, please REGISTER as soon as possible.

To register go to PCHC-MoM website

<https://www.pchc-mom.ca/upcoming-events> and scroll down to

President / Director (Membership) PCHC-MoM

REGISTER online now to hear the stories of migrants This event takes place Thurs Nov 7 at 5 pm Register now to avoid disappointment

Highlights of 2024 BCRTA CONFERENCE & AGM

Over 100 delegates (96%) eagerly came in person to the BCRTA's Annual conference & AGM at the Hyatt Regency on Burrard street in downtown Vancouver starting Thursday September 26; only four connected online. Seven elected reps from the VRTA participated: Les Rowe, Karin Bernauer, Dave Ellis, Edie Wood and Brenda MacKenzie along with Directors Barb Mikulec and Ros Kellett.

BCRTA AGM Sept 28 2024 – Election Results - By Barb Mikulec

The BCRTA elections were moderated by past president Grace Wilson.

Acclaimed positions included President Caroline Malm, 1st VP Linda Watson, 2nd VP David Denyer, and Directors Barb Mikulec, Tom Hastie, Stephanie Koropatnick and Cathy Macintosh Lambright; these joined

returning Directors: Pat Thiesen, Ros Kellett, Lori Dennell, Margaret Sutton and Gerry Tiede. The fee remains the same and our office staff has increased with the addition of Alina Shamina who will be tasked with technology items, working with Executive Director Tim Anderson. There are now 17,800 members of the BCRTA.



A new Board was elected to the R. R. Smith Memorial Fund Foundation : Barb Mikulec, Laurence Greeff, Gail Chaddock-Costello, Dave Carter, Steve Bailey, Kerry Babiuk, Sarah Joyce, Jim Reid. BCRTA representatives include Linda Watson and Tom Hastie. The fee is \$5 yearly. All donations receive a tax receipt. The funds go to educational charities registered in BC and developing countries. Check details here www.rrsmith.ca

OVERALL IMPRESSIONS as a First Time Attendee - By Karin Bernauer

My first attendance at the BCRTA Conference and AGM were interesting and informative. I wasn't sure what to expect as any conferences that I had attended were related to Professional Development through work.

I found that the presenters during the conference were very informative and I learned a lot. This time it wasn't to put into practice with my students but for me personally and that was enlightening.

The AGM went by swiftly, just one morning. There were a few motions, mostly related to the finances. The BCRTA has many committees and their reports were presented in written form.

I am glad that I was able to attend and appreciated the opportunity

What can a notary public tell us? - By Dave Ellis

Hilde Deprez, a Notary Public that specializes in Estate and Personal Planning spoke on the key legal agreements that help in one's End of life decisions.

1. Powers of Attorney (PoA)
2. Representative Agreement (RA)
3. Advance Directive

A Power of Attorney takes effect immediately. There are four types of PoA:

General, Specific, Enduring, and Springing. Ms. Deprez explained the differences

among each of these. There is no default if a person does not have a PoA. She stated that it is good to have more than one PoA, and best to have a Canadian to handle the legal requirements. A Representative Agreement (was called a Living Will) is effective when the person is not competent. It can allow the representative to help make life-ending decisions.

An Advance Directive is a binding document which allows a health care team to make medical arrangements for someone who is incapable of speaking for themselves. This is often in place for older people with an existing health issue.

For more details, watch the YouTube presentation now on the BCRTA website: <https://bcrt.ca/notary-public-hilde-deprez-bcrt-conference-2024/>



Classroom Without Walls - by Edie Wood

David Falconer, born in Chili, presented his talk with live video links to 2 teachers and three students speaking from Myanmar, Afghanistan and Ukraine.

He is the founder of “Classrooms without Walls” CWW which connects kids in war torn countries online with teachers overseas. His personal story and those of his students were very moving .

David grew up with his family in Chili. When he was 11 years old there was a military coup on Sept. 11, 1973. His parents decided to send David and his older brother across the mountains into Peru where their Chilean Spanish dialect was not understood. This life-changing event set David on a lonely unhappy path until a kind teacher reached out to him. To learn more and to consider joining as a Volunteer with this impressive organization, go to pages 36 to 38 in the FALL Post Script magazine or classroomwithoutwalls.ca

Appraising Special Objects – by Brenda MacKenzie

Gale Pirie's Presentation was fascinating as I feel antiquities from the past carry the souls/spirits of our unique ancestries with them. For example, a beautifully engraved silver cup was presented to Gale for appraisal. The cup had been awarded to a great grandfather for 8 years of service as a Treasurer in the Odd Fellows Society in England in 1860. If these antiques could speak what would they say?! Overall I enjoyed attending this conference and meeting many wonderful colleagues. All of the events and presentations were new and interesting to me.

I also found the walking tour of our Vancouver Port, led by Al Cornes, fascinating as we were given facts about labour history in Vancouver. My learning spirit enjoyed every moment of this weekend! See the Youtube video of this event on the BCRTA website.

Live Stage Offerings by Ora Fraser



November-December 2024

Holiday entertainment is right around the corner.

The **Arts Club** presents Dolly Parton's Smoky Mountain Christmas Carol at the Stanley Theatre from Nov. 14th to Dec. 24th, 2024. At the Granville Island Stage Miracle on 34th street runs from Nov. 21st to Dec. 29th. And The Gingerbread Men: A(Nother) Holiday Cabaret is at the Newmont Stage at the BMO Theatre Centre from Dec. 5th to Dec. 22nd. Check artsclub.com or phone 604-687-1644.

The **Firehall Theatre** will run Reflections on Crooked Walking by Anne Mortifee from Nov. 30th to Dec. 22nd. This family musical tells the story of four people who find themselves the only ones left awake amid sleeping townspeople. Their journey leads them to deeper self-awareness. Visit firehallartscentre.ca or phone 604- 689-0926.

Gateway Theatre in Richmond is running Oliver!, Lionel Bart's award-winning musical adaptation of Dickens' classic novel, from Dec. 12th, 2024 to Jan. 4th, 2025. Runtime is approximately 2 and a half hours including a 20 minute intermission. Visit gatewaytheatre.com or phone 604-270-1812.

Metro Theatre Vancouver presents Cinderella for their annual Christmas pantomime this year. Evening show dates are Thurs. to Sat. from Dec. 13th, 2024 to Jan. 5, 2025. Matinees are Dec. 14, 15, 21, 23, 26, 27, 30, 2024 and Jan. 1, 4 and 5, 2025. Check metrotheatre.com or phone 604-266-7191.

The Cultch is presenting East Van's pantomime rendition of Robin Hood from Nov. 20th, 2024 to Jan. 5, 2025 at the York Theatre. For tickets, visit thecultch.com/shows or phone 604-251-1363.

At **the Waterfront Theatre**, Granville Island Carousel Theatre presents The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe from Dec. 6th to Dec. 15th. Check carouseltheatre.ca or phone 604-669-3410.

Deep Cove Theatre in North Vancouver presents their holiday panto Cinderella Dec. 19th to Dec. 29th. Check deepcovestage.com or phone 604-929-3200.

United Players of Vancouver presents It's A Wonderful Life from Nov. 29th to Dec. 24th this year. For more information contact unitedplayers.com or phone 604-224-8007.

Pacific Theatre located at 1440 W. 12th Ave. in Vancouver presents The Hobbit, JRR Tolkien's storytelling masterpiece, from Nov. 13th to Dec. 21st. Visit pacifictheatre.org or go and phone 604-731-5518.

Current Weekly Events To Join

Book Club: Diane Smith frandia@shaw.ca—3rd Wed at 2 pm
-*Contact presvrta@gmail.com to start Second Book Club

Strollers: Norma Westrom normawestrom@hotmail.com— Every Wed 10:45 am

Walkers: Margaret Yoshida margyoshi@gmail.com—Every Wed 10:00 am

Volunteers Wanted

RESERVE Poinsettia Drivers wanted for Friday December 6. Please contact edithwood@gmail.com or bobalipollard@icloud.com to HELP.

CONTENT & DESIGN Helpers needed to help our communication channels, especially this digital Newsletter & conversion to PRINT edition. If interested, contact editortabloid@gmail.com

Volunteer Opportunity Suggestions - Send these to: editortabloid@gmail.com

WANT TO HELP this organization offer more active events: walks, swims, tours? Contact presvrta@gmail.com

Do we have your correct contact information?

Have you changed your phone number or email address recently? If so, please contact Membership chairs: Bernard and Vreni Morel at mofam604@outlook.com as soon as possible.



Mail-in registration form for Dec. 10–11:00 AM -Lunch

FRASERVIEW GOLF CLUBHOUSE

Name(s): _____

Ph: _____ Email: _____

Those wishing vegetarian entree/special diet, check here ____

Enclose cheque for ____ attendee(s) @ \$50 MINIMUM

Cheque payable to:

VANCITY Community Foundation-RR Smith Memorial Fund

Memo TO: Friends of VRTA –Scholarship & Bursary Fund

See above for where to send.

Or Pay DONATION ONLINE—see details above—Notify Dave Ellis

Register by Thursday Dec 5 TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT

Donations for the FOOD BANK are appreciated

Serving Canada:

Journeys of Migration & Honour



hosted by the *Pacific Canada Heritage Centre -
Museum of Migration Society*



Lieutenant Colonel Anh Foort



Captain John Kuto

Explore the ties between migration, service, and the diverse voices contributing to Canada's history, honouring the past and the present.

with Lieutenant (Navy) Keil Kadoma

November 7th, 2024 @ 5pm PST on MS Teams

Register

<https://rb.gy/xrinft>

-- from Pat Parungao 谢月眉

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