



## **NANAIMO/MID ISLAND BRANCH #600 Spring Newsletter 2022**



### **CHAIR'S REPORT    Lawrence Johnson**

Here we are in the Spring of 2022 still involved with COVID but in a less restrictive environment. We held two branch meetings in 2022 one on March 8th and one on April 12th and another is one planned for May 10th. We are also planning a spring luncheon on Tuesday June 7th at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #256 on Bowen Road. Tickets will be on sale at the May membership meeting or if you cannot attend the May meeting you can contact Branch Treasurer Gloria Johnson at 250-616-3827 or via email: [gloria.johnson.321@gmail.com](mailto:gloria.johnson.321@gmail.com) for tickets.

I represented our branch at the "Directors Meeting" in Prince George on April 27, 2022. We had a presentation from Dr. Richard Brown from Collegiate Digital Resources Ltd. He reported on the survey of B.C.G.R.E.A. members that was completed between December 6, 2021 and January 22, 2022.

The response rate was an impressive 37.27%. The purpose of the survey was to determine what are the main activities that are a priority for BCGREA members?; and what are the communication methods and frequencies preferred by members?

The answers were loud and clear.

1.) The current BCGREA service that is important to the most respondents is Representation on the Public Service Pension Plan Board of Trustees. 73.27% of survey respondents selected this service.

2.) Newsletters, which was selected by 68.89% of respondents. The survey was further broken down to show responses of members from each branch. The opinions of our branch members “Nanaimo MidIsland” were similar to the responses from across the province. Thank you to everyone who responded to this survey. You can review the entire report by visiting the B.C.G.R.E.A. website at [www.bcgrea.ca](http://www.bcgrea.ca) and selecting the “NEWS” tab on the front page and then scroll down to the middle of the page and select the dark blue square “BCGREA membership survey: the results are in!” We will be discussing this report and other activities that were discussed at the Directors meeting at our Branch Membership Meeting on Tuesday May 10, 2022. I encourage you to attend, we need your input. It is our intention to develop an action plan on how to make the best use of the information provided in this report.

The year 2022 is significant for the B.C.G.R.E.A., it is our 75th Anniversary in existence since our organization came into being in 1947. The association is planning a celebration at the Annual General Meeting in October and is encouraging branches to develop local celebrations throughout the year. The provincial “recruitment and retention” committee has offered to help branches by offering 50% funding of events up to a maximum of \$500.00 each. I think we should take them up on their offer and will be discussing this topic at our May meeting. I look forward to discussing your ideas on how we can celebrate this anniversary. Would you like to do a picnic, or a wine and cheese event, how about a booth at the fall fair, what are your ideas? The association also reported that every member will be receiving an Anniversary Calendar that includes 13 months from December 2022 to December 2023. It is expected that these calendars will be printed in September and distributed in October.

Hope to see you at a membership meeting and at the June 7, 2022 luncheon don't forget to get your tickets from our Treasurer Gloria Johnson.

= GET INVOLVED =

**In the meantime stay safe and be kind to yourself.**

**\*\*\*PLEASE GET INVOLVED!\*\*\***



### **Buddy Callers/ Telephone Committee Mary McDaid**

The Telephone Committee has historically contacted Branch members who did not have access to email in order to provide information about upcoming meetings, special events and changes or updates to our pension and/or benefits.

In the Spring of 2020, one of our members, Dan Murphy, suggested that we make “Buddy Calls” to check in on members and maintain contact.

Our long term members of the Phone Committee are Tom and Gail Moore, Lorna Fulton and Peter Kanigan. Last Fall we were pleased to add two more members to our group- Monica Kirkhope and Bettyann Fulton. The contribution of all the Committee members is appreciated by the Branch Executive.

Many of the members have formed friendships with the people they contact. This is important as many of those we call are unable to attend meetings due to distance or physical limitations.

We would be happy to call additional members whether or not they receive emails from our Branch. This allows you to have regular contact with another member.

If you would like to receive calls from a member of our group, please contact me at [mamcdaid@shaw.ca](mailto:mamcdaid@shaw.ca) or 250 390 074.



**Membership Director      Lea Campbell**

Sunny Spring Greetings to all our Branch 600 Members. As the 2022 Year unfolds, this spring season proves to be an interesting one. Beautiful sunny, warm days to enjoy, then cold and snow the next day. I keep looking toward Mt Benson to show it is time to plant. As most mid-islanders know the saying, “when there is no snow on Mt Benson, for at least two weeks, it is time to start planting”.

While we have accepted new protocols, such as wearing masks and social distances, many of us still miss the hugs and handshakes. I think many also miss seeing the friendly smiles which are slowly coming out of hiding behind the masks. Let’s enjoy the warmth of the new season, the longer days and soon cheerful blooms!

The BCGREA Membership remains strong, with just over 500 members. I see the spreadsheet much like a government worker’s in basket, always holding a “to do” item. New members joining, or transferring to our branch, others moving to new locations, or sadly, passing. With the help of Josie Byington at the BCGREA Central Registry I am able to keep our membership information up to date.

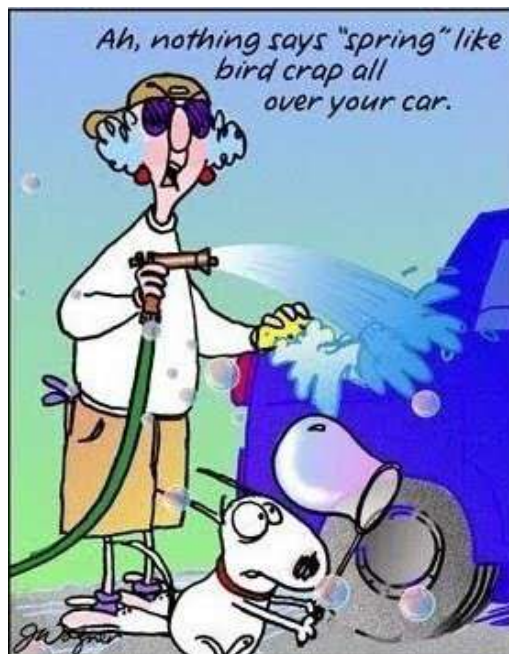
If you have any new information, such as email, address or phone number changes, please let me know. I am available by email at [membership.branch600@bcgre.ca](mailto:membership.branch600@bcgre.ca) or at our meetings at the front table when you sign the attendance book.





**1<sup>st</sup> Vice Roz Kennedy**

In my role as Vice chair I am interested in member feedback as to what kind of speakers or presenters the membership would like to hear at our monthly meetings. Be it political, health related, senior service or hobbies and if you or someone you know has an interesting presentation please let me know.





**Benefits and Reasons to be a BCGREA Member:**

**\*\*Keep informed of what is happening with our pension issues through discussion and newsletters.\*\***

**\*\*Socialize, meet new friends and former colleagues.\*\***

**\*\*Have a voice in our organization.\*\***

**\*\*\*PLEASE GET INVOLVED!\*\*\***

**Membership Meetings**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May == Sep, Oct, Nov  
at  
The Unitarian Fellowship Hall – 395 Townsite Road  
**1:30 pm – 3:00 pm**

Chair – Lawrence Johnson  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice – Roz Kennedy  
Secretary – Kathy Torhjem  
Treasurer – Gloria Johnson  
Director – Mary McDaid  
Membership – Lea Campbell

250-816-0113  
250-682-5820  
250-753-5778  
250-616-3827  
250-390-0747  
250-756-2587

Director of Special Events - Vacant  
Director of Good and Welfare – Vacant  
Director Social Activities - Vacant





## SPRING IS JUST OKAY

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Spring has sprung, the time has come, for the greening of the trees  
A time of change, renewal and growth for my allergies  
Like everything else in this great world, Spring has its pluses and minuses  
But its features are quite singular when it comes to my poor sinuses  
A beautiful time of blossoms and buds, new branches and blue skies  
But I can't enjoy them one little bit through my oozing, watery eyes  
A neti pot, a nasal rinse, I'll try them, yes I will  
I'll even take a 24-hour non-drowsy worthless pill  
So listen cheerleaders of flowers and sun, to you I must disclose  
Spring is not great for all of us, especially my nose

## Happy Spring Everyone!



**Kathy Torhjelm - Secretary**

## Lemon Souffle

1 cup white sugar    3 tbsp butter, melted

3 tbsp flour        3 eggs, separated

1/4 tsp salt         1 tbsp finely grated lemon rind

1 cup milk           1/3 cup lemon juice

1. In a large bowl, whisk together 3/4 cup sugar, flour and salt.  
Whisk in milk, butter and egg yolks. Whisk in lemon rind and lemon juice.
2. In a separate bowl, beat egg whites until soft peaks form.  
Beat in 1/4 cup sugar, 1 tbsp at a time.
3. Stir about one-quarter into lemon mixture, fold in remaining egg white.
4. Scrape into 8 inch square baking dish. Place in larger shallow pan. Pour in enough boiling water into pan to come halfway up side of dish.
5. Bake in the centre of the 350 F oven for 30 to 40 minutes or until top is lightly browned and set. Remove from heat and let cool. Serve warm or cool.
6. Serves 6





**\*\*\*BCGREA SPRING LUNCH\*\*\***  
**Tuesday, June 7, 2022**

Branch 256 Legion on Bowen/Townsite Road

Doors open at 11:30 with lunch at 12:00

Members of BCGREA Branch 600 \$10  
\$20 for non-members

Contact Gloria Johnson at [250-616-3827](tel:250-616-3827) or [gloria.johnson.321@gmail.com](mailto:gloria.johnson.321@gmail.com)

Deadline for purchasing Lunch tickets is **May 30**

## IN MEMORY

Date of Death (dd/mm/yr)	Surname	Given
27/09/2020	Aziz	Ken John
06/08/2020	Bereziuk	Mae B
04/05/2020	Classen	Eldred E
02/06/2020	Clements	John Leslie (Jack)
17/07/2020	Creed	Richard L
15/09/2021	David	Thomas W L
2021	Dolling	Betty J
16/06/2021	Fuller	Norah E
28/01/2022	Gow	Melvin Patrick
08/11/2020	Grabinsky	Joyce P
29/11/2021	Hansen	Bodil Hallenbeag
24/05/2020	Harrison	Norman P
2019	Hickman	Patricia J
14/04/2020	Horn	F Delano
30/12/2021	Horsley	Arthur Ernest
23/04/2021	Jordan	Robert (Bob) E
08/11/2020	Krogstad	Iver Henry
30/11/2020	Liddell	Martin Thomas
12-01-2020	Lorentsen	Laurits H.
02-05-2021	MacKenzie	Ian E
11/04/2020	Mah-Poy	Gale
25/12/2020	McKellar	David Earl
12-02-2021	McLean	Christina Ann
30/06/2020	Milton	Arthur William
30/06/2014	Mueller	Peggy
12/07/2020	O'Neill	Mary Janet
23/10/2020	O'Sullivan	Thomas P
25/07/2021	Patterson	Dorothy
29/02/2020	Prysiazniuk	Taras (Terry)
01/11/2021	Reynolds	Pamela
11/03/2020	Sinclair	James Reid
06/08/2021	Spalding	Eric L
10/2020	Sutton	James
11-03-2021	Stewart-Walker	Carol A
28/02/2020	Wall	Henry
28/06/2021	Wallace	Doreen E
15/06/2020	Watts	Stanley
2020	Weaver	Judith Ann
31/12/2020	Webber	Howard L
04-09-2020	White	Robert E
10/07/2021	Willcox	Gerard Michael