

BCGREA BRANCH 1000 October 9, 2025 Minutes

Meeting and Luncheon at Fifth Avenue 50 Plus Activity Centre

11:30 am 170 5th Avenue S.E. Salmon Arm, B.C.

Kirstine Hill, Chairperson, welcomed the 21 Members in attendance and called the meeting to Order at 12:00 pm.

Kirstine Hill asked if there were any errors or omissions in the last meeting minutes which were distributed by email and a few copies at the luncheon meeting to peruse, minutes passed.

Treasurer's Report: Mary Reynolds reported a balance of \$2190.90 and handed out summaries of the expenses & credits as of October 9, 2025. Treasure's report passed.

Old Business: JoAnn Fowler, vice chair, requested by a show of hands that we formalize our Chair (Kirstine Hill) and Membership Chair (Carol Swank) Appointments. All Members attending were unanimously in favour to formalize these positions and thanked Kirstine Hill, Chair and Carol Swank, Membership Chair, in offering to fill these positions.

New Business – Executive Reports

Chair: 1. Kirstine Hill, Chair, attended a Zoom meeting for Branch Chairs on September 3rd

- Kirstine reported on the Recruitment Initiative between our Branch 1000 and Branch 300 in recruiting and supporting Golden BCGREA members.
- Kirstine also reported that we have a meeting schedule of 4 times a year with guest speakers such as Kathryn Vennard, lawyer, who spoke on Wills and Estate Planning.
- During the meeting the results of the volunteer recruitment from the member survey was discussed. Many branches didn't get names sent to them and that was to be followed up. Our branch did get names and JoAnn Fowler, vice chair, followed up with those individuals.
- A name change for BCGREA was discussed. This was also part of the membership survey. The goal of a name change is to reflect the diverse membership of the BCGREA. More research needs to be done on membership concerns, cost and the Societies Act.

2. On October 15th, 2025 there will be an "Extraordinary General Meeting" via Zoom followed by a Directors Meeting. JoAnn Fowler and Kirstine Hill will attend as voting delegates but all members are welcome to observe proceedings. Information on this went out from Central Support on September 3rd. Topics for discussion include a resolution to increase dues, a resolution related to the position of the immediate Past President and a motion to approve the requests for annual honorariums.

Membership Chair: Carol Swank reported the following:

Golden Membership Event Report

Earlier this spring, at the BCGREA AGM, Elaine Koskimaki (Secretary) and JoAnn Fowler (Vice Chair) were approached by two members of the Rocky Mountain Branch Executive. They knew that our Branch had members living in Golden and they did as well and that neither group was currently meeting. Travel from Golden to either branch to attend meetings is not feasible. It was hoped that encouragement and support could be given so that they would get together and benefit from having meetings. The Rocky Mountain Branch proposed that we join forces to see if there would be any appetite for the Golden members to meet.

Beginning in late spring and over the summer, they met regularly (via Zoom) to plan an event for this fall. As a new volunteer as Membership Chair, I also joined the committee. Our work included contacting members, planning a date, finding a venue, arranging for lunch, posting notices and submitting a funding proposal to Central Support. The event also included a recruitment component. On September 29th the meeting was held and was well attended. In total 17 people attended: 7 members (3 from Rocky Mountain Branch and 4 from Columbia Shuswap); 5 potential new members and 5 from the committee. There was a lot of enthusiasm and re-connecting that happened at the meeting.

The committee presented information on the association's involvement in our pension; our Affinity Partners and a brief overview of what they offer, membership and merchandise information.

We also discussed on moving forward and how the committee could support them to start meeting.

One new member and her spouse have signed up with the Rocky Mountain Branch as a result of our meeting.

Report submitted by: Carol Swank, Membership Chair Shuswap/Columbia Branch 1000

Next Meeting: December 11, 2025 will be our Christmas Gathering & Lunch at the First Community United Church.

Guest Speaker: Kathryn Vennard, lawyer, was invited to return to speak further on Wills and Estate Planning as many of our members had more questions regarding this topic. She spoke on the importance of a Health and Representation Agreement and other subjects such as

Power of Attorney, Executors, etc. The Members found Kathryn's information very informative and helpful. Thank you Kathryn.

Door Prize: The door prize of a BCGREA mug was won by Kimm Magill-Hofmann

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by

Elaine Koskimaki, Secretary BCGREA Shuswap/Columbia Branch 1000