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British Columbia Government Retired Employees' Association

2025 General Members Survey

April 2025



BusinessDiagnostics.ca



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PROJECT OVERVIEW

SUMMARY REPORT INFORMATION

Company Name:	<i>BC Government Retired Employees' Association.</i>
Division Name:	<i>All divisions</i>
Survey Start:	<i>March 7, 2025</i>
Survey End:	<i>March 28, 2025</i>
Report Date:	<i>April 11, 2025</i>

SUMMARY STATISTICAL INFORMATION

Survey Population:	<i>8,683</i>
Sampling Method:	<i>Online survey using census distribution; no sampling methods used.</i>
Responses:	<i>2,794</i>
Response Rate:	<i>32.17%</i>
Confidence Level:	<i>.95</i>
Confidence Interval:	<i>+/- 1.53 points 19 times out of 20 – meets test of statistical significance.</i>
Main Research Question:	<i>What are the main priorities for BCGREA members for communication preferences, branch engagement, and provincial advocacy.</i>

The *2025 BCGREA Member Survey* is a province-wide consultation intended to gather feedback from members of the British Columbia Government Retired Employees' Association (BCGREA). It aims to assess members' views on the association's services, communications, and future direction, particularly in light of a 50% growth in membership since the last survey. Topics include member priorities, communication preferences, branch engagement, provincial advocacy, potential name change, and support for a fee increase. Responses will guide strategic planning and ensure the association remains responsive to the evolving needs of its diverse membership.

The survey ran from March 7 to March 28, 2025. It was conducted entirely online and used a census-style that did not rely on sampling methods. A total of **2,794** members responded out of a provincial membership of **8,683**, resulting in a completion rate of **32.17%**. This yields a margin of error of **±1.53** percentage points, 19 times out of 20. The survey results comfortably meet the statistical thresholds required to be considered accurate and representative of the BCGREA's provincial membership.

The survey on which these results are based was fully anonymous and featured a mix of single-response and "select all that apply" quantitative questions, most of which included an "Other" option to capture additional input. One open-ended qualitative question was also included at the end of the survey. Data was collected through a secure research server accessible only to authorized staff at CDR Business Diagnostics.

All responses are presented in aggregate form to preserve anonymity, in accordance with provincial and federal privacy legislation and research ethics guidelines. The collection and management of all survey data complied with the standards outlined in the *Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans*.

If you have any questions about this report, please email CollegiateDigital@protonmail.com

QUANTITATIVE RESULTS BY QUESTION

This section shows the distribution of the responses selected for each question. The tables below provide the number of times each answer was selected, and the percentage of the total responses this represents.

About You

1. My age falls within the following group:

Response	Number	Percentage
Under 61	70	2.52%
61 to 65	313	11.28%
66 to 70	648	23.35%
71 to 75	693	24.97%
76 to 80	519	18.70%
81 to 85	345	12.43%
Over 85	187	6.74%

2. I believe I joined the BCGREA in:

Response	Number	Percentage
Before 1997	370	13.31%
1997-2001	216	7.77%
2002-2007	304	10.94%
2008-2011	221	7.95%
2012-2017	426	15.32%
2018-2021	434	15.61%
2022-2025	675	24.28%
I Don't Recall	134	4.82%

3. The first three digits of my postal code are:

See Appendix 1

4. I belong to the following branch of the BCGREA:

Response	Number	Percentage
Cariboo (Quesnel, Williams Lake, 100 Mile House) (Branch 1700)	61	2.21%
Cheam View (Chilliwack, Agassiz, Hope) (Branch 2000)	59	2.14%
Cowichan Valley (Branch 2600)	46	1.67%
Fraser Valley (Abbotsford) (Branch 100)	61	2.21%
Golden Ears (Maple Ridge) (Branch 2400)	46	1.67%
Grand Forks (Branch 400)	40	1.45%
Kamloops (Branch 500)	136	4.93%
Kelowna/Vernon (Branch 1500)	130	4.72%
Kootenays (Nelson) (Branch 700)	81	2.94%
Langley/Surrey (Branch 2100)	154	5.59%
Mt. Arrowsmith (Parksville/Qualicum) (Branch 2300)	68	2.47%
Nanaimo/Mid-Island (Branch 600)	165	5.98%

Response	Number	Percentage
New Westminster & District (Branch 800)	146	5.30%
North Island (formerly Comox Valley) Branch 200	98	3.55%
Northwest (Terrace, Smithers, Prince Rupert) (Branch 1900)	34	1.23%
Peace River (Dawson Creek) (Branch 1400)	30	1.09%
Peninsula & Gulf Islands (Branch 2500)	102	3.70%
Prince George (Branch 1600)	119	4.32%
Rocky Mountain (Cranbrook) (Branch 300)	45	1.63%
Shuswap/Columbia (Salmon Arm) (Branch 1000)	36	1.31%
South Okanagan/Similkameen (Penticton) (Branch 900)	78	2.83%
Vancouver (Branch 1100)	177	6.42%
Victoria (Branch 1200)	643	23.32%
Western Communities (Langford) (Branch 2700)	96	3.48%
Out of Province (Branch 5000)	30	1.09%
I am unsure of which branch I am a member of.	76	2.76%

5. I or my spouse made most of my/their pension contributions while working for:

Response	Number	Percentage
A Ministry(s) in the provincial government	2002	73.36%
BC Assessment Authority	45	1.65%
BC Ferries	99	3.63%
BC Housing Management	8	0.29%
BC Investment Management Commission	7	0.26%
Broadmead Care Society, Glendale Lodge, Oak Bay Lodge	14	0.51%
Coast Mountain, BC Transit, Rapid Transit or South Coast Transportation Authority	116	4.25%
Emergency Health Services (ambulance & paramedics)	46	1.69%
Liquor Distribution Branch	75	2.75%
One of the BC Health Authorities	121	4.43%
Other	196	7.18%

If you chose 'Other', please tell us where you worked to accumulate the bulk of your pension contributions.

- Advanced Solutions
- Agricultural Land Commission
- an independent office of the legislature
- Auditor General
- Authority
- B. C. Ambulance services
- B.C. Department of Highways
- B.C. Buildings Corporation
- B.C. Correction Service
- B.C. Forest products/Cowichan Hospital
- B.C. Systems Corporation
- B.C.B.C.
- BC Buildings Corp
- BC Buildings Corp. (a Crown Corporation)
- BC Buildings Corporation
- BC Ferry & Marine Workers' Union

- BC Forest Service Engineering Div.
- BC Forestry
- BC Hard of and Deaf
- BC Labour Relations Board
- BC Pension Corporation
- BC Place, Vancouver, BC - Security
- BC Safety Authority
- BC Securities Commission
- BC Systems
- BC Systems Corp
- BC Systems Corporation
- BCBC
- BCBC, BLJC, CBRE
- BCBC/BLJC-WSI/CBRE/AFSI
- BCGEU
- BCGEU union
- BCGEU, Provincial Government and Labour Relations Board
- BCIT
- BCIT and Kwantlen
- BC Pavilion Corporation
- BCSC
- BCTel/TELUS
- BGIS
- British Columbia Ambulance Service
- British Columbia Buildings Corporation
- British Columbia Institute of Technology
- British Columbia Institute of Technology
- Burnaby municipality
- Canadian Blood Services
- Cariboo Regional District
- City of San José, California
- City of Surrey
- CLBC
- College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC
- College system
- Community Living BC
- Crown corporation
- Crown corporations.
- Elections BC
- Environmental Assessment Office
- Federal Government and BC Buildings Corporation
- For a School District
- Forestry
- Fraser Health - Provincial Home Care Nurse
- Freshwater Fisheries
- Government of Canada
- Government of the Northwest Territories
- HBC
- Home-owner Protection Office
- ICBC

- Independent Office of the BC Government
- Interior Health
- Interior Health Authority
- Island Health
- Islands Trust
- Kamloops
- Kootenay Lake Ferries
- Kootenay Lake Hospital (am an Associate member)
- Kwantlen Polytechnic University
- Labour Relations Board
- LANGLEY
- Legislative Assembly
- Legislative Assembly of British Columbia
- Legislature
- LTSA
- MCFD
- Medical services plan & Pharmacare
- Member of the Legislative Assembly
- Ministry of Social Development and the Public Guardian and Trustee
- MLA
- MLA constituency
- Municipal
- Municipality of Saanich
- Northwest College
- Nurses' union involvement
- Office of the Auditor General
- Office of the Lieutenant Governor
- Office of the Public Guardian and Trustee
- Oil and Gas Commission
- Ombudsman
- Pavco
- PEA
- Pension Corp
- Pension Corporation
- PHC & CLBC
- Post secondary education
- Private sections of BC
- Provincial Capital Commission
- Provincial Court of B C
- Provincial Court of BC
- Provincial Tribunal and Legal Services Society
- Public Guardian & Trustee of BC
- Public Guardian and Trustee
- Public Health Nursing Nanaimo
- public works, BCBC
- Pulp and Paper Mill
- Queens Printers
- Riverview Hospital
- Riverview Hospital and HEABC and Vancouver General Hospital
- Riverview Hospital psychiatric nurse

- Southern Cross Holdings
- Supreme Court
- Teacher Pension
- Teachers
- Teachers and then transferred service and pension when joined BC Pension Corporation
- Technical Safety BC
- The Science Council of British Columbia
- TRU
- TSBC
- Utilities Commission
- Vancouver Coastal Health
- VCH
- Victoria & NANAIMO
- WCB
- WCB & CPSBC
- Woodlands
- Woodland's school, forensics psychiatrist hospital
- WSI/CBRE

Member Priorities

6. I would rate the following services provided by the BCGREA, using the following scale:

Branch activities:

Response	Number	Percentage
5: Extremely Important	319	11.42%
4: Very Important	868	31.07%
3: Moderately Important	868	31.07%
2: Slightly Important	285	10.20%
1: Not Important at All	118	4.22%
No Opinion	174	6.23%

Bulletins and e-blasts:

Response	Number	Percentage
5: Extremely Important	400	14.32%
4: Very Important	1167	41.77%
3: Moderately Important	787	28.17%
2: Slightly Important	160	5.73%
1: Not Important at All	21	0.75%
No Opinion	72	2.58%

Communication and cooperation with other retiree associations:

Response	Number	Percentage
5: Extremely Important	391	13.99%
4: Very Important	952	34.07%
3: Moderately Important	770	27.56%
2: Slightly Important	261	9.34%
1: Not Important at All	111	3.97%
No Opinion	222	7.95%

Information presentations including guest speakers:

Response	Number	Percentage
5: Extremely Important	334	11.95%
4: Very Important	945	33.82%
3: Moderately Important	899	32.18%
2: Slightly Important	256	9.16%
1: Not Important at All	115	4.12%
No Opinion	159	5.69%

Links to member discounts for goods and services:

Response	Number	Percentage
5: Extremely Important	695	24.87%
4: Very Important	941	33.68%
3: Moderately Important	656	23.48%
2: Slightly Important	253	9.06%
1: Not Important at All	115	4.12%
No Opinion	59	2.11%

Representation on the Public Service Pension Plan Board of Trustees:

Response	Number	Percentage
5: Extremely Important	1453	52.00%
4: Very Important	805	28.81%
3: Moderately Important	250	8.95%
2: Slightly Important	68	2.43%
1: Not Important at All	46	1.65%
No Opinion	80	2.86%

Supporting organizations that advocate for seniors:

Response	Number	Percentage
5: Extremely Important	1209	43.27%
4: Very Important	1017	36.40%
3: Moderately Important	333	11.92%
2: Slightly Important	78	2.79%
1: Not Important at All	34	1.22%
No Opinion	47	1.68%

The PEN newsletter:

Response	Number	Percentage
5: Extremely Important	589	21.08%
4: Very Important	954	34.14%
3: Moderately Important	552	19.76%
2: Slightly Important	91	3.26%
1: Not Important at All	25	0.89%
No Opinion	36	1.29%

Communications

7. I would rate my preferred methods of receiving communications from the association using the following scale:

Email:

Response	Number	Percentage
5: Extremely Important	1287	46.06%
4: Very Important	1045	37.40%
3: Moderately Important	290	10.38%
2: Slightly Important	49	1.75%
1: Not Important at All	13	0.47%
No Opinion	22	0.79%

Canada Post / Mail:

Response	Number	Percentage
5: Extremely Important	203	7.27%
4: Very Important	390	13.96%
3: Moderately Important	635	22.73%
2: Slightly Important	366	13.10%
1: Not Important at All	784	28.06%
No Opinion	103	3.69%

Text message:

Response	Number	Percentage
5: Extremely Important	170	6.08%
4: Very Important	359	12.85%
3: Moderately Important	536	19.18%
2: Slightly Important	309	11.06%
1: Not Important at All	878	31.42%
No Opinion	209	7.48%

Other:

Response	Number	Percentage
5: Extremely Important	57	2.04%
4: Very Important	70	2.51%
3: Moderately Important	121	4.33%
2: Slightly Important	71	2.54%
1: Not Important at All	298	10.67%
No Opinion	1052	37.65%

8. If other, please tell us your preferred communications method:

- Best to use email
- Branch Facebook Group
- Branch meeting updates
- branch meetings
- By Email
- By phone
- By phone if needed

- By phone more personal.
- Call
- Canada Post
- Canada Post rather than email- I couldn't cancel the email
- do not have a text friendly phone
- E mail
- Either email or Canada Post as I do not own a cell phone.
- Email
- E-mail
- Email and in person at meetings
- Email and print
- Email as I am away from home most of the time
- Email is best
- email is fine as I live on Galiano Island.
- Email or Canada Post
- Email or post
- Email, Mail, info shared at meetings
- Emails
- For whatever is relevant, when other methods unavailable during provincial emergency situations.
- I am most comfortable with email or regular mail.
- I chose other because I enjoy reading a paper edition of the newsletter and other info on email.
- I do not want to receive text messages.
- I don't want text messages from any organization
- I have no computer or someone to print out
- I have received telephone enquiries, if I am going to participate in events (Christmas dinner).
- I live in "LITERALLY a Dead CELL" area, takes 11km drive for my cell phone use to activate so no texting & no cell messages!
- If it is a short msg. a text is fine. We live in an area where we have very poor cell service, so email or post office I know I will receive it and can keep it and read it again a second time and share it with my spouse.
- In person
- In person Branch meeting or activities involving BCGREA members
- Larger print
- Letter mail for some correspondence
- link to web page
- mail
- Meetings
- member to member
- Messenger/ Facebook
- My preferred communication is email
- Newsletters.
- No internet so prefer mail
- No other communication wanted
- Not text
- Notice by Postal Mail as I am a senior
- Notification or comments between members
- Okay Canada post
- On website
- Pen publication by mail
- Personal telephone
- Phone

- Phone call
- Phone call when appropriate
- Phone call when possible
- Phone call, notice in newspaper, Facebook
- Phone calls
- phone calls from the branch
- phone message
- phone,
- Post
- Prefer Email, nothing else
- preferred communication Email
- SMOKE SIGNALS
- Snail mail
- social media
- Social media platform, members only could be a good alternative to emails, texts and postal services.
- Tablet. The forms of communication I've indicated. I live in Victoria which I didn't as a choice.
- Telephone
- Telephone perhaps
- Telephone, for branch communications
- Text or email
- Text won't work for me I do not have a cell phone
- Via home telephone
- Virtual meetings
- voicemail message
- website
- word of mouth, public forums etc.
- I checked No opinion as I am not familiar with another method.

9. I would rate my comfort level with the following methods of communication using the following scale:

Email:

Response	Number	Percentage
5: Very Comfortable	2048	73.30%
4: Comfortable	570	20.40%
3: Neutral	84	3.01%
2: Uncomfortable	8	0.29%
1: Very Uncomfortable	8	0.29%
No Opinion	18	0.64%

Facebook:

Response	Number	Percentage
5: Very Comfortable	385	13.78%
4: Comfortable	375	13.42%
3: Neutral	498	17.82%
2: Uncomfortable	354	12.67%
1: Very Uncomfortable	623	22.30%
No Opinion	311	11.13%

Instagram:

Response	Number	Percentage
5: Very Comfortable	149	5.33%
4: Comfortable	148	5.30%
3: Neutral	430	15.39%
2: Uncomfortable	384	13.74%
1: Very Uncomfortable	814	29.13%
No Opinion	602	21.55%

Text message:

Response	Number	Percentage
5: Very Comfortable	856	30.64%
4: Comfortable	588	21.05%
3: Neutral	458	16.39%
2: Uncomfortable	183	6.55%
1: Very Uncomfortable	260	9.31%
No Opinion	243	8.70%

Website:

Response	Number	Percentage
5: Very Comfortable	1011	36.18%
4: Comfortable	868	31.07%
3: Neutral	394	14.10%
2: Uncomfortable	61	2.18%
1: Very Uncomfortable	83	2.97%
No Opinion	154	5.51%

YouTube:

Response	Number	Percentage
5: Very Comfortable	337	12.06%
4: Comfortable	350	12.53%
3: Neutral	596	21.33%
2: Uncomfortable	304	10.88%
1: Very Uncomfortable	507	18.15%
No Opinion	448	16.03%

Zoom:

Response	Number	Percentage
5: Very Comfortable	453	16.21%
4: Comfortable	560	20.04%
3: Neutral	570	20.40%
2: Uncomfortable	237	8.48%
1: Very Uncomfortable	327	11.70%
No Opinion	396	14.17%

Other:

Response	Number	Percentage
5: Very Comfortable	50	1.79%
4: Comfortable	32	1.15%
3: Neutral	189	6.76%
2: Uncomfortable	20	0.72%
1: Very Uncomfortable	70	2.51%
No Opinion	1091	39.05%

10. If you chose 'Other', please tell us what other communication method you use, and think should be considered.

- Blue sky instead of Facebook as I'm thinking of switching to Bluesky
- BlueSky
- branch meetings
- By mail
- By mail as our internet is unreliable
- by mail please. Let's keep people working!
- Canada mail
- Canada Post
- comfort level may be high but that doesn't mean I would prefer that option for communication, uncomfortable means I don't use at all
- Comfortable in most settings
- direct mail
- Don't have Facebook, or Instagram
- don't use Facebook/Instagram/text. comfortable with YouTube/zoom but choose not to use them for BCGREA communications
- Email
- E-mail
- Email and BCGREA Website
- e-mail and website preferable
- Email only
- Email or Canada post
- 'FACETIME' but not all have a 'Mac'; Remember "hacking" is internet/Facebook etc. problem so use only emails unless we need a zoom meeting!
- Google Meet, Microsoft Teams
- home phone only
- I am an OLD BASTARD (Legal) so use only email...
- I am most comfortable with email or regular mail as I do not use social media.
- I am uncomfortable relying too heavily on tech bro platforms given the fascism emerging amongst them
- I am very comfortable using social media but don't want to use them
- I appreciate the occasional printed newsletter
- I do not have Instagram
- I do not participate in any social media platform
- I do not think the association should move to a bunch of social media platforms- they are not how I want to engage
- I don't own a cell ...so, email or Canada Post mail
- I don't use social media.
- I have a land line phone or an actual meeting - live
- I have deleted my accounts due to ownership by undemocratic owners

- I like the old-fashioned mail - post office. I don't like technology. It has failed me many times in the past. I just don't trust it all the time
- I no longer want to use the Facebook platform due to current US policies
- I only have a landline phone. I don't do any social media
- I only prefer email or mail. I am not a social media person - I do not Facebook, etc.
- I suggest Teams instead of Zoom. Zoom is old tech now. Also, Bluesky instead of Facebook
- I use e mail and texting
- in person
- Jitsi
- landline phone
- Letter mail, face to face, telephone
- Mail
- Mail or email
- Mail
- meetings
- Meetings with snacks
- Messenger
- Microsoft products such as Teams. Stop advocating Google products. Such a requirement (to get a Google or Gmail account) is contrary to our Canadian Charter and Freedoms.
- Microsoft Teams
- Microsoft Teams (replacing Skype in May 2025)
- Minimize use of American companies. No Facebook, below
- MS Teams
- No email - so only mail and phone
- Not on Facebook or Instagram
- phone
- Phone call
- phone is 3 mail is preferred 5
- phone voice mail message landline or cell
- POST
- postal (although expensive so perhaps a 'no')
- Postal mail or email
- Postal Service
- Printout - No computer tks
- Regular mail
- SKYPE
- Slack, Teams
- snail mail
- snail mail phone
- snail mail
- Some programs I don't use them
- Talking
- talking to members
- TEAMS
- teams (not USA based like zoom)
- Teams' meetings
- Telephone
- telephone townhall to address an arising situation or need
- text message
- Text or email

- The Telephone
- WhatsApp
- X
- X. See reference to blue sky but it is not highly used. X is what is used, full stop. Take the politics out of it

11. I support having a members only social media platform (e.g. Facebook, BlueSky) page to allow members to seek out and reconnect with other members.

Response	Number	Percentage
Yes	909	33.19%
No	397	14.49%
I don't have an opinion on this proposal	1433	52.32%

Branch Operations

12. I participate in branch activities.

Response	Number	Percentage
Always	142	5.16%
Often	211	7.67%
Sometimes	477	17.34%
Rarely	1044	37.95%
Never	877	31.88%

13. If you never participate in branch activities, could you please indicate why not?

Response	Number	Percentage
Don't like meetings	142	16.27%
Not interested	149	17.07%
Other higher priorities	231	26.46%
Too difficult to attend due to distance	149	17.07%
Too difficult to attend due to mobility issues	63	7.22%
Other	139	15.92%

13a. If other, please tell us what the main barrier to participation is.

- I am a fairly new member. I am a younger member and unsure if I would feel comfortable. I may be moving to another city
- ALWAYS SEEM TO BE WORKING CASUALLY ON THE DAY OF MTG.
- Always seems to be a meal out somewhere at a restaurant. I'm vegan; don't like restaurants; so I never participate
- Broken Femur Right hip & Injury from the Military under pension
- By the time I hear about the activity, it's already happened, or the activity is already full
- Care Giver for Alzheimer's Patient
- Caregiver to wife
- Conflicts with a club meeting
- Constantly travelling
- Currently, family care concerns have limited my time
- Dates interfere with other appointments

- Dealing with cancer
- Declining health issues
- Dementia
- Didn't work for the public service
- Didn't fit my busy schedule
- don't hear about any in maple ridge
- Don't know about them.
- Don't drive, poor vision, poor hearing
- Don't really feel invited to participate
- don't recall hearing of a date or never read of it
- Either other responsibilities or miss them
- Fear of who may be there
- Guest speakers do not interest me at this time. I am fortunate to have good health and am in my 60's. Guest speakers do not provide interesting info for me at this time
- Had a very uncomfortable situation with an employee coworker and Do Not want to be around him.
- have not been advised of any Branch 5000 activity
- Have not been invited
- Haven't been in the area that long, other commitments took precedence
- Haven't found anything that really interested or applied to me. Seems to be for older members.
- Haven't been well
- Health issue that makes it difficult for me to make and keep commitments
- Health issues
- Hearing impairment
- hearing loss (Deaf)
- I am a new member and not sure whether I am a member of the Nanaimo chapter or the Duncan chapter soon to be set up I am told
- I am a new member of BCGREA
- I am an introvert
- I am new, winter driving is hazardous
- I am not social and I the people in charge are okay
- I am not yet a registered member of the Duncan chapter which is underway. I do not attend Nanaimo as I live near Duncan now
- I am out of town a lot
- I am the spouse of a deceased member
- I do a lot of babysitting for the grandkids, and driving for elderly family member who can't drive to multiple appointments, find my life is very busy right now and don't want to add to it
- I don't know how to connect with them and I don't seem to get information from the Nanaimo area. I am a new member the last year
- I don't have a friend or group of former co-workers to attend with
- I don't like the restaurant of choice
- I have moved to Ontario
- I have moved to the Kootenays
- I have not participated in the past due to distance, but now I am likely to since there is a new Cowichan Branch
- I housekeep and bookkeep for family members. Between that and my health challenges, I have neither the time nor energy to do anything else. Thank you for all you do!
- I joined only recently and have not gotten into the habit of checking for activities
- I just prefer to support by having a membership. I appreciate the work of those who are on the board
- I know of no such activities located in Saskatchewan
- I lack social confidence (I left gov't service because I did not belong there) but I really appreciate my modest pension benefits
- I live out of the province in Nova Scotia

- I never seem to hear about them until it is over
- I plan to attend this year. Haven't gotten round to it previously
- I retired to Alberta
- I returned to work and am unavailable most days
- I seem to be busy and I'm a bit shy about whether I would know anyone
- I sometimes forget, or my neighbour needed me on the day it was held.
- I still work full time; once I'm completely retired I will definitely participate
- I think my branch is located on Vancouver Island somewhere and I live on the Sunshine Coast so none are nearby
- I volunteer and still work, so I have little interest and time for participation in Association events
- I watch grandkids and the times have been the same as meetings or I've completely forgotten
- I went to one meeting and it was mundane with a dreadful 'speaker' looking to drum up support for building concrete beds for poor people in Venezuela (or Nicaragua, I forget). There seemed to be little point to the whole exercise
- I work full time Monday to Friday
- I work fulltime
- I wouldn't know anyone
- I'm a procrastinator
- I'm lazy
- In younger than most and still working part time elsewhere
- Involved in other activities. Timing not good
- Just joined
- Just moved to Nanaimo
- Limited parking
- Live in Alberta now, distance issue.
- Live in the Okanagan not Prince George
- Live to far to do so
- Living in Alberta
- Living in Lethbridge Alberta
- Meeting is same day and time as Probus
- Meetings are on Tuesday. I work on Tuesday. I'd love to attend regular meetings though
- Moved and now live in assistant living
- Moved to Alberta from Grand Forks in 2007
- Moved to new location (home)
- My brain? Ok just to read about it. mobility issues from staying home too much, etc.
- my spouse is currently working and I care for my granddaughter at this moment
- My understanding is that the branch didn't have a meeting in our area.
- My wife was the member, so I don't have connections to members
- New
- New member. Didn't receive mail notification due to postal strike
- New to this
- No meetings announced. They would have to be online, obviously
- No reason really
- Not comfortable driving to town for meetings
- Not comfortable in crowds, hearing difficulties
- Not sure
- Not very interested in meeting up with those whose only connection is working in government. It is a big government. Also, I don't go into downtown Victoria anymore
- Nothing relevant to me
- now living in long term care facility
- Om just too busy

- Other commitments at present but will be active in the future
- Out of province
- Out of province ... residence in Ontario
- Out of Province now
- Part time job
- People don't read the communications first and spend ages nattering about issues that have already been answered. Very little is accomplished
- Procrastination
- Reserve
- Shyness around meeting new people
- Some people I worked with I want no contact with
- Still working f/t m-f
- Still working full time and meetings are during the workday
- Support but wanting to engage
- The branch I'm in isn't where I worked
- The day and time of meetings doesn't work with my family commitments
- there are no activities that I would be interested in - catered to much to inactive members
- They don't gather much
- Time but will attend in future
- Time of meetings
- timing
- Timing and my part time work schedule for family activities/commitments
- Too busy
- Too busy now but look forward to participating in branch activities in the near future.
- Travel
- We have moved so Williams Lake is too far. I might possibly attend if I knew when they were in Kamloops
- When I first joined I tried to be involved. Though treated kindly and with respect I was clearly "not" part of the "group" and so was never part of any action. When I attended social events I was treated as a disabled person and not a former employee and active member. If I have to prove I am more than a disabled person I will go elsewhere. If you don't need me I don't need you. If I want to be patronized I can join a church group
- When I first retired, I attended the meetings and get-togethers for at least a full year. However, I found the Branch Head to be extremely unreceptive toward me, and ideas/comments from (almost) anyone. Even my presence seemed to bother her. I tried approaching her one to one but was shut-down immediately. Other members were mostly unreceptive, and stand-offish. Seems a few wanted to be friendly, but didn't want to bear the consequential wrath of the others/Branch Head. A few were cautiously pleasant, and one brave soul was outright friendly. It was a test of my fortitude and courage to keep going to the meetings/get-togethers, and eventually I gave up as it wasn't worth the angst. I know that Branch Head has left, but I have never returned. I have worked in large offices of over 125 staff, and I am certain I was never described as shy, nor brash. On a related note, although I worked for Gov't for 30 years, in many offices with a large staff, I do not know 1 other person that is a BCGREA member - despite my urging them to join
- When the meetings occur, I tend to be busy with other commitments
- Working on days mtgs are scheduled
- You only hold meetings on Tuesday which is Ladies Day at my golf club (and most clubs in Victoria)

14. I would rate the value of the branch providing the following services using the following scale:

Activities such a group tours or outings:

Response	Number	Percentage
5: Extremely Important	150	5.37%
4: Very Important	541	19.36%
3: Moderately Important	890	31.85%
2: Slightly Important	419	15.00%
1: Not Important at All	356	12.74%
No Opinion	347	12.42%

Branch newsletter and other information sharing:

Response	Number	Percentage
5: Extremely Important	693	24.80%
4: Very Important	1144	40.94%
3: Moderately Important	603	21.58%
2: Slightly Important	161	5.76%
1: Not Important at All	39	1.40%
No Opinion	79	2.83%

Guest speakers on topics of interest:

Response	Number	Percentage
5: Extremely Important	341	12.20%
4: Very Important	941	33.68%
3: Moderately Important	822	29.42%
2: Slightly Important	279	9.99%
1: Not Important at All	99	3.54%
No Opinion	235	8.41%

Recruitment of new members:

Response	Number	Percentage
5: Extremely Important	551	19.72%
4: Very Important	1069	38.26%
3: Moderately Important	591	21.15%
2: Slightly Important	161	5.76%
1: Not Important at All	68	2.43%
No Opinion	247	8.84%

Representing the branch at provincial meetings:

Response	Number	Percentage
5: Extremely Important	904	32.36%
4: Very Important	979	35.04%
3: Moderately Important	417	14.92%
2: Slightly Important	124	4.44%
1: Not Important at All	69	2.47%
No Opinion	215	7.70%

Social events such as luncheons:

Response	Number	Percentage
5: Extremely Important	249	8.91%
4: Very Important	572	20.47%
3: Moderately Important	867	31.03%
2: Slightly Important	428	15.32%
1: Not Important at All	283	10.13%
No Opinion	300	10.74%

Social media pages:

Response	Number	Percentage
5: Extremely Important	104	3.72%
4: Very Important	428	15.32%
3: Moderately Important	739	26.45%
2: Slightly Important	395	14.14%
1: Not Important at All	524	18.75%
No Opinion	478	17.11%

Other:

Response	Number	Percentage
5: Extremely Important	22	0.79%
4: Very Important	32	1.15%
3: Moderately Important	68	2.43%
2: Slightly Important	36	1.29%
1: Not Important at All	66	2.36%
No Opinion	881	31.53%

15. If other, please tell us what branch services you feel are important:

- Advocate for members with specific issues
- As a now out of province member I would like to connect with other members who are local (Calgary)
- As a past branch executive member of 10 years, all this work would fall on volunteers or executive which are difficult if not impossible to fill
- As noted above
- Besides 2 Xmas lunches, there have been no other socials
- Better Senior Discounts
- Bluesky, NOT Facebook
- Branch should provide services to outside of BC
- Bulk buying travel options for members
- CFAX notices of events to remind?
- Christmas luncheon
- communication
- Current affairs
- discounts but only if they are - example travel ins is higher than I can get elsewhere
- Do not attend meetings and gatherings due to lung issues. COVID
- Do not use X as a social media platform
- For very important information - mail may be good
- Guest speakers are important but do not like speakers whom are seeking business interests such as financial advisors. Guest speakers on ZOOM are my preference
- Having a booth at every community event you can get in to. Send a questionnaire to non-members asking for feed-back on what would convince them to join

- I am not a very social person, however, as I get older I may wish to participate more with people (I am 69).
- I am not on any social media sites so cannot comment
- I do not have an opinion. Many things matter to others which do not matter to me and the opposite is also true
- I do not use social media. I do not want to miss out on information that is solely on social media
- I don't attend so I don't have an opinion
- I feel that our executive is excellent in keeping our members informed at our monthly meetings.
- I live in Alberta so the above activities don't really apply
- I rarely travel Hwy 4 to et
- I really like the emails. The series of safety etc. for seniors and safety on computer and the like is to me very important because it's informative and i can re-read it as many times I want
- I suspect a pre-meeting phone call to (especially) older/chronically unwell members would be a welcome contact. Volunteer (member) drivers to the meetings?
- If you're going to do a social media page do it on Facebook as not many members will be on blue sky and you will alienate a lot of members who don't want to join another platform
- I'm not sure if our branch has conducted "group tours or outings"? I think I would have participated if there were any... Perhaps I missed the memo
- important Speakers and Provincial pension News plus super info
- In person
- Informal social connection (coffee over luncheons). Luncheon seems like an old almost elitist term (am I showing up in white gloves!?)
- keeping members informed, surveys are critical
- Keeping members updated re: the services provided
- Legal issues relating to protecting our pension
- Links to members discounts and savings
- Living in Alberta for about 14 years now
- mail 5 phone 4 is a preferred service
- More branch activities funded by branch or provincial body
- More updates with reporting back to BCGEU To achieve having our Dental & Medical coverage back to BLUE CROSS. Current Greenshield coverage is absolutely inadequate & lousy low \$ return on my medical expenses
- Newsletters as I do not reside in Canada
- Our branch doesn't have meetings anymore, no executive
- Out of province
- PHONE
- Phone calls, Keeping in touch
- phone person
- phoning committee
- Public awareness of BCGREA members who participate and volunteer within the community
- Representation and discussion if needed in person at meetings
- Representing the branch at provincial level
- Reserved
- Services available to seniors
- Sick and hospital visitations
- Telephone/Visiting Committee
- There should be more than one representative on the Pension Board of Directors
- Unfortunately, I have mobility & health issues & would attend but cannot!! Keep up all the good work!
- We need to have a venue which provides modern technology support including connectivity.
- Website
- word of mouth

- Working with PSPB to improve our benefits for massage therapy, acupuncture, chiropractic etc coverage. The rates being charged now are so much more than they used to be but there has been no increase in out limits. Mine are used up within months
- Yes
- Zoom meeting availability, I live in Mission and want to stay with the Langley branch (as they have a great setup), but the commute is awful. or change meetings to earlier in day so we don't hit rush hour traffic. Probably the zoom option would best suit someone like me who has to commute far.

Association Priorities

16. I would rate the value of the BCGREA provincial body focusing its efforts and resources on the following areas using the following scale:

Advocacy on behalf of members regarding pension and benefits:

Response	Number	Percentage
5: Extremely Important	2069	74.05%
4: Very Important	554	19.83%
3: Moderately Important	74	2.65%
2: Slightly Important	10	0.36%
1: Not Important at All	3	0.11%
No Opinion	23	0.82%

Cooperation with other seniors' advocacy groups:

Response	Number	Percentage
5: Extremely Important	1032	36.94%
4: Very Important	1157	41.41%
3: Moderately Important	413	14.78%
2: Slightly Important	58	2.08%
1: Not Important at All	13	0.47%
No Opinion	55	1.97%

Cooperation with related pension associations (i.e., teachers, municipal, colleges):

Response	Number	Percentage
5: Extremely Important	1022	36.58%
4: Very Important	1048	37.51%
3: Moderately Important	459	16.43%
2: Slightly Important	84	3.01%
1: Not Important at All	28	1.00%
No Opinion	88	3.15%

Encouraging the creation of more branches:

Response	Number	Percentage
5: Extremely Important	226	8.09%
4: Very Important	537	19.22%
3: Moderately Important	911	32.61%
2: Slightly Important	376	13.46%
1: Not Important at All	181	6.48%
No Opinion	468	16.75%

Negotiations for member discounts:

Response	Number	Percentage
5: Extremely Important	834	29.85%
4: Very Important	905	32.39%
3: Moderately Important	651	23.30%
2: Slightly Important	175	6.26%
1: Not Important at All	67	2.40%
No Opinion	82	2.93%

New member recruitment initiatives:

Response	Number	Percentage
5: Extremely Important	483	17.29%
4: Very Important	1011	36.18%
3: Moderately Important	723	25.88%
2: Slightly Important	193	6.91%
1: Not Important at All	62	2.22%
No Opinion	211	7.55%

Presentations on topics of interest to members (e.g., webinars, zoom meetings):

Response	Number	Percentage
5: Extremely Important	372	13.31%
4: Very Important	872	31.21%
3: Moderately Important	853	30.53%
2: Slightly Important	266	9.52%
1: Not Important at All	108	3.87%
No Opinion	233	8.34%

Supporting and strengthening the branch network:

Response	Number	Percentage
5: Extremely Important	467	16.71%
4: Very Important	1027	36.76%
3: Moderately Important	721	25.81%
2: Slightly Important	181	6.48%
1: Not Important at All	63	2.25%
No Opinion	203	7.27%

Other:

Response	Number	Percentage
5: Extremely Important	27	0.97%
4: Very Important	47	1.68%
3: Moderately Important	68	2.43%
2: Slightly Important	28	1.00%
1: Not Important at All	44	1.57%
No Opinion	807	28.88%

17. If other, please tell us what areas you feel are important:

- Advocacy for member pension and benefits
- Advocate for specific issues for members
- Advocating for improved member benefits should be #1 priority

- As above: Working with PSPB to improve our benefits for massage therapy, acupuncture, chiropractic etc. coverage. The rates being charged now are so much more than they used to be but there has been no increase in out limits. Mine are used up within months
- As stated above- ADVOCACY
- Better communication with Board and their actual roles and considerations. Better communication and participation at the federal level with Canadian issues
- By supporting Membership fee increase of \$5 per year what happens if we hit a recession. What would be the cap on annual fee before membership is asked again? In 4 years fees would double from current rate. As an out of province member there may not be value for me
- Dissatisfaction with GSC
- Do not use or are interested in the above 2 platforms
- entered by mistake
- Family rate for membership, 20 each not fair don't get double benefits
- Greenshield is the worst Insurance you could have negotiated for!!
- Group meetings
- Home & travel insurance discounts almost gone. For example, the cost of home insurance has significantly gone up since Belair Direct took over Johnson 2 years ago. Hoping that the Association review this annually and seek other providers that can offer lower, reasonable rate
- I realize I am reluctant to join in because I'm not sure if I would be comfortable. I wish there was some active outreach to new members, a sort of buddy system to encourage me to participate
- I would replace the word "Government" for "Public Sector"
- Influencing pension investment decisions
- Like to be kept up to date with BC even if I don't live in BC
- mostly stuff about issues related to pensioners on very limited incomes
- Negotiating discounts on cell plans, internet, TV, and Microsoft office and Outlook.
- Never hear from the branch
- Not living in BC
- Notes of meetings as I have trouble getting out
- Out of province
- Phone communications
- phoning committee
- Re Presentations - it's critical that presentations be recorded and available to registrants later as specific times due to immovable commitments like medical appointments. There are many good presentations available but few are BC specific. I live in Alberta now but plan to move back to BC so I like to stay updated on BC specific info
- Regular communication.
- Seeking a second trustee position on the Pension Board of Trustees
- Seniors' Advocate, both support for the role and the advocacy for seniors especially 'the slow growth of general ageism'
- Sharing information about pension changes and potential changes
- Speaker from Provincial BCGREA to visit branches periodically to tell what's going on at the Provincial level.
- The Branches are the grass roots of the association, but I feel the Provincial office is taking more from branches monetarily and has made opportunities for branch involvement in decisions to be unbalanced, less democratic
- There are too many questions on this questionnaire
- Those I have marked as Extremely Important
- Understanding our benefits and if they'll ever improve! Opportunities for auxiliary/contract work. Issues that significantly impact our well-being. e.g. Tax tips. RSP/TFSA withdrawal tips
- What does supporting & strengthening the branch network mean? An example here would have been helpful.
- what I would like to see is when someone retires it is mandatory to join. 20.00
- Yes important

Membership Fees

Our annual fees were last increased 16 years ago to the current \$20 per member. Inflation and cost of living adjustments to our pensions have gone up by approximately 40% since then. BCGREA expenses have also increased significantly during this period.

18. If an increase in membership fees is required to continue operations, I support a \$5 per year increase.

Response	Number	Percentage
Yes	2149	78.49%
No	260	9.50%
I don't have an opinion on this proposal	329	12.02%

Association Name

The Public Service Pension Plan (PSPP) has approximately 100 enrolled employers. 48% of the contributing members do not work for the traditional government ministries. All PSPP recipients are eligible to join us, but a significant number are not aware of this. It has been suggested that the BCGREA should change its name to be more inclusive and reflect the varied makeup of its members throughout the broader public sector.

19. I support the proposal to change the name of the BCGREA:

Response	Number	Percentage
Yes	940	34.32%
No	507	18.51%
I don't have an opinion on this proposal	1292	47.17%

20. If you answered Yes, you are invited to suggest a name(s) to be considered. This is optional but we welcome your suggestion(s):

Response	Number	Percentage
BCREA	9	3.14%
BC public Service Retired Employees Association	8	2.79%
BC Public Service Retirees Association	7	2.44%
Public Service Retired Employees Association	6	2.09%
BC PUBLIC SERVICE REA	4	1.39%
Public Service Retired Employees Association (PSREA)	4	1.39%
Public Service Retirees association	3	1.05%
Public Service Pensioners Association	3	1.05%
BCPSREA	3	1.05%
BC Public Service Retirees Association (BCPSRA)	2	0.70%
PSPP	2	0.70%
BC Retired Employees Association	2	0.70%
BCPSREA - BC Public Service Retired Employees Association	2	0.70%
BC Retired Public Employees Association	2	0.70%

Response	Number	Percentage
Retired public servants association	2	0.70%
BCPSPP	2	0.70%
BCRPSP	2	0.70%
I like what was suggested	1	0.35%
Remove 'Government' to "BCREA"	1	0.35%
PSPREA - Public Service Pension Retired Employees Association	1	0.35%
BC Government Pensioners Association	1	0.35%
Would need more information What % are not government employees?	1	0.35%
BC Government Retirees Association	1	0.35%
nothing to suggest. I will leave it to the people who can do it.	1	0.35%
BC Government Retirees Association or Network	1	0.35%
Public Service Pension Plan Retirees (PSPPR)	1	0.35%
BC Gov't & Public Employees Association [BCG&PEA]	1	0.35%
Retired public service employees of BC = RPSEBC	1	0.35%
BC Pension Plan Association	1	0.35%
Don't have one	1	0.35%
BC Pensioners	1	0.35%
Just take out the G.	1	0.35%
BC Pensioners' Syndicate	1	0.35%
B.C. Retired Agencies Association ⁸	1	0.35%
BC PENTIONERS	1	0.35%
Public Sector Retiree Association	1	0.35%
BC Provincial & General Retirees Association (BCPGRA)	1	0.35%
Public Service Retired Employees Association would be a straightforward choice	1	0.35%
BC Provincial Pension Plan (BCPPP)	1	0.35%
Retired PSPP Members	1	0.35%
BC PSPP Members Association (BCPMA)	1	0.35%
Something simpler and more inclusive	1	0.35%
BC Public Pension Retired Employees' Association	1	0.35%
British Columbia Retired Public Servants Association	1	0.35%
BC public retired employees Assn	1	0.35%
Have no suggested name change at this time.	1	0.35%
BC PUBLIC SECTOR REA	1	0.35%
Just call it Government Retirees Employees Association. That way inclusive to retirees that live outside of BC.	1	0.35%
BC Public Sector Retirees	1	0.35%
no thoughts	1	0.35%
BC Public Sector Retirees Association	1	0.35%
portal for pensioners	1	0.35%
BC Public Sector Retirees' Association	1	0.35%
PSPPA	1	0.35%
BC Public Sectors Retiree Association	1	0.35%
PSREA - public service retired employees association	1	0.35%
BC Public Servant Retired EA	1	0.35%
Public Service Pension Association of BC	1	0.35%
BC Public Service Alumni	1	0.35%
Public Service Retired Employees	1	0.35%
BC Public Service Association	1	0.35%
Public Service Retirees' Association (PSRA)	1	0.35%
BC public service employee association	1	0.35%
Retired Employees Association of B.C.	1	0.35%

Response	Number	Percentage
BC PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION	1	0.35%
Retired Public Service Association	1	0.35%
BC public service pension association	1	0.35%
Same as GEU to General	1	0.35%
BC Public Service pension plan retired employee's association: BCPSPREA	1	0.35%
The Greater Public Pension Plan	1	0.35%
BC Public Service Pension Plan Retirees Association	1	0.35%
British Columbia Retired Members Association	1	0.35%
A name that includes 'Government Services' or 'Public Services'	1	0.35%
Can't think of anything at this time.	1	0.35%
BC Public Service Retired Employee Retirement Association	1	0.35%
Employers Service Pension Plan	1	0.35%
APSEBC	1	0.35%
I have no suggestion, but I would like it run past the membership when you think of one	1	0.35%
BC Public Service Retired Employees' Association (focus on the common PUBLIC SERVICE roles)	1	0.35%
I think that Public Service Pension Plan covers it all, power in numbers	1	0.35%
BC Public Service Retired Employees Association BCPSREA	1	0.35%
Just make it simple and clear.	1	0.35%
BC Public Service Retired Employees Pension Association	1	0.35%
Later	1	0.35%
BC Public service retired employees pension plan association	1	0.35%
Not at this time	1	0.35%
BC Public Service RETIRED EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION	1	0.35%
pensions pay	1	0.35%
BC Public Service Retiree Association	1	0.35%
Provincial Retirees Association	1	0.35%
BC public service retirees	1	0.35%
PSPP Members Association.	1	0.35%
BC Public Service Retirees Assoc. BCPSRA	1	0.35%
PSPP-REA - Public Service Pension Plan Retired Employees Association	1	0.35%
Association for Retirees of BC Government	1	0.35%
PSRA (Public Service Retirees Association)	1	0.35%
Association of Retirees	1	0.35%
Public Sector Pension Plan	1	0.35%
BC Public Service Retirees' Association (BCPSRA)	1	0.35%
Public Service Employees Retirement Group	1	0.35%
BC Public Service Retirees' Association?	1	0.35%
Public Service Pension Plan Retired Employees Association	1	0.35%
BC Public Service Retirement Association	1	0.35%
Public Service Pensioner's Association of BC (PSPABC)	1	0.35%
BC Public Service Retirement Association (or something similar)	1	0.35%
Public Service Retired Employees Association (PSREA)	1	0.35%
BC Public Service vs BC Government?	1	0.35%
BC General Retired Employee Association	1	0.35%
BC Retired Employees	1	0.35%
Public Service Retirees Association PSRA	1	0.35%
BC Retired Employees Alliance	1	0.35%
RETIRED BC PUBLIC SERVICE PENSION PLAN RECIPIENTS' ASSOCIATION	1	0.35%
Association of Retired BC Government Employees	1	0.35%
Retired General Employees Association of BC	1	0.35%

Response	Number	Percentage
BC Retired Employees Association / BCREA	1	0.35%
Retired Public Sector Employees Association (RPSEA)	1	0.35%
BC retired employee's association. Leave out the G. Have it as BCREA	1	0.35%
Retired Public Service Employees	1	0.35%
BC Retired General Service Employees Association	1	0.35%
Retired Public Service of BC Pension Association	1	0.35%
BC Retired Past Union Employee Members (BCPUEM)	1	0.35%
simply-BCREA	1	0.35%
Association of Retired Public Servants. ARPS	1	0.35%
Something that represents public type of employees	1	0.35%
BC Retired Public Employees Association.	1	0.35%
Wished I could think of something clever. Might be a good exercise at a future Branch meeting.	1	0.35%
BC Retired Public Sector Employee Association	1	0.35%
British Columbia Retired Employees Association (BCREA)	1	0.35%
BC Retired Public Servants Association	1	0.35%
British Columbia Retired Public Sector Employees Association	1	0.35%
BC Retired Public Servants' Association	1	0.35%
can't think of a name yet	1	0.35%
BC Retired Public Service Employees Association	1	0.35%
Civic workers ??	1	0.35%
BC Retired Public Service Employees Association BCRPSEA	1	0.35%
Employees Public Service Pension Plan	1	0.35%
BC Retired Public Service Workers Association	1	0.35%
federation of BC pensioners association	1	0.35%
BC Retired Services Employees	1	0.35%
I am uncertain as to who other retirees worked for so unable to respond	1	0.35%
BC Retired Workers Association	1	0.35%
I heard BCGEU is not BC general employee union. Perhaps BCGREA should follow suit.	1	0.35%
BC Seniors Association	1	0.35%
I support using 'Public Service' in any name change	1	0.35%
BC Services Pension Plan	1	0.35%
I trust the Executive to come up with a list of possible names and let the members decide, participation is always a good thing.	1	0.35%
BC Services Retired Employees Association (BCSREA)	1	0.35%
Just make it shorter	1	0.35%
BC Services Retired Employees Association or BC Service Sector Retired Employees Association	1	0.35%
Just off my head, BCG/Public Sector REA	1	0.35%
BC United Pension Plan Association	1	0.35%
Keep it simple Retired Public Service Pension Plan Employees Association (RPSPEA)	1	0.35%
BCAREA	1	0.35%
Members Group PSPP	1	0.35%
BC General Retired Employees Association	1	0.35%
Not a clue	1	0.35%
BCGPA (BC Government Pensioners Association)	1	0.35%
Not meaning to be rude but I am "NOT the person to ask. Nor, sorry, are most "paper-pushers". Why not ask Terry O'Rilley (sp?) from "Under The Influence"? The name should appeal to the target audience.	1	0.35%
BCGPP	1	0.35%

Response	Number	Percentage
Pensions BC Retired Employees Association	1	0.35%
BCGRE&PA (BC regular government & professional employees assoc.	1	0.35%
Please make sure the name is obviously you. If you choose a name that doesn't	1	0.35%
BCGREA BC General Retired Employees Association or BCPSREA BC Public Service Retired Employees Association	1	0.35%
Provincial Public Service Retiree Association (PPSRA)	1	0.35%
BCGREPPA-BC Govt Retired Employee Pension Plan Assn	1	0.35%
PSERA - Public Service Employees Retirement Association	1	0.35%
BCp	1	0.35%
PSPP is good	1	0.35%
BC Pension Plans	1	0.35%
PSPP Retired Members Association	1	0.35%
BCPPREA	1	0.35%
PSPPREA	1	0.35%
BCPREA instead of government use Public	1	0.35%
PSPPREA OR BCPSREA OR LEAVE OFF THE EA	1	0.35%
BCPSEA	1	0.35%
PSPREA - Public Service Plan Retired Employees Association	1	0.35%
BCpsm	1	0.35%
PSREA	1	0.35%
BCPSPA. BC Public Service Pensioners Association	1	0.35%
PSREA, Public Service Retired Employees Association.	1	0.35%
association of retired public service workers	1	0.35%
Public Sector Retired Employees' Association	1	0.35%
BCPSPPA	1	0.35%
Public Sector Retirees Association (PSRA)	1	0.35%
BCPSPPRM (BC PSPP Retired Members)	1	0.35%
Public Service Pension Plan Employees Association	1	0.35%
BCPSRA	1	0.35%
Public Service Pension Plan Retired Associates	1	0.35%
BCPSRA - BC Public Service Retirees Association	1	0.35%
Public Service Pension Plan Retiree Association	1	0.35%
BCPSRA (BC Public Sector Retirees Assn) or BCAPSR (BC Assn of Public Sector Employees)	1	0.35%
BC Association of Retired Public Service Employees (BCARPSE)	1	0.35%
B C Public Employee REA -- BCPERA	1	0.35%
Public Service REA	1	0.35%
B.C. Public Service Pensioners Association	1	0.35%
BC Employee Association.	1	0.35%
BCPSREA (B.C. Public Service Retired Employees Association)	1	0.35%
BC General Employees Retirement Association	1	0.35%
BCPSREA (BC Public Service Retired Employees Association	1	0.35%
Public Service Retired Employees Association of BC (PSREA)	1	0.35%
BCPSREA (PS = Public Service)	1	0.35%
Public Service Retirees' Association	1	0.35%
BCPSREA (PS= Public Sector)	1	0.35%
Public Service Retirees Association (PSRA). OR Public Service Pension Retirees Association (PSPRA)	1	0.35%
BCPSREA BC Public Service Retired Employee Association	1	0.35%
Public Service Workers BC	1	0.35%
BCPSREA, B.C. public sector retired employee association	1	0.35%

Response	Number	Percentage
Remove or replace the G and E, with a P for pension,	1	0.35%
BC Public REA	1	0.35%
Retired Employees Assoc of Public Sector -BC. (REAPS-BC)	1	0.35%
BCRE - BC Retired Employees	1	0.35%
Retired Employees Association of BC	1	0.35%
B.C. Public Service Retiree's Association	1	0.35%
Retired People helping other Retired People (RPHRP)	1	0.35%
BC Retired Public Service Employees Association	1	0.35%
Retired public employees pension Association	1	0.35%
BCRPSEA	1	0.35%
BC General Retirees Employees Association	1	0.35%
BCRPSE - British Columbia Retired Public Service Employees	1	0.35%
Retired Public Service Association or Public Service Retirees Association	1	0.35%
BCRPSEA	1	0.35%
Retired Public Service Employee's Association - RPSEA	1	0.35%
BCRPSEA BC retired public service employee's association	1	0.35%
Retired public service members of BC	1	0.35%
(PSREA) Public Service Retired Employees Association	1	0.35%
Retired Public Service Pension Employees Association	1	0.35%
BCRWA British Columbia Retired Workers Association	1	0.35%
Simply drop the "G" - it stands for Government, correct?	1	0.35%
BCWRA (BC Workers Retirees Association) or BCRWA (BC Retired Workers Association)	1	0.35%
Something inclusive suggesting welcome to all	1	0.35%
BGREA	1	0.35%
Something that includes the other groups as well	1	0.35%
British Columbia Government and Service Employees Association :)	1	0.35%
Suggestion: include 'public service retirees' in a name change	1	0.35%
British Columbia Government Employees Retirement Assn.	1	0.35%
The Steller's jay Fan club	1	0.35%
British Columbia Peoples Pension Plan	1	0.35%
Woodworkers & Fishers	1	0.35%
British Columbia Public Service Retired Employees' Association	1	0.35%
BC Government and Associate agency retired Employees Association	1	0.35%
British Columbia Retired Employees' Association	1	0.35%

QUALITATIVE RESULTS

The survey included one final open-ended question, worded as follows:

Is there anything else you would like the BCGREA Directors to know or consider moving forward?

The written responses submitted by survey respondents are included below in their entirety. They have not been edited in any way other than to remove any identifying information, and to correct obvious spelling and grammar errors. Statements such as *Not Applicable*, *N/A*, *no* and so on have also been removed.

Member Feedback

- \$5.00 is not sufficient, should be \$10.00 or more.
- 1 member 1 vote system at AGM should be pursued.
- 70 is the new 50, so I would appreciate energetic activities such as local outings, travel, or volunteering for public benefit e.g. disaster relief.
- A closer look at our dental plan and extended health benefits are needed as there are services that were provided prior to retirement and are non-existent now or severely reduced. This seems contradictory to senior care health which has more risks as we age.
- A complimentary "Stellars Jay" pin would be welcome!
- A review of the health plan to update to conditions existing today. As an example, hearing aid costs. I got 2 new aides last year that cost \$5850. The plan supports \$700 per aide and has not changed.
- Advocacy on behalf of members (and for that matter, other seniors) is the most critical role I can imagine for this organization. It is far too easy for the retired membership to disappear from view, and from the priority list of government. Pension income adequacy and protection are increasingly under threat and require constant and substantive push-back. Raising political awareness amongst the membership is a related, and vital, role. Misinformation and disinformation are the toxic tools of the far-right politicians and their cheerleaders, so organizations like ours, and in particular our organization, have a clear responsibility to address this issue with vigilance and determination.
- Advocate for more funding for medical expenses. Medications, Physio, Massage etc.
- Advocate to change our health benefits provider. GSC be fits are sub par.
- Again, we need better medical coverage as Greenshield is below par with others.
- All focus should be on economics...pension increases and reducing cost of living for seniors.
- ALL GOOD.
- Although I do not consider myself an "active" member, I do believe the attention and work of sharing the information I receive relating to member retirement benefits is important and helpful. Thank you.
- Appreciate all you do. Thank you!
- Appreciate discount on travel and house insurance. Also, info in newsletters is helpful.
- Appreciate the work you do for us.
- Are there better rates that green shield could support Not sure if the group can have a say.
- Are you doing any advocacy on the Federal Dental Plan? I never enrolled in the GreenShield dental plan when I retired in 2021, so I am not eligible to enroll now. However, Pension Corp flagged my T4A as though I was still eligible. I'm sure I'm not the only member in this situation.

- As a member who no longer lives in B.C., I'm questioning the value of continuing my membership. I don't perceive a lot of benefits. What can you do to make the program more inclusive for out of province members?
- AS a Senior coping with my dotage, and with failing energy and the ability to focus, I acknowledge that I do very little to support the Association; and that I rely on others to promote and sustain our interests. I am therefore appreciative and grateful for the drive and efforts of all those, most especially the Board, who do the essential work. Thank You.
- As retired member living in the Port Alberni valley and a member of Qualicum and Parksville is 3/4 a hour away so more activities should be in the valley.
- As some retired members stick to their subgroups (ambulance 10-7 retired paramedics) have AGMs lunches and other events a reach out to their boards from the BCGREA to them should be a priority.
- As stated previously I do not use social media and would not support information being sent out to members solely on those platforms. Email and using the PSPP website works fine for me.
- As we are a group of retired people, I would like to see the organization work with Greenshield to Provide more. Overage for health benefits and medication. As we age, the need for massages, chiropractic services and physio increases. Also, our medication needs expand and if we are travelers we require vaccinations etc. thank you.
- Association change of name..... How stupid is not to include what the new name would be...
- Association Name Change, more information required. How many employees are we talking about, what is the new name, etc.
- At one time Lifetime Member's dues were paid for. Has it gone for good? I will still pay my dues but just enquiring. Joan Adam -- Long Time Member.
- Back to blue cross or MSP for medical benefits even if it costs a bit. Green Shield medical coverage sucks, they are not user friendly. Is there a move for one medical plan for the combined four plans? (College, Municipal, PSPP, etc.).
- BCGREA doing an excellent job. Keep up the good work.
- BCGREA has apparently been around since 1947 according to the date on the logo. I would support not changing the name but would support other methods of raising awareness of BCGREA aims and objectives.
- BCREA.
- Be good to have an update on elected officials. A page could be included so that non-members could make application to join the organization.
- Before, need to let existing membership what the new name would be.
- Being 90 years old am not really able to participate with activities. When younger was very active, being shop steward for many years, Vice President in the Cranbrook area and Golden area....
- Benefits. Particularly hearing aids and glasses. The amount we get back on our medical plan is very minimal....
- Better at Home program.
- Better health related benefits.
- Better medical and dental coverage. PBC was great. GSC is not. I would like to be able to revert to basic dental but we are not permitted. In the 12 yrs I have been retired I have never used the benefits of extended Dental.
- Branch funding is an issue with smaller branches struggling to have enough money to operate effectively for their members. With the sheer number of retired past government employees, I would like to see the BCGREA negotiate a cell phone discount the same as was offered to employees by all the major cell phone providers.

- Branches should be able to subsidize and support the members who actively attend meetings and social events (e.g. subsidies on food costs and/or entrance fees). The \$6.00 per person annual subsidy at the Branch level is too restrictive.
- By far the most important aspects from my perspective are advocacy regarding pensions and benefits and representation on the PSP Board of Trustees.
- Can we negotiate with greenshield for better ambulatory services coverage (physio, chiro, etc.) ? I am thankful to have the \$500, but even up to \$750 per year would be helpful. :) Perhaps we will have more negotiating powers with GSC in 2026 if the new federal changes do happen for universal coverage for diabetes and hormone therapy drugs coverage? Not sure if the government will cover all drug options and / or just cover what extended medical does not.... Cant BCGREA just leave the name and change the G to general like BCGEU did? thanks for the opportunity to provide feedback!
- Can't think of anything at this time. Thank you for creating this thoughtful survey.
- Change back to blue cross.
- Change the name if it is and will be inclusive of all members who are contributors to the provincial pension plans.
- Changing the name is very costly and would not add any benefit to the membership.
- Consider funding for RSV vaccine like the shingles vaccine. RSV vaccine is very important for all seniors not just those who can afford it!
- Consider once or twice annually to contact "neighboring" BCGREA'S (Spring luncheon &/or Christmas luncheon (in ADDITION) to our own.
- Continue to advocate for increased money saving opportunities, i.e. travel, travel medical insurance, hotel discounts.
- Create a co-operative for members that would negotiate discounts for purchasing goods and services. A member's card could be used to get discounts at a grocery store. This is different than the discounts you offer. It would work like the co-op has stations. Also negotiate special discounts with realty companies for retirees on real estate commissions.
- Creating this opinion survey is thoroughly appreciated.
- Dental and extended health needs to be increased. Chiropractor and massage therapy \$500.00 needs to be increased to \$1000.00 per year. Maximum dental needs to be increased as dental costs are soaring.
- Dental plan needs to be increased. Dentists are charging well over the allowable deductible and the patient portion is rising too much. Increase the \$500.00 to \$ 1000.00 for chiropractic, physio and massage therapy. The current fees charged by these professionals is well over what the plan reimburses us for.
- Did this on a cellphone, 4 yrs old, and no problem.
- Difficulty in printing pension T4's.
- discussion on the Pension Plans "Green Shield" coverage for retirees. Major lacking in coverage! Especially in area of Physiotherapy, Chiropractic and Massage Therapy.....coverage is very poor. (Approximately four visits to anyone of these services and you are done for the year). Needs major overhauling.
- Do a better job of letting new and existing retirees know about your organization. Many haven't heard about you or previous members are not aware that their yearly fees are due.
- Do not be extravagant.
- Doing a excellent job!! THANK YOU!!!
- Don't become too bureaucratic; the organization should be fun and enjoyable.
- Don't change history. Instead, communicate to the Non-Traditional government ministries.
- Don't give up. I do enjoy going when I go. It's good to have the BCGREA. Thank you all for doing it.
- Don't hold meetings on Tuesday.
- Don't really understand how this organization affects me or could benefit me.
- Don't waste money on name changes. Letterhead changes are a waste of resources!

- Due to living on an island and subject to ferry schedules was unable to attend meetings in Nanaimo but can if held in the Duncan area.
- Due to privacy not all members belong to FB, Instagram, zoom, etc.
- Due to the location of the meetings, I do not attend as it is difficult to get to the meetings. The bus system is not always efficient in timing between start/end of destinations (both ways). I do appreciate all the work the Board and Committees accomplish and receiving the updates on changes to pensions and status of benefits, etc. Thank you everyone for sharing your time and contribution to the success of this organization.
- Dues rebates to some branches appear too low or unfair. It appears headquarters has too much control over our dues. Perhaps too much money being donated to other organizations. Can't we do more for our members. Govt tax rules have ruined the ability for Branches to pay for lunch (amount reduced to percentage of dues paid?). Can't lunches or dinners at our meetings be declared as the cost of doing business.
- Each chapter needs to have a significant say re the funds collected from its members.
- emphasis on advocacy for members and seniors generally. social activities should be limited, and encourage members to join their local seniors activity centre for social connections. no parallel social activities, join your local community.
- Encouraging Branches to scale down on monthly meetings whereby you have to approve agendas, go over new business from Sept to June. Way too much work for your branch boards having 2 meetings to go to every month. Have a directors meeting one month followed by a members meeting the next month. As a young retiree I don't have the time to prepare for 2 meetings every month a week or 2 apart. Lean out the meetings maybe they will attract members to serve on the board.
- Even though I don't attend Branch or Provincial meetings, I appreciate the work of the local and provincial volunteers. The Pen newsletter is something I look forward to. If there's capacity to expand the list of businesses providing discounts, that would be appreciated. Mountain Equipment Co-op comes to mind.
- Even though I have failed to attend meetings, gatherings, etc. I am very interested in the activities that this union provides and the efforts it makes for the betterment of retire employees. Thank you for your hard work.
- Everything is working well don't change it.
- Fight to keep the current Pension/Index system in place for all pensioners who can least afford a reduced pension under the new anti-tariff legislation.
- Financial incentive programs for travel or hotel reductions or for fitness subsidies to encourage health focused programs in communities.
- Focus on input to the pension plan.
- Focus on priorities: don't try to do everything!
- For a number of reason many of us who are on pension are still in the work force either full or part time. I would like participate in more branch function however I workdays 75% and travel frequently for my job hence I am unable to attend.
- for me who has a full life now, my connection to the association is not as important as it might become should I have health issues that slow me down.
- For people in areas where we have no meetings - it is very hard if you don't drive any more!
- For retirees still working is it possible to have some events in during evenings and/or weekends.
- For some of us we cannot attend branch meetings etc. because of transportation issues.
- For those members that are still working, it would be good to have some evening events available.
- Go to sites to educate current employees whom are retiring about the association's role and benefits of membership.
- Good day & id just like to say I'm fairly still 'newish' becoming a member & very much appreciate how well & convenient it is to have access to the links offered.

- Good job members of BCGREA pension.
- Grateful for the dedicated volunteers.
- Great Job.
- Great to see personal stories of members like travel trip's etc.
- Great work!
- Greater advocacy for increased benefits for members. I.e. dental and drug coverages.
- Green Shield is not as good as Blue Cross! Lobby the Public Service Pension Manager to go back to Blue Cross.
- Green shield still pulls stunts denying coverage on some prescriptions, then covering them after you resubmit.
- Having a Director attend one meeting a year at each branch.
- Health care, housing like assisted living and long term care placement is lacking and should be vital for members.
- Hello, I volunteer for the Hospital Auxiliary and unfortunately the luncheon and meetings here in Kamloops are on the same day. It is unfortunate I don't get to participate in the activities, but I am very interested in the newsletters, Pen, etc. that I get. I do follow what is happening.
- Help me get a family Doctor please.
- Help, transportation and assistance to and from appointments, grocery shopping, would this be something the BCGREA might consider? Sincerely Fay Collins member #20421360.
- Hope fully when the weather is warmer I may be able to attend in my power wheel chair. At this time I am only 70 % recovered from my Hip Fracture. There is a lot of rehab involved when you have this type of injury, plus both feet were injured in the fall as well so I am dealing with that as well. My injury was on August 7th, 2023 and operated on August 8th, in hospital for a month. I along with a number of other patients had Covid19 and we were isolated for 16 days in hospital. So you see I did have some issues.
- How can I answer the question about whether I support a name change proposal when you don't provide the name that you are proposing? Conceptually I agree to a name that is more inclusive. But I have no opinion on what the name should be as I do not know the options being considered.
- How do I prove my membership in order to claim discounts?
- How many years would the \$5 per year increase encompass? It's a hard question to answer not knowing the number of years or top rate.
- I agree that the rising cost of living supports and increase in the annual membership fee - but I would also suggest that there is an 'upper limit' after which the membership fee will become too much.
- I am 82 this year and feel that I receive little or no support from the BCGREA other than my small pension for my 10 years of service.
- I am 91 years old, am quite disabled, and only have a year or two left, thanks for all you have done.
- I am a new member thank you for being there and keep up the good work.
- I am a spousal member who attended branch meetings regularly for many years and helped with special events - especially enjoyed Christmas Lunches. Now unable to participate due to chronic illness.
- I am a very active 66 year old and nothing in the newsletters, activities, or presentation relate to me. Everything is geared towards inactive, old, old, old!
- I am concerned that because I have Dental coverage through my Superannuation plan that I am not allowed some concession with the Federal Government Dental plan - after all - the Superannuation plan does have it's coverage limits. I would like to see some Federal coverage that would take place once the Superannuation coverage reaches it's yearly limits. I and others are paying for coverage others are receiving free and that seems unfair.
- I am concerned that in our haste to increase membership we loose track of the fact that we are the BC Government Retired Employees.
- I am curious if there are any scholarships for grandchildren to apply for?

- I am currently going to an eye specialist because I have a severe eye problem. On my last visit. this year. I casually mentioned I was an avid reader which was becoming more difficult he promised to pass my name on to CNIB, which he did and I received a call from them within a week. We set up a date March 6th, and we had about an hour discussing their services and items they thought I might find useful. What impressed me was how quick they were after I spoke with the eye specialist at contacting me and the services they can offer at no cost because its all covered under health. I never thought that they would be available for me. If only I had been aware I could have been using this service already. Information similar to what I have just found out about might be interesting to more of the members.
- I am disappointed at the provincial body as I sent two email suggestions and received no reply. Not even a response saying my email was received. I have considered quitting the BCGREA.
- I am grateful to the many people who step up to carry on this work.
- I am happy to participate/ view the AGM on Zoom. I believe this participation should be encouraged i.e. have branch meeting/ participation options, a venue with large monitor for virtual participation.
- I am hoping to join the Duncan branch of the BCGREA which is in progress I believe, as I now live in the Cowichan Valley which is closest to the Duncan branch.
- I am living in a retirement home, am recently widowed, have given up driving because of macular degeneration, and wear hearing aids. Because of this, I can no longer attend the branch meetings. I continue to be interested in all news of what is happening. Thank you.
- I am no longer physically able to participate in BCGREA but believe in its value.
- I am not a personally active member but appreciate all that is done in my name. I always find the written articles I receive interesting and read them carefully and save them for further info. I thank you for all you do . If changing the name would help to increases membership ,I would approve this willingly.
- I am not happy that our extended heath plan has been switched to GreenShield. The benefits inferior to Blue Cross. Travel coverage is also inferior.
- I am not opposed to changing the name of the organization but I would like to know what the name would be changed to prior to saying yes or no. The question seems a bit unfair as framed.
- I am still working as my pension does not cover our expenses. Given this I am unable to participate in many of the activities sent out.
- I am very busy in my retirement and have not had a lot of time to pay attention to the BCGREA. That being said, I do appreciate the work that BCREA does on behalf of retirees.
- I am very happy to have such a great pension, and a group that supports us! Thank you.
- I am very impressed with the way BCGREA treats its members, including the support I have received from the Branch since the passing of my husband. Well done!!
- I am very new to this organization so some of my responses reflect this (e.g. No Opinion). I enjoy receiving email correspondence but have not participated in any "in person" events yet.
- I am very pleased to belong to this group. Very informative and due to living location I am not able to partake in a lot of the programs offered. Thank you again.
- I am very thankful for my pension and hope that all goes well for the future of BCGREA. This questionnaire has made me realize how many other employers are combined. I hope I have completed this reasonably for myself and others concerned.
- I am wondering if there is a link I am missing as I don't seem to be receiving meeting notifications this year. Have you changed the way this is communicated?
- I appreciate all the hard work that is being done through this association. I am not a very active member but commend all of you for the work you do and certainly enjoy all the communication I receive.
- I appreciate my pension coming in regularly each month since 1997 when I was eliminated because funding for my program was transferred to local health boards and I was in an excluded position. Since my retirement I have moved to Alberta to be closer to family.....a good move. I have great respect for those who are working to improve the benefits from years of service. Thank You!

- I appreciate that our directors keep members informed of the work they are doing, especially for those of us who are unable to attend meetings in person.
- I appreciate the discounts we receive as a result of belonging to BCGREA. Thank you for your hard work.
- I appreciate the news letters (local email) and "The Pen". I appreciate what the association does on behalf of retired Union members. I also "thank" the member/executive role on local "Nanaimo/Mid-Island" members even though I have never participated locally - I do read about the opportunities available to me. Again, thank you.
- I appreciate the volunteer hours spent, the efforts made and the significant contribution of the BCGREA.
- I appreciate the work of everyone involved and am happy to be a member even though I don't attend meetings.
- I appreciate the work you are doing and am glad to be a member.
- I appreciate what you are doing for us. Thank you!
- I appreciate what you do on behalf of retired members.
- I appreciate your efforts on the behalf of members. This is significant contribution of time and effort.
- I at the moment attend meetings only if the topic of the discussion applies to my current situation because I can still live independently on my own. For sure I will continue my membership with the BCGREA. It is very important for us seniors to be aware of all the available resources offered to us so we can benefit from them in improving our situation in life.
- I believe BCGREA is extremely important and valuable for retired BC Government employees and agencies that are members. I've been retired for three years now, after 35 years of government service, and being able to belong to the BCGREA gives me a sense of continuity to an organization I was very proud to work for. I commend all those who do all the work within the BCGREA and thank you for your commitment working on retirees behalf.
- I believe many of the speakers at Branch meetings are new and important information for many members. It just happens my field of employment and current volunteering cover(ed) many of them, so for me they do not attract/ assist. But I feel they are valuable to many members e.g new interests in early retirement; caregiving as relatives and friends age or suffer ill health; planning for end of life (PoA, Health Care Rep. Agreement, current will, what Medical Assistance in Dying is and how to help someone considering that; pre-planning for funeral and disposal of a body; grief resources; post loss financial issues; renewing social life and interests; etc. are examples.
- I believe that the BCGREA has done a good job over the years. I have quite a bit of money for services they have negotiated for, I'm looking forward to being more involved in luncheons, speakers, travel options once I retire for a second time. I appreciate the time and effort this association has spent looking after their members.
- I believe we have a very strong branch but we do have difficulty getting volunteers to fill executive positions. Our president is an extremely dedicated person who encourages participation.
- I did not receive this email until after March 25, 2025.
- I didn't realize there was a yearly membership fee. This needs to be communicated more effectively to members when and how to pay.
- I didn't know that the membership enrollment includes non-traditional government ministries. I would be interested in learning more about the history and influences on changes in membership, perhaps in a newsletter. I would be interested in seeing coverage of how our pension plan is considering actions taken to increase investment in Canadian businesses by provincial pension plans. Here is a link to the Dec 2024 article announcing the Federal initiative: <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2024/12/unlocking-pension-investment-in-canada.html> I limit my attendance at indoor meetings to limit potential exposure to respiratory illnesses. This probably leads to a reduced view of Branch roles.
- I do not use social media, so please don't put too many eggs in that basket.

- I don't support the name change I understand your point, but I think the name indicates a strong union and people recognize it right off the bat.
- I don't support the name of the BCGREA changing to something else. I don't know how you'd capture the 100+ organizations that are enrolled in the PSPP. I worked for core government, a health authority and a crown corporation but my 33 years of pensionable service stayed with the PSPP. My 18 years with the crown corporation is sadly not recognized by the core provincial government as crowns don't fall under the Public Service Act and my time working for a health authority likewise was not recognized, so sadly, even though I had 33 years of being a public servant, only a portion of that time was recognized by core government so I was shut out of attending the Long Service Awards at Government House. So how do you capture someone like me and my contributions in a name? So I think it's just best to leave it as is as you're not going to come up with a satisfactory name. When people ask me where I worked, I just say I was a public servant with the BC government as I really think this captures all of my service, as after all the crown corporations do fall under government jurisdiction and report to a Minister and all have mandate letters issued to them by each Minister and the health authorities all get their funding from the Ministry of Health, so all the people in the 100 organizations, are in my opinion public servants especially if their pensions are with the Public Service Pension Plan Corporation.
- I don't go to meetings because I went to meetings/facilitated meetings all my working life and when I retired in 2008 I have not attended any meetings but fully support the BCGREA.
- I don't have enough information to have an opinion on previous question. I appreciate the work of the BCGREA leadership.
- I don't receive any consistent communication from my branch. Perhaps I received a couple of emails in 2021 but I cannot tell you the last time I received one. I've never attended any events.
- I don't receive any info of local activities and have never received a membership card.
- I feel BCGREA directors are doing an excellent job.
- I feel somewhat out of touch with living out of province. I would love to connect with others in my situation.
- I feel that it is important that any Provincial Government employees who might be inclined to join our Association would recognize the initials BCGEU and they might feel that it is clear to them who this organization is. I'm happy with others joining our group.
- I find some of the topics are geared towards the older or elder members. Topics like driving, technology and fraud detection appear to target mainly older retirees that may not have been exposed to new technology. Being 68, most of the topics simply don't appeal to me, or my age group. I think it is good that the BCGREA does do this, however most topics are of less interest to me.
- I get an unreasonable number of hearing life fliers in the mail. I believe that could be reduced and save some cost.
- I greatly support the existence of our BCGREA and the volunteers who run it on our behalf. Your recent edition of the Pen was excellent; easy to read and informative. I have become less of a joiner and more of an observer as I enter my twilight years. Keep up your good works particularly for those behind me.
- I have been considering getting involved more.
- I have enjoyed the meetings and luncheons.
- I have family members who are BC Government retired pensioners and they are unaware of the BCGREA. I think the annual newsletter sent to all those who contribute/d to public pensions (incl. the 100 other organizations) should always have an article on the BCGREA. If BCGREA is going to choose a new name, it should be simple enough not to require an acronym in regular use. As we age, it's harder to keep all the acronyms straight.
- I have moved from the area where I first joined after the death of my husband and have not been active for a few years due to his passing and my moving and downsizing and organizing - how do I change my

membership location - I am now living in North/Central Saanichton - close to Sidney and would like to become more active with the organization.

- I have never benefited from the program. I should really cancel my membership. My husband has the Johnson Insurance through his past employer.
- I have recently retired. I would like to be more active in time. I did learn about the invigilator job opportunity through BCGREA and start in a couple of weeks. Very grateful for that.
- I have to admit that I don't partake in many of the activities or events offered but I still appreciate being made aware of them. The member discounts are a good way to entice enrollment. Might I suggest approaching companies like the BCAA, investment companies, airlines, travel agencies and grocers to for discounts based on the size of our membership.
- I haven't been as active lately as I would like, but I think the organization is very important. It is critically important that the branch/grassroots side of things be well tended to. We don't need an executive only model, but we need to have active branches that are in touch with their memberships and allow all of us to understand who fellow members are in the local area. Otherwise the organization is just another top down theory. I strongly am against consolidation of branches, etc. unless necessary because of dwindling numbers.
- I haven't been involved much to date with the BCGREA, but now that I've joined the Western Communities Branch (closer to where I live), I intend to become more involved.
- I heard of you from my insurance broker. I'm wondering if there is a way to make retiring employees aware of your services. I have found the PSPP terrible communicators (to my significant detriment) and I am sure they did not tell me of the existence of this organisation.
- I honestly quite often forget I'm part of the BCGREA as communication is rare. The last information I received was by mail about the travel insurance. Which was appreciated.
- I just want to add that I was recently transferred to the Cowichan Valley group so did not attend any functions as they were all held in Victoria. I likely will attend more functions now that it is here in the Valley.
- I just want to correct a mistake I made. I didn't join until 1998 but marked as before 1997.
- I just want to say that my opinions are based on the fact that I am a spouse of a deceased member and therefore it is my opinions and answers not his which may have been different.
- I just wanted to add that the reason I have not attended in person events is that my husband is getting chemotherapy treatments and has no immunity. I have to avoid crowds and that is why I have not gone to the lunches etc. I enjoy reading all your newsletters and want to thank the people that work so hard to get the job done.
- I keep getting mail for offers on hearing aids. How about offers through the mail for life insurance? That would be most beneficial.
- I know we are more to do with our Pension Plan but I wish we had more input on regards to our Medical and Dental Plans since they are not as well covered for retirees.
- I know you're working on it but would like to see much better dental coverage and extended health.
- I know that digital communication is cheaper, but please remember that many of the old timers still depend on paper.
- I like member discounts.
- I like the BCGREA for our name as it is easy to identify with and is appropriate. If you must change the name from BCGREA I think you should circulate the suggested name and put it to a vote by ALL the retired members to vote on.
- I like to thank the leadership in maintaining a healthy fund for the retired members. Keep up the good work.
- I love the meetings guests and meeting new members don't care much for the lunches but that's only my opinion I will go to all meetings I can buy pass on lunches thank you.

- I object to the current financial arrangement where dues are no longer split between the branch and provincial. Too much provincial involvement. The fiscal year of Dec is also problematic. It is difficult in the dead of winter trying get volunteer members to undertake a financial review because of vacations, bad winter weather for driving, using transit, and sometimes mobility issues in winter.
- I personally have never used my membership card. I normally get seniors discounts on most things already, without the use of my card.
- I really appreciate all the efforts of everyone. I haven't been out to many functions but i always receive good information from you and you advocate for me. I just want to thank all the people who makes this effort possible. I don't take it for granted. A big thank you!
- I really appreciate the group discounts that are offered by the association on various products as this is important to retirees when their salaries are not as high as when they are working.
- I really appreciate the webinars on specific topics of interest to seniors, maintaining the ability to drive, wills and estate planning, safety in the home, etc.
- I really wish our dental and prescriptions benefits were the same as when I was employed. This is very expensive and is not very affordable in retirement. Our dental is a joke. I pay for myself about 500 dollars a year for coverage and only get 1500 coverage. That is basically only enough for a cleaning, x-rays and maybe a filling. I am really disappointed. My medical expenses are costing me thousands of dollars.
- I said no the name change as I don't believe a name change could do any better in capturing the variety of groups. However if the majority agree to change it, then I can live with that. I would like to see more information as to how this group works with the decision makers who influence change to our pension. Our retiree medical plan is substandard to many in terms of what is covered and the amounts. I believe that should be a primary focus of our group in terms of advocating. Thanks to all of you who volunteer to keep this going forward.
- I strongly believe in unionism (is there such a word?) and believe it's more important now than ever before.
- I support a \$5 increase in membership fee, but not the increase per year. Thank you all for the work you put into keeping us informed, advocating for us....
- I support a \$5.00 increase for one year but not every year.
- I support increase in fees but not automatic every year! When would it stop if 5 dollars is added yearly?
- I support membership fee increase, but not as much as \$5 per year. maybe tie it to the inflation rate? Please try to save for members, not too generous in spending.
- I support the \$5 per/year membership increase but would like to know how long this would be implemented. I don't agree with it happening every year.
- I thank them for all their hard work that largely goes unrecognized Thank you all Audrey Tobin.
- I think a name change is a good idea.
- I think BCGREA is too confusing for older people.
- I think just keeping us all informed on the changing times!
- I think that the association does a great job for its members.
- I think that you are doing a good job.
- I think the BCGREA Directors are doing a great job. I send a thank you to directors and workers for your commitment and for stepping up and doing the work. Also, I send thank yous to the members who show up at meetings.
- I think the BCGREA is a very good organization. I live in Port Alberni so do not get out to branch meetings but appreciate the information received and have used the BCGREA associations for home insurance discounts which is very helpful. Thanks.
- I think the BCGREA is great the way it is.
- I think the Directors are doing an excellent job.

- I think the name should stay the same. As it is very recognizable, when I see it I know that it is a strong group. Thank you.
- I think they're doing a fantastic job. Thank you.
- I think you do a very good job. Just wish I was able to attend meetings, unfortunately that is not the case.
- I trust the BCGREA Directors to make good decisions.
- I understand the BCGREA might already use the term BC General Retired employees, etc. but I am not sure. General would give the idea that the organization includes non-government retired employees.
- I used to be in the Nanaimo branch. There was monthly meetings, almost always a guest speaker and a few times a year a luncheon get together. Since moving to the Okanagan area there hasn't been anything that I'm aware of. Also there was some info on an event in Vernon, as a senior it is too much to travel in winter all that way. Events should be held closer to where people live to enable attendance.
- I value the work the elected representatives do on my behalf. I read all information emailed to me and am hoping to participate more. I will be in agreement with the majority regarding a name change.
- I value the work the elected representatives do on my behalf. I read all information emailed to me AND APPRECIATE THE WORK OF THE EXECUTIVE AND ALL THE VOLUNTEERS. I will be in agreement with the majority regarding a name change.
- I want to thank all those who work so hard to help others.
- I was in management at the end of my career and found other members were not very friendly at the meeting. Have not been back since.
- I wish I could attend meetings but winter driving 120 km there and back is not possible at my age. I wish there was a branch closer to home.
- I would be interested in more webinars such as our Greenshield benefits, walking groups and travel groups.
- I would like options to join presentations via zoom link and to join recorded sessions. I think the organization is important for advocating and providing information for retired members and for those who are considering retirement. I feel included. Thank you!
- I would like the BCGREA to negotiate a much better benefit package for medical/dental (prescription eyewear allowance and the annual deductible for prescriptions drugs is too high at \$250.00 per person before coverage takes effect). Has Sunlife been approached for a quote? As pensioners on a fixed income, we need a better contract.
- I WOULD LIKE THE DIRECTORS TO KNOW That their Dedication and hard work is very much appreciated. (sorry about the typing).
- I would like to know if we have any power in lobbying for improved benefits given the challenges retired people face in today's uncertain economic situation. e.g. I am appalled by the \$200.00 Vision benefits cap with Greenshield and who actually negotiates with them regarding our Benefits Package? We live rural and given the time and cost to go into Sidney to pick up prescriptions, I would like to see the amount of prescriptions issued to be increased (i.e. three months issued at any one time), if the senior member has been on a certain med for years, why can't they be issued 6 months at a time? I do not see seniors hawking their blood pressure meds online or on street corners.
- I would like to know more about who negotiates on behalf of the members and the benefits we receive and when those negotiations take place. Are the members asked to participate? For example hearing aid reimbursement is \$700.00 per ear and has been that since I retired in April of 2015, it is not sufficient! And when will there be an RFP issued for a provider, Green Shield is absolutely awful and downright lies as I can attest to, I never had issues with Blue Cross in all the years they were the provider of both working and the first few years of retirement.
- I would like to know what (if anything) is being done regarding members paying (approx. \$32.38/month or \$388.56/year) for a basic Dental Plan that offers less coverage than the Federal basic Dental Plan (Canadian Dental Care Plan CDCP) being given seniors aged 65 and over. Will the BCGREA Directors

initiate the renegotiation our basic dental plan coverage with Green Shield to be better than the CDCP coverage? Is the BCGREA Directors waiting to for the Federal Election to see if the CDCP is rescinded?

- I would like to see a presentation from an economist who has inside knowledge of the Bank of Canada and the federal Ministry of Finance. I would like someone to explain how we could do so much better by funding public projects with loans essentially from ourselves (Bank of Canada). Why do we choose to shovel our precious interest payments out to private borrowers and run up a ridiculous federal deficit like some \$60 BILLION this year! No wonder there is no money left for healthcare, housing, etc.
- I would like to see our medical benefits increased for example - \$500 a year is not sufficient.
- I would not want to see the name change as it clearly identified we were employed with various government ministries.
- I would prefer less than a 25% increase in dues. Wonder how you arrived at \$5? I do not do social media of any kind and do not support this initiative especially if there are dollars attached to it.
- I would support a \$5 membership increase. Just not \$5 yearly.
- I would support a \$5 per year increase in membership fees for the next 5 years and then a review in 5 years again. For example, I would not want to be paying more than \$50 a year down the road.
- I would support a \$5.00 increase in fees periodically but not every year as stated in your question above.
- I would support initiatives to host regional meetings of the different branches a few times a year to help strengthen our common goals and help reduce a sense of "isolation" that can develop. For example, I am a member of the Golden Ears Branch, general meetings with other Lower Mainland/ Fraser Valley branches would have a variety of positive outcomes.
- I'd like to see a branch in Duncan.
- I'd like to see a more educated information given to the 48% so they have a better idea that they could be a part of the BCGREA.
- If a name change to the group is envisioned it should be similar to the BC Government and Services Union change of several decades ago.
- If BCGREA is considering raising fees to cover increased costs I don't believe expenses incurred in changing the name should be a priority. I think more emphasis should be made at the workplaces to inform their employees of the BCGREA and benefits of joining.
- If inflation has been 40% of \$20 over 16 years, then the current total fee should be \$28. That's an \$8 increase over 16 years or \$0.50/year. So why do you need a \$5 increase per year? \$5 is a 25% increase per year, far more than our pension increase of 2.6% this year. The increase per year should be more like \$0.50.
- If the name change takes place I think there will need to be good, timely communication about it to be sure members understand the change and recognize themselves within it.
- If we did change the name do you have some options for the members to consider. If retired employees from other parts of the government service don't see themselves in the name it would be a hard sell to get them to join.
- I'm feeling underwhelmed by my experience with BCGREA. One of the first things I tried to do was take advantage of member discounts when my home insurance was up for renewal. The price quoted from Belair direct was ridiculously high and not materially different from what I was quoted as a guy off the street with no membership affiliation. So this is more of a disservice and makes me think member services need to be better vetted and BCGREA needs to be up front about the specifics of the discounts offered to members. The breadth and depth of member benefits is also underwhelming. Perhaps next survey, check in with folks to see what is most meaningful to them. Thanks for considering my comments.
- I'm grateful for my small pension and benefits and for the work the Directors do to protect the members. Thank you.
- I'm not against a needed name change for the BCGREA. However, I think a new name should be voted on by the membership before it is made official.

- Impressed with local Branch executive and their efforts to include everyone and provide interesting presentations.
- In reference to the above comment about PSPP recipients not hearing about the BCGREA, why not support those employees who are contributing to the PSPP being able to join the BCGREA (or whatever its new name might be) before they retire? They wouldn't necessarily need the benefits retirees get from belonging to the BCGREA but would be engaged in the BCGREA well before they retired. If not join, perhaps at least be on a mailing list.
- In regard to the above proposal re name change, I would have a better response once I knew what the proposed new name was going to be.
- Increase pensions.
- Instead of a name overhaul, maybe consider a new "Title" name, that is a simple inclusive and distinctive name while formally retaining the official name of the association. For example: 'Retired British Columbians', an inclusive name for the retired without restricting/limiting our reach to only retired public servants.
- Intelligent and active lobbying and influencing on our behalf is most important to protect pensions and benefits, cost of living increases, and other supports such as health care.
- Is there ever any outreach to members with small pensions, to find out how they are faring financially? I am fine but I do worry about those who worked a long time for government at lower salary levels and who might be finding things a bit tight these days. Thanks for all you do and for your time.
- It is good that soliciting information and opinions is being done.
- It is important for the BCGREA, in cooperation with allies such as the BC teachers federation, to work towards influencing investment decisions.
- It is important work that you do and I do feel some regret for not providing more support, but I am heavily involved in another volunteer capacity (to the point of being aware of a "work-life balance" problem).
- It would be great if the Victoria branch could find a location to hold regular meetings.
- It would be interesting to have BCGREA present a short report on the guest speaker program. What topics are considered, who, and how, are speakers selected? Where and how are the talks presented, are there other presentation channels besides the periodic luncheons?
- It would be nice if the benefits were better. Percentage is lower than when I was working. Seems backwards, if you ask me. The benefits should be better now that I am retired.
- It would be nice to have shared information regarding services specific designed to assist seniors in managing their daily lives (e.g. handyman, plumbers, electricians, ... etc.) in general proximity of the region where they reside.
- It would be nice to know if there are visually impaired people in the association who can assist me to work with computers and to learn new technology and layout for reading the website. When I attend a meeting and people greet me, it would be nice if they introduced themselves and mention where they know me from. As a blind person, the presentations are often difficult to follow at meetings if they are on a whiteboard with not interpretation. Presenters should take this into consideration.
- It's a good organization that keep our members informed on current issues that effect us.
- It's the BCGREA that includes everyone, that's all we need. I can come up with a number of other names, that's has nothing to do with government retiree groups. Careful what you do.
- It's time for a review/overhaul of the benefits program as there are a number of issues in how it is managed and what it offers.
- It's good to have a voice and advocate for retired employees.
- Just get after it!
- Just joined as I was not aware the organization existed . It would be fair to say that greater public awareness and recruitment would be good.
- Just keep advocating on our behalf to keep our pensions secure and updated re the cost of living.

- Just make sure to get all of us Retirees back onto Blue Cross coverage. My husband has his UNION Retired Blue Cross coverage. So I know how better the Blue Cross coverage is. The Greenshield mandate coverage always seems to be an ongoing quibble for more doctors' documentation needed when it is the DR. prescribing the needed medication over covering portions of his uniquely needed medications from open heart surgery, etc. Thanks for pursuing this updated need!
- Just thank you for all the work you do on our behalf.
- Just to keep in mind a lot of folks in this group are older and not too techie savvy.
- Just to say thank you for your ongoing interest, dedication, and proactive/visionary approach undertaken to manage our Retired Employees Association.
- Keep up the good work.
- Keep going.
- Keep on doing a good job.
- KEEP UP.
- Keep up the excellent work!
- Keep up the fine work - much appreciated.
- keep up the good work.
- Keep up the good work.
- Keep up the good work for all our members.
- Keep up the good work!
- Keep up the good work, your dedication doesn't go unnoticed.
- Keep up the good work.
- Keep up the good work. With 4000 new members its hard to understand why you need to increase member fees.
- Keep up the great work as we are proud of our Canadians, our province and our country and let us admit, so far we have enjoyed fairly " sane, responsible and predictable, humane" civic & federal, provincial people in government. Let us continue being the polite, approachable and compromising people but if need be, fight when we must to maintain our values and way of life. THANK YOU!!!
- Keep up the great work that you do.
- Keep up working to maintain our pensions and benefits and communicating pension information to our members. Support educating the members on issues relating to retired people.
- Keeping better track of long time members.
- Keeping everyone updated.
- Less Branch Administration allowing more social networking and information. More centralized management of the association and financial services.
- Life insurance for members should be considered as highly important. Receiving constantly offers for hearing aids which is not needed.
- Living in Saskatoon keeps me away from local branch activities.
- Lobby for better prescription coverage from Green Shield.
- Lobby government for inclusion into Canadian Dental Plan for retired members who did not elect for the optional retirees plan.
- Lobby the govt. against the BC Speculation and Vacancy Tax and Vancouver Empty Homes Tax or any other housing taxes that affect retired persons.
- Local executives need to be thanked and recognized more for keeping the local organizations together and doing all the work of arranging meetings, speakers, etc.
- Local meetings are boring. Very "old school" really need some upgrading in how to manage a chapter and keep members interested.
- Look into a better plan than Green shield and giving spouses that are not part of the plan to be allowed to join.

- Look into the Green Shield insurance plan. I do not feel we are getting value for our money. More and more things are not covered and dental care is costing more and more over and above what they cover.
- Looking for benefit support. pension and health.... plus travel and purchase deals.. other than that.. really no interest.
- Loss and reduction of benefits over the years. Difficulties accessing Green Shield .
- Make quicker decisions on items that members care about, such as delegates to COSCO.
- Make the meetings interesting and fun. Volunteer drivers if possible. Good food for lunch.
- Mandatory driver medical exams for seniors every 2 years is out of touch with reality. If govt is determined to carry on with it, regardless of the thousands of seniors who do not have a doctor, the fee should be standardized and covered by the medical plan.
- Many Pension members are experienced professionals and life experienced with ideas and possible solutions to our current environment. There should be a forum that not only seeks these ideas but actively communicates to a provincial and federal representative for consideration. For example the purchase of bonds by members at a special rate to help fund investment, research, housing projects, infrastructure projects, school lunches, etc.
- Maybe there should be a separate group for the non-government people. Government employees have much in common to share even though we worked for different ministries. We all had shifts in ministries/name changes, similar hierarchies, budget cuts etc. Those things are regularly in our conversations. Our pensions are a very important topic, along with our health benefits. This commonality brings us together as a group. Others may have shared a union with us, but not much else. If I was joining today, and the group was just a generic retirement group who may have been part of the same union, I wouldn't join.
- Meetings and events such as luncheons and presentations should be rotated within the catchment area, rather than all taking place in Nelson, or bus transportation should be offered to those in the outlying areas, especially during winter.
- Membership fee increase should be \$5 for 2026 to \$25.00 and; then an automatic increase each year by an annual % increase in PSPP retirement pensions.
- Minor, but I suspect there are several other members like me, who have returned to work (particularly in the public sector). Some content or sessions addressing them might be of interest. Hard for us to participate in weekday meetings or activities.
- More branch events to get members together.
- More education/information regarding extended health benefits and availability of "low cost alternatives". There is considerable negativity towards our current provider, information regarding the funding of EHC benefits and funding limitations would reduce cynicism.
- More emphasis with soon to retire employees about this organization and resins to join.
- More info (update for some) re the "class action" concerning the loss of medical dues and reimbursement of those costs. From ?? forget the year the Clarke Gov't. took that benefit away!
- More information on housing discounts for BCGREA members in cities in the province. If a member moves out of British Columbia to another province for family reasons does the employee's dental and extended medical plans still cover that employee in the new province? IE: An information sharing section in the BCGRA Paper Issues annually. Thanks.
- More outreach to new and younger retirees. I retired in March 2024 and felt quite lost until I read the pension insert newsletter that told me about you. At 56 I am interested in discounts and active living not seniors' advocacy. For me the BCGREA is a critical information link in what is going on with my pension and benefits. Very very important!
- More work needs to be done to lobby for better pension increases and extended health benefits. We are not keeping up with increased costs at all. BC Pension Corp is holding too much money (\$B) in reserves, while members are paying too much out of their own pockets for expenses.

- More zoom meetings as most of the time I'm out of town and can't attend.
- Most important is to represent our views to government and promote our wellbeing as retirees. I like the information you send. I also like to attend the occasional lunch or dinner. Thank you for your work on our behalf.
- My branch 2100 is doing an awesome job. Lots of participation and interesting guest presenters.
- My history is not typical. I left the BC public service in 2002 but continued working fulltime until 2023. I began drawing my pension when I turned 55 (2010) which I think is when I joined BCGREA.
- My interest is low due to the fact that I kept on working after my retirement and I still work part time.
- My retirement is going on 18 years and the knowledge that I have competent, caring people working hard to look after all the benefits that I require, is a bonus. God bless all!
- My wife, who is a member, but never worked for government is an important ally. However, there doesn't seem to any interest in harassing these members.
- Name could be changed but B.C. still be part of the new name.
- Negotiate enhanced medical benefits. especially for those with disabilities.
- Negotiating better extended health care benefits. I.e. Greenshields only provides \$200/2 years for eye care. This is simply not adequate but massage therapy and physiotherapy is funded quite a bit on a yearly basis.
- New member so some of my answers are based on very limited exposure to your association.
- No but how do I find out if I have paid the annual fee? Or is it automatically deducted from my pension?
- No but thank you for everything.
- no comment. thank you for your services.
- No computer.
- No you are doing great job, if you can find more discounts vendors for membership will be great, good job Ladies and gentlemen.
- No, except communication is critical.
- No, I'm sorry I haven't attended the luncheons. I always want to but have conflicts due to my very hectic schedule.
- None, since I do not participate in BCGREA activities.
- Not at the moment, quite happy the way things are.
- Not at this time. I am quite happy with the current BCGREA model, though there is always room for growth and learning.
- Not really, I believe that the Directors cover all essential issues.
- Not that I can think of at the moment.
- Nothing at this time. Thank you all for the good work you are doing to advance and represent the interests of retired folks who worked with the Public Service.
- Nothing at this time...you folks are doing a great job and it is very much appreciated!
- Nothing comes to mind. I appreciate the PEN newsletter and social media updates.
- On my Mac Book Pro I am unable to use Zoom. Would prefer live human contact.
- On the name issue, I think I would support a name change if the name was reflective of the broader group. I'm reluctant to say I support a name change without knowing what the name is. If I knew it was a two-step process (i.e., respond "Yes" to the question, then have an opportunity to vote on whether or not to change the name once a name is proposed), then I would answer "Yes" to that question. However, if the first vote drives a name change process that leaves me only able to vote between name proposals (i.e., without a chance to vote not to change), then I would not support it. Broadly, it appears that the efforts and activities of the organization seem focused on matters related to senior citizens, rather than matters related to retired members more broadly. While I can't point to something specific the organization should be doing for non-senior retirees, it does feel like organizational initiatives are directed

toward the benefit of the older element of the membership. I have no suggestions, but it's just something to keep in mind.

- Once I am settled in my new community I would like to possibly become more involved in the BCGREA. I am likely re-locating to a small northern community in BC and wonder if there will be any branches/member groups close to me.
- One area that could be strengthened is discounts for seniors - the only ones I've seen are those that are thinly disguised advertisements for property insurance companies, estate planning, etc. What about coupons that provide financial incentives for merchandise that seniors are interested in? What about discounts for seniors for transportation (incl. taxis)? Or discounts for attractions, like Butchart Gardens? When we travelled to Europe a decade ago, even as tourists we were eligible for 50% discounts on many attractions, public transportation, etc.
- Only thing I'd like to say is that I support the organization and would like to participate more however all activities seem to happen on Tuesdays and I am not available on Tuesdays.
- Opportunities for members to provide feedback and input to this organization (i.e. this survey) are important and appreciated.
- Our Extended health plan, Greenshield is terrible. I was diagnosed with Osteoporosis recently and they paid their share for the first prescription of Prolia then sent a letter saying they won't pay for more to go through Fair Pharmacare which I won't be eligible for. I pay extra as I didn't work for the government for more than 10 pensionable years and it keeps going up yet they will hardly cover anything.
- Our medical plan is ANCIENT! We need to negotiate a up-to-date plan. BCG. employees should be made aware of the meager plan they can look forward to, too. That will put pressure on the Govt funded Pension Agency to upgrade the medical plan. Second, what is the real advantage of being in the BCGREA if BCGREA cannot represent the retired employees and negotiate better benefits?
- Outside the lower mainland branches are far apart and cover many communities sometimes overlapping. Creston Resident are about 50/50 serviced out of Nelson and Cranbrook.
- Pension and retirement benefits and news and advocacy are my top priority. Especially advocating for those already retired who I feel are getting less from the accumulated surplus than brand new employees. Recent surpluses have gone to new employees in a contribution rate freeze and higher base accrual rate. The last increase was about 2008 when the base rate went to 1.65% for a 12 year period (& bridge went down). The youngest employee now gets a base rate of 1.95% all base pension (no bridge).
- Perhaps I am an anomaly, but I had some difficulty with my attempt to join Facebook. I am refused in fact, plus I have previously been uncomfortable with the use of social media. I am wondering if there are others out there with objections or difficulties in this area.
- Perhaps lobbying the government for more help for seniors who own not rent their own homes.
- Please continue doing the very good job that you have been doing.... Good luck and good health to all.... 😊.
- Please continue the great work that you are already doing so well. I always appreciate hearing from the BCGREA even though I now reside in a different province. If I lived back in BC, I would certainly offer additional support like attending meetings etc. Thank you for how you represent the core issues for all who have retired serving the people of BC. We now reside in a geopolitical climate where just being Canadian is essential and makes me proud! Thank you for all that you do!
- Please continue to share information with/from other similar groups.
- Please don't use or increase use of Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, or other American media/propaganda at this very vulnerable time.
- Please enhance the benefits for vision. currently, the \$200 just covers two eye exams with nothing left for glasses or contacts.
- Please keep up the good work. Your hard work is very much appreciated.

- Please keep up this very important organization. Your efforts and continued contributions are truly appreciated even if our local isn't so positive all the time.
- Please maintain a high level of focus on the core mandate of advocating for our pensions. Anything else should be done through voluntary work or minimal financial resources.
- Post more information on who is eligible to have membership in BCGREA.
- Primary focus on involvement / advocacy related to the management & administration of the pension fund and related benefits is critical (e.g., our dental plan is not great...), as is seniors advocacy in general. It is the raison d'être for the BCGREA. Maintaining a collegial network and membership engagement / learning / socialization opportunities at the regional / local level follow in importance. Negotiating membership discounts, etc. are nice to have, but not essential in my view.
- Protecting our pension and retirement benefits is number 1.
- Provide discounts and services to retirees that reside in other Provinces e.g. my wife & I live in Alberta to be with our daughter and extended family.
- Putting members from the Sunshine Coast in the North Island branch (200) is silly. I have to take two ferries to attend branch events on the Island. Are there enough members to warrant a new Sunshine Coast branch?
- Question on comfort level with various methods of communication: That is a different question from what method people prefer. I'm very comfortable with going on the website, YouTube, & using Zoom, but none are my preferred method of communication. Note about communication via bulletins/e-blasts/newsletters: These methods are good, and are best if used sparingly and are shorter vs longer. However, this has to be balanced with the necessity of keeping members informed. Referring members to a website link for more information (e.g., AGM minutes, provincial administrative work) is one way to communicate information without members having to sift through pages and pages for the nuggets of interest to them.
- Rather than increase dues, cut programs and unnecessary staff. Suggesting outings and tours? What for? Stay focused on the reason this organization exists. The primary function should be focused on member benefits. For example, dental coverage is poor. Not happy with Greenshield. Would prefer to be with Blue Cross.
- RE the name change...just get rid of the word "Government". As soon as people hear the abbreviation BCGREA, they think it's the BC Government Employees Union. The association is too close.
- Really appreciate everything that the local branch does in Langford.
- Recruitment is definitely something that needs to be focused on. My local branch needs some younger members recruited to bring in some new ideas and energy into the group. Meetings are supposed to serve as a valuable platform for sharing information, engaging members, and ensuring that everyone's time is well spent. Unfortunately, when meetings are boring and lack substantial information sharing, they quickly become unproductive. Another point of concern is the lack of events for members and their families. Events are one of the best ways to foster a sense of community and inclusion. Finally, the question of what my dues are funding often lingers. When there's little to no information about where the money is going, it creates a sense of unease. Are my dues being used effectively to improve the organization, or is it simply covering basic operational costs with no real investment in growth or member engagement? Without transparency, it's difficult to feel confident that the funds are being spent wisely or in a way that directly benefits members. In conclusion, a lack of engaging and well-organized meetings, no planned events, and a vague understanding of dues usage erode trust and hinder the overall experience. For an organization to thrive, there needs to be more focus on meaningful engagement, clear communication, and accountability. Without these, members may begin to wonder what, exactly, they're getting out of their membership.
- Regarding the question on communications: I do not use electronic means of communicating but do receive some information via another member's email, therefore I consider email as very important . I

tried to attend a zoom meeting along with another member once but we all had problems participating with so I am uncomfortable using it. In the past my husband (a spousal member) and I attended all branch meetings, helped with special events; enjoyed Christmas Lunches especially. Now seldom able to participate due to caregiving (spouse chronic illness). I am still very interested in the BCGREA and branch activities.

- Residing in a community some distance from branch headquarters it is difficult to attend group activities.
- Return to Pacific Blue Cross Medical and Dental Benefit Programs!
- Review our extended health support. GSC is difficult to deal with by members and by healthcare supporters.
- rural remote branches don't have the resources to do much, I think branch 1900 is close to folding.
- Sending out reminders of the services provided and affiliate services. I often forget that I am a member and that some great resources are provided and that there is a community out there! I only recently remembered about travel insurance and used Medoc Johnston travel insurance for the first time!
- Setting aside my "hurt" feeling for not being "adored" for my talent, I believe the people who have worked for the organization deserve thanks for a job well done and tremendous accomplishments. Never fail to remember how much we rely on volunteers.
- Should be restricted to retired government employees ONLY.
- Sorry but I just don't pay attention to the postings. Life's too busy.
- Sorry cannot do more to support but keep up the good work, thanks.
- Stay out of areas that PROBUS is good at!
- Stick to advocating on behalf of members.
- Stop sending me hearing aid promotions.
- Stop the B.S. about being partners with companies such as Hearing Life. Do not let them, or any other company, use the Blue Jay symbol. I got my hearing aides from Connect Hearing at far less cost and have had very good back-up service!
- Subsidize appropriate meeting locations.
- Survey members about their satisfaction with GSC. Also survey service providers re their satisfaction with GSC. Based on their responses consider going back to Pacific Blue Cross.
- Thank you.
- Thank you all for everything you do for us all. I truly appreciate it all. It makes me happy to know that competent people are willing to give of their personal time and energy to do their best for the rest of us. Thanks once again and cheers to you all.
- Thank you all for your dedication and hard work on behalf of all of retirees your dedication is truly appreciated.
- Thank you BCGREA Directors.
- Thank you for all of your hardworking in supporting all of us.
- Thank you for all of your work in keeping the members informed and engaged!
- Thank you for all that you do!
- thank you for all the help - it is appreciated.
- Thank you for all the time and effort and work that each of you contribute to our functioning Association! All your knowledge and creativity is much appreciated.
- Thank you for all you do and offer. I wish I could participate more but I always seem to have a conflict.
- Thank you for all you do on our behalf.
- Thank you for all you do.
- Thank you for all your work to make a great association!
- Thank you for arranging online access to speakers.
- Thank you for asking for this input to keep up to date with the preferences of members. It would be great see more zoom interactions especially like the recent one on aging and driving.

- Thank you for asking.
- Thank you for being here but I have a hugely busy life and just do not yet have time to participate much yet but do pay attention.
- Thank You for continuing to take the time to ensure support and the recognition of retired public servants in a responsible manner.
- Thank you for doing a great job.
- Thank you for doing what you do. Informing members and helping some of our members deal with the issue of loneliness are very important services.
- Thank you for guarding our pensions.
- thank you for representing us retired government employees.
- Thank you for the continued good work you do!
- Thank you for the great work you all do.
- Thank you for the work the organization does.
- Thank you for the work you do and by showing regard for member's opinions by way of this questionnaire.
- Thank you for the work you do on behalf of all of us.
- Thank you for the work you do supporting our retired brothers and sisters!
- Thank you for the work you do.
- Thank you for this survey and for advocating for all of us.
- Thank you for this survey and for giving all members and potential members a strong voice. I appreciate your protection and advocacy.
- Thank you for your commitment and leadership.
- Thank you for your fantastic work and consistent excellent messaging!
- Thank you for your hard work on our behalf.
- Thank you for your hard work.
- Thank you for your hard work. It is appreciated!
- Thank you for your service and keep up the fine work!!!
- Thank you for your time, dedication and hard work!
- Thank you for your work efforts! Much appreciated.
- Thank you for your work on our behalf.
- Thank you to ALL the members & the Board for the volunteer work they put in!
- Thank you to the directors for your service.
- Thank you to the provincial and local Directors for their work on behalf of us members. I value the strength of the organization in advocating on our behalf. Since the COVID pandemic, I have not attended any of the in person functions, however, I do appreciate the option to attend meetings via Zoom to hear the various speakers.
- Thank you, you are really important to me and I value your advocacy etc.
- Thank you, home retrofitting for less mobility, could list trustworthy groups companies. Most difficult part is who to trust as a contractor for repairs, cars, credit unions, lawyers for will preparation or updates - who to trust.
- Thank you, so very much, for all your efforts.
- Thanks for all of your work on behalf of retired members.
- Thanks for all your hard work.
- Thanks for allowing us to participate in this! BCGREA is such a mouthful, THANKS for soliciting new name suggestions! PSRA.
- Thanks for opportunity to give opinion!
- Thanks for the survey.

- Thanks for your continued commitment to the Assn and your hard work. It is appreciated.
- Thanks for your ongoing work.
- Thanks for your time and expertise in support of our members!
- Thanks for your work with BCGREA.
- Thank you for all you do!
- The "service" provide by Greenshield Canada is abysmal. Surely it would be worthwhile adding retired public servants to still-employed public servants to obtain health insurance via Blue Cross. Under Greenshield, I cannot obtain the dental work I require (all of which is health-related, none of which is cosmetic). Is this an issue that has been pursued by the Association in the past? If so, what were the results? If not, I submit that this is the time!
- The affiliate Hearing Life is very expensive. Not getting good value by dealing with them.
- The BCGREA does a good job, I am in Alberta and go to meeting when I am in Penticton...keep up the good work...
- The BCGREA does a great job of representing it's members at the various levels of interaction with organizations that impact its members. This covers the gamut from government to 3rd party group benefits. Thank you.
- The BCGREA is not well represented by members but to change the name would be really confusing, adding to the name may work. I would keep an open mind and judge a new name impartially if given an opportunity.
- The branch executive is doing a great job and are dedicated to retirees interest. Thank you for your efforts.
- The Directors are doing an excellent job of providing the members the relevant information. I applaud you.
- The Directors' continuing support of ensuring the Provincial body is an equitable representation of the membership is important to me. Also, supporting the educational and socialization portions of the Branch meetings and social activities are very useful and important components of reinforcing the purpose and functions of the Provincial Association.
- The 'disinvolvement' of PSPP recipients seems markedly more profound since all in-person meetings and activities were cancelled during Covid. I think people need more communications about safeguarding their pension funds and apolitical Board members. That could be forwarded to non-members by members with encouragement to join.
- The efforts of the Board keeping the membership informed and your advocacy is much appreciated and not taken for granted.
- The only discounts that I am aware of are regarding hearing aids. For a number of years at the beginning of my retirement, the communication I received most was regarding a discount for hearing aids, this usually came at Christmas. At the time that I purchased hearing aids, the discount offered was not with the company that I was dealing with. At the time I dealt wit Nexgen who had pricing and service better than the discount offered through BCGREA. Now that Nexgen has become Hearing Life, I continually receive communications about discounts for hearing aids through them, in fact it seems that this is the most frequent communication that I receive from BCGREA, but I previously purchased from them when there was no BCGREA discount and do not need to purchase from them at present. So I am interested if there are other products and suppliers that you have negotiated discounts with, i.e. walkers, scooters, other aids and services. ?
- The only reason I joined was for access to medical insurance.
- the pension increase 2.6% P.A. your proposed 40% is out of proportion.
- THE REQUIREMENT OF BEING A MEMBER AND OFFERING MEMBER ONLY BENEFITS; INSURANCES (HOUSE, AUTO, LIFE, TRAVEL), OR SAVINGS IS A GREAT WAY TO RETAIN AND GET NEW MEMBERS. THIS MUST BE PROMOTED THROUGH OUR PENSION PLAN NEWSLETTER.

- The surplus in the actuarial valuation went to new and working members of the pension plan, not retirees! However, it is the retirees money that is mostly invested. Therefore at least half of the surplus should go to the retirees. We need better/more representation on the Pension Board. The extended medical plan is very poor on para-medical services such as physio, massage and so on, with a total \$500 limit. This buys practically nothing. We need better/expanded coverage.
- The table officers are doing a great job!
- The venue for the Nanaimo meetings is a huge turnoff. I'm a new member and quite honestly the venue is not inviting.
- There are many seniors who are struggling to make ends meet. Some without housing. I would like to see a focus on supporting those in need.
- There is a problem getting retired employees Tax documents. When they are not sent in mail.
- There needs to be a re-examination of the relationship Green Shield and PSPP Board. They are in bed together. There is no member accountability for the policies that reduce or eliminate claims. We don't even know how many members there are and how many claims there are and how many claims are denied, or abandoned. Coordination of claims with Blue Cross are complicated and onerous requiring copies of receipts. A statement from Green Shield is not sufficient. The board seems toothless and does not advocate for our membership. Its annual report details little about Green Shield the biggest consumer of our pensions.
- There ought not to be membership fees, and anyone on the list at PSPP HQ should be automatically made a member. That would solve the membership recruitment problem, and levying a small monthly fee on serving members (say \$2) would surely enrich the coffers sufficiently to carry on.
- Things are going good the way they are, don't spoil it.
- This was a very good survey.
- Though I choose not to be active in my local association, I applaud and appreciate the efforts of those that are actively engaged and working on behalf of folks like me.
- Thx for all your hard volunteer work!
- To date I have had little interaction with, or any real interest in, the workings of BCGREA. Most of my contact has been only through the Pen and that seems to have limited information for me. I am not present on any Social Media platforms so I would not seek BCGREA information in those venues, nor do I own a mobile cell phone. Yes, a Luddite! However, I do find that I receive few scams and much less of the annoying marketing harassment. Life at my age needs to be simpler so that I can just enjoy it day by day. If membership is currently \$20, why did I have \$40 deducted from my January pension?
- To keep track of members who may be ill or have passed away and inform the members. Maybe members can sign up to say that they would be in agreement with such disclosure. As members who attend regularly have stop coming without others, knowing they're ill or have passed away. I think it would be very supportive on the way to say we care. I would be in favour of the association, sending flowers to those that are seriously ill or a reef to the family of those what have passed away..
- Too many questions.
- Try to keep the cost of luncheons as low as possible to bring out members.
- Understand that branches cannot operate under present funding model. There is a disconnect between Provincial and Branch expenses. Costs keep increasing.
- Very happy with the union... I hope all employees join when they retire..
- Visiting program for extremely elderly members.
- We appreciate your commitment to our well being.
- We like the way this branch handles meetings with lunch. Contact with other members brings up some interesting subjects with lunch.

- We like to travel, as I am sure do many. Would be nice to have some form of connecting others , or other types of hobbies, passions, interests. Group travel?? Hotel discounts?? Make becoming a member fun and cost savings.
- We need to focus on better medical / dental plans by either vetting other companies to look at what's available to retirees, or renegotiating existing contracts with green shield, the current plans available are inadequate.
- We need to somehow make it more appealing for new retirees to join us. I'm not sure how! New retirees see this organization as for people much, much older than them and don't join.
- Weird to ask the question about changing the name but not including what the new name will be. I find these surveys clearly looking for specific answers they are...manipulative? No I don't want to go on blue sky to look for BCGREA information and don't increase the fees especially since you had such a successful membership drive which means a substantial increase in overall fee collection hence budget. I don't get enough out of my membership to absorb fee increases.
- What expenses does the BCGREA have and what services do they provide?
- What other name are you thinking? Ask to have information regarding the BCGREA included in retiring employees packages. I only knew about it from older retired members.
- What would the new name be?
- When are my yearly fees do? Will I receive an email?
- When I retired, my medical benefits were free of annual fees, such as Dental for those with 10 years of Service, or longer. Seeing that so many more members have joined, I'm wondering if this could be reconsidered.
- When negotiating member discounts take smaller communities into consideration. For example the hearing discounts do not help someone living in a community like Creston. Recognize that many members are caregivers that are burdened with almost no help from government. Help the seniors advocate by pressuring government for assistance similar to what a multi-millionaire or even a billionaire can get for child support and daycare. I am sure almost all caregivers caring for a person with dementia is far far more difficult than it was raising a child.
- While I don't attend any of the functions provided I appreciate all the work that is done and I think the work of the BCGREA is really important.
- While I like the social aspect, it's not my top priority, and I'm really more interested in more serious issues of being a pensioner. I mentioned some above such as the future of pension benefits, but this is where my interest lies. Thank you for what everyone does.
- Who do I call regarding information about Housing subsidy for seniors.
- Why change the name of BCGREU I, as many other members have learned to recognize this acronym for years.
- Why do you consider to change the name of BCGREA?
- Why was it called BCGREA in the first place? If so many other "nontraditional government employers" are eligible, why would this association have been named this way? Or has there been a change in eligibility over the years? I guess you can't answer me directly, but maybe in a FAQ of some sort.
- With respect to the suggested name change. Since our allies, BC Retired Teachers' Association (BCRTA), Municipal Pension Retiree Association (MPRA), and College Pension Plan Retirees (CPPR) have chosen to name their organization after their individual pension plans, it would follow that we should consider naming our organization as the Public Service Retirees Association (PSRA) or Public Service Pension Retirees Association (PSPRA).
- With the cost of everything going up so much and pensions, not. If the cost of this goes up, I will have to remove myself from the group. As it is, I already have to cut back on groceries and hydro to make ends meet.
- With the US tariff situation our org should source non US vendors...ie use Bluesky not X.

- Work on getting the fed gov't to back off on taxing seniors more every year and not giving them the same benefits that a lot of other groups get.
- Work towards improving our dental benefits. Implants are not part of the plan and are important. They allow the gums to stay healthier than dentures and dentures in fact do not guarantee gum health and do wear down bone in the gums. Even a modest amount to offset the \$2,400.00 cost of one implant would benefit your members immensely. Thank you.
- Working on a better deal for our Greenshield benefits would be helpful.
- Would appreciate expanded discount program - restaurants, food services (pre-made meals), gas.
- Yes, an increase in fees but not every year. Depending on new members joining and minus the members who passed away. Could BCGREA be changed to Public Service Retired Employees Association (PSREA). Thanks for all your hard work. I really do appreciate how you stand up for us.
- Yes, thank you so very much for all the good work you do! Incredible success in increasing our numbers, unfortunately that work will always need to continue. I was shocked at the very large number of members we loose to attrition each year. A huge number of members will help protect our pension in the pending financial crisis.
- Yes. I should get out to the Branch meetings more often! Note that I do read most of the correspondence that comes from the BCGREA, branch or otherwise. Keep up the good work!
- Yes. I was told at least 5 or 6 years ago that our medical carrier would be looked at, as Green Shield is useless. Is there any way to get a better provider other than leaving you and getting a private coverage?
- You and all you do for retired members are greatly appreciated.
- You are all doing a great job.
- You are doing a fantastic job! Thank You!!
- You are doing a great job.
- You folks have done well for myself and my wife, thank you very much.
- You would not like my comment.
- You're doing a great job - thank you.
- Your mandate is to seek gains of benefits for retired employees. Full stop. There is no need or rationale for going into politics like DEI and other woke nonsense. Stay out of that rubbish. Invest well and make us money.
- Your work on behalf of members is very appreciated. Thank you for making the time and effort to participate.
- Most of us are getting old, or are old !! We need the help of younger members, to be able to keep holding our social lunches We don't seem to have any new young people joining us ??
- Please cancel the hearing aid mailing letters to me.
- I live in PEI so obviously cannot attend any of your functions. I like getting your emails to keep me in touch. Am I still eligible for the draw?
- Branch 1700 Will provide a Resolution at the next AGM that "allow working employees within 5 years of retirement that contribute to PSPP to join BCGREA" (Same as the Federal Public Service Pension Plan Association. <https://www.federalretirees.ca/en/members/how-to-become-a-member#:~:text=findoutmore-,Whocanbecomeamember,honourablydischargednonpensionedveterans>).
- I do not live close to my local branch office, four hour round-trip. I would participate more if local meetings were conducted with Zoom or some other media. Same with provincial meetings. I am often in contact with soon to be retired government workers who often asked me about retirement, I try to entice them into joining the BCGREA but do not have detailed information from the organization to pass on. It would be beneficial if our organization had better advertisement to potential new members that we as members could use as grassroots recruitment tools.

- I don't think that employees that are retiring are told about the BCGREA or it is glossed over at best. It needs to be emphasized more by the union rep or employer when exiting. Keep up the good work guys! 🙏.
- Rebranding the organization might be a good idea, in that the membership is so different from what we started with. There is a risk that the interest of the people who do work for the government will drift away. In my years as a Shop Steward I thought the members around me found it convenient that they had a rep to help with conversations with managers, when the greater organization went on strike they were reluctant participants. Those of us who participate in the Extended Health Plan grumble about how much the deductible is each year and what is not covered. Health as you age deteriorates, the cost of drugs goes up every year, what seems like health care-coverage shrinkage cuts into the limited pension dollars. .
- If a BCGREA name change goes ahead I suggest we keep the Steller's Jay image on the logo. - I look forward to a presentation by a Green Shield rep at the next AGM or Director's Meeting. - I appreciate the monthly bulletins from BCGREA's Communications Committee. Excellent work! - Comment: I am uncomfortable with some social media platforms (e.g. Facebook) due to privacy concerns. Our branch has a closed fb page and it hasn't posed any problems but not much activity between members that I can see. - I check it sometimes but don't post anything.
- Pension increases based on inflation: I feel it is time to ensure a higher annual pension increase for a year or two or ? based on the actual raised costs of living, food, rent, etc. This should be possible based on the assets held by our pension plan. Extended health benefits: Please do not "negotiate down" more coverages in the plan!
- Fewer emails would be appreciated -spending a lot of time working through emails from multiple sources, often related to retirement activities, to the point that the computer time is taking time away from being an active senior.
- Please work hard on increasing our benefits. There has been a large surplus so would like more of that to go to members benefits - like reducing our deductibles, including dental of some sort or subsidized dental plan, maybe just regular check ups. Thanks.
- I think sometimes that the ghost members(like me-I could not attend when first retired as husband very ill, then another close friend needed support while dying) so I could not attend meetings or even take part on line AND my husband had a sister and brother in law both older than me who had to move down to Victoria from up Island because of health concerns-I basically their only relative here; they have no children-he is now in LTC with dementia caused by the cardiac issues. she fell and destroyed her shoulder- The weirdest part of all this is that she was with a ministry for 30 years-she would know people at the social events He was with the first computerization of Prov Govt and continued on until he retired early then had major health issues I had told them both about BCGREA and said they would enjoy seeing old friends again(they had moved up Island after retiring) I wonder if there is a way to contact long term retirees and see if some type of program could help them with transportation etc. There may be a lot of them who are just not aware of programs etc. There are many of us who retired to care for spouse, etc. etc. and maybe that is why numbers at meetings etc. are down.
- The question about membership fees should have had another category. I support an increase (perhaps a one time \$10 increase) but certainly not \$5 per year. That is a wide open invitation to keep increasing fees. I do not support that. The question about a name change. It doesn't explain why or what the proposed name change could be. It is difficult to answer without that information.
- Do not ever assume that we all are fluent with technology it is the bane of my existence.
- I live in a rural area so weather & distance plus unreliable net services make communication more difficult. Mail for us is still best source for sure. That's all. Thanks for your service to all of us.
- I joined the Association in 2024 and contacted the head of Branch 1100 to indicate that I would be attending the next Branch meeting, which happened to be the AGM. Having management and executive experience over 32 years in public service, I indicated that I was prepared to put my name forward as a

candidate for election to the Board. If elected, a natural position for me would be Treasurer, as I am a CPA, among other credentials. When I arrived at the AGM, I was astonished to find only 9 or 10 members in attendance. Time ticked by until the President noted that quorum had not been achieved, so the official meeting could not proceed. Half of the Board positions were vacant. The group was absolutely bereft of leadership, organization, enthusiasm, and ideas about how to get more members to become active in the affairs of the Branch and HQ. I expect Branch 1100 may have more members than any other, yet I bet its meetings garner the least attendance. HQ needs to have an "intervention" of Branch 1100 to identify what has to be done to get it actively back on track. Recruiting a Resurrection Team from among members, with resources from HQ, might be a start. Otherwise, shut it down as it serves no purpose other than an occasional lunch social for a handful.

- I would like to be involved more in my Branch. Seems our Lead takes on most of the Tasks herself so that " it gets done" I do not feel included.
- More assisted living space allotments for frail and elderly seniors to gain access to this kind of facility. Make it a priority. Expedite Solution to our problems medical system. !
- As I near 85 I have lost enthusiasm. Let a new younger generation lead the way!
- Insuring we have regular update re: the nation dental plan and how members who don't have a dental plan can register for the national plan. Keep members update on pharma care plan. Green Shield has many restrictions help members how to negate the Green Shield system.
- My husband was the B.C. Government employee. I am new and plan on Coming to your meetings in the near future. My knowledge is limited but I would like to know if I could be eligible for your Dental Plan. Your organization seems very valuable to its many members. Thanks for admitting me to your group.
- Thank you so very much for managing our pension fund so well. I also really appreciate the pension increases, especially since I didn't work enough years to qualify for a full pension. Also, thank you for always trying your best to keep us informed and included in so many things pertaining to our lives.
- I appreciated the information and zoom meetings regarding the driver's license renewal process for those of us turning 80. I also appreciated the information provided for the availability of group insurance through Johnson Insurance (which has changed its name). This insurance saves me over \$1000/yr in house insurance. Thank you.
- I wish we were not advertising for a big hearing aid company. I purchased my assisted hearing devices from a local born and raised young man who can match any offer that other company provides. Thanks.
- Thank you for your good work. I assume it is quite an undertaking to keep this organization going. I appreciate it.
- I only wish that I had joined the association when I retired from Corrections over 20 years ago.
- Keep up the good work on our behalf. Cheers.
- The name is not an issue. - It is a lack of brand marketing to current and potential members. They have to see us to want to join us. This is best done at in-person venues at the Branch level. Support for the Apparel and Merch program. Attending and participating in local events as a group.
- The Province of BC is one of the largest employers in the provincial. It would go without saying that the Victoria & Vancouver branches should be the two largest in the Association. The BCGREA should start an active, on-going campaign to make all potential retirees (by DOB, tied to retirement information seminars) aware of the BCGREA, its mandate & what services are available to grow & perpetuate the membership. Offer quarterly incentives via entry into a draw AND announce/publish the winners so individuals see transparency. We are in the age of social media. Local branches should have their own Facebook page & the provincial body certainly must have a current, active page too. The provincial executives should create an annual family event when all can attend to celebrate the beautiful province we call home, retirement & health. Perhaps on Family Day or Labour Day long weekends? Sell tent space to potential related health suppliers (cruise ships, BC/Canada destination resorts, vitamins, community fitness groups). Consider a small annual honorarium for elected Branch Presidents & key elected

Provincial Executives to show them their time is appreciated (raise annual membership from \$20 to \$30 is realistic). Remember, no empire building (so not anyone else). In the next edition of The Pen, announce a provincial semi-annual brainstorming session by Zoom of how to raise local membership. First order of business, strike up regional representation across the province & elect a Chair. A short report should be presented by its Chair at the annual provincial AGM to continue the momentum.

- Thank you for all you do for us all.
- I don't go out to any events of any kind. I worked in Law Enforcement for the BC Fires Service. I have been diagnosed with severe PTSD and no help available. Disgusting Medical System we have or maybe the lack there of.....
- Specific articles/meetings/communications or social functions for widows/widowers.

APPENDIX 1

The first three digits of my postal code are:

Response	Count	Percent	Response	Count	Percent	Response	Count	Percent
V9B	101	3.73%	V3N	10	0.37%	V6A	2	0.07%
V9A	76	2.80%	V9X	10	0.37%	S0K	2	0.07%
V8V	72	2.66%	V3C	10	0.37%	V6B	2	0.07%
V8N	68	2.51%	V5E	10	0.37%	T1K	2	0.07%
V8L	67	2.47%	V1A	9	0.33%	T9E	2	0.07%
V0H	61	2.25%	V1H	9	0.33%	V4S	2	0.07%
V8Z	55	2.03%	V1N	9	0.33%	V6M	2	0.07%
V8P	51	1.88%	V3V	9	0.33%	T2Y	2	0.07%
V8M	48	1.77%	V1K	9	0.33%	V0A	2	0.07%
V2N	47	1.73%	V0C	8	0.30%	V0T	2	0.07%
V2A	47	1.73%	V9E	8	0.30%	V6T	2	0.07%
V8R	46	1.70%	V8K	8	0.30%	VON	2	0.07%
V8X	42	1.55%	V2H	8	0.30%	V7T	2	0.07%
V9C	39	1.44%	V0X	8	0.30%	V7V	2	0.07%
V9P	39	1.44%	V5A	8	0.30%	V4E	2	0.07%
V2R	38	1.40%	V1S	8	0.30%	VOK	1	0.04%
V8S	38	1.40%	V4Y	8	0.30%	T1X	1	0.04%
V0R	37	1.37%	V6E	7	0.26%	V92	1	0.04%
V0E	37	1.37%	V3G	7	0.26%	T4S	1	0.04%
V1L	36	1.33%	V3K	7	0.26%	T3H	1	0.04%
V2B	35	1.29%	V4N	7	0.26%	B1X	1	0.04%
V9T	33	1.22%	V4P	7	0.26%	T7Y	1	0.04%
V2C	33	1.22%	V4R	7	0.26%	T4V	1	0.04%
V8T	31	1.14%	V6J	7	0.26%	T9A	1	0.04%
V9L	31	1.14%	V7E	7	0.26%	OG9	1	0.04%
V8Y	30	1.11%	V4K	7	0.26%	V6L	1	0.04%
V1C	29	1.07%	V1X	6	0.22%	B3R	1	0.04%
V9N	28	1.03%	V7J	6	0.22%	V5J	1	0.04%
V9W	26	0.96%	V5B	6	0.22%	V7G	1	0.04%
V0J	26	0.96%	V5G	6	0.22%	W2B	1	0.04%
V4A	26	0.96%	V5L	6	0.22%	B8Y	1	0.04%
V2G	25	0.92%	V6H	6	0.22%	T0M	1	0.04%
V0B	24	0.89%	V3X	5	0.18%	B9A	1	0.04%
V8H	22	0.81%	V7K	5	0.18%	T1P	1	0.04%
V0K	22	0.81%	V7N	5	0.18%	T5X	1	0.04%
V3S	22	0.81%	VOH	5	0.18%	N3S	1	0.04%
V9K	22	0.81%	V1Z	5	0.18%	T6B	1	0.04%
V0N	21	0.77%	V3Z	5	0.18%	T4N	1	0.04%
V9V	20	0.74%	V4C	5	0.18%	V28	1	0.04%
V2P	20	0.74%	V6P	5	0.18%	V4X	1	0.04%
V2K	19	0.70%	V7A	5	0.18%	R3B	1	0.04%
V2X	19	0.70%	V7H	5	0.18%	T6J	1	0.04%

V3A	19	0.70%	V6K	4	0.15%	E4W	1	0.04%
V9Y	19	0.70%	V9J	4	0.15%	M1X	1	0.04%
V3B	18	0.66%	V3E	4	0.15%	V7R	1	0.04%
V3L	18	0.66%	V6Y	4	0.15%	T6W	1	0.04%
V4T	17	0.63%	V0L	4	0.15%	V7S	1	0.04%
V9R	17	0.63%	V5M	4	0.15%	T0J	1	0.04%
V9G	17	0.63%	V8J	4	0.15%	V5V	1	0.04%
V1W	17	0.63%	V5C	4	0.15%	T0K	1	0.04%
V2T	17	0.63%	A0A	4	0.15%	V5W	1	0.04%
V2M	17	0.63%	V7L	4	0.15%	T1C	1	0.04%
V1T	16	0.59%	V0P	4	0.15%	K0C	1	0.04%
V1E	16	0.59%	V7P	4	0.15%	T8N	1	0.04%
V8G	16	0.59%	VOE	4	0.15%	V5X	1	0.04%
V9S	16	0.59%	V7Z	4	0.15%	T1S	1	0.04%
V1Y	16	0.59%	V1R	4	0.15%	V8B	1	0.04%
V2E	16	0.59%	V5K	3	0.11%	C1B	1	0.04%
V4B	16	0.59%	V1P	3	0.11%	V8E	1	0.04%
V1M	15	0.55%	V6X	3	0.11%	L9Y	1	0.04%
V8A	15	0.55%	V6G	3	0.11%	K0J	1	0.04%
V9Z	15	0.55%	V6R	3	0.11%	E3A	1	0.04%
V3H	15	0.55%	V7C	3	0.11%	R6M	1	0.04%
V1B	14	0.52%	V5N	3	0.11%	T9M	1	0.04%
V3M	14	0.52%	V8W	3	0.11%	N9V	1	0.04%
V2J	14	0.52%	V4W	3	0.11%	COA	1	0.04%
V3W	13	0.48%	V4M	3	0.11%	B9P	1	0.04%
V2L	13	0.48%	V3T	3	0.11%	T3C	1	0.04%
V2W	13	0.48%	V0M	3	0.11%	N1M	1	0.04%
V3R	12	0.44%	V5H	3	0.11%	T3Z	1	0.04%
V2V	12	0.44%	V7M	3	0.11%	S0L	1	0.04%
V2S	12	0.44%	V4V	3	0.11%	T4C	1	0.04%
V9M	12	0.44%	V4L	2	0.07%	S4S	1	0.04%
V3J	12	0.44%	T2Z	2	0.07%	VA3	1	0.04%
V0G	11	0.41%	T6H	2	0.07%	S7J	1	0.04%
V9H	11	0.41%	T7Z	2	0.07%	M2J	1	0.04%
V1G	11	0.41%	VOR	2	0.07%	V8Q	1	0.04%
V2Y	11	0.41%	T8H	2	0.07%	B0M	1	0.04%
V3Y	11	0.41%	K6V	2	0.07%	S7K	1	0.04%
V1J	10	0.37%	V5R	2	0.07%	W1W	1	0.04%
V1V	10	0.37%	T2X	2	0.07%	S9H	1	0.04%
V5Z	10	0.37%	V5S	2	0.07%	V6V	1	0.04%
			V4Z	2	0.07%	T0H	1	0.04%
			V5T	2	0.07%			
			N0B	2	0.07%			

ABOUT US

CDR Business Diagnostics is a small business specializing in organizational diagnostic services and custom research projects to clients worldwide. While we are incorporated in British Columbia, Canada, we leverage modern digital technology to its fullest in order to provide service to clients wherever we are needed. We work with mid- to large-sized organizations, whether public, private, or non-profit.

Our Vision: *Healthy and effective clients with a strong competitive edge.*

At CDR Business Diagnostics, we believe that the best decisions are informed decisions, based on factual evidence, sound methodology, and an objective lens. We believe that all organizations can benefit from increased knowledge of themselves and their environment.

Collegiate Digital Resources was founded in 2012 by Dr. Richard Brown, an experienced practitioner of organization development and diagnostics, with well over 15 years of public and private sector experience.

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