

BCGREA Directors' Meeting, October 14th 2026

President's Report

Since the BCGREA AGM held April 23rd 2026, your Table Officers have been continuing to work hard on your behalf. We continue to meet on a regular basis to discuss current matters of concern to the members, and take action on your behalf when necessary.

In my role as BCGREA President, I have attended many meetings since our AGM as an ex-officio member. These include the Constitution and Bylaws (C&B) Committee, the Recruitment and Retention (R&R) Committee, the Ad Hoc Committee on Branch Financing, and the BCGREA "All Chairs" meetings. I would like to thank Merrilee Ashworth (C&B), Bonnie Billington (R&R), Johanna Morrow and Sarf Ahmed (Ad Hoc Financing) and George Bowden (All Chairs) for chairing these meetings, as well as all the Committee members for their contributions on behalf of the members.

Shortly after our AGM, and the excellent keynote address by Connie Jorsvik, three terrific webinars were made available to all members. The webinars were hosted by Tammy Welch and Jodine Ducs and presented by Connie Jorsvik. The subjects were Advance Care Planning, Levels of Care, and Medical Assistance In Dying (MAID). The presentations were useful and informative and attendance was excellent. I think this type of presentation can be a useful educational tool for our members, and I hope we can do more presentations like this in the future.

On June 1st, 2026 I met with BCGEU President Paul Finch to discuss areas of common concern between the BCGREA and the BCGEU, particularly on the subject of pensions. While no decisions were made at this meeting, it was agreed that improved two way communications could benefit both organizations, and that finding ways to work together to improve pensions and benefits for current and future pensioners would benefit members of both organizations. We both expressed a desire to meet again in the future.

The BCGREA has continued to work with the BC Retired Teachers' Association (BCRTA), the Municipal Pension Retirees' Association (MPRA) and the College Pension Plan Retirees (CPPR), the organizations which make up the Public Sector Retiree Group (PSRG). The aims of the group are to work together to ensure we can speak with a unified voice when seeking improvements to our members' pensions and benefits.

On September 1st, the PSRG met with the senior staff of the BC Pension Corp, to discuss ways to improve communication and cooperation between the two groups. The fact that the four Pension Associations attended as an organized group clearly showed that we intend to work together for the benefit of all our members. While no firm decisions were made at this meeting, interest was expressed by both groups in having future discussions on areas of mutual interest.

Your BCGREA Table Officers are continuing to work hard to represent the best interests of the members, and to keep you informed of our activities. We will continue to look for new ways to do this job better, and suggestions that will help us in our task are always appreciated.

I look forward to your comments.

Respectfully submitted
Wilf Brodrick, BCGREA President