

BCGREA Branch 2000 Cheam View General Meeting Minutes for March 2023, held at Chilliwack Curling Club, Chilliwack; Tuesday Mar. 21, 2023.

1. **Meeting was called to order** by Gord Griffeth, Chair, at 12:05 pm with 27 in attendance (23 members, 1 member's spouse, and 3 guests).
2. **Moment of Silence** to honour and remember: past members, friends and family; our military and those we rely on in emergency services. We shall not forget them.
3. **Grace** was given by Pat Harkness.
4. **Opening Remarks** by chair Gord Griffeth;
 - Gord and executive welcomed new members Ron and Helga Driedger, to Branch 2000 from Victoria branch and guests, two from the Chilliwack Military Museum who were our guest speakers and Santa, aka Ken Nice.
5. **Minutes of Last General Meeting** held Tuesday Feb. 21, 2023 at the Chilliwack Curling Club by Secretary Dawn Stubleby were posted on our website, with extra copies printed and available at the sign in table. No errors or omissions, accepted as published on the Branch website.

We paused for lunch served buffet style of soup, assorted sandwiches, and green salad with coffee/tea.

6. **Introduction of Guest Speaker:** We welcomed Jim Harris and Bob Bussell from the Chilliwack Military Museum. The museum's mission statement is to collect, preserve, research and display military artifacts donated to them for safe keeping at their facility. Additionally they shall endeavour to use their knowledge to seek and retrieve Canadian Military Records and/or assist those able to research their own family. Their facility is made available for guided group tours and Veteran chats. They are a not-for-profit registered society within British Columbia and registered with Revenue Canada for tax deductible receipts.

Jim and Bob, gave us a brief synopsis of their extensive years of service, of their experience with Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), of the connection the museum makes with youth and the role the military has historically with youth groups such as the Scouts. The Museum does not promote war but enlightens people to what happens in war, what is used in war. Members were invited to come down and visit the museum. The museum is located at 45915 Wellington Ave, Chilliwack BC. Hours of Operation are Wednesday through Saturday 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Memberships are available at a cost

of \$10.00 annually or, if you are over 55 years of age you can purchase a lifetime membership for \$100.00.

7. Reports:

Chair: provided by Gord Griffeth;

- Nothing at this time.

Vice-Chair (and second vice president BCGREA): Patrick Harkness

- Nothing at this time, see other reports.

Treasurer: Brian Taylor;

- Brian's report covered the February financial statement. Opening February balance of \$3,717.17 and the balance at the end of February was \$3,932.73. The invoice from the Curling Club for February has not been received but has been paid. March's financial statement should cover that. Brian moved to have the financial statements accepted as read, L. Dennis seconded, all in favour, passed.

Membership: provided by Lynne Dennis;

- Lynne reports that Branch 2000 now appears to have 226 members, including those new members not paying until 2024, with 19 new to March 6. The membership system still appears to be in flux. One of our new members reports that she isn't receiving her meeting notices and provided her email to our new communications person to look into. The Promotion to gain members has been very successful and we thank all the new members for joining.

Secretary: Dawn Stuble;

- No one has commented either way on the reading or not reading the general meeting minutes out at the General meeting as outlined last month. Today we proceeded with not reading the minutes but referenced that they were posted on line and did provide printed copies to those requesting them at today's meeting. There was no errors or omissions and the meeting minutes were accepted as posted.
- Motions made and accepted unanimously by attending members at the last General meeting, supporting and accepting the proposed changes to Constitution and Bylaws were drafted by P. Harkness and forwarded Feb 27th by D. Stuble to the Provincial Secretary.

- Branch 2000 is seeking a new secretary, as the current secretary is stepping aside with the upcoming May elections. Training can be made available if requested.

COSCO (Council of Seniors Citizens' Organizations of BC): www.coscobc.ca Our branch is a COSCO affiliate. COSCO purpose is to assemble, co-ordinate and advance proposals and resolutions concerning the welfare of elder citizens, and submit them to the appropriate government bodies; and to advance the social and physical welfare of all elder citizens in the province of British Columbia.

- Pat gave a brief review of what COSCO is (not the store) and what they promote. COSCO represents many different retirement groups including the BCGREA; what does COSCO do? For instance right now we are focused on the Health Care Crisis in Canada. COSCO feels that the push to private clinics undermines our health care system and we need to advocate governments for needed funding to support the public health care system. They will forward letter formats and contacts, asking for seniors to forward them on to the proper agencies, to have their voices heard.

Communications/Web Master: George Gidora.

- We would like to thank new member George Gidora for stepping up and taking on the Communications and Web Master Position for Branch 2000. George has been granted access to the necessary systems and will be getting a review of those systems and our process this week and hopes to be up and running soon after.
- We would also like to thank our past Communications and Webmaster, Richard Porcina, for his many years of excellent service in this position and his continued role as a director in the executive.

Guest Speakers: facilitated by Delores Hiles;

Directors/Past Chairs: Richard Porcina/Peter Maguire;

- Richard, nothing at this time; Peter absent.

8. Old Business:

- See previous reports.

9. New Business:

- The May general meeting will include the executive elections. No guest speaker is currently planned. New volunteers are always welcome. Training and assistance is available.

- April 25-26 there will be a joint Provincial Directors Meeting, with additional meetings on the BCGREA Constitution and Bylaws and a provincial treasurers meeting, at the Coast Hotel in Tsawwassen. Attending from Branch 2000 will be Pat Harkness, as our vice Chair and in his role of Second Vice President of the Provincial executive and Brian Taylor, our branch treasurer. The constitution and Bylaw (Society act compliance) portion will be by both zoom and in person. For more details see any member of the executive.

10. 50/50 Draw: the winning ticket for \$21 was won by chair Gord Griffith who kindly donated it back to the Branch. Congratulations Gord.

11. Next Meetings: Next executive meeting will be Friday April 14, 2023 via zoom, time to be announced. Next general meeting will be Tuesday, April 18, at the Chilliwack Curling Club. **April's guest speaker will be from the Chilliwack Museum.**

12. Meeting adjourned: The meeting was adjourned with a couple of jokes from Gord at 1:20 pm.

CHEAM VIEW BRANCH BCGREA #2000
Financial Statement FEBRUARY 2023

1. Opening Balance		\$	3,717.17
2. Income			
a) Interest on account	\$	0.03	
b) 50/50		21.50	
c) Collected for meals		240.00	
d) Dues ? H Sibble		20.00	
	TOTAL INCOME	\$	281.53
	BALANCE	\$	3,998.70
3 Expenses			
a) Chq # 0061 Patrick Harkness Office	\$	65.97	

b)

	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$	65.97
	BALANCE		3932.73
4	Confirmed Bank Balance	\$	3,932.73