



BCGREA Branch 900 Meeting January 15, 2025 Our Redeemer Lutheran Church Auditorium

Maurice Davidson (Chair) welcomed everyone to the first Branch gathering of 2025 and called the meeting to order at 10:00. Special welcome to member Ken Johnston and Evelyn Blain who are visiting the Okanagan from Stony Plain, Alberta. 25 members were present for the meeting.

Frances Monro introduced the guest speaker Curtis Oviatt of Reliable Home. His company provides preventative maintenance to homes, rather than just reacting to breakdowns that owners have. On-going maintenance of a home is important for safety as well as for resale value. Reliable Home operates on a membership basis with focus on the exterior of a home as well as plumbing, electrical, HVAC systems and maintenance of appliances.

Curtis also provided some guidelines to keep in mind when arranging for contractor work around your home:

- 1.) Get multiple estimates if possible. (3 preferred)
- 2.) Request and check references and reviews of the company/contractor.
- 3.) Ensure that the contractor is licensed and insured.
- 4.) Never pay a deposit for anything that is quoted at \$2,500.00 or under.
- 5.) Never pay the balance until ALL work has been completed properly.

Reliable Home can be reached at: 403-860-3180; info@reliablehms.com or at their website: www.reliablehms.com

We enjoyed a smorgasbord of treats and Tim's coffee courtesy of Curtis!

Maurice summarized the minutes of the regular meeting of November 20, 2024, copies of which were distributed by email.

Old Business:

Prior to Christmas a decision was made by the executive to make a donation of \$300.00 to the Soupateria (Penticton) as a memorial to members who passed in 2024.

Membership Report: written report was provided by Bill Myers. Currently Branch 900 has 282 members. (No change since November 2024.) Moved to accept by Frances Monro and seconded by John Pethybridge that the report be accepted and carried.

Treasurer's Report: Imre was not feeling well today. The treasurer's report is tabled for the next meeting. (A detailed report to be presented at that time.)

New Business:

-Pension statements may be later than usual this year, due to the postal strike. There is a 2.6% increase in our pensions for 2025.

-Reminder to make note of your pension id number in the top right corner of the statement. (This is needed when dealing with the pension office.)

-Maurice Davidson tabled a motion that Frances Monro be nominated for honored member status. Frances took over as the Membership Director in 2018 and updated the branch records prior to a central support system being in place. Currently arranges for guest speakers. The motion was seconded by Carol Ann Hicks. Carried.

- Maurice Davidson tabled a motion that Larry Martin be nominated for honored member status. Larry was branch treasurer for a number of years. Currently he is very heavily involved in the merchandise program and promoting the BCGREA provincially through the 55+ Games. The motion was seconded by Sharon Hudson. Carried.

-Frances Monro tabled a motion that Maurice Davidson be nominated for honored member status. Maurice has been Branch 900 Chair for 13 years—ensuring that the branch remains active. The motion was seconded by Linda Jones. Carried.

-Health and Wellness: Best wishes to Simon Lowe and Larry Lemke who are under the weather at this time.

-60/40 Draw: Cindy Davidson was the winner of \$31.80.

Lou DiLorenzo was the winner of \$21.80 (Continuing his winning streak from the Nov. meeting.)

-Upcoming Events:

--Solidarity Rally for ARC Liquor store workers on Sat. Jan. 15th at 11:00 am, on Harvey Ave, Kelowna.

--**Next regular meeting of Branch 900:** Wednesday, February 19th at 10:30 am. (Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Penticton). Guest speakers will be Julie Ferguson and Cheryl Halsted of Grandmothers for Africa.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00.



BCGREA BRANCH 900 MEMBERSHIP REPORT

MEETING January 15, 2025

VALID FROM November 17, 2024 TO January 12, 2025

Current Membership		
Total	Previous report totals 283	282
Members	Previous report totals 252	252
Shared Couple	Previous report totals 31	30
Life Members 20+ years Paying		55
Life members 20+ years Dues Exempt		8
Honorary Members		0
Associate Members + Associate Couple (redundant)		1
New Members	since Nov 17, 2024	0
Members Which Have Left Us		
Members Resigned	since Nov 17, 2024	0
Deceased Members	since Nov 17, 2024	0
Members Transferred	since Nov 17, 2024	0
Members without email addresses		33
Invalid Emails (list of members attached)		2