



British Columbia Government Retired Employees Association
Western Communities Branch 2700

November 15, 2022

At 1:05 pm Al Coccola welcomed everyone to **Gilbert Cade Memorial Hall, Langford 50 & Up Club, 2637 Sunderland Road in Langford, BC.** There were 14 people in attendance.

Al Coccola acknowledged the traditional territories of the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations communities on which we live. This was followed by a minute of silence for our members who are dealing with personal and health issues. New attendees were asked to introduce themselves.

Treasurer's Report: Tammy Welch gave the Treasurer's Report. There is a bank balance of \$395.98.

Membership Report: Valeska Campbell reported that we have 161 members. The Provincial campaign to recruit new members was highly successful. Letters were sent by Pension Corporation to retirees who were not members of BCGREA. Membership was increased by over 2600 across the province and our branch membership increased by 76.

Secretary/Communication Report: Colleen Coccola will post meeting minutes to the branch website at www.bcgrea.ca. Upcoming events are also posted.

Al spoke briefly about the mail-out campaign which resulted in a 33% increase in membership overall. Raffle tickets were handed out for a draw to win one of three door prizes. Al introduced the guest speaker, Johanna Morrow who is the BCGREA elected trustee on the BC Pension board and also the Provincial BCGREA Treasurer. Prior to Johanna's presentation, there was a refreshment break and we celebrated the 75th anniversary of the BCGREA with a suitably decorated cake.

Johanna Morrow gave an excellent presentation on her experience as a trustee on the Pension Board. Tammy thanked Johanna and presented her with a small token of our appreciation.

Up-Coming Activities:

- ❖ **Christmas Potluck** - Dec. 6th at Gilbert Cade Memorial Hall at 12pm. Sandwiches will be provided by the branch and members are asked to bring a dish to share in addition to a pair of socks or mittens, or a non-perishable food item for Goldstream Food Bank.
- ❖ **Planning Session** - Jan 3rd by Zoom. Open to members.
- ❖ **Games Day** - Jan. 10th at Gilbert Cade Memorial Hall at 1pm.

Door Prizes: The windbreaker was won by Kate La Vertu. Donna Langford was the winner of the cell phone charger and the canvas bag was won by Al Coccola.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:30 pm.

Minutes recorded by Colleen Coccola, Secretary