

Hellooooo...

Fraser Valley BCGREA Members....

News:

Aaah a NEWSLETTER. From where! From Who! None other but Your friendly Abbotsford Branch 100 BCGREA Executive.

Here is our great way to get a chance to connect with ALL of you, our valued BCGEU/ BCGREA Fraser Valley Branch 100 Members.

YES, our dear and valued BCGREA members, your local EXECUTIVE Needs YOU and WE want you to know it.

For us, your local Executive, 2022 came and went with many behind the scenes monthly ZOOM Executive meetings; brainstorming and brainstorming and more brainstorming and then some more brainstorming and keeping the branch afloat.

And then "Happiness Is..." we concluded the year with a FREE BCGREA Christmas Luncheon Get Together at the Roseland, a local Abbotsford Restaurant. We were able to capture a few photos of the event.

The Luncheon was sponsored by us, your local Branch 100.

The food was fantastic. The company even better. We on the Executive enjoyed welcoming and meeting so many of our BCGREA members. Many of our BCGREA members were also able to welcome each other back.

It was Great Food, Prizes and Good Company to welcome the Christmas season and each other.

As with all other BCGREA branches, Covid 19 threw our Abbotsford Branch for a loop. Attendance of all in person BCGREA membership meetings ceased.

Ceased. Gone. Waiting for better Times.

Except for our Constant and Dedicated Chair, Jerry Gosling, our last Branch 100 EXECUTIVE members turned to other Compelling Cares and Interests in their lives.

It soon became obvious that Jerry could not be six roles in one and after a long and arduous recruiting endeavor, several BCGREA members offered to step up into Executive roles in order to help.

Jerry Gosling has had a long and commendable service record as Chair of the Abbotsford Branch. However, after many years he felt that he needed to step down. For more details, please see our last Newsletter. He is now acting in the role of Former Chair of the Branch.

Connie Capostinsky assumed the Chair Position. At the same time, Berta Weber assumed the Vice Chair Position and Mark Perry the Treasurer position and Sondra Hadrath the Membership Chair position (retiring Feb 28).

Sondra Hadrath has also been fulfilling all duties of Secretary position (retiring Feb 28)

Rosalind Chin was acting Secretary but has had to severely limit her involvement in that role.

Due to Covid 19 concerns, our BCGREA EXECUTIVE meetings began to be held via ZOOM.

A note here for our potential new Executive members, we are continuing the ZOOM Executive meetings as that format provides an ease into fitting into all our busy schedules.

URGENTLY needed to fill open EXECUTIVE positions are:

SECRETARY.

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

ACTIVITIES and Communications Coordinator

Someone to do Website Updates, Newsletter EDITOR and Assistant Editor, an possibly Newsletter Photographer

Calling All BCGREA members:

Abbotsford Branch 100 NEEDS YOU.

Send us an email at: branch100chair@gmail.com - Duties are listed on the website <https://bcgre.ca/policies-procedures/>,

Your Executive is currently brainstorming for upcoming events for our BCGREA Abbotsford membership and following up on actualizing the planned field trips.

We have a General Membership GET TOGETHER scheduled for March 13th detailed in Upcoming Events!!!

A note to our new members:

Welcome and enjoy your new laminated membership card which will be sent to you shortly by our provincial BCGREA branch.

Yes! - There are BENEFITS to being a member of your local BCGREA.

1. There are a number of Valley merchants who offer Senior Benefits.
2. All it takes is to tell them that you are member of the BCGREA at the time of purchase.
3. We are looking into getting a list of local merchants who offer these benefits and will share them with you soon.
4. Opportunities to socialize with your former colleagues; revisit old haunts.

Yes! - There are BENEFITS to being on your local BCGREA EXECUTIVE.

1. You meet wonderful people, both locally and provincially.
2. You attend sponsored provincial conferences; get latest news; find out about new policies which impact our pensions, etc.
3. And We, our current Executive plus the whole BCGREA membership will appreciate you.

Last but not Least - WE want and Need YOUR Input.

Can't be on the Executive? - No problem.

Well. Yes. Okay. We would like you to offer to be on the Executive, but never mind we will appreciate your witty story or description of a local memorable event; or look at a cute or interesting photo or two. Definitely give us some feedback. Make some recommendations. We will post it in our next Newsletter for all members of the BCGREA to enjoy.

I am sure you All can come up with something that I and the rest of us will look forward to reading and looking at.

Looking forward to meeting you All in person at our Next General BCGREA membership Get Together on March 13th at CHANCES CASINO, 30835 Peardonville Road, Abbotsford BC at 1:00 p.m. You All take care now and we are looking forward to hearing from you soon.

Berta Weber
Vice-Chair Branch 100 Fraser Valley

Upcoming Events:

Upcoming In Person Meeting

General BCGREA Membership Get Together

March 13th at 1:00 p.m

CHANCES CASINO

30835 Peardonville Road, Abbotsford BC

Coffee/Tea & Treats

Look forward to seeing you there.

Events (working on organizing)

Gallery 7 Theatre - Abbotsford BC

Upcoming Live Play "The Secret Garden" March 2023



The Secret Garden

[The Secret Garden](#)

By Francis Hodgson Burnett

Book & Lyrics by Marsha Norman | Music by Lucy Simon

Mar 17 - 25, 2023

Orphaned in India, young Mary Lennox is returned to England and placed under the care of her reclusive uncle. Bored with her surroundings, Lennox discovers a secret garden, and together with newfound friends, dedicates herself to restoring the garden to its former glory. A story of healing, forgiveness and renewal, this award-winning musical will warm your heart and refresh your spirit.

NAME	E-MAIL	PHONE
Best Dates seem to be March 18 th or 25 th .		

Abe Suderman Shady Grove Farm Tour

King Road, Abbotsford BC



[F]

NAME

E-MAIL

PHONE

Fraser Valley Heritage Railway Tour

When: Saturdays & Sundays Foot of 176A St, just south of HWY 10 (56 Ave) in Surrey ...2023

<https://www.familyfuncanada.com/vancouver/fraser-valley-heritage-railway>



Ride into the past on Surrey's Heritage Rail!



Our Electric Express event on December 10th and 11th is now sold out! Thank you to all who bought tickets. For those who were not able to get tickets, please keep checking the Eventbrite booking site as cancellations do tend to occur.

[Electric Express](#)
[Tickets](#)

Maybe Next Year's Special Event?

A little history of the COSCO by Gerry:

1950: Formed by employees of Canadian Pacific, Canadian National and British Columbia Railway to voice the need for decent pensions
1981: Registered under the Societies Act
1991: Campaign against Bill C91, monopoly of drug companies on prescription drugs)
2004: First COSCO Conference, also 2008, 2012, 2016)
2007: First workshop on Falls Prevention, Seniors' Health and Wellness Institute – COSCO
2010 - 2013: advocated with many organizations for B.C. Seniors Advocate
2014: Campaign to renew the Health Accord between Fed and Prov Govts,
2015: Public Forum/Round Table leading to the Declaration concerning a National Health Care Strategy for Seniors
2021: Provincial conference held by zoom

By Gerry Gosling

Quick Reminder:

For your low annual fee of \$20, your membership includes exclusive access to a variety of discounts and promotions related to travel and home insurance, trip packages, cell phone discounts, hotel discounts and more." Visit our BCGREA website.

Housekeeping:

If you have changed your contact information, please send us a quick email (or send this page by mail to:

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