



BCGREA Branch 100 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: January 08, 2026
Time: 1:30 pm
Location: Cloud Croft Manor

Committee Members Present: Connie Capostinsky, Mark Parry, Berta Weber, Ulrich Janisch

Regrets: Rosalind Chin

Call to Order – 1:45 pm

New Member – Ulrich Janisch has agreed to take on the role of Secretary

Communication – Development of a Facebook Group for B100 members was discussed.

Objective of the FB Group will be to enable B100 members to interact and share information and to learn about local and B100 events and activities. It was felt that this could be more effective than email or other methods for communication with B100 members and to receive feedback about member needs.

Examples of potential discussion topics include:

- BCGREA Benefits
- Discounts and how to make them more easily available and accessible to members.
- Ideas and preferences for speakers at meetings
- Local events and activities

The Executive should also create a separate Facebook Group for the members of the Executive committee, which would be used solely for administration, planning, and managing the Members' Group.

Motion: Have a Private Facebook Group for the Executive and to develop and launch a separate Facebook Group for Branch 100 members.

Motion was passed.

Branch 100 Members Meetings – Meeting dates were discussed at the last general meeting and it was agreed that meetings would be held quarterly. Attendance has been between 6 to 10 persons. There was also discussion regarding “no shows” at meetings and options to avoid incurring unnecessary costs.

The Executive Committee will continue to explore opportunities to engage with members and attend meetings and to encourage greater attendance at meetings.

Chances Casino does not charge for the meeting space and has ample parking. This is therefore viewed as a preferred meeting location.

Some members have expressed concerns regarding the practice by Chances Casino to scan identification of individuals who enter their facility. This is so the Casino can verify that the individuals are not connected to known criminal activities, or that they have not been otherwise banned from entering the Casino.

2026 meeting dates for Branch 100 members are as follows:

- March 5th at Chances Casino
- June (date and location TBD)
- September (date and location TBD)
- December (date and location TBD)

Zoom was discussed as an option / alternative for meetings. It was felt that Zoom might make meeting attendance more accessible to some members.

Training may be needed before initiating this as an option.

Speakers – A list of proposed speakers was reviewed and speakers for the March meeting were proposed as follows:

- Abbotsford Police – Fraud prevention
- BCGREA Executive member – Benefits of being a BCGREA member and why participation is important.

Picnic / Summer Social – locations and options for a picnic, to be held in connection with the June meeting, were discussed. There are a number of challenges in putting together a picnic. The committee will investigate options and discuss further at a future meeting.

- Executive Committee will have a follow up meeting on February 5th to discuss:
 - meeting dates and locations for the meetings in June, September, and December.
 - Speakers
 - June picnic

Financial – The treasurer presented the Year End Financial Report and 2026 Annual Budget for review by the Committee.

Motion: Approve the Year End Financial Report and 2026 Annual Budget.

Motion was Passed

Authorized Signatures – There are currently two members of the Executive Committee who have signing authority. Two signatures are needed for any financial expenses. The Treasurer expressed concerns that the account(s) could become inaccessible in the event

that one of the individuals becomes unavailable. The group agreed that an additional person should be added. Ulrich Janisch agreed to be added for this purpose.

Outreach to Pre-retirement BCGEU Members – There is concern that the value of BCGREA is not well known by working BCGEU members and that membership is declining. Declining membership impacts our influence and advocacy on seniors' issues. Some kind of outreach will be needed to mitigate our declining membership numbers. Various ideas have been brought forward at BCGREA directors meetings. The Chair of Branch 100 will be attending a meeting on January 14th, where this may be an agenda item.

Branch 100 Executive Committee discussed various outreach ideas that could be done locally. There are challenges in being able to identify and communicate with (pre-retirement) BCGEU members, due to Freedom of Information and Personal Privacy legislation.

Next Meeting – February 5th by Zoom. Time: TBD

Adjournment – 4:28 pm.