

BC GOVERNMENT RETIRED EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

LANGLEY/SURREY BRANCH 2100

FEBUARY 12, 2024 1:00-3:00 PM Royal Canadian Legion, 17567 57 Avenue, Surrey

MINUTES

Call to Order/Introductions: 1:06 pm

Speaker: Tanya Lyn Werk, estate planner, Chair, Seniors Business Connect

- Erin Jackson, solicitor, partner RBS
- Dawn Robertson, downsizer
- Jaya Virk, IG Wealth Management
- Sadhana Kumar, Realtor, membership coordinator, Seniors Business Connect
- Sherry Cameron, end of life planner
- Nick Devin, Chartwell Living
- Maureen Parallel, mortgage broker, including reverse mortgages
- David Kilpatrick, Cooperators Insurance
- Nancy Glover, Aging with Grace

Seniors Business Connect is a group of professionals that have been working together, for the community, in Langley and Surrey the 15 years. The group does charity work such as gifts to people in the adoptive grandparent network, gifts for seniors that are alone, supporting the butterfly release, clothing for homeless seniors, etc. The membership must have stringent ethics, excellent communication skills and the ability to be compassionate.

Codicils are an easy way to update a will, but be cautious. What you think is easy can turn out to be a problem after your death. Do not remove staples from original wills; and do not write on the original document, whether the will, power of attorney, etc.

There are new filing rules in BC regarding joint with right of survivorship, and trusts.

Adoption of Agenda: M/S/C

Adoption of Minutes from JANUARY 15, 2024 M/S/C

Reports:

President: Wilf Broderick

- In the province wide canvas of opinion regarding branch representation, BCGREA members voted for the AGM delegates of each branch to be: the chair plus one other delegate, regardless of branch size.

1st Vice President: Robin Rutherford – N/A

Secretary: Carol Paulson - no report

Treasurer: Lu Gaudet –

Opening balance \$9636.19; closing balance \$8852.25.

The July 3-Dec 31, 2023 audit completed.

Draft 2024 budget circulated to the President. Balance at the end of 2024 is projected to be \$2900.

Financial report received M/S/C

The BC Health Coalition is seeking input into the Ministry of Health funding model for long-term care. For further information, see

Membership: Janice Leonard – 721 members. 5 new members. 1 deceased. 2 resigned. First time in attendance: Jane Mason. All dues collected, especially the 15 associate members that are not eligible for direct dues payment.

Merchandising: Janice Leonard – samples available. On-line store is a possibility.

Newsletter: Janice Leonard – will be out at the end of February. Contributions welcome: e.g. gardening, recipes, etc.

Phoning: Chris Roberts - no report

Good and Welfare: Surrindar Angl – 1 card sent

Walking Group: Benita Antonio – March 27, Tynhead Park 10 am. 45 minute walk, a couple of gradually sloped sections. All participants must sign a waiver exempting BCGREA from liability.

Convenor: Linda Mann and Christine Sereda - no report. The meeting expressed appreciation for the refreshments that have been organized.

Guest Speaker Committee: Darryl Walker

March speaker: Tanya Lyn Werk – power of attorney

April - gardening

COSCO: Renee Poley and Margaret Mubanda

Federal dental plan discussions: if you have a current plan, do not resign it. If you do not have a plan, register. Income tested, with sliding scale if your family makes net income over \$90,000, prorated from \$50,000. Coverage is very basic.

Elections and AGM – Leslie Gaudet, Langley has been re-elected President.

Old Business: nil

New Business:

1. **Branch Elections**

- a) Moved that the existing officers in place, continue in place until October. M/S/C
- b) In October, a system of rotating elections will be implemented:

- October 2024: elections for Chair, Secretary, 2 directors
- October 2025: elections for Vice chair, Treasurer, 2 directors

- c) Moved that the Membership chair (Janice Leonard) be the fourth member at large M/S/C

2. **Branch 'bylaws'**. C. Paulson and R. Poley to update the branch at the April meeting regarding both the provincial Bylaw update and the branch update.
3. **BCGREA Dental coverage** Who advocates for our Dental coverage? Loophole: our plan does not cover tooth damage caused by falls. To make changes, lobby BCGREA and the Pension Corporation.
4. **Medical & dental insurance** Who made the decision to move from Blue Cross to Green Shield? Trustees of the Pension Board. Green Shield is not user friendly. Send complaints to President BCGREA Brian Green.

Registration: Janice Leonard

Total: 40 members and 10 guests

Member Donation: \$28.50

Adjournment: 3:10 pm

Next Meeting: March 18, 2024

Upcoming meeting dates:

April 15

May 13, note this is the second Monday of the month, not the third

June 17

September 16

October 21

November 18

December 9, note this is the second Monday of the month, not the third