

**MINUTES**

**1. Speakers:** United Way.

Endira Riadi, Healthy aging specialist. Purpose: to develop community based programs, for seniors aged 65 plus; to help seniors to remain active. Expecting senior pop to triple by 2041.

Funded by Ministry of Health. Programs:

- Funds 'Better at Home Services' agencies in the communities. Light housekeeping is income based. Volunteer run and staffed.
- Social Prescribing refers seniors to health and community services.
- Care Giver Support Programs
- TAPS – aka adult day center, to facilitate seniors engaging in communities services
- Enhancement Grants – transportation, meals, coordination and supports

Ian Chian, Manager for volunteer engagement.

- See website 'iVolunteer.ca'. 400 organizations, involving 14,000 volunteers. Volunteer opportunities, also agencies post volunteer opportunities open. Contact info@ivolunteer.ca for information and help in registering.

- ivolunteer.ca member agencies must be a registered society or charity in BC.

- The volunteer landscape is changing, trying to foster more inclusive ways for volunteering.

In BC, phone 211 – for social services references

Also present from United Way - Wangi Kan

**2. Call to Order:** 2:08 pm

**3. Adoption of Agenda:** M/S/C

**4. Adoption of Minutes:** from November 18, 2024 M/S/C

**5. Reports:**

**President:** Wilf Brodrick

December social – show of hands that we enjoyed the food and program

The branch is entitled to \$10/member/year = \$7000, dependent on the branch utilizing the funds for the purposes on BCGREA. The provincial treasurer will transfer money when our account balance is down to zero.

This branch is not interested in charging for meetings/snacks and delivering programming within the budget.

1<sup>st</sup> VP of BCGREA. There will be a new survey to determine what members want as BCGREA and branch activities. Survey will be via email only, unless requested. 11,000 members, of which only 10% of membership do not have an email address. The cost to mail the survey package out would be about \$9 each.

The protocols regarding approval for affiliations to outside organizations is being developed. Pension group cooperation: BCGREA, Teachers pension, and Municipalities are looking at forming a group to address common concerns. Maybe named "Public Sector Pension Group".

**Vice President:** Renee Poley – no report

**Secretary:** Carol Paulson – no report

**Treasurer:** Lu Gaudet

- o December Opening balance \$4,590.73; Interest is \$0.00; Bank Fee \$0.00; Closing balance and True balance is \$2,463.97
- o now in receipt of Vancity cheques, a bank deposit book
- o Automatic deposits of E-Transfers for non DCO dues are going effortlessly into the Vancity bank account.
- o A stamp has been approved and ordered for Janice for stamping the back of non DCO cheques received for 2025 dues.
- o The Financial Audit of the Branch 2100 books by Gerry Nelson and Renee Poley will happen January 22 2025. Signed off Completed Branch Financials using templates provided by the Provincial Treasurer Johanna Morrow will be sent by email along with a

2025 Branch Budget of \$7000 by the due date of Jan 31<sup>st</sup>. Note the executive has approved the Branch Budget.

- The Royal Bank will receive a redirection letter with instructions to close the RBC bank account once the balance of \$2263.97 (closing balance minus \$200 deposited on Jan 7<sup>th</sup> to cover purchase of cheques) has cleared the RBC bank account. With a bank balance of zero and a signed redirection letter emailed to a relationship manager in Kelowna, we will have a closed RBC account.

**Membership:** Janice Leonard - 703 members, 4 new, 4 resignations. 33 non DCO memberships; dues collected for 28 to date.

**Merchandising:** Janice Leonard – samples available

**Newsletter:** Janice Leonard – January issue mailed today. Next issue scheduled for March.

**Phoning:** Chris Roberts – no report

**Good and Welfare:** Surindar Angl - no report

**Walking Group:** Benita Antonio – next walks scheduled for March 26, May 14. Locations to be confirmed, and to be included in the next meeting notice.

**Convenor:** Christine Sereda – thank you to all for setting up today!

**Guest Speaker Committee:** Darryl Walker, Judy Gill, Margaret Mubanda, Benita Antonio

- February 10 Dan Levitt, Seniors advocate – note this is the second Monday of the month. The third Monday is Family Day.
- Once his commitment is confirmed, a special announcement will be sent out head of the regular meeting notice.

**COSCO:** Wilf Brodrick, Renee Poley, Margaret Mubanda – COSCO plenary meeting, Oct 4 and 5, Aging and Human Rights, Sheraton Richmond. Fee tbd.

COSCO – will be circulating positions and questions to ask candidates for the federal elections: e.g.; homelessness, not-for profit rental housing, plus others tbd.

There are far more people, of different age ranges, that are at a risk of homelessness.

What are other western countries doing better across the board for seniors?

#### **Motion to accept all reports - M/S/C**

#### **6. Old Business:**

- 1) Branch Director, 2 year term – Benita Antonio

#### **7. New Business:** none

#### **8. Registration:** Marina Stevens

December: 50 members and guests

January: 44 members and 4 guests

#### **9. Member Donation:**

December \$57.00

January \$35.25

#### **10. Adjournment:** 2:57 pm

#### **2025 meeting schedule:**

Feb 10 – second Monday. The third Monday is Family Day

March 17

April 14 – second Monday. The third Monday is Easter

May 12 – second Monday. The third Monday is Victoria Day

June 16

Sep 15

Oct 20

Nov 17

Dec 8 – second Monday to avoid being too close to Christmas

**APPROVED:** 2025.02.10