

**BCRPVPA General Meeting – Wed. January 18, 2017**

**Genus Capital Management**

**#860 - 980 Howe Street, Vancouver**

**09:45**

**Minutes**

9:30 Social

9:45 Call to order – Eileen - Welcome and Attendance (regrets from executive members: Gerald, Christine, Linda) Thank you to Ted for taking the minutes. Attendees did one minute self-intro. 12 attendees.

Adoption of Agenda

Moved - Ted    Seconded - Roy    Carried

Adoption of minutes from previous meeting (Oct 19, 2016)

Moved - Leanna    Seconded - Roy    Carried

**Reports:**

a) Treasurer – Lanny: **MOVED: Lanny    2<sup>nd</sup>: Roy    Carried**

Revenue:                    \$15,150.00 (Sept. 30, 2016)

Expenses:                    \$ 660.49

Balance:                    \$14,489.51 (Operations Budget)

Reserve Fund:                \$18,967.23

Cash Operating Funds: \$25,022.07 (includes Operations Budget)

**Total Balance:                \$43,989.30**

- b) Newsletter – Graham: Articles are currently published on the new website. The mail-out was sent to 44 members. The executive will discuss the future of printed and mailed-out newsletters at our next meeting.
- c) Technology – Graham: (written report submitted and inserted below\*) There was discussion about possible reasons for not all messages being opened. Also, a suggestion that we have a tech workshop at one of our future General Meetings.
- d) Affinity/Membership Benefits – Roy: Exploration made with Steve B. of the Retired Teachers' Affinity Program. Steve is also one of our members.
- Both RTA and BCRPVPA members will work together to acquire more advantages for our members.
  - Each group also felt that we need to better advertise benefits of membership.
- e) Speakers - Executive: Gerry Tiede will present on our Pension Plan at our next General Meeting. Ideas for Speakers and Topics for the AGM needed. Suggestion made that we have lunch provided for the AGM since this was a big hit last year at our 20th Anniversary Celebration. Donations could be accepted to help with

costs. This will be discussed at the Executive Meeting. **ACTION:** Eileen to see if our room booking can be extended for the May AGM.

- f) Chapter Council/Vice-President's Report – Ted:
- Chapter Council (CC) Report November 18-19, 2016
  - Background: CC meetings are held 3 times per year starting each November.
  - CC Representatives deal with governance, communication & advice to the Board.
  - Chapters are established in each school district (one rep for every 50 Active Members).
  
  - Topics discussed at the CC: Administration; Contract & Legal; Professional Learning; Communications;
  - Finance; Student Voice; Children in Care BC.
  
  - Workshops included a) Timelines For The New 10-12 Curriculum, especially Assessment.
  - b) Formative vs. Summative Assessment. In Oct., 2014, the BC Gov't. was committed to including performance as a factor in awarding compensation increases in the K-12 sector.
- g) Scholarships – Christine, Jeff, Ted: Recipients' bios will be included in next newsletter. However, our website has the bios for each of 4 scholarship recipients.
- h) Membership and Sunshine - Leanna: Thank you for letting us know when your contact information has changed. The need for communications about condolences and celebrations is most appreciated. According to our most recent list, we currently have 703 members and all contact information is up to date.
- i) Social/Meetings – Lanny: Thanks to our hosts for providing the variety of delicious refreshments today.
- j) Pensions - Gerald: (written report submitted and inserted below\*\*)
- k) History - Vivian: no report
- l) President's Report - Eileen (written report submitted and inserted below\*\*\*)

New Business:

Adjournment:

Moved - Ted          Seconded - Lanny

10:45 Social/Break

11:00 Speaker Presentation: Green Investing (Attendees received a hand-out of the presentation and this will be available on our website.)

Presenters:

1. **Sue-May Talbot** - Partner, Portfolio Manager and Director of Client Service

In my role as Portfolio Manager, I work with individuals, families and organizations to create and manage their custom portfolios. In my role as Director of Client Service, I am responsible for developing and implementing the direction of client servicing and administrative support for our entire team of Portfolio Managers

2. **John-Paul (J.P.) Harrison** - Partner, President

J.P.'s role at Genus covers 3 areas, first he is responsible for creating and executing our firm's strategic plan, second, he supports our Client Service Group to ensure we continue to offer industry leading solutions to the family and institutions we serve and third, he provides direct client service to fund companies, insurers, investment dealers, and the socially responsible investment community.

Refreshments and meeting room as provided by our hosts at Genus

Option of no-host lunch to follow - 2 venues suggested.

**Dates to note:**

*Next Executive Meeting: Thursday Feb 9, 2017 at 10 a.m.*

*Next General Meeting: Wednesday, Mar 8, at 9:45 a.m. Gerry Tiede on Pensions*

**REPORTS AS SUBMITTED:**

**\* Technology Report - Graham Mulligan**

**MailChimp**

This program allows us to obtain some useful information about how we contact our members. Each mail out is called a 'campaign'. We can see who opened the message and who didn't.

660 Members at start of 'campaign'

2 Unsubscribed

1 'hard bounce'

January 18 General Meeting Reminder

360 members opened the message (55.8%); out of 99% successfully delivered messages

BCRPVPA Newsletter Dec.2016 (Web)

440 members opened the message (66.7%)

BCRPVPA Newsletter Dec.2016 (Pdf)

427 members opened the message (64.7%)

**Scholarships article**

My apologies to the Scholarships Committee for my oversight in not including the article in the pdf copy of the Newsletter. The article will be included in the March pdf Newsletter. It is currently available on the website heading Newsletter.

**New articles**

All new articles for the Newsletter will be published on the website as they are received. The articles will also be re-published on the subsequent pdf Newsletter (March is the next one) until we stop publishing a pdf version of the Newsletter, probably May/June 2017.

## **\*\* PENSIONS REPORT – Gerald Soon**

### **COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT**

As of January 1, 2017, retired teachers in British Columbia were granted an increase of a 1.3% Cost of Living adjustment to their pension. Once granted, adjustments become a permanent part of your guaranteed basic lifetime pension.

For a history of cost of living adjustments to BC Retired Teachers Pensions, see:

[http://www.pensionsbc.ca/portal/page/portal/PENCORPCONTENT/RMPAGE/PUBLICATIONS/PENSIONFACTS/COST\\_OF\\_LIVING\\_CHART\\_TPP.PDF](http://www.pensionsbc.ca/portal/page/portal/PENCORPCONTENT/RMPAGE/PUBLICATIONS/PENSIONFACTS/COST_OF_LIVING_CHART_TPP.PDF)

### **UPCOMING CHANGES TO TEACHER PENSION PLAN**

You may have heard that the Teachers Pension Plan is changing. It is: for active service teachers. **The changes have NO effect on the pension of retired plan members.** The changes ensure more equitable benefits for future contributors.

For an explanation of changes, see: [http://www.pensionsbc.ca/portal/page/portal/pencorpccontent/tpppage/news/tpp\\_brd\\_communique\\_plan\\_design\\_changes.pdf](http://www.pensionsbc.ca/portal/page/portal/pencorpccontent/tpppage/news/tpp_brd_communique_plan_design_changes.pdf)

### **UPCOMING CHANGES TO EXTENDED HEALTH AND DENTAL INSURANCE RATES AND CARRIER**

In December, 2016, it was announced that there would be upcoming changes to extended health and dental insurance rates and the carrier. The Teacher Pension Plan Board of trustees worked with the College and Public Service Pension boards to complete a thorough joint review of extended health and dental insurance carriers. This was the first time that the three boards had jointly conducted a review of the carriers. The advantage of the joint effort was to obtain the best value possible for premiums members pay. The combined buying power of 60,000 retired pension plan members would be a leverage to reduce administrative costs of plans. As of April 1, 2017, extended health care, including prescription drugs, and dental coverage will move from Pacific Blue Cross to Green Shield Canada. If you are currently covered with Pacific Blue Cross, it will continue through March 31, 2017. Note that Pacific Blue Cross is increasing their premiums for the February renewal, and this will be reflected on January's pension payment. All claims up to and including March 31, 2017 should continue to be submitted to Pacific Blue Cross. The rate increase only applies to February and March premiums. **It is important to note that when the administration of our pensions benefits move to Green Shields, rates will DECREASE for the majority of coverage, including by more than 13 percent on April 1, 2017, from Pacific Blue Cross' February and March rates for extended health coverage.**

There is NO NEED to do anything. Members do NOT have to re-enrol. There are no changes to the existing coverage you have with Pacific Blue Cross extended health and

dental plan coverage, eligible expenses, annual and lifetime maximums, and prior approved drug authorizations for specialty medications.

Your history of your extended health and dental coverage will transition to Green Shields directly. Any deductibles will not need to be re-satisfied. Expect a welcome package to come from Green Shields in March. This will include new Green Shields Canada ID cards and claiming instructions.

See the Teacher Pension Plan website for a comparison table of current rates, Pacific Blue Cross Renewal rates, and Green Shields Canada rates as mentioned above:

[http://www.pensionsbc.ca/portal/page/portal/pencorpccontent/rmpage/news/tpp\\_bc058\\_-\\_green\\_shield\\_mailout.pdf](http://www.pensionsbc.ca/portal/page/portal/pencorpccontent/rmpage/news/tpp_bc058_-_green_shield_mailout.pdf)

### **\*\*\* President's Report - Eileen Phillips**

#### Newsletter, Survey and Member Contact Information

- Newsletter was emailed Dec 17 by Graham using MailChimp for the first time. Newsletters mailed out by Linda, Ted and me January 13, 2017.
- Results for the fall survey were included in the winter newsletter.
- Sent most recent newsletter to all folks who have inquired about membership - as an encouragement to join us.
- Except for one recently bounced message we are currently up to date on email addresses and other contact information. (Thank you Leanna and Jennifer)

#### Thank You Cards and Gift Cards

- Thank you card sent to Mike Sjokvist for SplatterGraphics service since 2011 along with a \$25 Starbuck's card. Thank you received from him.
- Draw for Away-Members' Draw for a Chapter's Card (\$25) won by Granger Evans of Kelowna. Also got a very nice newsletter article from him about travels in Iceland and permission to announce him as the winner.
- Gift basket and Starbucks cards presented to the BCPVPA staff in December with thanks for their ongoing support of our association.

#### Website Development

- Worked with a graphic artist found on Fiverr to design a logo for us that would be vectorized and available in jpg, ai, gif, eps, and png.
- New website launched Dec 17, 2016 (Thanks to the team at Techtone, (Omer and Maoz) and our Tech committee (Graham, Ted, Eileen with input from Vivian and Rick).
- Graham and I continue working to smooth out some of the procedures for our new website and mail system (Office 365, Yammer, MailChimp). I continue to check the old Google.com address since we still get some messages on it.
- Technology report submitted by Graham - included in the minutes.

#### Scholarships

- Scholarship application form has been updated with small revisions as suggested by the Scholarship Committee (Jeff, Christine, Ted) It is available on our website.

- Photos received from the recipients and bios written by the scholarship committee for the newsletter. These are currently on our website and will be in the next newsletter.

#### Mentorship Proposal with BCPVPA

- Nov 7 - I attended a meeting with Kevin K, Kevin F, Kit, Allison and Nancy re the PMT (Provincial Mentorship Team) that works with new teachers. The on-going process they use for development of their mentorship model was shared and discussed. Applications to be a mentor will go out in the spring.

#### Email Queries and Correspondence

- Correspondence from John, a member concerned about the process by which the new health care provider was selected by the TPP. (Thanks to Gerald for helpful advice with this.)
- Contacted Denise Johnston re volunteers for Learning Forward conference. Sent information to all members.
- Emailed Gerry Tiede re dates for his presentation to us - replied March 8, 2017 confirmed
- General queries re memberships, medical and dental, associate membership, pensions, change of address have been answered (advice from Ted, Graham, Gerald and Vivian appreciated.)

#### Chapter Council

- Attended Nov 18 & 19, 2016 with Ted. Vancouver (both elementary and secondary) was warmly welcomed. BCPVPA celebrated being a complete provincial association.
- I addressed the group: (1) preparing for retirement and mentioned again that membership with us is not automatic on retirement - one needs to join; (2) mentioned our scholarship recipients and our appreciation for the school staff who took the time to write supporting letters for the applicants. I stressed that we also look at students enrolled in non-academic programs such as trades, film, art, cooking, etc; and (3) talked about our book sale that happens at Short Course in July and asked those present to think about us when weeding their leadership materials and to spread the word about this event.

#### Affinity and Benefits Meeting

- Jan 17 Roy, Gerald and I attended a meeting arranged by Roy with Steve of the RTA to see how our associations can support each others' members through sharing and combining some benefits. Steve will send contact information for some of the groups with whom they have arrangements.

Pensions - Written report from Gerald included in the minutes and available on our website.

#### Learning Forward Conference in December

- Thanks to all members who gave so generously of their time to help make this event a big success.

#### Thanks

- Thank-you to attendees and to Genus Capital Management for hosting us.