

**BCRPVPA General Meeting – Tues. Oct. 24, 2017**  
**BCPVPA Boardroom 9:45 a.m.**  
**Minutes**

9:30 **Social**

9:45 **Call to order** – Eileen - Welcome and Attendance.

(Regrets: from executive members: Christine, Celina, Leanna)

Laurie gave a description of the cheeses/crackers provided.

9:50 Thanks to Kit for representing BCPVPA Staff & giving updates on:

- Short Course for new & returning administrators as well as a refresher component;
- Leadership Strategy in BC beginning with \$200,000;
- Number of teaching positions still not completed;
- Concern about having to hire many new teachers all at once this year;
- Benefits' program may be amended in the new year;
- Knowing, Learning, Sharing: this is a new book sold to districts;
- 2400 active BCPVPA Members. All districts now represented;
- Staff at BCPVPA is highly dedicated & resourceful.

Kevin Reimer, President BCPVPA: gave update on newly formed Mentor Program.

Need several more BCRPVPA volunteers to be Mentors by October 31<sup>st</sup>.

Personal introduction from all 27 members present.

Adoption of Agenda

Moved – Jeff

Seconded - Laurie

Carried

Adoption of minutes from previous General Meeting (Wed Mar 8, 2017)

Moved - Lanny

Seconded - Olga

Carried

**Reports:**

1. **Treasurer** – Lanny - Acceptance of report at presented moved by Lanny; Seconded Vivian. Carried. Handout of financials provided to members in attendance.

2. **Communications** – Graham: Update of newsletters & website. Graham reminded members to check our website for up to date information about BCRPVPA. He also asked members to send in articles for the newsletter. Please see attached report.

3. **Speakers** – The Executive asks members to contribute names of speakers who have information of interest to our members. We also use information from surveys to determine topics.

4. **Vice-President's Report** – Ted

- BC Retired Teachers' AGM dinner was attended by Ted and Eileen. Excellent liaison between BCRPVPA & BCRTA.
- BCPVPA Mentorship Program: Thank you to anyone from BCRPVPA who volunteered to be mentors to the BCPVPA Mentees. There will be an introductory webinar in early November and all-day mentor training on Nov. 9-10, 2017 in the Board Room.
- Chapter Council: Nov. 17-18. Eileen and Ted will attend.

5. **Scholarships** – Jeff, Allan, Christine, Ted

Thanks to the members for another successful Scholarship presentation.

Jeff mentioned names of the 4 student recipients of \$1,000 each. Website will have a summary of the recipients. Jeff has notified by email both the successful and unsuccessful applicants.

6. **Membership and Sunshine** - Please contact Leanna if member(s) are ill, experience extraordinary accomplishments, or for bereavement. We currently have 712 members.

7. **Social/Meetings** – Thanks to Lanny for appetizers at our meetings.

8. **Affinity and Pensions** - Gerald - mentioned a new affinity partner that will give travel benefits. Details are under discussion. See attached report

GerryPensions & Bill C-27 presentation. Please see our website or the BCRTA website for information on action that members may choose to individually take.

9. **President's Report** – Eileen summarized main issues to date. Report attached.

**New Business:** none

**Adjournment:** 10:50

Moved – Ted and Seconded - Jeff

10:50 **Social/Break**

11:00 **Speaker Presentation:** Gerry Tiede - Pensions and Bill C-27

See websites BCRPVPA & BCRTA for more details on Bill C-27. Members are asked to consider taking individual action on this important issue as it may impact each of us.

**Dates to note:**

*Next Executive Meeting: Tuesday, Nov 28, 2017*

*Next General Meeting: Thursday, Jan18, 2018*

No-host lunch to follow at Rogue Restaurant.

***Attachment 1 - AFFINITY BENEFITS REPORT: Gerald Soon  
General Meeting, October 24, 2017***

This fall I have made connections with a company that may become our newest Affinity partner.

Are you interested in travel? A new partnership that I am investigating is with a company that can connect our members to companies offering trips, with reductions or perks because you are a member of the BC Retired Principals & Vice-Principals' Association.

We are at the early discussion stage, and I should have additional information in the new year.

One of our concerns as an executive is that we don't distribute our member information without permission. The way that this benefit would work is that if you are interested, you would provide your email address to the company and receive the information. No cost to you, or to us as members.

Possible travel choices? Ocean cruises (all companies), River cruises, all inclusive travel, wellness travel, adventure, etc. I will write a future article for our newsletter outlining the information for members, with details when I receive them.

I am excited about this possible new service to our members!

### ***Attachment 2 - BCRPVPA Tech/Communications Report: Graham Mulligan General Meeting 10.24.2017***

**Website** A new Page was added for the BCPVPA Mentorship Program with a link on the Landing Page inside the Life-Long Learning box. The Page contains a description of the program and the application forms for Mentor and Mentee. There is also an area for updating relevant information, such as meeting dates. The work was done by Techtone (invoice received for this).

429 members opened the email (64.9%) announcement. The application deadline was extended to October 20.

A Group was also created on Yammer for this project. So far no one has subscribed to the Group other than the creator of the Group (BCRPVPA).

**Volunteer/Job Opportunities Page** This is an active area with a number of posts in both categories. Posts will need to be removed as they become stale-dated.

#### **Notification of New or Deceased Members Survey Results -**

The survey went out on March 17. As of March 25 the results were 288 Yes and 5 No. A significant number of members chose not to express an opinion on this (139). There were a total of 432 'opens'. We need to decide how we want to handle this.

**Newsletter:** The software used to create the Newsletter was renewed in August for another year. This means that the pdf version will continue to be produced for another year.

#### **Summer Newsletter -**

The Newsletter was sent out on August 23. 484 members opened the Newsletter (73%). There were 9 'bounces' (could not be delivered).

#### **Fall Newsletter -**

I am looking for articles and photos. The Fall Newsletter (PDF) will go out after the GM but articles can be published anytime on the website.

**(Retirement) Just Kidding Cartoon** - “ I retired my Just Kidding website in August. After almost 20 years of developing those cartoons, I decided it was time to move onto other things, in particular, writing and illustrating my series of children’s stories -The Wharf Rats. I’d like to thank you and all the folks at BCRPVPA for using Just Kidding cartoons for these many years. It’s been a privilege for me to serve you.” Rod McLean

**Yammer** -  
206 members enrolled as of October 07, 2017.

Activity has been significant in some areas, particularly Insurance Issues and the switch from Pacific Blue Cross to Greenshields, thanks to Gerald’s excellent article. Another discussion that generated a lot of responses was prompted by Doreen Graham’s question regarding cell phones expenses during travel.

Participation by Group:

Mentorship Program	1
Executive Committee	12
Travel	84
Volunteer/Job Opportunity	33
Introduce Yourself	20
Insurance Issues	52
BCRPVPA Presentations	38
Sites I Follow	22
All Network	206

**Presentations to General Meetings** The Road Scholar presentation is currently housed on my personal Vimeo account. If we want to create and share future presentations we will need to have a place to put them. A Vimeo account would cost \$9/month or \$24/month depending on features (see <https://vimeo.com/upgrade>).

Camera, tripod and digital recording equipment used for recording presentations are my personal devices. BCRPVPA will eventually need to decide whether or not to invest in its own equipment. I believe the money is in the current budget.

**MailChimp**

This is the program used to send out mass emails like notices, newsletters, announcements and reminders. It requires constant monitoring and updating as members are added or removed. This can be a complicated procedure requiring professional assistance from our website developer, Techtone.

The MailChimp program can also tell us how many emails were actually opened or not opened and which emails were rejected (bounced). Bounces occur when an email cannot be delivered for a number of reasons (technical). These ‘bounces’ should be checked by a follow-up phone call to determine the reason. Who should do this?

**Survey Monkey** The licence for this software expires in December. A Fall Survey can be created if it is felt necessary. Ideas?

**Attachment 3 - President's Report: Eileen Phillips**  
**October 24, 2017 General Meeting**

- The Summer Newsletter was published and mailed out in late August. We are now only mailing 44 copies. Articles for the next newsletter are being collected by Graham.
- Correspondence: Many members are still upset with the transition from Blue Cross to Green Shields as some medications covered by Blue Cross are no longer covered. Discrepancy examples: Non-generic vs. Generic medication coverage, adjudication of med coverage, what's covered vs. what's not covered?
- BCRPVPA is keen to build and expand our relationship and liaison with BCRTA. As reported by Ted, we attended the BCRTA AGM dinner and were warmly welcomed. We will reciprocate, as we did last year, by inviting one of their executive members to attend our AGM presentation and luncheon in May, 2018. We also work with the BCRTA on increasing affinity benefits for members.
- Mentorship: Ted and I have been attending the BCPVPA planning session on the Mentorship program. We want the pilot to be a success - please encourage our members who are recently-retired, school-based principals to apply to be mentors.
- Survey Monkey - the executive voted unanimously not to send a survey this year. Instead, we will re-visit last year's survey results and look towards addressing our general members' suggestions from it. Also, the executive suggest we send a formal Survey to our members every 3 to 4 years to renew direction for speaker topics, communication needs and other issues that have arisen. We will review this decision at the first executive meeting of 2018 -19 year.
- Speakers - all members are encourage to submit topics for presentations along with suitable speakers to address the topics.
- Member Gift Card Raffle: Currently, we send 4 X \$25 Chapter Cards to members outside the lower mainland. It was proposed and accepted that we send 2 gift cards after each General Meeting and the AGM and that the raffle be open to all members. The purpose is to involve more members than just those who can attend our meetings. We will continue to do a draw for a bottle of wine for members in attendance.
- Scholarships: Currently, we only award scholarships to applicants who are attending a BC accredited post-secondary program of studies. Starting in 2018, scholarship recipients can be attending a Canadian accredited post-secondary institution.
- May AGM: it was proposed and carried that we continue to have a luncheon at the May AGM. Lanny and Ted suggested that we invite all the BCPVPA staff to our AGM luncheon as our way of acknowledging the staff's work on our behalf. And, rather than hosting a separate event, we will also present our appreciation gifts to BCPVPA staff at that time.
- I thank you for your support and especially thank the executive for their continued dedication to our association.

**Goals this year:**

- i. Increase Membership
- ii. Continue to strengthen our ties with BCRTA

- iii. Support the Mentorship Pilot Program
- iv. Communication with our membership through Newsletters, the BCRPVPA website, Yammer, and MailChimp
- v. Continue our close relationship with BCPVPA
- vi. Begin to collect and curate our history