

by

Christine Johnson and Celina Mau

BC Retired Principals' & Vice-Principals' Association

**WHAT'S
YOUR PLAN
FOR
RETIREMENT?**



At the time of retirement, I found out about an association which would keep me in the area of education, and allow me to meet like-minded people. After almost thirty-seven years — more than the age of many of my staff members — I was used to the everyday life of school. Although already assigned as a volunteer at various animal organizations, I went along to a General Meeting of the BC Retired Principals' & Vice-Principals' Association and it has been a wonderful discovery. Having worked closely with the BCPVPA, it seemed like a natural next step.

Here is an organization which makes sure that its members are kept up-to-date on areas that directly affect them — pension plan, medical issues, wellness, legal matters, travel, and hobbies. A number of benefits accompany membership in the BCRPVPA, and one of the best parts is working on the Scholarship Committee to decide which of the candidates most deserve one of our \$1,000 awards.

Here is an organization whose members compose a much anticipated newsletter, and whose website is full of information. Yammer is a 'conversational' website dedicated to members, where a variety of interests — from gardening to movies — are covered.

There are many reasons to join us — just ask Celina Mau:

"When I retired in the summer of 2016, I was looking for 'something' to fill my days beyond just taking care of my mother. A colleague from my PDK (Phi Delta Kappa) days suggested that I join the BCRPVPA for many reasons, mainly the Prestige Travel Insurance Plan and my service as a mentor to the newly-appointed Principals and Vice-Principals under the joint BCPVPA / BCRPVPA Mentorship Program.

As a family, we planned to take our mom back to Southeast Asia for an extended trip to visit her family, our relatives, and friends — the Johnson/Prestige combination of EHC (Extended Health Care) with Travel Plan fit the bill, because it has a multi-trip plan for up to 60+ days per trip with NO restriction clause for pre-existing conditions: a real bonus!

I soon became a part of the inaugural BCPVPA Mentorship Program which began in the Fall of 2016. Looking back five years later, I have gained so many mentorship skills through reflecting on my practice and using purposeful questioning techniques to guide the newly-appointed Principals and Vice-Principals as we delved deeply into the arts and crafts of leadership, and honed in on both our skills in the role and responsibilities as school-based leaders. The program afforded me the opportunity to stay connected in the field of public education, and to



BCRPVPA members at the Book Sale table,
BCPVPA Short Course, UBC, July 2018

share my knowledge and passion with the mentees throughout BC.

The BCPVPA Mentorship Program, combined with increased responsibilities in the BCRPVPA Executive, have now filled my days. Flexibility of 'work' hours and camaraderie with my retired colleagues have enabled me to keep my brain active, build relationships, and stay connected socially and virtually with members."

Travel remains a top priority for many of our recently retired members. So, to meet these needs, a few Executive members in our association under the guidance of Tom from Trip Merchant (one of our Affinity Benefits Program Partners), have organized an inaugural 14 night European river cruise for July 2022. We will be travelling down the Danube River visiting the Netherlands, Germany, Austria, Slovakia, and Hungary. We would love for you to join us!

Pondering retirement?

Visit our website: bcrpvpa.ca

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Our Association's meeting programs such as 'The Indispensable Binder', 'Wills and Estate Planning' from DL Piper (through affiliation with BCPVPA) and most recently 'TPP and our Pension investment from BCI' have greatly benefitted our members.

Here is what a member who just retired this summer shared with us:

*"I thought last week's
(October 2021) meeting
was excellent.*

*I learned more than I
could have imagined
about investing.*

*It was great to
have the time to
focus on the details."*





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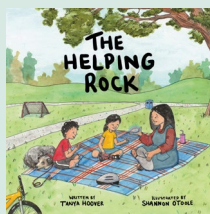


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