



KTRTA Bulletin

Kamloops Thompson Retired Teacher's Association

It's a New Season for the Kamloops Thompson Retired Teachers' Association!

Click here:

[KTRTA Pamphlet of Events for 2021-2122.](#)

Please look at our pamphlet of events that we have planned for the 2021-2122 season, it's attached [here](#). We are pleased that we will be able to get back to our "usual" and have our monthly meetings in person at the Cottonwood Community Centre. We are looking forward to seeing everyone in person, at our first-get together on Friday September 24, 2021. The doors open at 11:30.

Click here:

KTRTA.CA

We Are Celebrating

Our Fiftieth Year!

1971-2021

Information About Our Friday, September 24th Get-Together

Boxed Lunch

A delicious Mexican lunch will be catered by The Pond Country Market. You have three choices for the burrito: 1. *Smoked Pulled Pork*, 2. *Roasted Chicken* and 3. *Veggie & Bean*. The burrito includes Spanish-style rice, duo cheese blend, caramelized onions and apple cider BBQ sauce. It's topped with shredded cabbage, jalapeño lime sauce and house made salsa. Lunch also includes salad, dessert, tea and coffee.

RSVP

You need to RSVP if you are planning to attend. To reserve your lunch, please email us at onlineoffice.ktrta@gmail.com by **Monday, September 20th, 2021**. Include your choice of burrito.

Harvest Sharing

Let's share the bounty of our Fall harvest! Please bring plants, flowers, fruit, vegetables, herbs, grapes, squash, pumpkins, pickles, preserves, jams, jellies, or home baking to share with your retired teacher colleagues. After we have enjoyed our lunch, you are invited to choose from the abundance of fruits and vegetables, so be sure to bring a box, bag, or basket to carry your harvest treasures home with you! This annual tradition raises funds for the Thompson Rivers University Bursaries, R.R. Smith Bursary and Canadian Harambee Education Society. Donations to the KTRT Club by cheque or cash.

KTRTA & KTRT Club AGM's

We will elect the KTRTA and the KTRT Club executive members for 2021-22. If you are interested in serving on the KTRTA executive board this year, please contact Marney Bethell, KTRTA President, at marneybetho5@hotmail.com or 250-634-2755. If you are interested in serving on the KTRT Club executive, please contact Bev Maxwell, KTRT Club President at bjmax@telus.net or 250-374-2205.



About Our Get-Togethers...

We look forward to seeing you at the North Shore Community Centre on Friday, September 24th!

Who? All KTRTA members, spouses and friends are welcome. Please show your *Proof of Vaccination* card.

What? Former educators enjoy get-togethers with guest speakers and yummy lunches.

Where? North Shore Community Centre, 730 Cottonwood Avenue, Kamloops.

When? The last Friday of the month, seven times per year (Sept., Oct., Nov., Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr.). The doors open at 11:30 a.m. for visiting, with the meeting at 12:00 p.m. and lunch at 12:30 p.m. The program starts at 1:00 p.m.

Why? To have some fun and build camaraderie, while promoting the interests and welfare of our members.

How? RSVP onlineoffice.ktrta@gmail.com to reserve your spot. When you arrive at the North Shore Community Center, please sign in at their front desk as the centre gets credit for the number of people using their facility. Proceed to our KTRTA meeting room, show your *Proof of Vaccination*, purchase your lunch ticket, put on your name tag, choose a seat at a table, and you are ready to mingle!

Cost? Lunch including a salad, dessert, tea/coffee is \$20.00. If you want to attend without lunch, the cost is \$5.00 and includes coffee/tea. Please pay by cash or cheque.



Message from the KTRTA President, Marney Bethell

Welcome back to our 2021-2022 Retirement year! I am so looking forward to seeing everyone in person, at our first-get together on Friday September 24, 2021. The doors open at 11:30. Our last year was indeed strange with all our get-togethers held virtually by bulletin! I am so grateful for everyone on our KTRTA Executive and their support in getting their monthly committee reports out to our membership. I also greatly appreciate Glenn Dreger's beautiful photographs of birds of Knutsford and his open permission to use his photos in our bulletins and now on the front page of our brochure.

It has been quite the summer with such incredible heat at the beginning, then wildfires all around us with such smoky days and nights. I usually go to my hometown of Salt Spring island as well as to Vancouver and Victoria to visit family and friends but I found that I needed to stay close to home this summer, in case the wildfire came any closer. For a relatively short amount of time, we were on an order of Evacuation Alert, which meant the RCMP came to the door to let us know that if the evacuation order came, we would have just 15 minutes to leave. We had our 'Go Bag' ready and a list on the door of what was to go. Many of the items are used everyday, such as computer and phone chargers, personal care items and prescriptions. Other things packed included family records, identification and insurance papers. I packed my grandfather's banjo and my Dad's mandolin and the soap stone carvings collected by my parents in the Northwest Territories in the 1950's. Of course, none of these items could be left in the car, in case someone decided to break in. I did keep blankets and pillows in the car in case we had no bed if evacuated. I made a backup of my computer to store at my sister's place. She also lives in Kamloops but on the other side of the river, on a ranch, surrounded by fields - pretty safe!

I was also involved with our community fire information system. We live in Knutsford, which is part of the TNRD and so we had the Voyant Alert System but the information we received was for all of the TNRD region - a huge area. We have no fire protection in Knutsford, although the Wildfire Service will attend although not for structure fires. We set up an information system with email, Facebook

KTRTA Executive

President - Marney Bethell

Vice President - Donna Walsh

Past President - Sheila Park

Secretary - Betty Karpuk

Treasurer - Sandy Baird

Pensions, Benefits & Member
Wellbeing - Sheila Park

Membership & Online Office
Manager- Noeleen Bunney

Sunshine - Mary Ellen Patterson



Kids - Gotta Love 'Em!

Please send humorous and memorable stories from your teaching career to Sheila Park at onlineoffice.ktrta@gmail.com.

We are compiling this collection of funny stories into a book!

Did you know...?

As a member of our provincial retired teacher organization, BCRTA, you are also a member of the Canadian Association of Retired Teachers

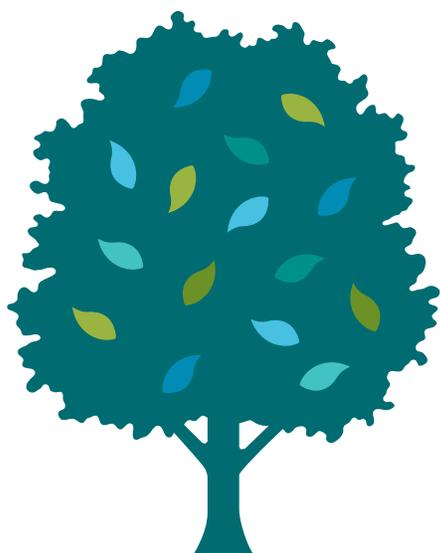
messages and a recorded phone message to inform our community members of the location of wildfires. We had a total of 13 fires in our little community and unfortunately 7 of those fires were set deliberately, 6 in one night and 1 more the next night. The information went out and the community members were able to suppress the fires with little, long lasting damage - except to our nerves! We have volunteer members doing patrols of our community every night, watching for suspicious activities and fires. We now have community members setting up a formal fire brigade, headed up by my son, James. I'm so proud of my family as everyone is involved with helping the community. I am thankful that it is cooler and today the Tremont Creek Wildfire and the Sparks Wildfire are listed as being held. Good news for us all!

Our KTRTA Heritage Committee is continuing to collect your stories about humorous memorable moments from your teaching careers. We have had some wonderful stories sent in so far and we will compile these into a book. We are closing in on the final few tasks to complete our heritage book project on the history of special education, *The Journey From Institution to Inclusion: The History of Special Education for Children with Differing Abilities in the Kamloops Thompson Region 1800 - 2021*. Sheila Park, Mary Ellen Patterson and myself all had a hand in researching and writing this important work.

We are also pleased to announce that this year is the KTRTA's 50th Anniversary! Several of our members wrote about past events. This was posted in our last [virtual get-together bulletin, April 2021](#), which is on the KTRTA website, or just click [here](#). It's a great read and if you have access to a computer, be sure to take a look.

For the upcoming 2021 Federal Election., Gerry Tiede, Past President of BCRTA and current President of the Canadian Association of Retired Teachers ([ACER-CART](#)) asked us all to participate in an e-mail letter writing campaign to our local candidates about seniors' issues and the need for a National Seniors' Strategy. It's so easy: simply visit: acer-cart.org/election2021, add your name, postal code and the letter template is there for you to personalize. With a click, your letter will be sent to all candidates in your riding.

Marney Bethell, President, KTRTA



KTRT Club Executive

President - Bev Maxwell

Vice President - Sheila Park

Secretary - Donna Walsh

Treasurer - Sandy Baird

CHES - Pat Petley

TRU/R.R. Smith:

- Glenda Miles,

- Donna Sharpe

Members-at-Large:

- Marlene Olineck

- Carolynne Miller

- Suzanne Legault

- Sharon Olson

Message from KTRT Club President, Bev Maxwell

Welcome back everyone.

We are hopeful that we will be gathering in-person for our monthly luncheons, beginning this Fall. This past year, we were thankful that we could meet our 2020 Bursary students via Zoom and follow their progress with emails throughout the Spring. A special thank you to Marney, Noleen and the many members that contributed to the virtual newsletters that were informative and fun to read, as we looked back over the history of the KTRTA and KTRT Club.

During the September 24th luncheon, we will be holding the KTRT Club AGM to elect a slate of officers for the 2021-2022 year.

Traditionally, at our September luncheons, members have generously shared their Fall Harvest items. This year, as a fundraiser for the Club which supports Students in Education and CHES, members may wish to make a donation for their chosen items. In supporting our bursaries, we are hopeful that we will be able to return to having a Spring Silent Auction.

Looking forward to seeing you.

Bev Maxwell, President, KTRT Club

In closing...

Please contact us if you have any suggestions, comments, or questions and, also, please let us know of any member needing a little "sunshine." Email us at office.ktrta@gmail.com or phone 250 299-1874.



Please visit our [KTRTA website](#) and read our bulletins to help us all stay connected and enjoy belonging to our local branch of retired educators!

Please encourage others to join our association. To sign up for both BCRTA and KTRTA, you can use the online form at [BCRTA](#) or contact Laurie Boyd at the BCRTA office: office@bcrt.ca or 1-877-683-2243. Remember to add the Kamloops Thompson Branch to your provincial membership. It's \$42.00/year to belong BCRTA and an additional \$5.00/year to belong to our local association.

We hope that you enjoyed the summer months and we look forward to seeing you in person at our Fall Fiesta and Harvest Sharing on September 24, 2021.

Best Regards,

*Marney, Donna, Sheila, Sandy, Mary Ellen,
Betty, Rosemarie, Noeleen*

