CORTA Connects

October 2026 Newsletter

Visit the CORTA website @ https://corta.ca

Happy Hallowe'en! Hope you enjoy your evening with the young trick or treaters"! Remember to snack on a couple of treats yourself!

Read on in this newsletter to find out more about our plans for the upcoming month ☺

We have hosted 2 successful events already this school year – the popular To Hell With the Bells Brunch and a 'spooktacular' Hallowe'en Howl Luncheon. It was great to see so many members at these events! Such fun!

Remember, membership in BCRTA/CORTA is free for a new members in their first year! Tell your colleagues that they can contact the BCRTA to sign up - no matter how long ago they retired (Toll Free# 1-877-683-2243 or email office@bcrta.ca). Information about the advantages to joining BCRTA can be found on their website https://bcrta.ca (you can qualify for membership as a former COTA or COPVPA member or you can join as a retired educator who worked in another BC School District or another Canadian province!).

So… what will our organization's priorities be now that 2025-2026 are here?

a) fill the vacant Sunshine Chair position- sharing the role is a possibility. Consider joining our team!

b) continue to explore other ways of bringing members together for learning and social activities

c) continue to promote BCRTA/CORTA membership throughout the year (our membership fee is $10/member effective September 2026). We will provide membership info at the welcome table at our lunches… and include info in every CORTA newsletter.

- **Make sure you're on our contact list - send your updated email address to president@corta.ca**

CORTA Executive for 2025/26

President: Cathie Mutter
Vice-President: Linda Keil
Past President: Charlene Hodgson
Secretary: Karen Bernath
Treasurer: Val Larson

Members @ Large: Delores Jensen, John Pendray, Brian Street
Membership: Willie Findlater
Programmes: Jeannette Mergens
Social Concerns/Wellness: Anita Prescott
Sunshine: POSITION VACANT

If you are interested in becoming our association's Sunshine Chair, please contact Cathie (call/text 250.212.2789) and we can chat about what's involved in taking on this role ☺

Meeting Dates

Executive Committee Meetings:

- Monday, November 2nd
- Monday, February 8th
- Monday, April 26th
- Monday, June 7th

General Meetings/Other:

* November 18th – This Learning Experience: BCRTA Insurance Update @ 1 pm, Benvoulin Heritage Park, Reid Hall with BCRTA Past Pres- Carolyn Malm and BCRTA Exec Director- Lisa Hansen
* December 7th - Winter Wonderland Luncheon @ Benvoulin Heritage Park – Reid Hall
* March 1st - Spring Has Sprung Luncheon
* May 31st - AGM & Luncheon

YOU Are My Sunshine – Spread the word!

We need another CORTA member to fill a role on our Exec Team. The Sunshine Chair will communicate with members in need of support during difficult times and help to send good wishes to CORTA members and their families in times of celebration.

WE ALSO NEED OUR MEMBERS to share important news with us. So… if you know of a CORTA member deserving of congratulations for a noteworthy life event or in need of our condolences because of a significant loss, please reach out to us and we will do the rest! For now, you can send an email via president@corta.ca or call/text Cathie at (250) 212-2789.

Hallowe'en Howl Luncheon

This event was a great success! Participants enjoyed a Spooky Smorg, lively conversations with colleagues and an informative presentation from Colin Flannigan with FH&P Lawyers. Here is a link to his presentation- Plan Today, Protect Tomorrow:

https://corta.ca/wp-content/uploads/2026/10/Teachers-Seminar-FHP-Slides-Read-Only.pdf

Thank you, Colin, for this valuable advice.

Learning Experience –

BCRTA Dogwood Insurance Update

DATE: Wednesday, November 18th
TIME: 1:00 pm
PLACE: Benvoulin Heritage Park – Reid Hall (2279 Bevoulin Rd, Kelowna
COST: $8.00 per person (to cover water & rental)

Our guest speakers, Lisa Hansen (BCRTA Exec Director) and Carolyn Malm (BCRTA Past Pres), will share the latest news on this popular topic. Don't miss this opportunity to find out more about these exclusive offerings. **Please note**: Your friends and family members are most welcome to attend this event. However, we would appreciate participants registering by November 16th to ensure we have enough seats & refreshments available. RSVP president@corta.ca or text/call (250) 212-2789 and provide your name, phone number and number of people attending. THANK YOU!

Winter Wonderland Luncheon

DATE: Monday, November 7th @ 11:30 am
PLACE: Benvoulin Heritage Park – Reid Hall (2279 Bevoulin Rd, Kelowna)
COST: $35.00 per person (to cover food, beverages & space rental, exact change appreciated)
This event includes a roast turkey buffet meal with all the fixin's and your beverage, a chance to buy 50/50 tickets (bring cash please) and lots of pre-holiday fun! Join us! There will be a separate sign-up email coming in mid-November but you can sign up now… RSVP to hodgsoncharlene@gmail.com

Spooktacular Memories

photos thanks to Terri Perrin- Historian & Karen- Secretary

Double, Double
Toil and trouble
Fire burn and
Cauldron Bubble…

Our guest speaker, Colin Flannigan – Plan Today, Protect Tomorrow…

All rise… CORT-A Luncheon is now In session ☺