



BRITISH COLUMBIA RETIRED TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION MEMBER REPORT 2024

AT THE FOREFRONT

- a) The BCRTA is in full support of the ACER-CART initiatives that have been pursued over the last year and the goals for 2024-25
- b) For this year the focus has been on those areas of health and well-being that affect seniors
 - 1) Pharmacare and it's expansion.
 - 2) The inherent inequality in the dental plan currently in place.
 - 3) The need for a comprehensive support system to enable seniors to continue to live in their own homes e.g. aging in place.
 - 4) Easing the impact of inequality and initiating measures to help with the steep rise in the cost of living and providing suitable, stable housing
 - 5) Increased control and oversight of the 'home care' industry
 - 6) Addressing the shortage of doctors and all health care workers
 - 7) Secure pensions and benefits now and in the future

BCRTA Review

- A. Annual fee revenue is now more secure and reliable for the long term and having 'laddered' investments benefits our reserves.
- B. Membership remains stable at just over 17,000.
- C. A labor dispute disrupted our plans for an in-person AGM in 2023 resulting in an online event. The venue for this year has changed since the dispute is still not resolved.
- D. Maintaining and recruiting members remains a big challenge and reports are being made to support succession planning by providing materials for local branches to use.
- E. We have been fortunate to have received cost of living increases in our pensions in accordance with CRA calculations. Benefit plans are up for review by the Teachers' Pension Board. Our delegates were present at the BCTF AGM when divestment motions were presented and debated.
- F. An additional staff position is anticipated to enhance our technology requirements for communications and exploring different modalities in reaching a broader segment of our membership.

- G. Directors and staff have been using the Teams software for handling many aspects of communication and ongoing business.
- H. Continuing cataloguing of our public heritage collection.
- I. Ongoing work to offer members Advantage program enhancements and varied travel opportunities.

Respectfully submitted