



KPURA News

Issue 2,
February,
2018

KEEPING CONNECTED OVER THE YEARS

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

KPURA Society Updates First General Meeting

by Roger Elmes

Since our first newsletter in November, our steps to becoming an incorporated society have progressed. We are about to have Our First Formal Meeting of KPURA. Please join us for the first formal meeting of KPURA on **Friday, April 20, 2018** from 10 AM to 2 PM on the Richmond campus in the Melville Center for Dialogue (2550 A and B). We'll start off with registration and coffee at 10 AM; hold our first General Meeting at 10:30; do a tour of the new building on campus – the Chip & Shannon Wilson School of Design – at 11:30; and wind up with lunch and chatting from 12:30 to 2 PM.

By then KPURA will have been registered as a BC Society, and our first formal meeting will focus on an overview of the Constitution and Bylaws; Election of the Board; Adopting a Budget; Answering Questions and Getting Feedback. If you would like to volunteer to serve on the Executive please contact Alice Macpherson or Roger Elmes.

Please let us know if you are able to attend so that we can arrange food and set up the room.

alicemac@telus.net or
mcroger@shaw.ca

More info is available at
www.kpu.ca/retirees.



Xmas Lunch at Seasons in the Park

Nearly Forty KPU Retirees and spouses enjoyed renewed acquaintance, camaraderie, and good food at our December event. (Photo by R.Elmes)

Page 2



Bees & Honey

Tony Puddicombe and friends, ready to look inside a hive. (Photo by T. Puddicombe)

Page 6

Xmas Season Lunch at Seasons in the Park

by Carol Barnett

December 3, 2017

What a wonderful way to start the Christmas season. On Sunday, December 3, thirty nine KPU retirees and their partners and friends gathered for the first KPURA Christmas lunch at the beautiful Seasons in the Park restaurant located in Queen Elizabeth Park.



Descending the spiral staircase, we were greeted by Yale Shap, as a representative of the KPURA steering committee, and by the excited and friendly chatter from those who had already arrived. The group dining area on the lower level of the restaurant has an outstanding view of the City of Vancouver skyline.



Photos by Roger Elmes



After we were all seated, Roger Elmes welcomed us, briefly outlined KPURA's activities to date, and introduced the Steering Committee. Unfortunately, Robert Wood, a main organizer of the event, was unable to attend.

We then settled in for an excellent three course lunch and loads of conversation. Reminiscing about KPU in the 'college' days (there is something about those trailers) and health tips were common themes. Things heated up at our table when the conversation turned to favorite vacation countries (China was a hit) and cities to visit. Modes of travel were also discussed with plane, train, and cruising being the most popular.

This was a lovely, friendly, and relaxing event. Our two



hours went by quickly. We said our goodbyes after coffee and all agreed that this was a worthwhile and repeatable event.

Some of the group went on to visit the Bloedel Conservatory just steps away from the restaurant. Others moved on to their next event of the day. Hopefully, the Christmas lunch will become an annual event that more KPU retirees and their partners can enjoy in the future.

Two Views of the Coffee Tour

January 20, 2018

by Tally Wade

What to do on a blustery winter morning? Find a cozy spot and enjoy a good cuppa Joe! That is exactly how a group of KPU retirees spent this past Saturday at Spent Grounds Coffee Roasters. Our host, Karen Lopez, shared her experience of roasting specialty coffee beans to produce the heavenly coffee we were about to enjoy. Karen actually grew up in the coffee industry, in Jamaica, where her grandfather exported the famous Jamaican Blue Mountain coffee. Karen showed us the roasting equipment and outlined the process for making a fine coffee. After learning what goes on behind the scenes, we were able to sample four different roasts, and then enjoy hand-made treats with a cup of our choice.

Marie-Claire looked like a natural behind the counter, honing her skills as a barista! Lots of laughs, hugs and stories filled the room, and soon we were on our way with the coffee beans we purchased to enjoy another day. It was nice to see so many familiar faces as we reminisced about what we've been doing post-KPU.

Thank you to Roger and Marie-Claire for arranging this most interesting event. Spent Grounds is definitely a place worth visiting if you are in the South Surrey area!

Spent Grounds Coffee Roasters and Café

108-19140 28 Avenue, Surrey, British Columbia

Open Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Saturday

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Closed Sundays

by Sandra Carpenter

Fifteen KPU retirees gathered for a fascinating learning experience at Spent Grounds coffee roasters in South Surrey near the Langley border.

A modest storefront hides a huge warehouse with a fabulous roaster in the back. A retail operation sells coffee beans and offers workshops and tastings on everything you ever wanted to know about coffee.

Karen Lopez, the owner, explained different kinds of beans from different points of origin. Then she showed us a coffee tasting wheel which displayed how an educated palate can recognize notes of caramel, blueberries, hay and a huge variety of flavors.

We learned about the science of roasting the beans and how each minute of the roasting process changes the results. Each participant got four different coffees to taste. Then we got a generous cup of our favorite along with a snack. Karen answered numerous questions and offered advice on beans, coffee makers, and how to buy coffee. "Don't buy coffee in large lots!"

Workshops are held, so you haven't missed your chance to hear everything you ever wanted to know about coffee. Karen is so passionate about her craft that she doesn't tire of answering all the questions you have ever wanted to ask about coffee.



L to R Jim Adams (FINA); Elaine Benton (OADM); Marg Pybus (OADM); John Sprung (DRAFT); Carol Barnett (HORT); Fraser Crinklaw (ACP); Sandra Carpenter (COMM); Fernando Rey (Carol's spouse); Karen Lopez – Spent Grounds Coffee Roasters; Tally Wade (PSCM); Juhli Farrell (LIBR); Priscilla Bollo (Humanities); Glen White (Juhli's spouse). Photo by Roger Elmes, Marie-Claire Rucquoy and John Wade

KPURA Survey Preliminary Results

by Roger Elmes

Our survey of Kwantlen retirees was somewhat smaller in length and had fewer respondents than that of the University of California system covered elsewhere in this issue. But to us it has immense value as we plan our events and activities.

We have 190 current emails of staff, faculty and admin retirees. The survey was announced on 27 November with a link to Survey Monkey and 31 responses were received by 30 November, with another 21 arriving by Christmas Eve. Our response rate was a healthy 27.4% which is quite good for a survey asking a group of retirees about an organization which does not yet have a formal membership.

Forty-one responses (79%) came from the Lower Mainland while the remaining eleven (21%) came from Whistler, Vancouver Island (Victoria to Comox) and the Gulf Islands.

In terms of scheduling you seemed quite flexible: 84% would attend morning events; afternoons would work for 95%; and 89% would attend evenings. Weekends and week days work well – 89% and 92% respectively. A smaller group (66%) indicated an interest in multi-day events.

So, what would you like to do at KPURA events? Again, you seem quite flexible although sports and action activities were somewhat less favoured with 45% indicating interest in attending Sports events and 58% in participating in Hiking or Cycling.

On the other hand, eating, drinking and intellectual activities proved more attractive with 84% liking Pub and Vineyard events; 87% interested in Picnics or Barbecues; 92% wanting Arts and Cultural events; and 92% expressing interest in Talks or Lectures.

Determining what are you willing to pay is a little more complex and KPURA will look for best value.

The results are expressed as the median (midpoint) of responses:

- FULL DAY event with travel and food - \$90;
- FULL DAY event with travel but no food - \$70;
- HALF DAY event with travel and food - \$45
- HALF DAY event with travel but no food - \$35
- MULTI-DAY event per day with meal, travel and accommodation - \$155

Looking forward to seeing our former staff, faculty and admin colleagues at future KPURA events. BTW – the next event is the first formal general meeting, followed by a tour of the newest building on the Richmond campus, lunch and chatting. Friday 20 April 10 AM to 2 PM.



An Oral History of Kwantlen

by Roger Elmes

Part II

"Politics is ... the way that authoritative decisions concerning **the allocation of scarce resources** [my emphasis] ... are made and carried out in society." (Van Loon and Whittington)

Kwantlen had to deal with many authoritative decisions which left it in the lurch, battling its way forward from its conception by the South of the Fraser school districts in 1964 to the end of its first gestation in 1970 and its second gestation in 1981 when it split from Douglas College, and onward in the struggle with external forces, including public perception and support, and gaining the support of local and especially successive provincial governments for its fair share in the allocation of scarce resources.

When a college or university loses a battle for scarce resources, or is less successful than it wished, the politics of allocating scarce resources is then internalized and various faculties and academic departments as well as

other departments engage in a "discussion" over scarce resources. Sometimes this discussion involves formalized collective bargaining; other times the discussion is between vice-presidents of service and academic areas; deans and vice-presidents; within a faculty; between departments and finally within departments. And of course, the President, the Board, the Education Council or Senate and to a lesser extent the Student Society play a role.

In spite of intense and divisive debates over the allocation of scarce resources, good things and positive outcomes happened at Kwantlen. It's quite a story - from the car trunks of about 70 faculty teaching in some borrowed schools serving hundreds of students in the fall of 1970 to portables and rented, converted warehouses from 1971 to 1995, to over 1 million square feet of permanent buildings on four modern, high-tech campuses in Surrey, Richmond, Cloverdale and Langley, housing 1,400 faculty and staff serving over 20,000 students.

There were also good things and positive outcomes on the personal level as attested to by the success of our students beginning with this testimonial of a student who received one of the first Associate of Arts Degrees in the history of Douglas/Kwantlen – 1972.

Douglas College was my last chance. High-school grades were very average, and a year of Grade 13 only made matters worse. Luckily, the new Douglas College opened that year (1970) and I hesitantly enrolled. It proved to be an adventure that first year as our classes were at first held in junior secondary schools in Richmond, after regular school hours. Within months, our own campus materialized – a warehouse – but a campus just the same. One of the lucky few, all of my classes were at one campus location. Many fellow students and instructors made the arduous daily trips between the campuses of Surrey, New West and Richmond.

In those early years, Douglas hired faculty who did not fit the starched mould of 'professors'. We had instructors who sought to inspire their very diversified group [in age and academic preparation] of students with a fresh approach. I took my first Psychology class with an instructor ... [who] was inspiring! She believed in 'hands-on' learning and we did that regularly in class by testing other students with our theories. The most

memorable class was the day the teacher was late because her car broke down on the Oak Street Bridge [coming from the New West campus] and no one stopped to help her. Our class talked about what kinds of people stopped to help others in distress, and who would stop to help. We as a class decided to put it to the test and we grouped ourselves in girl/girl, boy/boy or girl/boy pairs to hitchhike to a location (a pizza place in Richmond for lunch!!) and to see how long it would take for each kind of pair to be picked up. This kind of learning experience sure kindled my interest in Psychology.

Douglas teachers, such as Psychology instructor Sara Mitchell [later Pawson], took a disillusioned and discouraged student, and not only sent me on to UBC with a scholarship after the second year, but with the knowledge and determination needed to complete a BA degree in Psychology.

After completing my BA and working for a year, I went back to UBC and got my teaching certificate. I taught in the Vancouver School District for 2 years, but stopped to have my 4 children. I did teach

adult education in the evenings for 15 years while my children were young.

My two youngest children ended up attending Douglas, both in university transfer programs. My son eventually completed the associate of arts. He is now attending Kwantlen for a program in Business. My daughter applied to BCIT, and is currently in the second year of the Operations Management Program.

Finally, I want to state that it is funny how my life has come full circle and now not only have my own children attended Douglas, but in my role as an elected School Trustee [Burnaby] (and currently Board Chair) I am always talking to secondary school students about the opportunities that are available at our community colleges/universities and encouraging them to complete more post-secondary education.

Douglas College and instructors such as Sara played a significant part in my success. Thank you!

Diana Mumford AA Degree 1972 (Gerry Della Mattia, Douglas College, the first 40 years, Douglas College 2010, p. 28)

As we create KPU's oral history we want to interview about 10 students from various programs and disciplines who, like Diana, have been successful in life and have stories to share. Please send any suggestions to mcroger@shaw.ca

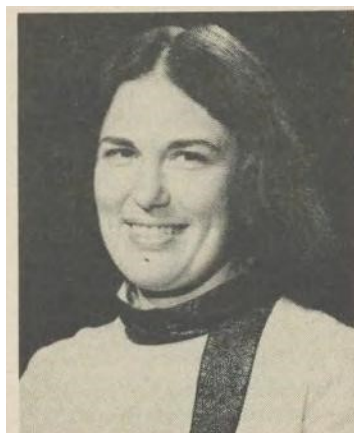
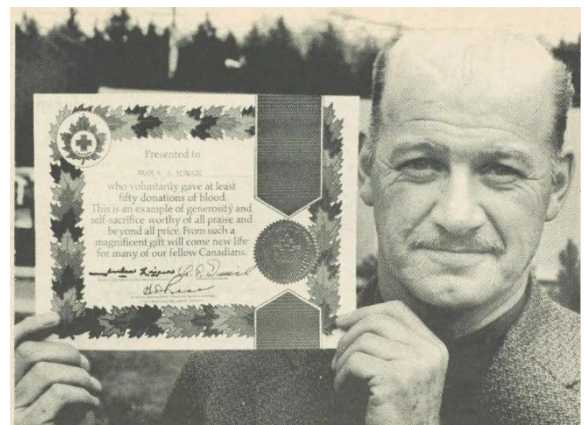
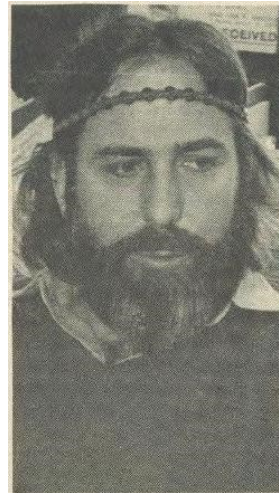
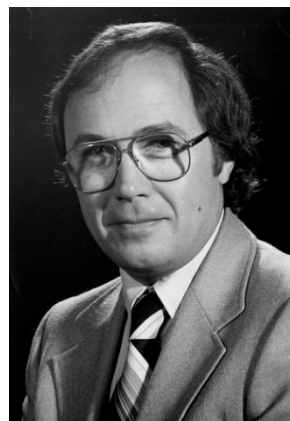
Where is This? Who are These People?

by Roger Elmes



The first Richmond "warehouse"

The first one is a 'giveaway'. Speaking of old photos of now "older" Kwantlenites do you recognize any of these folks? No prizes, but it is a lot of fun to guess. (Answer key in the next newsletter)



Do you have a photo to share of your early days at Kwantlen?

KPU RETIREES ABOUT TOWN



Tony Puddicombe

hobby beekeeper

I was a Horticulture instructor at Kwantlen Langley for 19 years and retired from the School of Horticulture in 2014. I decided to increase my involvement in beekeeping and gardening to keep myself active.

I became interested in beekeeping after my father started with 2 beehives in his North Vancouver backyard. The more I helped him, I found it enjoyable to watch the hive start out small in the spring and rapidly build up in size until in July we could harvest 150 pounds of honey. Then we had to check for diseases or mites and treat the hives before they became smaller, in readiness for the cold wet winter. To survive, the bees huddle in a tight ball and eat honey to produce enough heat to keep the queen and themselves warm enough. During winter we tried not to open the hive as it would cool it down drastically. Starting in mid-January the bees would fly about on a warm day (above 12 degrees), and poop as they dislike fouling the hive. By mid-March the cycle started again.



Bees depositing nectar

Until the settlers arrived in North America there were no honeybees. Bees were brought to pollinate crops and supply beeswax and honey. Many swarms left for the trees and now one can find wild honeybees everywhere. You see, the bees don't need us to manage them; they survive very well on their own.

BC has about 400 species of native bees as well, many of them living in burrows that they excavate in sandy soil. So if you keep an area in your garden uncultivated you may find many native bees taking up residence. Don't worry—none have a sting like a honeybee!! One species that is easy to have in your garden is the Orchard mason bee. You can buy cocoons and houses at garden stores in February and March.

I keep 2 honey bee hives in Kitsilano because I enjoy watching them fly about the lane and backyards to pollinate at least 100 different flowering plants. The honey they produce has a wonderful smell and taste but nothing is guaranteed. My queen could take off with a swarm, the weather may be too rainy and hinder nectar collecting, the hive might wither from a disease, the native wasps may invade the hive and kill all the bees in August, and too many mites may kill the hive in October!



Orchard mason bee houses

Photos by T. Puddicombe

I have kept bees for 15 years and have experienced 3 years where both hives were dead by spring and I had to buy 2 new ones for \$500.00. It is not an easy way to acquire cheap honey!

MARY STEINHAUSER MEMORIAL BURSARY

Our colleague Margaret Franz (ELS & ACP) has been active, post-retirement, setting up the MARY STEINHAUSER MEMORIAL BURSARY for SFU Aboriginal Undergraduates in the Arts & Social Sciences. "Why SFU?" you may ask.

Here, in her own words, she tells us why, while recalling the life and death of her sister, Mary Steinhauser, a dedicated psychiatric nurse, compassionate social worker, and heroic Canadian peace officer.

"My memories of my outstandingly brave and compassionate sister Mary, who died in the service of her country, live on and are supported by the words of Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau in a June 11, 1975 telegram to my parents, Johanna and August Steinhauser: *"Your daughter has set an example for all Canadians.... Mary will be remembered with respect and gratitude both for her outstanding courage and fortitude in recent days and for her service in a most difficult and demanding vocation."*

MARY STEINHAUSER (1942-1975)



Mary began her training as a psychiatric nurse at Riverview Hospital (formerly Essondale) in Coquitlam BC in 1962 and continued for the next three years at Riverview, at Tranquille School for the mentally handicapped in Kamloops BC and at the Queen Street Mental Health Centre in Toronto. Her next position was at the

experimental minimum security prison for drug addicts at Matsqui, BC, where she provided counseling and companionship. In 1967, Following her graduation from SFU and post- graduation from UBC in in 1973 with an MA in Social Work, she became a classification officer at the BC Penitentiary in New Westminster, one of the most notorious of the maximum security prisons in the country. Her mission was to help transition inmates (particularly, over-represented aboriginal inmates) from prison life to life on the outside, by creatively bringing the community to the penitentiary in various ways.

On June 9th, 1975, during a prison breakout attempt by three inmates, 14 classification officers, including Mary, were held hostage for 41 hours. Respected and admired by the inmates, and because she could communicate effectively with them, she offered herself as the principal hostage. In the early hours of June 11th, several of the hostages sequestered in an adjoining vault area, attempted unsuccessfully to subdue their captors. In the

ensuing chaos, a prison guard riot squad stormed the area, firing many shots at the hostage takers.

Mary, who was being held as a human shield with a knife held at her throat by one of the inmates, was killed instantly.



Detail: *Reconstruction of events by artist Pete Lynde shows tactical squad charging to free hostages.*

Province Newspaper, p2, Saturday, June 28, 1976.

The news was reported in national and international media. Weeks later, a Royal Commission of Inquiry was mandated to find out how and why Mary died. Unsatisfied with the outcome of the Inquiry, BC's Coroner ordered an inquest in May 1976. It lasted 6 weeks.

The story of this event and Mary's role in it was the subject of a play, *Walls* (1978), by Christian Bruyere, and a movie (1984) by the same name, also produced and directed by Bruyere.

As a fallen Peace Officer, Mary's name is inscribed on the provincial *Monument for the Fallen* on the Bastion at the Legislative Grounds in Victoria BC and also on the federal *Monument for the Fallen* in Ottawa, ON.

Further: In March 2014, to feature Mary's noble and tragic life, and with the most generous help of a large number of volunteers, including my good friend and colleague, Sundari Bala, I produced a theatre performance event entitled BRAVE: The Mary Steinhauser Legacy. As told through the voices, poetry and song of those who knew her, or were inspired by her passion, compassion and conviction, it was an Evening of Story, Song and Dance, directed by Karen Freeborn. All the proceeds of the event were added to the MARY STEINHAUSER MEMORIAL BURSARY for SFU Aboriginal Undergraduates in the Arts & Social Sciences

Founded in 2011, the MARY STEINHAUSER MEMORIAL BURSARY has been awarded to seven recipients in the form of educational support for SFU's aboriginal undergraduate students. The eighth recipient will be announced in March 2018.

Donations for this bursary are most welcome and can be made online at <http://marysteinhauser.com>

FYI: What is CURAC?

by Sundari Bala

Roger Elmes, on behalf of KPURA, has recently applied to join CURAC as a member association. The College and University Retiree Associations of Canada /Associations de retraités des universités et collèges du Canada (CURAC/ARUCC) is a not-for-profit federation of retiree organizations at colleges and universities across Canada.

As stated on their website, <http://www.curac.ca/>, their objectives are:

- to coordinate activities that promote communication among member associations,
- to share information,
- to provide mutual assistance, and
- to speak publicly on issues of concern to the over fifteen thousand individual college and university retirees across Canada.

(2013 Annual General Meeting in St. John's, NL)

Member associations are invited to hold significant events which may be of interest to the wider CURAC. These can be viewed at the open page:

<https://www.facebook.com/CURAC.ARUCC>



CURAC outgoing and incoming presidents

UCal System Surveys Retirees

by Roger Elmes

An online questionnaire, created using SurveyMonkey software, was distributed primarily via email to 16,854 retirees of the University of California System, for whom emails were available and generated completed surveys from 4,478 respondents. The system has a total of 59,824 Annuitants (effectively pensioners) and a further 15,000 who opted for a lump sum payout at retirement.

In summary the study found the following:

As retirees, many of these former UC employees continue their productive and engaged lifestyles. As one retiree stated, they are "retired from working but not retired from living." The most striking survey findings are the extent to which respondents remained committed to UC's mission of public service, continuing their contributions to society for many years after their retirement. A total of 2,772 (63%) respondents volunteered in their communities, 849 (20%) volunteered for UC, 1,154 (27%) provided professional services and 653 (15%) published written works. [In terms of post-retirement employment 514 (12%) returned to work at UC; 728 (16%) worked outside of UC; and 648 (15%) were self-employed.] The majority of UC retirees have devoted 20, 30 or 40+ years to the University and many feel a lifelong sense of loyalty to the institution.

For them, retirement is not a disengagement from UC, but rather a shift in the relationship. These findings suggest that the University, through partnership with its retiree associations and retirement centers, might more effectively facilitate retirees' roles as advocates, ambassadors and assets in support of the University's missions.

The full report is available at

<http://cucra.ucsd.edu/survey/RetireeSurveyReport.pdf>

KPURA Survey Updates

by Steering Committee

KPURA has its own Survey as you can see from the preliminary result and we would like you to fill one out if you haven't already done so.

You can see that your Steering Committee has been quite busy and that we have organized a number of events. Those events and KPURA News give you an idea of what an association can be and do. Now we want to see how well we are doing in planning events and activities of interest to you. Please help up by completing a short survey found at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DXZDG2L>

The collated results will not be shared or sold to outside parties. No individual responses will be shared.

BOOK REVIEW

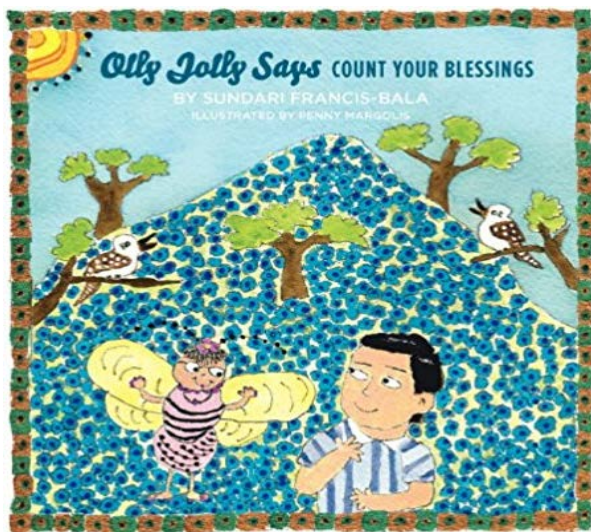
by Tally Wade

For those who wish to snuggle in with a child for bedtime reading, this book provides a wonderful story with colourful drawings, combined with an important message. In order to get his smile back, Boy must learn to count his special blessings. Olly Jolly the magic bee, reminds Boy of all the things that he should be thankful for in his life. The illustrations by Penny Margolis invite the reader to use their imaginations as they learn to find their own smiles by counting their blessings. Space at the back of the book to add personal blessings and pictures will help to make this a treasured family keepsake. A must read for parents and grandparents of young children.

This book is available from Amazon

Olly Jolly Says: Count Your Blessings

by Sundari Francis-Bala



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Welcome to our second Newsletter of the KPU Retiree's Association.

We are interested in what you would like to see in the KPURA Newsletter. We look forward to your memories and your contributions. Let us know!

Alice Macpherson, alicemac@telus.net

Sundari Bala, sundari.bc@gmail.com

Geoff Dean, geoff.dean@kpu.ca

Your Newsletter Committee,
who would welcome more input, members, articles and photos – kpuranews@gmail.com

Steering Committee Update

by Sundari Bala

Since our last report in November, the steering committee has been meeting once a month. Noteworthy accomplishments were the two well attended social events (organized by Robert Wood and Roger Elmes) that we have had in late fall and early winter – our first annual Christmas Lunch and then a Coffee House tour – both reported in more detail in this newsletter.

We have also concluded work on the constitution and registration of KPURA as a registered association and planned for the AGM on April 20, 2018, when new office holders will be elected.

Alice and Carol are working with IT to expand our website. Once that is set up, you will be able to engage directly with all the activities of KPURA. Our application to a larger CURAC organization will ensure our participation in Canada-wide retiree events.

Roger Elmes has reported elsewhere in this newsletter on the results of the survey intended to fine tune general interest in events. We look forward to your ideas and comments through the email contacts provided in this newsletter.

Stay tuned!

KPURA News

12666 – 72nd Avenue
Surrey, BC, V3W 2M8