



## LANGARA COLLEGE ASSOCIATION OF RETIREES (LCAR) MEETING MINUTES

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Thursday, March 20, 2025

1:00-2:15 pm, via Zoom

### Attendees:

Patricia Cia

Roy Sinn

Bruce Kennedy

Martin Gerson

Alan Cooper

Kevin Craib

Dave Lidstone

Brian McGibney -regrets

Yue Su (Su) -regrets

### 1. Any additions to the agenda

- No additions.

### 2. Approval of the agenda

- Approved.

### 3. Approval of the minutes from the February 20, 2025.

- Approved.

### 4. Business

#### 4.1. Finances

##### a) Treasurer report

- Current balance in VanCity general account **\$326.51** and \$5.00 in shares account.
  - \$76.01 – cheque from CURAC (base on Langara retirees identified as using affinity partners such as RTO, Hearing Life etc).
  - \$20.86 – contributions paid in order to test Stripe, the ticketing system.
  - \$229.68 – amount of tickets purchased for Grand Gala 2025. Takes about a week to process the payments – net received after Stripe processing fees. After Grand Gala is over, LCAR will allocate funds to Studio 58 via Foundation. To be discussed at next meeting.
- Roy will provide direct access to Stripe for Martin. Martin currently just gets confirmation from Stripe for amount transferred.

##### b) Fund requests of Parveen and Budget needs

- P&C covered cost of printing Fall issue of newsletter via Printshop.
- CURAC membership fee approved but still “stuck” in Workday.
- LCAR Grand Gala – P&C cost centre covered glassware rental last year and program printing. This year the minimum order between \$75-\$100 for glassware.
- CURAC Conference attendance for Dave in Montreal. Rough estimate total cost \$1300. Partial support and CURAC gives partial support if they receive support from their home institution or retiree’s association – requesting \$300.00 (see 4.12).
- Roy – Langara IT contacted Roy regarding website and domain renewal. Nothing yet confirmed, but LCAR would request IT to renew Domain and hosting.
- LCAR established as a society for us to maintain our own web presence. Our preference



is to receive funds and have an independent (status quo) LCAR website.

**Action:** PC to send budget summary outline to Parveen along with Grand Gala and CURAC conference funding requests.

## 2. Executive Assistant support role

### a) Current status/communications with Langara

- Newsletter printed and thanks to Dave for proofing and picking up hardcopies. Hard copy to Foundation, Executive (Alice), Parveen, LFA office, CUPE office, Deans' office, Division Chair office... Dave will distribute.
- Patricia communicated through Alice Hsu to access some LCAR files. Only minutes and agendas found.
- Promotion to *The Langara Post* for LCAR Gala in April. As employee, Patricia was able to use the Sharepoint form and submit the information. Should be in *Langara Post* for March 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Action:** Board to consider Memorandum of Understanding with Langara. Bring thoughts to next meeting.

### b) Lunch, meeting and/or Gift to thank Shannon

- Event held at Dublin Crossing. It was good to be able to connect with, and thank, Shannon for her work over the years.'
- Thank you to Roy for organizing space, card and gift (\$150 for suite of restaurants). Contact Roy if you are willing to contribute.

## 4.3. Recruit more members for Board

- Deborah B has contacted the newsletter team expressing interest in helping with editing and production. LCAR approves Roy adding her to Newsletter email group.

**Action:** Patricia will confirm that she is willing to receive those emails and cc Roy.

## 4.4. Bursary fund update

- Fund balances per Foundation has not changed as of March 18, 2025.  
A411 – Langara College Retirees Bursary - \$2,400  
R038 – Langara College Retirees Fund General - \$11,400
- These funds include Langara matching funds (based on donors who are current or retired employees).
- LCAR is building the R038 towards Endowment Level funding.

## 4.5. Grand Gala-April 7, 2025

- Kudos to Roy for getting ticket system up and running. Involved many layers and much testing by Roy, Dave, and Martin!
- We have sold 24 tickets to date, initial promotion through LCAR forum.
- On the night, table at door staffed by Roy and Gail Bremer. Studio 58 will provide cash box and Dave will provide float.
- Promotion – As soon as ticketing was ready, Dave posted notice to LCAR list, Studio 58

social media and newsletter, contacted person who helped him from last year. Patricia got material there. Brian has forwarded to CUPE list. Maybe distribute in employee lounge.

- Photography on the evening – Bruce has a young student who may be interested and will see if she is available.
- Refreshments – Bruce and Dave will supply products. Nonalcoholic beers, fizzy waters, cash box/float. Alan and Patricia will staff refreshment desk.
- Production and Lighting – Bruce coordinating with staff and students from Studio 58.
  - Kevin will wrangle acts for setup and run-throughs – noon onwards with sound checks done by 6:30pm.
- Programming – Six acts confirmed and a few more being sourced. Robert Leaf emceeing and sequencing the acts.
  - Dave to let Roy know about acts for highlighting in next promotional email.
- Program – Dave will put together copy for printing through Printshop based on numbers as of the Thursday on week before the Gala
- Honouring Courtenay Dobbie – 2021-2024 Artistic Director. Passed away Nov 2024. Had shown the most support of LCAR Gala. Insisted that senior members of Studio 58 attended the first post-COVID event in 2023. She also drove co-production support. Written note in program and small mention of her presence and our loss as part of the program (door prize process). Bruce also talking with some of Studio 58 principals to perhaps perform in her honour.
  - Dave if someone is setting up a scholarship in her name, perhaps direct this year's contribution there.
  - Bruce following up others for this or future galas.
- Studio 58 happy to be identified as supporting the event but not co-producing event and so won't be using their logo/branding ... Produced by LCAR with the support with Studio 58.

#### 4.6. Workshops and upcoming events

##### a) Workshops

- Estate Planning was full, with many current employees who also learned about LCAR. Good mix. About 17 people. Event went well and follow up emails circulated.

#### 4.7. LCAR Website update

- Nothing much to report. Still in discussion with IT for financial support of website.
- Roy reconnecting with former instructor from Computer Science department to act as backup on the deep technical support.

#### 4.8. Newsletter team update

- The latest issue Volume 3, Issue 2 (Fall 2024) printed and distributed Feb 21, 2025.
- Thanks to Judy B, a valuable member of the newsletter team, for her editing prowess; and, also to those who contributed content and helped proof the final version.
- Thanks to Dave re: proofing and distributing printed versions including mailing labels.
- Dave received email from a retiree who noted that we did a “great job,” he enjoyed the material and found the Faculty Affairs reprints fabulous. Kudos to the team.
- Patricia summarized roles for newsletter team in conversation with Deborah B as:
  - Coordinating/leading the team (or even taking the lead on an issue or two)
  - Sourcing content ideas and perhaps potential contributors for a feature article or two

- Writing an article or two
- Editing / proofreading articles and final draft
- Production (MS Word, pdf etc)
- The Spring 2025 (Jan-Apr) issue deadline is May 15<sup>th</sup>. Submission deadline April 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Martin will continue to go through old *Faculty Affairs* – digging out articles that appeal to him. Maintaining the history is wonderful and engaging.
- We don't believe CUPE has similar newsletters to draw from but will ask.

#### 4.9. Registrar & Enrollment Services Invites Retirees to Convocation

- RES invite retirees to June convocation. They will submit announcement to LCAR for forum (our next newsletter would be too late).
- Convocation is scheduled to take place from June 17<sup>th</sup> to June 19<sup>th</sup> at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre. The RSVP form opens on April 11 and closes on April 25.

#### 4.10. Liaison with College Pension Plan Retirees ([CPPR](#)) update

- Next meeting is April 16<sup>th</sup> and Alan will have report at our next LCAR meeting.

#### 4.11. Liaison with [COSCO](#) update

- Last meeting was March 14<sup>th</sup>. Kevin was unable to attend but the agenda package had an update to their strategic plan to 2027. Next meeting April 11<sup>th</sup>.
- March newsletter – what they are about, and their objectives spelled out well. COSCO President, Leslie Goddette's report, "In Times of Disruption, Seniors are Resilient," was especially timely with wise words to focus on things you can control and not on things we have no control over. COSCO advocate for all seniors, especially for those facing challenges.
- Annual conference held Oct 3-5, 2025, with theme *Human Rights and Aging* at Sheraton Vancouver hotel in Richmond.
- Reports and the newsletter are available on their website at <https://coscobic.org/>.

#### 4.12. Liaison with [CURAC](#) update

- CURAC and RTO (affinity partner). Call for registration of their May conference.
- Dave would like to learn to share emails and documents he receives with LCAR members:
  - Announced new affinity partner (SpecSavers with coupon).
  - Calling for Board members.
  - Publications on tax tips (Federal and BC) that are quite clear.
- Action:** Dave will forward information to Roy and Alan for posting to LCAR forum.
- LCAR submitted links to two of our recent articles for CURAC newsletter.
- CURAC's meeting May 21-23 in Montreal. Dave would like to attend in person
  - In person presence helps establish presence with people.
  - Requesting some funds from Langara. If home institution contributes to cost of delegate attendance, CURAC will also sponsor that person.
  - Events of interest: Roundtable on best practices – what are retirees associations are doing to support their members; four presentations on wellbeing of person and the world; presentation on misinformation.

### 5. Next Meeting

- Thursday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, at 1pm on Zoom