

LANGARA COLLEGE ASSOCIATION OF RETIREES (LCAR)
Chair's Report
for 2025 AGM

LCAR activities and decisions since last AGM

Details appear in our newsletters (<https://lcar.ca/news-events/>) or our board minutes (<https://lcar.ca/our-society/meeting-minutes/>).

The bylaw amendment regarding membership eligibility approved at the SGM was filed with BC Registries in December 2024.

Since its inception, LCAR has operated with the financial support of Langara College. This year the Board discussed financial needs to maintain our services, networking opportunities, and advocacy. Realizing the ongoing financial challenges in the current post-secondary education system, we have strived to be fiscally prudent.

Yue Su stepped down from the LCAR Board in the spring and Gerda Krause was appointed as director to the LCAR Board in September.

LCAR Fund and Bursary

As of October 1st, our fund currently stood at: \$11,600 which is fantastic, and we hope to still raise a bit more this year. Until the end of May 2025, we benefited with Langara's matching funds program. Unfortunately, that program is no longer in effect. Last year we approved designating \$2400 to our student bursary over three years. In 2025 the Foundation distributed \$800 to a student in need and have \$1600 remaining for the next two years.

Studio 58 and LCAR

Dave Lidstone continues to lead the Grand Gala events with able support from Bruce Kennedy and others. Once again in April 2025, LCAR held a very successful Grand Gala in Studio 58. Entertainment included retirees, current employees, and Studio 58 tap dance students. The performances were excellent, and this year's revenue of \$1300 was directed to the Courtenay Dobbie scholarship for Studio 58 students.

In October, the LCAR Board approved Studio 58's Proposal which sees Studio 58 take on more of the production and marketing of the Grand Gala for 2026. The hope is to include even more Langara employee and Studio 58 student acts with those of the retirees. As in the past, all revenue generated at the Grand Gala event produced by Studio 58 will be donated to Studio 58 affiliated scholarships. LCAR will still work closely with Studio 58.

Workshops and Socials

Roy Sinn continued organize workshops and summer social events. Although several workshops were planned, some were cancelled due to low registration (we generally require 10 registrants to run an

event). The Estate Planning workshop held in conjunction with the Langara Foundation was a great success and saw a good mix of active employees and retirees.

This summer we held two informal social events at the Langara Golf Course patio. Roy welcomes ideas and input from you for workshop and social event ideas (email info@lcar.ca).

Bulletin, Forum, Newsletter, and Website

Retirees who register on the LCAR website receive communications through the LCAR Forum via email. As of this summer, we started sending out Bulletins with a brief selection of news and events ... a balance between more timely notices and not inundating everyone's email.

The LCAR newsletter editorial team published three issues which are primarily distributed via our forum and website. Some print copies are made available for mailout and distributed at events. We welcome your stories, column ideas, and other contributions such as photos and offers of proof-reading (send to newsletter@lcar.ca)

Alan Cooper, Kevin Craib, and Dave Lidstone act as delegates and representatives to three affiliates: Association of BC College Pension Plan Retirees (CPPR), Council of Senior Citizen's Association of BC (COSCO), and College and University Retirees Association of Canada (CURAC). Their updates and reports are noted in LCAR minutes and in our newsletter.

At the June 2025 Convocation ceremony, recent retiree, LCAR member and leading proponent of a Langara retirees' group, Gerda Krause was awarded Dean Emerita, Faculty of Science. Recent retiree, Stephen Phillips was awarded Faculty Emeritus, Political Science. The Registrar and Enrolment Services invited retirees to attend convocation and continue to cheer on graduates and honourees.

Thank you to all who have supported LCAR, both administratively and financially:

- To Langara College for allocating to us our financial operating budget. We know that like most colleges and universities in Canada, Langara is facing financial challenges but without it we would not be able to stay connected with retirees to the same extent.
- Our president, Paula Burns for ongoing encouragement and for inviting LCAR to address retirees at the President's Retiree Luncheon.
- Caitlin Van Kesteren, Department of People and Culture, with many hours of administrative help.
- Langara Foundation and their team for all their support in both our events and our fund-raising efforts.
- Thank you to all the LCAR board members for their many hours of service. And to our additional newsletter members Judy Boxler and Deborah Blacklock who bring their editing expertise to each issue.

Respectfully,

Patricia Cia, chair