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*This issue of **And By The Way, Retirees.** was assembled and edited by Deborah Blacklock, Judy Boxler, Patricia Cia, Martin Gerson, and Dave Lidstone with contributions by Alan Cooper, Kevin Craib, Brian McGibney, and Mario Moniz de Sa. Current news & updates are available at <https://lcar.ca/>.*

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## LCAR UPDATE

### LCAR WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

Langara College Association of Retirees (LCAR) is a network of all former faculty, staff, and administrators who have retired from Langara College. LCAR was created to allow us to stay connected with each other through the pursuit of activities of common interest and to facilitate retirees' continued engagement with the College and its students.

Please register as an LCAR member to receive information about member benefits, and to hear of our upcoming events. Membership is free and it's never too late to join! Register at <https://lcar.ca/>.

Retirees who joined LCAR since the last edition of this newsletter include

- Karyn Eisler (*Sociology, 2025*)
- Annette Floyd (*Health Sciences, 2025*)
- Leslie-Anne McGugan (*LEAP, 2025*)
- Jane Legate (*LEAP, 2024*)
- Indira Prahst (*Sociology, 2025*)
- Susan Todd (*Kinesiology 2025*)
- Anne Toews (*History & Interdisciplinary Studies, 2025*)

### LCAR MEMBER BENEFITS

LCAR members may receive a discount on Continuing Studies courses. Before registering, contact the CS coordinator for pre-approval and email [retirees101@langara.ca](mailto:retirees101@langara.ca) for the Retiree Fee Waiver form.

### LCAR FUNDRAISING SOCIAL, MINI-GALA, AND AGM

Please join us for a Fundraising Social on Thursday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2:00-4:00 in the T-building Gallery.

The event will include musical presentations by Just Duets (Andrea Smith & Dave Lidstone) and The Trundlers (featuring Kevin Craib), some speakers, and a very brief AGM.

We hope to raise funds for the LCAR Bursary Fund for students, which now sits at just under \$12,000. Our goal is that over the next 2 years we can increase this to \$25,000 and hence have it as an endowed fund.

There is no cover charge for the event but attendees will be required to **register** and are invited to donate to the LCAR Fund for students at that time. To help us estimate and schedule our food order, please register by **October 30<sup>th</sup>**. Even if you can't attend the social, we hope you might **donate**.

Register for event: <https://lcar.ca/events/lcar-2025-fundraising-social-agm/>

Make a donation: <https://lcar.ca/bursary/>

## LCAR BOARD

At the September 2025 meeting, we warmly welcomed Gerda Krause to the LCAR Board. Gerda initiated the concept and identified need for a Langara retiree group. She also chaired the initial Retirees Committee and helped launch the Langara College Association of Retirees. Approved LCAR Minutes are available on our website at <https://lcar.ca/our-society/meeting-minutes/>.

## NOTICE OF AGM

LCAR will be holding our Annual General Meeting on November 6<sup>th</sup> in the T-Building Gallery. Primary business includes election of candidates to the [LCAR Board](#). If you are interested in actively participating or nominating someone, contact Patricia Cia, Chair ([pcia@shaw.ca](mailto:pcia@shaw.ca)) or Alan Cooper, Vice-Chair ([alan@qpr.ca](mailto:alan@qpr.ca)).

## LCAR BURSARY

In 2025, the LCAR Bursary of \$800 was given to Erin, a student in the Registered Massage Therapy program. Below is an excerpt from Erin's response forwarded by the Langara Foundation:

"I just want to thank you for your generous donation to the bursary. I am thankful for receiving this bursary and it will help me achieve my goal of finishing my diploma in Registered Massage Therapy. Going back to school as an adult and changing careers has been tough but ever so rewarding."

## WORKSHOPS & EVENTS

### LCAR Casual Socials and Workshops

Many thanks to Roy Sinn for organizing two informal social gatherings in the summer at the Langara Golf Course patio. The weather was beautiful and the conversations lively.

### Stay On the Road

Wednesday, November 19, 10am - 12pm (Online/Zoom)

Are you nearing 80 and wondering about driver assessments? Then you will definitely want to attend this free virtual workshop! This practical guide for senior drivers will help you learn more about driver assessment. It will be of particular interest to drivers who are nearing the age of 80. However, drivers of any age are welcome to attend, and everyone will find the workshop helpful. You will learn about RoadSafetyBC's Medical Assessment and ICBC's Enhanced Road Assessment. These assessments determine whether people can continue driving. This free public workshop is a joint presentation of the Seniors' Health & Wellness Institute (COSCO) and the Insurance Corporation of British Columbia. Note - This workshop is in high demand with limited enrolment so register soon. Register at <https://seniorshelpingseniors.ca/events/sotr2025/>.

For more timely updates, we post event notices to the LCAR forum and website.



## GALA FINANCES OVER THE YEARS

*By Dave Lidstone*

Since 2017, when we started the LCAR Grand Gala, we directed revenue from the events toward the Studio 58 General Fund.

In consultation with me and Kevin O'Donohue of the Langara Foundation, current Studio 58 staff (Halla Bertrand, Ruth Bruhn, and Kevin MacDonald) arranged that \$946 be directed to the Carol Chrisjohn scholarship. Also, they arranged that funds from other years up to 2024 were put toward a scholarship in the name of Bruce Kennedy. That award was established last summer with a total of \$8000.

Our 2025 performance was dedicated to the memory of Courtenay Dobbie (May 14, 1978 – Nov 22, 2024) who was Studio 58 Artistic Director Jan 2021 – Nov 2024. When the Grand Gala returned in 2023 (post-Covid) she learned of our effort and threw her support behind our endeavour. We benefitted greatly. Her presence will be sorely missed by the theatre community, especially here at Langara. However, her memory will carry on with a scholarship in her name. This year's revenue of \$1300 was directed toward that scholarship.

## IN MEMORIAM

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*In Memoriam (<https://lcar.ca/in-memoriam/>) commemorates deceased Langara employees. If you know of someone who should be on this list, please consider submitting a testimonial (text in an email is fine). We will gladly add to [existing submissions](#). Send your stories to [memorials@lcar.ca](mailto:memorials@lcar.ca). Click on the underlined names to read more about our former colleagues.*

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**Anne Lippert**, former Chair of Langara Board of Directors passed away on July 9, 2025.

**Diana Louise June Stewart**, Early Childhood Education, passed away the morning of her 71<sup>st</sup> birthday.

**Jay Strachan**, former Director, Facilities and Purchasing, passed away on October 5, 2025. Jay was a long time and much admired Langaran.

## RETIREE TALES

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*Occasionally we have dipped into the archives and resurrected articles from Faculty Affairs, a newsletter written by and about many of Langara's personalities, often upon their retirement. Relationships among colleagues can last well into retirement and beyond. For this issue, we hope you enjoy reading about Barry Holmes, Don Hutchinson, and Gerald Formosa who taught sculpture, pottery, and design, respectively, in Langara's Fine Art Department. If you wish to contribute your story or creative endeavours, please contact us at [newsletter@lcar.ca](mailto:newsletter@lcar.ca).*

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## THE THREE AMIGOS

Barry Holmes, Don Hutchinson, and Gerald Formosa, were artists, teachers, visionaries, and drivers in developing the Fine Arts Department at Langara. They were the Three Amigos.

### Thoughts on the Three Amigos a quarter century down the road

*by Brian McGibney*

I knew all three men well and helped support their curriculum for about 15 years as I started in 1984 and they all left the college near the end of the millennium. Of the three, I worked the most with Barry, then Don and then Gerald.

I had lengthy off-discipline discussions with all three and I learned from all of them even though the conversations were as markedly different as the topics. They were all lovely humans and if they had a dark side, I never saw it. They were gracious and empathetic but still found ways to get the most out of the students who attended their lectures. They were in short, master teachers and in fact Gerald and his co-design colleague Daryl Plater often referred to each other and me as "master" when we were in consultation with the students as we developed individualized pathways for students to take their ideas to a completed

piece. It was an incredibly positive teaching environment and something I worked to carry on with after they all had left the college.

In short, my time working with the Three Amigos, was like a master class in how to lift each student to their absolute best and it was a joy to be in that environment.

### **Barry Holmes**

*by Brian McGibney, from Faculty Affairs – May 1999*

How do you begin to talk about the man who is Barry Holmes? A teacher, an artist, a personal mentor: he is all these, and much more. When I first began at Langara some fifteen years ago, I was immediately drawn to this man with the fire in his eyes, the bounce in his step, and the hearty laugh. To watch Barry teach a class was to watch someone very much in his element. That he knows the ins and outs of the technical side of his discipline is without doubt, but it was the way in which he would weave math, chemistry, history, and all the other -ologies into his lectures that marked him as a master teacher.

There are hundreds of students who have learned not only about sculpture but also whole new ways to see the world around us as a result of his teaching.

For me, however, it is our one-to-one conversations that will remain as my fondest memories. Seamlessly the topic would move through a vast range of subjects, including astronomy, music, sailing, motor sports, and spirituality. The term Renaissance Man is frequently bandied about; Barry is one of the few men to whom it truly applies.

As most of you know, Barry has for many years made his home on Saltspring Island where he and Connie live in their dome. There, he grows a lot of vegetables, sings in the local choir, sails his boat, and continues to create new work.

Barry is now officially retiring as a teacher; however, I have no doubt that he will go on teaching and enriching the lives of all who cross his path.

Thank You Barry.

### **Gerald Formosa**

*by Don Hutchinson, from Faculty Affairs – May 1999*

At first sight

A shock of ambitiously curly hair above a black, full-bodied mustache, riding around on a dancer's body that looks remarkably like Omar Sharif – my first memory of meeting Gerald Formosa.

Metamorphosis

A trip to New York with its intense emotional and intellectual stimulation and a profound change occurs. This time with head shaven, a new economy of movement and a remarkable spiritual radiance, Gerald becomes Gandhi-esque in appearance. Strangers and friends alike approach him with eyes lowered and voices softened.

Life Skills 218

In Mexico, exploring ancient temples together, we abandon our tour guide to try to discover the lessons of these sites. We climb the great pyramids of the Sun and Moon and speculate on the meanings of all around us: Gerald finds a small tunnel under the pyramid of the moon and boldly enters, only to emerge minutes later holding his blood covered forehead. He has struck a roof beam and he knows it was no accident. Sitting on the steps and holding his throbbing head he states the lesson of the temple: "We are fools to think curiosity and intellect justify any actions we choose to take. To see only with our eyes is never enough. We stand on sacred ground and lack humility. I deserve to bleed."

Leave them wanting more

In Mexico we meet some artists who invite us to an "opening" that evening. With TV cameras everywhere and the State Governor in attendance, an excited crowd gathers around Gerald. Why were he and the



Governor being interviewed for national television? These kind of events happen regularly when you travel with Gerald.

#### The Author

Gerald has written four books and has two more awaiting publishers. These works are photo-essay publications that deal with the profound riches available to those who wish to look. It is Gerald's passionate belief that design is the essence of vision, and he has devised a system and vocabulary to explain this. Students testify to the importance of these truths.

#### The Teacher

Gerald's course outline describes his course content and philosophy clearly. What isn't mentioned is his stories of gnats whispering in elephants' ears, of Rumi poetry and its indescribable beauty, or of nights sleeping by megalithic monuments as he unlocks the secrets of the stones. Also unmentioned are feasts with the rich and famous, dining from 1,000 year old Imperial Sung China vessels or his near death experiences with Hollywood gangsters or even details of the exquisitely proportioned Ashram he designed and built on Pender Island. A student said of Gerald, "He showed us the beauty of emptiness and the poetry of light and we are so grateful."

#### The Artist

In a recent conversation Gerald said, "I want everything to be my art. Even when I brush my teeth or tie my shoes it is my Art." Here the master becomes his life's work. He is his own masterpiece.

### **Don Hutchinson**

by *Gerald Formosa*, from *Faculty Affairs* – May 1999

They say Don Hutchinson is retiring – no small thing to say. This man who has never done a day's work in this place-everything was pure loving and play.

This somewhat sometimes biblical Adam who is all mud and water-pure clay, who knows that all the complexity of life is in the simplicity of a bowl, viewed from many angles.

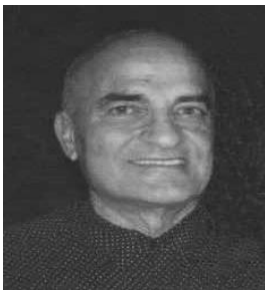
He has no need for metaphysics, the whole world and everything in it is an outworking of the Infinite Creative Spirit of Ceramiphsics.

What every school needs are teachers with large hearts, luminous minds, rich sympathies, teachers who can grasp the significance of youth, the social value of what they teach, and a creative urge. Thinkers, dreamers, prophets in their field, with a colossal passion for their work. This is true eminence. Such is my friend and teacher Donald Ian Raines Hutchinson.

### **Gerald Formosa (March 8, 1939 – January 9, 2018)**

By *Judy Boxler*, with story excerpts from *Gerald's friends, students, and the surviving Amigo*.

Reprinted from *The Pender Post* vol. 47 #575 (February 2018)



Gerald was born March 8, 1939, in Alexandria, Egypt. He grew up in Malta.

His friends describe him as outrageous, funny, uniquely spiritual, kind, charming, and generous. He was a lover of life. With a twinkle in his eyes, he gave advice to young people: "Live outside the constraints of life. Have fun. Be free. Be loud."

In San Francisco, Gerald studied at The Schaeffer School of Design, which was originally called Rhythmo-Chromatic School of Design. Undoubtedly, some of Schaeffer's eccentricity rubbed off on Gerald.

Gerald moved to Vancouver in the mid 1970s and got a job with the newly created Art Department at Langara College. The new department consisted of two groups:

- three university-educated instructors
- three somewhat rough-hewn instructors that included Gerald, calling themselves "The Three Amigos." The Amigos felt a little intimidated by their lack of academic education. Voila! Gerald turned up with the perfect book for the newbies, "Teaching as a Subversive Activity."

He started every semester by telling his students, “I’m going to work my buns off for all you Leonardos.” And he did. He knew his students well enough to make a customized educational program for each one of them every semester.

In the 1980s, he built his spiritual retreat on Pender Island together with his young son, Alexander. Gerald was devoted to his son. People remember the gaggle of Alexander’s friends, camping out at the retreat or walking on the beach. Gerald supported Alexander’s own journey to becoming an accomplished guitarist and composer, who is now living in Hanoi. One of Alexander’s compositions was played at the memorial service.

Gerald also developed a passion for creating ceramic spirit houses. Don Hutchinson, a professional potter, couldn’t believe that the houses didn’t explode in the kiln due to their unusual shapes. Each house contained little rooms with walls decorated with inscriptions that would attract Good Spirits. These architectural wonders are all over his Pender property.

Gerald loved fashion, especially the treasures that he got at Nu To Yu. “Can you believe I got this lovely jacket for \$2! I love it.”

He wrote two well-respected books: *Crossroads Isle: People of Malta* and *The Megalithic Monuments of Malta*. He photographed much little-known art in the churches of Vancouver for a book, but never found a publisher. His next book would have been about his three design concepts that he had distilled from his original 30.



Gerald loved poetry, especially Rumi and Rilke. He loved cooking and was a proponent of Peasant Gourmet.

Gerald died January 9, 2018, in Vancouver. He had suffered many years from the side effects of chemotherapy. He will be missed by his family and students and many, many friends (including all the myriad of women to whom he professed undying love, including me).

### Addendum

When I wrote Gerald’s story for our local magazine, I left out part of the story about Gerald’s \$2 jacket. Gerald was seriously courting a new woman in his life. He proudly wore the jacket on their first date. To his embarrassment, he discovered that the pockets of the jacket were filled with condoms. He had forgotten that his son had borrowed the jacket for his own date!

After the article was published, several women approached me: Gerald had also proposed to them!! One woman must have been 25 years his senior.

I still miss him.

## AND ON 49<sup>TH</sup>

### 2025 EMERITUS AWARD RECIPIENTS

LCAR congratulates 2025 award recipients announced during the June convocation ceremonies.

**Gerda Krause** retired after over 45 years of service to Langara and was honoured as **Dean Emerita, Faculty of Science**. She excelled in various roles including instructor, department chair, division chair, and dean. Gerda also chaired the Education Council and served on Langara’s Board of Governors. Her exceptional leadership, mentorship, and compassion made a significant impact on the Langara community.

**Stephen Phillips** retired in 2025 after 31 years of dedicated service and was honoured as **Faculty Emeritus, Political Science**. He taught political science, led the Department of History, Latin, and Political Science as department chair and political science coordinator. Stephen was a frequent participant in Langara’s community lecture series and was keenly involved in the Langara Faculty Association (LFA), serving on its board of directors and co-editing its newsletter, Faculty Affairs.

Visit <https://langara.ca/emergitus> for more details on their contributions to Langara and the broader community, on the Emeritus Award, and on past recipients.

## BEAUTIFICATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AT LANGARA THROUGH GARDENING

By Mario Moniz de Sa, Instructor, Biology Department, Langara.

I take it as an article of faith that everyone loves a beautiful garden and enjoys the same positive feelings associated with our connection to nature. It's probably deeply engrained in our DNA because for most of human existence we lived in nature's garden and we became who we are in response to that environment. It is in this spirit that I decided to put much of my energy to beautify Langara campus through gardening, with the side benefit that it helps adapt to climate change, increases biodiversity on campus, and makes our campus more sustainable into the future.

I credit my mother and her parents for my love of gardening and my supposedly "green thumbs", without which these gardening projects would not happen. My ancestors were peasants, people of the land who grew most of their food. I was born into that environment but immigrated to Canada as a teenager. In Canada, my grandparents cultivated food in their front garden in east Vancouver alongside beautiful flowering perennials. They were the poorest on the block but had the best garden and were always happy. We lived with them for a while, and I must have absorbed their love of gardening. When our family bought a home, it was my mother who gardened, but as a widow with 8 kids, she relegated all gardening to me. Thus, at the age of 15 I created my first garden and have not stopped since. In the last 30 years I have made gardens for family, and friends, and my own garden is mature, very diverse and there is nowhere to expand, so it was only a matter of time before I started enjoying my favorite hobby at Langara.

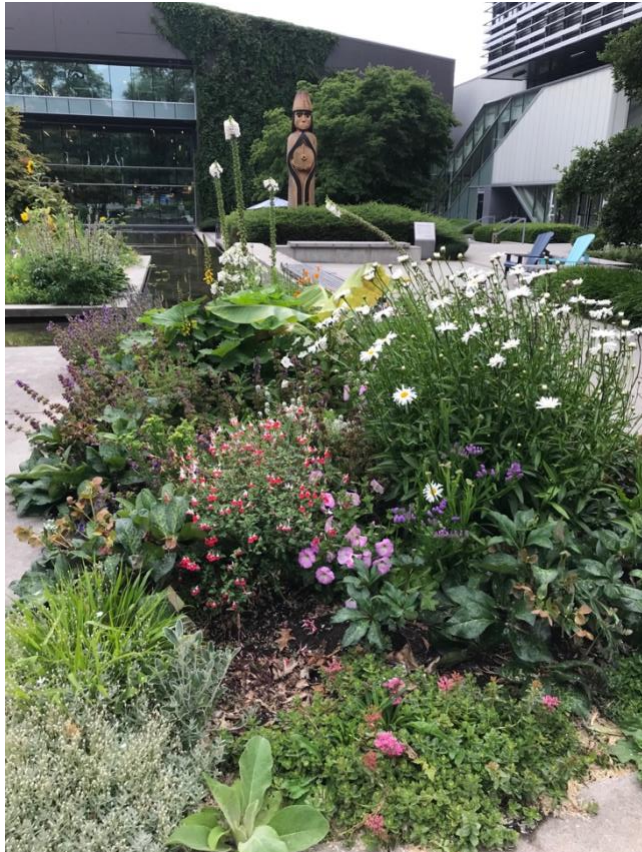
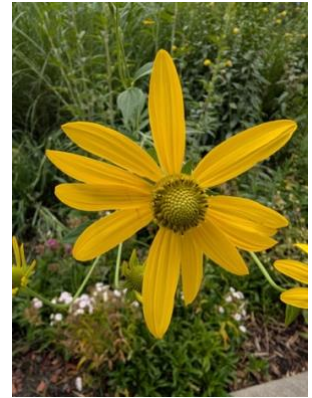
My involvement with beautifying Langara campus through gardening started with the creation of the Langara community garden in 2011, which provided me the opportunity to create an attractive perennial border with plants sourced entirely from my garden. This has been my *modus operandi* ever since. I grow and pot plants at home as a hobby, then I plant them at Langara as part of my professional development. Langara bears no cost in sourcing any plants. I must be the only faculty member at Langara who gets PD credit for digging holes. Some days I just have to pinch myself that I'm so lucky to have such a great job. All that is missing is a TONKA TRUCK. Over the years the many plants I have brought to Langara have been used as a source of germplasm to create new plants by clonal propagation and subsequently used to create even more gardens.

Gardening at Langara also focused my PD activities so that it could benefit students, faculty, and community more directly. Gardening is a perfect activity for that and aligns well with my personal philosophy of doing more of what I like, and less of what I don't like, such as writing. When writing a PD report a picture of a newly created garden is worth a thousand words.

Many student volunteers and faculty have been involved in creating the gardens over the years. I have not worked alone. For example, the Langara community garden was started by faculty and student volunteers, as was the fruit garden. Many faculty were involved as part of a contest in creating garden plots on west side of library building during Langara's 49 on 49th celebrations. About 5 years ago it was a student in the biology department that secured funding to create the "pollinator" gardens as part of a scientific experiment. Since then, I took the initiative and increased my efforts to attract more pollinators to Langara by expanding and creating more gardens. It must also be said that no level of Langara administration has yet complained of my handy work and thus have given tacit approval which I have neglected to procure in advance of creating many of the gardens. This has been key. By taking charge of my own gardening initiative, I have given myself incredible flexibility in how I go about creating the gardens, in terms of planning, timing, and execution. This has allowed me to be very efficient and productive. This year the Facilities Department and the Faculty Science have provided me support in the form of 1 section of release to beautify Langara campus, increase its biodiversity, make it more resilient to climate change, and reduce the work involved maintaining the grounds. But in these hard times, I just hope adding more beautiful gardens will lift the spirits of students, faculty and staff.

Below are examples of gardens created within the last year at Langara. In the future, I would like to expand our gardens to have a larger footprint on campus and coordinate better with the Facilities department to create a more beautiful, enjoyable and sustainable campus. My hope is that before I retire, the Facilities department will create a position of master gardener.







## CLIMATE CHANGE ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT

Langara College released its [2024 Climate Change Accountability Report \(CCAR\)](#). The report outlines a college-wide commitment to sustainability and climate change accountability, highlighting significant progress toward environmental sustainability and net-zero emissions. This has resulted in a 60 per cent reduction in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions compared to 2007. Langara continues to incorporate energy efficiency into our designs and ongoing upgrades. Our Sciences and Technology building received LEED Gold certification, making this the fourth LEED Gold building on campus. [Langara is on track to achieve net-zero emissions by 2030 which is 20 years ahead of Canada's national target.](#)

Dwayne Doornbosch, director of Facilities was on "Mornings with Simi" with Simi Sara! Listen to the conversation on [Global News](#), [Spotify](#) or [Apple Podcasts](#).

## snəwəyəl leləm' LANGARA COLLEGE NEWS & EVENTS

The following news and stories are available in full on the Langara College website. We thought you may like:

### News

- [Four Langara Falcons alum—Kevin Hanson, Louis Johnson, Aaron Mitchell, and Rachael Pelat—are being inducted into the CCAA Hall of Fame in 2025.](#)

### Events

- [The Studio 58 2025/2026 season](#) begins on October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Studio 58's 60<sup>th</sup> season offers a thrilling and transformative selection of four mainstage productions (*The Time Machine*, *Romeo & Juliet*, *A Journal of the Plague Year*, and *Something Rotten*) and two indie shows, under the Risky Nights series, highlighting the next generation of theatre talent.
- [Laugh-Out-Loud, Langara!](#) Come out on October 29<sup>th</sup> for an evening of hilarious stand up and improv comedy performed by instructors from Continuing Studies' Stand-up Comedy Clinic and the Comedy Improv course. All proceeds go to United Way BC – the organization that supports local programs and services to improve the lives of kids, youth, seniors, families, and individuals in need.

### Stories

- [From Langara to National Geographic: How a Langara Photography grad found her voice through the lens](#)
- [Reconciliation in action: Writing Lives program preserves Indigenous history](#)
- [Langara's 59th Annual Convocation Ceremonies award winners, Flickr albums, and more](#)
- [Now open: Langara's new Infant Toddler Care and Education Citation program](#)
- [How classical studies inspired this alum's passion for board games and pop culture](#)
- [Plan with confidence: How Langara's Academic Advising Centre helps students stay on track](#)

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These stories and more Langara news and events are available at <https://langara.ca/news-events>.

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## CAMPUS EMPLOYEE NEWS

The Langara College Board recently approved the new strategic framework, ***Future Focused***, as a guide to the direction Langara is taking to meet the challenges of today while creating opportunities for the future. See the full document here: <https://langara.ca/leadership/future-focused>

**Nathan Jones** has been appointed director of the Applied Research Centre (ARC), starting July 6.

This summer, after the departure of Langara's Provost & VP Academic, **President Paula Burns** took on the interim role of Provost & VPA.

The Office of Student Conduct, Accountability, and Support changed their name to the **Office of Student Support, Rights, and Responsibilities (SSRR)**. This change reflects the ongoing commitment of the Office to foster a community grounded in respect, learning, and shared responsibility.

Indigenous Education and Services (IES) is changing their name to **Indigenous Engagement and Initiatives (IEI)**. This name change is to better reflect the work that they do for students, the College and community. They are also changing the name of Indigenous Gathering Space to "**Indigenous Gathering Place**". The Indigenous Gathering Place is a shared space that is dedicated to supporting Indigenous students and is the home of Indigenous Engagement and Initiatives.

The **IT and People & Culture teams** successfully completed the transfer of all faculty who were paid monthly to the biweekly pay group.

After two years of work, the design of Langara's **Workday Student** prototype is complete.

There will be an increase in rates applied to **the ChargePoint EV stations** across campus for the public. Langara students and employees can continue to use these stations for free. On October 1, 2025, the Yellow Lot will become general parking.

The **Langara College Board of Governors** elected Scott Murray to a one-year term as Board Chair, effective August 1, 2025. He succeeds Mary Lynn Baum who served as Chair between August 2023 and July 2025. The provincial government recently appointed four new members to the Langara College Board for a two-year term ending July 31, 2027: Joey Hartman, Sophie Song-Yi Jeon, Cindy Lee and Dawen Nozdryn-Plotnicki. The provincial government has also re-appointed the following Board members: Stephen Howard and Cole Rheaume (terms ending July 31, 2026) and Willa Choy and Nick Smith (terms ending July 31, 2027). [Brief biographies on these appointees.](#)



## NEWS FROM OUR AFFILIATES

### COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY RETIREE ASSOCIATIONS OF CANADA/ASSOCIATIONS DE RETRAITÉS DES UNIVERSITÉS ET COLLÈGES DU CANADA (CURAC/ARUCC)

*Dave Lidstone, LCAR representative*

CURAC/ARUCC is an umbrella organization covering post-secondary retiree associations from across the country, including ours. The organization has a new home at the UBC Emeritus College. Their website ([curac.ca](http://curac.ca)) includes considerable information about the organization, its membership of retiree associations, and benefits available to members of those retiree associations (i.e. us). It also includes a calendar detailing various seminars available to members with remote access.

The most current news is that the 2026 meeting will be held at the Inn on the Quay in New Westminster, May 20-26. Conference logistics will be addressed by a team of SFU Retiree Association (SFURA) members. The conference programme theme will be *Making Connections*. The Programme Committee is headed by Gladys We of the SFURA and consists of volunteers, including me, from a handful of neighbouring retiree associations. If you have an idea for a compelling speaker who could present on that theme, please get in touch with me ([davelidstone@shaw.ca](mailto:davelidstone@shaw.ca)).

### COUNCIL OF SENIOR CITIZENS' ORGANIZATIONS OF BC (COSCO)

*Kevin Craib, LCAR representative*

COSCO, in which LCAR holds an affiliate membership, is an umbrella group, which coordinates advocacy and information relevant to seniors. Their work concentrates on the four main issues of health, housing, income security, and transportation, but they also advocate for and work with seniors from diverse groups who may have special issues.

Although no meetings were held over the summer, the September meeting included a guest speaker who discussed an adult day program at South Vancouver Neighborhood House. The program offers training to caregivers for strength-based, culturally appropriate scheduled programming, including transportation, meals, and respite.

For more information about the organization, their newsletter, and upcoming events and workshops, visit <https://coscobc.org/> and <https://www.seniorsadvocatebc.ca/>.

### ASSOCIATION OF BC COLLEGE PENSION PLAN RETIREES (CPPR)

*Alan Cooper, LCAR representative*

The Association of BC College Pension Plan Retirees (CPPR) represents retired instructors and administrators from BC colleges, universities and educational institutes.

CPPR has posted a link to a presentation of the *Public Sector Retiree Group*. [What they don't tell you about retirement](#) highlights the things that recent retirees found surprising and how they responded.

They released the [2024 College Pension Plan's 2024 actuarial valuation](#) noting that "the plan remains fully funded and pensions are secure. Member and employer contribution rates will remain unchanged.

Their annual general meeting will be on November 5<sup>th</sup>. The full agenda and reports will be available after October 22<sup>nd</sup>. It is possible to attend in person or via Zoom

The latest issue of Prime Time and other Pension News is on their website [cppr.ca](http://cppr.ca)

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*The Langara College Retirees Association (LCAR) congratulates and welcomes all Langara retirees. We invite you to explore our website to learn more about LCAR, our activities and resources, and register as a member! Please register as an LCAR member (<https://lcar.ca>) to receive Langara retiree benefits, hear of our upcoming events, and receive our newsletter, **And By The Way, Retirees**. The editors encourage all LCAR members to submit suggestions, articles, or announcements for inclusion in future newsletters. We also encourage others to join the editorial team. Contact us at [newsletter@lcar.ca](mailto:newsletter@lcar.ca).*

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