



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings to all our RCH Alumnae!

Another year has passed, as quick as the blink of an eye, it seems. The big item this year was our vote to confirm the revised constitution that was adopted during the pandemic with CRA. This was sent out to everyone eligible to vote along with the explanation. The revised constitution was approved, with the caveat that we will make any necessary changes to the language. It was pointed out by a diligent reader that we used two definitions when there should be only one (society vs association) for legal purposes.

The other big decision was a vote to determine where our remaining funds will go when we are dissolving our association. The current Executive wanted to hear from all members, particularly from some of the earlier classes. We all hold different memories, as the school changed with the times over the years, and may have different ideas on how we see our legacy. The results of the vote you will read further in this newsletter.

One of the areas I did get more information on was the RCH Auxiliary. In emails with their President, I had some questions answered that had been put to me by members.

1. Can we specify how we want our donation used? Short answer is yes. Long answer is they will take our request under advisement and if it is something that is seen as a need at RCH they will try and do that.
2. Have they funded or created a garden at RCH? No, they have not done this before.
3. Do any of the funds donated go to hospital Administration? No, none of the funds donated are used in Administration. Generally, the hospital provides a request or wish list to the Auxiliary, and they choose where the money will go.

- continued next page

TREASURER'S REPORT

Our fiscal year runs June 1 to May 31. So last year our AGM ended up on last years expenses because it fell on May 31. We did sell books at the AGM which totaled \$210 and we collected \$400 worth of membership. Our summer was quiet other than putting \$1000 deposit down on our Christmas Luncheon in July. September saw us paying out \$154.58 for postage and envelopes. We also collected \$880 of membership dues. We paid \$937.17 for the production and printing of our Newsletter and \$60 for rental of St Michael's for our meeting in October. In November we collected \$1272.78 in membership and we paid \$42 for our safety deposit box. For our Christmas Luncheon we collected \$1305 from those attending. We paid \$1656.50 to the Vancouver Golf Course which included the room rental and gratuity. With the previous deposited \$1000, we subsidized the luncheon to the tune of \$1351.50. Also, in December we collected \$830 in membership dues. Postage cost us \$108.82. Our New Year 2024 was quiet until March when we collected \$1466.66 in dues and paid out \$35.08 for photocopies and postage. We also paid \$47.43 for cards and postage

to our friendship/card person, Marilyn McCutcheon. Rental for St Michael's for our March meeting cost us \$60. Membership dues of \$380.74 were collected in April and last month we took in \$1060 in dues. In conclusion as of May 31, 2024 the Alumnae assets total \$96,581.59.

Eva Aslin Treasurer, 78B



Marion Mitchell from 54B had the honour of cutting the cake.

President's Message (cont.)

I had also been asked, *why we are dealing with the question of dissolution, as if it is imminent?* While we do hope to carry on with the Alumnae as long as possible, it has become apparent that we are all getting older! Seriously, we see illness and death more and more in our membership. It seems to make sense to get our "ducks in a row" in case dissolution occurs.

Archives is another area we must look at. What happens to everything in our archives that will not be in our display case once we are no longer an active group? Anne has some ideas about possibly giving opportunities to alumnae to choose items they might like.

Judi (Georgetti) also had a good suggestion about our china teacups and saucers. When we no longer have use for them, perhaps we can offer anyone who would like, to take a cup and saucer as a keepsake. Food for thought!

At the AGM, we opened the floor for nominations for the Executive positions with no names put forth. The current executive had agreed to stay on another two years if no one else was interested in running. So, at the AGM it was concluded that the current Executive would continue to serve: myself, Eileen Brown as President, Sue Hall as Vice President, Diane Barnhill as Secretary, Eva Aslin as Treasurer and Carol Schmidt as Membership.

Sadly, shortly after the AGM our Vice President, Sue Hall's health took a severe turn (she was being treated for cancer) and she passed away on June 24, 2024. We will look for a new vice president when we reconvene in the Fall. Sue was a lifesaver, stepping up to the Vice President position after our President Bernice Rolls

resigned in December 2020. Her commitment to the Alumnae Executive prevented us from having to dissolve. Thanks for your service, Sue, RIP.

Eileen Brown 78B, President

Update on Stained glass window from Fran Friesen 67B at the AGM: *Fran (who is an artist) continues to work with Omanie, an artist who has the experience of working in stained glass. Omanie has been extremely busy working on set designs for various plays and other projects so she and Fran have had limited time to work. They expect to start construction of the window this Fall, which they will be building at Fran's house.*



Proposed design for a stained glass window to commemorate the Royal Columbian School of Nursing on behalf of the School of Nursing Alumnae.

Design by Omanie Elias and Francis Friesen

MEMBERSHIP REPORT 2024

*G*reetings to all Alumnae. I'm celebrating good health at the present time so I'm grateful to be able to serve another 2 years as the Membership coordinator for the Alumnae. It's been a busy Spring organizing the vote on the revised Constitution as well as your choices for disbursement of Alumnae Funds upon dissolution. We had another successful AGM/Anniversary Celebration at the Scandinavian Centre in Burnaby on June 5th, recognizing the classes of 1954, 1964 and 1974.

As of July 23rd, we have 202 paid members. Barring unforeseen circumstances, ideally, we would like to keep the Alumnae functional until the last class, 78B, celebrates their 50-year anniversary in 2028. We will therefore continue to collect the \$20 annual fee until dissolution. We have very few paid members in the last few classes. We encourage you to contribute your dues annually to help keep the Alumnae afloat. There is no commitment required when you are a paid member.

Your dues simply help us with costs for things like supplementing the Christmas Luncheon and AGM, the Newsletter, paying for our meeting venues, office supplies and greeting cards. By the way, the Christmas Luncheon is a great way to reconnect with classmates that you haven't seen in a while, think about attending this year! Remember to keep me updated when your contact info changes, you are having a reunion or when a classmate passes away. I've attached a membership form, with my contact info, to the email if you would like to become a paid member. If you are unsure of your due's status, simply email me at rchrnalumnae@gmail.com. Unfortunately, we are not set up for e-transfers so you can pay by cheque or cash. Enjoy your summer, stay cool and hopefully we will see you at our next Fall meeting in October.

Carol Schmidt, Membership, 78B

Anniversary Celebrations

Our AGM/Anniversary Celebration was held at the Scandinavian Centre in Burnaby on June 5, 2024. We had a good turnout with 47 Alumnae attending. We had a couple of husbands and a son join us as well. We celebrated the classes of 1954, 1964 and 1974. We were so happy that 2 classmates from the 54B class could join us, travelling all the way from the interior. Congratulations to Shirley Cook and Marion Mitchell, celebrating 70 years as RCH graduates. After recognizing each graduate, we enjoyed a lovely tea organized by Louise Johnson 69B. Photos are courtesy of Myrna Bloch and Elaine Olson from 70B. Thanks to all the other members who helped make the Celebration a success.



CLASS OF 54B
Shirley Cook, Marion Mitchell



CLASS OF 64A
Tine Kramer



CLASS OF 64B
Rona Miller, Jean Winslade, Joan Erickson, Judy MacDonald, Jackie Morgan, Jean Baylis, Carol Johnson



CLASS OF 74A
Wendy Hadden, Kiffy McNabb, Sandy Barabe, Carol Schellinck, Kerry Miller, Ellie Peebles, Karen Knapp,



CLASS OF 74B
Dianne Wharton, Janet Thiessen, Deborah Anderson, Judy Surkon, Marilyn Wilson, Susanne Dixon, Veronica Boyle

68A Reunion

Our class of 68A had not been able to enjoy a reunion with our “sisters” since before Covid so we were overdue for a gathering. It had been 59 years since we began our training so we’ve known each other longer than the husbands that have stuck around. It’s sad to think of those who have passed already but thankfully we aren’t aware of any new deaths amongst our classmates.

Things have changed over the years though. Health is the issue for many now as they don’t feel as able to travel anywhere out of country or even willing to travel long distances for a reunion. We decided a more central location for everyone would be best. So, 14 of us met at The Cove in West Kelowna the end of April. We are all still very good at eating and talking but there certainly was a difference in the amount of wine that disappeared. Are we getting old? No full day wine tours with cases of wine being collected but no trouble making everyone in bed by 10pm! We’ve changed in some ways but the personalities still shine through.

Many attempts have been made to reach classmates who are no longer in touch. Addresses, emails, phone numbers, and even last names have changed over the years. If you are reading this and we don’t have your current info, please let us know where you are and how life is treating you. Sybil Gavelin (Hooper) lgavelin@telus.net or Sherry Lynn at Sherrylynn0@shaw.ca.

Hopefully we will see more people at our next reunion.



From front to back. Left: June Grain (Gren), Dolores Kelpin (Hauber), Penny Rigby (Gleghorn), Diane Anderson (Huston), Lynn Buller (Parsons), Sherry Lynn **From front to back. Right:** Lynne Scott (Shepherd), Suzie Parkin(White), Irene Scarcella(Rosenberg), Elaine Ivancic(Flinn), Sybil Gavelin (Hooper) Missing: Helen McIntosh(Staaf), Doreen Fulton (Swanson), Arnie Gash (Nesbitt)

Submitted by Sherry Lynn 68A

69B 54 YEAR Reunion (instead of 55)

When we first started searching for a venue for our 55th reunion, we found Loon Lake Retreat Center in the UBC Malcolm Knapp Research Forest but their availability is very limited so we took their only opening last September for a reunion a year early. It was Monday to Friday with a little of everything. An ice cream social, a "Murder Mystery" with a spa day, wedding shower and dinner, an inside/outside scavenger hunt in teams of 3, songwriting that was hilarious, our 50th alumnae tea photo made into a puzzle to work on anytime, hikes in the forest, campfire songs, bingo on the outside patio--unlike the usual with Yvonne the clear winner, candlelight dinner with a crystal vase take home centerpiece, successful book exchange, and memory boards of classmates passed.



Terri Lynde (VanDruff) Yvonne Warkentin (Cartwright) Kathy Wyse (Green) Joanne Robbie (Davidson) Bernie Renney (Bell) Linda Nelsen (Proulx) Sandy Langhorn (Cameron) Marlene Hayes (VanDaele) Elaine Penner (Cutting) Janis Stretch (Green) Back Row Stephanie James Evie Jardine-barely-(Brinnen) Irene Payne (Yates) Penny Denton (Piers) Barb Ruault (Gerow) Carol Clarke (Hollinger) Louise Johnson (Kennedy) Val Bell (Schroyen) Judy MacDonald (VanAlstine) Heather Palmer (Burton) Leona Dyck (Dahl)

Submitted by Louise Johnson 69B

78B 45 YEAR Reunion

We celebrated our 45 Year Reunion at Harrison Hot Springs. It was a beautiful sunny mid-September weekend and we had 23 classmates able to attend for the Friday night meet and greet. Linda Corkal generously offered the use of her beautiful home minutes away from our hotel. We enjoyed a beautiful catered charcuterie board display and took turns updating our lives since we last convened 5 years ago. (That took a while!!!)

Saturday was spent going for walks along the beautiful lakeshore, checking out the different restaurants and lounging by the pool and hot springs. Saturday night we all got dressed up and had a lovely dinner in the Copper Room. Our tables were arranged in a square which was conducive to more chatting and catching up!

To finish off the weekend, after we checked out of the hotel, we were invited to Sharon V's trailer at Harrison for lunch and more chatting!! Our class has remained so close and connected over the years. We truly are sisters. We all feel honored to be a part of RCH history, as we graduated in the last class from the School of Nursing. We decided not to wait another 5 years to get together, so our next reunion is being planned for the Spring of 2026.



Front Row; Lydia Arnold-Smith, Silvia Terpstra, Sharon Vandecasteyen, Sharon Waldern, Eleanor Lonneberg, Laura Sharpe, Carol Schmidt, Eva Aslin, Barb Fisher, Barb Daviduck, Heather Wiggins.

Middle Row; Linda Corkal, Karen Kurisu, Eileen Brown, Kathy Gallaher, Nancy Dinsmore,
Back Row; Annalee Offerhaus, Sherry Stone, Doris Gilbert, Marg Kennedy, Cheryl Rohachuk, Dianne Obal, Heidi McDonald.

73B Reunion

Eighteen members of the class of 73B celebrated their 50th Reunion in White Rock, October 10-12, 2023. We enjoyed our stay at the Ocean Promenade Hotel, which had a magnificent view of the ocean. The weather cooperated fully, and many of us were able to get out and enjoy the sunshine by taking long walks on the beach. To top it all off, we had a fabulous dinner at the Boathouse Restaurant on our last evening together. We were sad to say goodbye to each other the next morning and decided we would meet again in 2-3 years. (Anne Kern is missing from the photo).



Left to right: Front row, Sherry Tudge (Biggs), Jan Radford, Kathy Hanson (Johnston)
Second row, Annemarie Plumridge (Grimm), Gale McIntyre (Ferguson), Sue VanNoortwyk (Hall),
 Glenys Saunders (Saiko) Colleen Varcoe, Diane Farquhar, (Allen), Faith Furlong (Buck).
Back row: Maureen Hornak, Joan Young, Wendy Holly (Wostradowski), Audrey Walsh (Troelstra),
 Joan Collie (Lazure), Bonnie McLeod (Burke) Very back, Sharon New (Steele).

Submitted by Jan Radford 73B



Nurse!!!!



Nurse, I don't see a parade!!!!

74B Reunion

We celebrated our 50th reunion with a 3-day mini cruise. It was just the right amount of time to get reacquainted with each other again. 11 of our classmates set sail. While we spent one day in Victoria, we met up with another classmate, Trish Parkins. Good times were had by all and we even celebrated Janet's Birthday!



*Front row [L to R] Sue Dixon, Judy Surkon, Marilyn Wilson, and Trish Parkins.
Back Row [L to R] Debbie Anderson, Shirley Sarai, Sherry Kelly, Janet Thiessen, Darlene Inkster,
Nancy Yates, Sue Nash, and Sandi Lloyd*

Submitted by Sue Dixon 74B





Christmas Luncheon 2023

VOTE 2024-BALLOT SUMMARY

Ballots were distributed to 199 paid members who voted via Canada Post, phone, email and in-person at the AGM. We received 132 votes, tallying 66.3%, which was over the required quorum of 55%.

QUESTION #1: Do you accept the proposed amended and restated Constitution dated May 2024?

The amended Constitution was accepted with 93.9% members voting yes.

QUESTION #2: Which option or options would you choose to donate the remaining Alumnae Funds upon dissolution of the Alumnae?

OPTION A: Create a Bursary through RNFBC, named for the RCH School of Nursing, to support a student in a nursing program in BC.

OPTION B: Supplement the Gussie MacPhail Bursary which is awarded through the RCH Foundation.

OPTION C: Make a donation to the RCH Auxiliary.

First choice was Option A with 68.2% of the vote.

Second choice was Option B with 37.1% of the vote.

Third choice was Option C with 9.8% of the vote.

QUESTION #3: Would you be in favour of a \$10,000.00, one time donation to the RCH Auxiliary this year?

The majority voted yes with 87.9% of the vote.

Details regarding the results of the vote will be discussed at our next meeting on October 16, 2024.

Submitted by Carol Schmidt 78B (Membership)

AWARDS AND BURSARIES

ROYAL COLUMBIAN HOSPITAL FOUNDATION: The Gussie MacPhail Award

Established in 2018, awarded annually through the RCH Foundation, to a nurse employed by RCH who is actively pursuing a BSN, an MSN or Specialty Certification.

To donate, contact the RCH Foundation at **604-520-4902** or online with this link: <https://rchfoundation.com/rch-nurses-alumnae> Scroll down and you will see Gussie MacPhail Award.

DOUGLAS COLLEGE FOUNDATION: The Royal Columbian Hospital Nurses Alumnae Award

Established in 2018, awarded annually through the Douglas College Foundation, to 3rd and 4th year students with exceptional bedside skills. With an additional \$10,000.00 added by Mary Gordon (59B), in 2019, 8 students now qualify annually for the RCH Nurses Alumnae Award.

To donate, contact the Douglas College Foundation at **604-777-6175** or online with this link: <https://douglascollege.ca/givealumni/foundation/donate-online>. Under Donate, click Fund Designation, Select Other, then specify Royal Columbian Hospital Nurses Alumnae Award. Fill in donor info.



PHASE TWO: JIM PATTISON ACUTE CARE TOWER (2020-2025)

By the end of phase two, the hospital will have added 50 per cent more beds, from 446 to 675. Phase two will include:

A new Jim Pattison Acute Care Tower with:

- More beds for intensive care, cardiac intensive care, medicine and surgical patients, all in single-patient private rooms
- A new, larger Emergency department with a satellite medical imaging unit
- More operating rooms & more interventional suites for cardiology and interventional radiology
- More maternity beds and one more maternity operating room.
- Expansion of the pediatric unit & the neonatal intensive care unit.
- A 400+ stall underground parkade, a new main entrance and a rooftop helipad

Contacts

PRESIDENT

Eileen Brown (78B)
604-526-1559
prisoners584@shaw.ca

VICE-PRESIDENT

Position is vacant
Contact Eileen
if interested

TREASURER

Eva Aslin (78B)
604-377-2215
laslin@shaw.ca

SECRETARY

Diane Barnhill (71B)
604-833-1872
dimbarnhill@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP

Carol Schmidt (78B)
778-789-0497
rchrnalumnae@gmail.com

ARCHIVES

Anne Kern (73B)
604-534-0893
eakern@shaw.ca

FRIENDSHIP/CARDS

Marilyn McCutcheon(60B)
604-936-8432
marilyncook1939@gmail.com

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

October 16, 2024

Alumnae Meeting
St. Michael's Parish, Burnaby

December 4, 2024

Christmas Luncheon
Vancouver Golf Club, Coquitlam

March 12, 2025

Alumnae Meeting
St. Michael's Parish, Burnaby

June 4, 2025

AGM/Anniversary Celebration
Scandinavian Centre, Burnaby

In Memoriam

Gone Yet Not Forgotten

Lois Reilly (Moore)	77A	2019
Kathleen Marshall (Day)	63A	August 22, 2019
Elaine Atkins (Johnson)	49B	February 6, 2022
Sheila Macdonald (Rhodes)	77A	July 18, 2022
Jean Williscroft (Anderson)	54B	January 28, 2023
Martha Thiessen (Bergen)	57B	May 4, 2023
Joan Adams (Malcolm)	57A	July 22, 2023
Bev Dockrill (Dockrill)	65B	September 2, 2023
Arlene Smith (Kermode)	64B	September 10, 2023
Rosemary Nixon (Price)	54B	October 11, 2023
Anne MacLean (Semko)	54A	October 19, 2023
Margaret Doka (Murdoch)	64B	November 2, 2023
Leafa Sorensen (Forrest)	72A	November 26, 2023
Vicki Warren (Bissell)	62B	January 11, 2024
Bette Bunch (Brooks)	63B	January 18, 2024
Louise Grist (Turnbull)	75B	January 28, 2024
Desiree Hinke (Strachan)	53B	February 7, 2024
Bev Hoskin (Westby)	58B	March 13, 2024
Wendy Burns (Flumerfelt)	65A	March 25, 2024
Ann Moon (Fawcett)	61B	March 25, 2024
Pauline Dunn (Dunn)	67B	March 31, 2024
Eileen Barter (Service)	51B	May 18, 2024
Sue Hall (Hall)	76B	June 24, 2024



PAULINE DUNN

January 25, 1945-March 31, 2024

Pauline, who graduated from the class of 67B with the Nursing Proficiency Award, was one of our highly accomplished and dedicated Alumnae. She devoted much of her life to the pursuit of academic and clinical excellence and spent most of her career as an educator. Pauline held the position of Alumnae President from 2016-2018. She was a member of the Archive Committee as well as a member of the Alumnae Book Committee who compiled and published *A Call to Nurse*.



After graduation, Pauline worked as a staff nurse in different areas, but had a particular love for the pediatric and maternity areas. She then entered the Post RN Degree Program at UBC with a great thirst for knowledge and a desire to teach. For a few years Pauline taught both pediatric and maternity nursing at the RCH School of Nursing. After teaching at RCH, Pauline took the position of PHN in the community of Port Coquitlam. With her continuing quest for knowledge, Pauline then entered the MSN program at UBC. This was a major growth experience for her and was the beginning of lifelong friendships and relationships with other nurses who were dedicated to providing leadership and making significant contributions to nursing as a profession. During her graduate studies, Pauline returned to clinical and classroom teaching at Douglas College where the new 2-year program was replacing the 3-year hospital training schools. She taught in all aspects of the program and was involved in program and curriculum development, change and research. For 9 years she served in a coordinator role to support students and faculty and participated in several program and college committees. Upon request, Pauline's last years before retirement were spent in clinical teaching of maternal/newborn nursing where she had the opportunity to participate in the clinical changes associated with family-centered care. At her retirement, Pauline's colleagues were responsible for her receipt of an RNABC Award of Excellence in Nursing Education and Douglas College honoured her with the status of Faculty Emeritus.

Pauline was also an accomplished pianist, receiving the ARCT Diploma in piano performance at age 17. She had a lifelong love of piano with years of involvement and participation in The Bruce Vogt Piano Master Classes. She raised Wolfhounds and enjoyed growing Dahlias in her large garden.

Pauline was a kind and gentle soul who always had a kind word and was genuinely interested in those who she interacted with. She has many friends, family, colleagues, students and classmates who will miss her dearly. Thank you for your years of dedication as an educator and as an exemplary role model for those you taught and mentored. Rest in Peace Pauline.



The **ROYAL COLUMBIAN HOSPITAL**
GRADUATING CLASS OF 1974



CLASS OF 1974 NAMES

TOP ROW: K.Alsop, D.Anderson, S.Barg, A.Bil, J.Bradbeer, C.Buck, S.Burke, K.Cavaghan, L.Cimbaro, D.Debler, J.Decker

2nd ROW: B.Dube, E.Dueck, J.Easterbrook, S.Giles, S.Grant, Norah Stevens, Director of Nursing, J.Greenhalgh, D.Gullens, R.Haug, A.Hoogendoorn, L.Isaak

3rd ROW: M.Jokisch, S.Kelly, L.Kelso, K.Knapp, M.Leathley, E.LeClerc, C.Lee, R.Mahyr, S.Mann, A.McGillivray, L.McLennan, K.Morton

4th ROW: S.Nash, J.Odell, S.Olynyk, J.Owen, T.Parkins, E.Peebles, L.Penner, K.Persson, L.Powell, M.Quain, W.Rupert, R.Sawatsky

5th ROW: M.Speight, E.Spence, L.Thom, L.Toews, C.Tulloch, A.Vanderklaauw, H.Wiens, N.Williams, M.Wilson, V.Wolf, L.Young, N.Young

