

President's Message

Logo

Our Online Media Committee has been very busy going through the steps to develop a new, more modern logo and a new attractive and user-friendly website. Please check out all of the new features of our new website.

Membership

All of our Branches are naming membership chairs in preparation for a membership campaign to be initiated in the New Year. The campaign will be aimed at both recent retirees and teachers who have been retired for any number of years. Stay tuned for information on how you can get involved.

ACER/CART

I am on a committee for the *Canadian Association of Retired Teachers*, our national organization. The committee is tasked with designing a plan to help achieve a National Seniors' Strategy. The goal is a strategy that will include initiatives aimed at a Health Care System that prioritizes care in a senior's home for as long as possible and also for ensuring better long-term care for seniors.

Merry Christmas

A friend and former colleague posted an old staff picture on *Facebook* last week. It brought back some wonderful memories of working and socializing with some of the best people I have ever met. This is a great time of year for recalling good times, good friends, family and the special times we have shared with others. Especially this year, many of us will have to depend on these memories to carry us through.

Like many of you we will have a different sort of Christmas this year. For the first time in her 28 years of life our little girl will not be able to be home for Christmas. She is working in Pemberton BC, just outside of Whistler, and the thought of travelling home or of us travelling out there doesn't make sense in the time of Covid. We will miss her terribly, but we know she is in good company and we are more concerned for her safety than anything else.

I have talked to so many of you who are having to put off seeing/holding new grand-children, postponing family get togethers at weddings or traditional meals or trips. My heart goes out to everyone who is having to cancel and postpone such important events, but we have to do what we can to stay safe and keep our loved ones safe so that we can look forward to happier times with them when things return to normal.

Please stay safe. Look after your health. Take solace in all of your wonderful memories. Keep in touch with family and friends.

Have a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful 2021

Bob