

# 2022 Annual General Meeting

## Activity Groups Reports

### BID EUCHRE

submitted by Mary Gagnon

The Bid Euchre group are missing our chairperson, Lois Reid, who moved to Edmonton during the pandemic break. Joan Duffy and Mary Gagnon, co-chairs of the group, have been filling in until such time as the next group elections take place.

We resumed play in September, after the pandemic-forced recess. Our group asked that all members be vaccinated prior to attending, even though vaccinations were not, at first, required by Century House. We have also been wearing masks to keep each other safe as well as comply with other City requirements. Our playing start time was adjusted to later in the afternoon, and the time allotment was reduced by 30-60 minutes. This has resulted in a wider range of end scores and less even competition. However, we do understand the reasons for the need to change and reduce times and are just happy to be able to play!

We have gained 3 new players since September and there are a few more folks waiting for lessons which will be offered again as soon as the teachers feel comfortable enough to resume teaching in light of omicron numbers, or whatever new variations happen to come along.

Our executive group decided to remain "on hiatus" after the Christmas break until the current pandemic situation begins to subside. We are re-evaluating every 2 weeks.

Plans for 2022 include:

1. Making decisions regarding what the structure of our leadership group should be, considering the review of group structure undertaken by CHA Executive members over the past year; we will require assistance from CHA to accomplish this.
2. Participating in annual group leadership elections.
3. Continuing to offer lessons to all who would like to learn to play – regardless of “card sense” or previous experience.
4. Providing a pleasant, relaxed atmosphere in which to enjoy social interaction with our peers as well as stretching our brains just a tiny bit.

Thank you to Century House Association for providing our group with this wonderful opportunity to play a game we love in a safe, inclusive environment. We welcome all

those who would like to learn to play to join us for a social, entertaining and mind-exercising few hours each week!

## **BURSARY COMMITTEE**

submitted by Wenke Hogg

It was decided at our November 2021 meeting that we offer 3 bursaries of \$700 each this school year. We are still unable to have any of our fundraising events due to covid and are relying on donations received from generous Century House members. Thank you to everyone who donated.

## **CANASTA**

submitted by Elaine Piovesan

Since starting Canasta activities again on July 19, 2021, I am proud to report the attendance of 190 players for the period ending December 31, 2021. We are fortunate to have two new players in our group. Looking forward to 2022, we are hopeful to increase attendance. We play the "Hand and Foot" version of Canasta. New players are welcome to sit in and watch while they learn the game.

## **CARPET BOWLING**

submitted by Linda Wilson

Jeannine Hyndman, our former chairperson was in hospital with a heart problem. Weather kept our attendance down – met 3 times with a total attendance of 24.

## **CENTURY DRAGONS**

submitted by Marlene Enns

Due to Covid we were unable to start January training at the Richmond Oval but our coach Judi Clark held twice a week mobility and fitness classes via Zoom to the end of June. As some Covid restrictions were lifted, many team members attended fitness classes at Century House. Following strict Covid protocol we returned to paddling on July 12 with the boat at half capacity and returned to a full boat at the beginning of August. We competed in the Concord Pacific regatta on September 25, winning a bronze medal.

Our executive held 3 meetings in 2021, discussions revolved around:

**VACCINATION PROTOCOL:** at our last meeting team manager Sandy Kretsch presented a Century Dragons Covid 19 policy and waiver form that each member must complete and return to us.

**HEALTH AND SAFETY:** we require each member to complete a PAR-Q form and return it to our manager. We also discussed acquiring better quality FOX 40 whistles, the whistles we have are not loud enough.

**FUNDRAISING AND GRANTS:** our bottle drive is consistent but our annual bake sale and pub event cannot occur, also obtaining sponsorship is difficult right now. Anne Ladouceur met with 3 of our executives in December and has offered to help us. The help is much appreciated. Also, our uniforms are getting ratty, Anne has offered to help find options for us to raise funds for new shirts and jackets.

**REGATTAS:** Fees paid in 2019 were carried over, if regattas go ahead this year the fees may be higher and may require topping up.

**MEMBERSHIP:** We currently have 23 members on our roster with 3 unsure if they will return. It's difficult to recruit new paddlers with Covid still around. Annual Membership fees will remain the same at \$300.00 and paddlers may pay in 2 instalments.

**RESIGNATION:** We are sad to announce our Chairperson Bev Bickert has resigned from the team and her position. Terry Rammell has been appointed to the position.

## **CENTURY HOUSE PLAYERS**

submitted by Claudette Campbell

In spite of the pandemic, the Century House Players managed to meet virtually almost every week, either socially or to rehearse. Thanks to the usage of Zoom through Century House the group presented several productions including: The Dingle Dangle Double D's, Flying High, Buying a Computer, and Action Auction. These have been available for viewing by members on YouTube or the Clarion. Our Drama group welcomed members twice in November to view various offerings in person.

## **CENTURY HOUSE SINGERS**

submitted by Don Northup

This long-running and enthusiastic group was forced to cease activities in March of 2020 due to the coronavirus pandemic. We are still waiting to resume. With such a long interruption there are bound to be changes. We have two new co-chairs replacing Shirley Bakker, who has quietly but effectively led our group for the last five years or so. We are also looking for a new director and accompanist to step in when our group reassembles post-pandemic. We gather for the love of singing and all are welcome, whether you sound like Buble or a banshee. And we take our program out into the community several times a year representing Century House. Our usual time slot has been Mondays from 1:00 to 3:00 pm in the Oak Room, the perfect space for us, but it remains to be seen whether that will have to change once we resume.

## **CONVERSATION FRENCH**

submitted by Pauline Joyce

The French Activity Group meets on Wednesday afternoons from 1:30-3:00 p.m. We

also have another small group (4-6 persons) that meets via Zoom on Friday mornings at 10:00 am for approximately 40 minutes. Our format is a general discussion of current events, what we like to cook, our favorite ice cream flavor, etc. The more fluent French speakers are very helpful to the beginners and there is excellent camaraderie in the group. New members are always welcome!

## **CRIBBAGE**

submitted by Gladys Slotylak

We meet every Monday afternoon at 1:00, play 6 games and finish around 3:00. The fee is \$2:00, with cash prizes for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and low. Being a “drop-in”, the number of attendees varies between 8 and 20.

## **DARTS**

submitted by Mike Wilson

The Darts Group was advised by CHA they could return to their activity on October 21<sup>st</sup>. To the end of December 2021, we had a total of 8 Darts Group Members come to play a total of 32 time. Of those (4) were new members to our Group. The wintery weather kept the numbers down the end of December and early January. It looks like at least 2 of them will return in January. We are waiting for Jean Hayes-Brown, our Group vice chairperson to receive some long-awaited knee surgery.

## **ENGLISH CONVERSATION PROGRAM**

submitted by Wanda Madokoro

Six facilitators with groups running in size from 1 to 3. (Two with one student each, one with two students, and three with three students). All groups but one meet once a week, all via Zoom. The exception meets twice. No foreseeable changes in the future.

## **SENIORS GAY STRAIGHT ALLIANCE**

submitted by Rob Hughes

We continue to meet on Zoom. I appreciate the support I have received from SET in learning new skills for better presentations on Zoom. On April 14, 2021 we viewed a brief video documentary released in February on LGBTQ seniors called “Not Another Second”, followed by a discussion. It is part of a traveling exhibit of photos and videos featured in an ABC news article at <https://abc7ny.com/notanother-second-lgbtq-lgbt-seniors/10249279/>

We had an excellent meeting May 12, 2021 with Pat Hogan sharing her experiences working on women’s, lesbian and LGBTQ+ issues followed by a lively Q&A session. On Jun 9, 2021 we explored “Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples”. We viewed a video welcome to their territory from Chief Rhonda Larrabee of the Qayqayt First Nation, followed by a radio interview about what being a two-spirited person means to Indigenous author and elder Ma-Nee Chacaby.

Our next Zoom meeting will be a follow up to our learning about two-spirited identities on Wednesday, September 14th at 1:00 pm. Our speaker is Tuma Young, QC, a member of Eskasoni and Malagawatch First Nation. Tuma has recently been appointed the first Indigenous president of the Nova Scotia Barristers Society and is a researcher and an assistant professor in Indigenous studies/political science at Cape Breton University (CBU). At CBU, Tuma also has a pro bono law clinic for students, staff and community members where he provides free initial advice and, if necessary, referrals to outside lawyers. As with all SGSA events, everyone is welcome. Contact Rob at [outlawimmigration@me.com](mailto:outlawimmigration@me.com) for the Zoom link.

## **KEEP IN TOUCH**

submitted by Annette Oakes

Keep in Touch sent out in 2021  
35 Condolence cards  
31 Get well cards  
We received 3 thank you notes

## **LOW VISION**

submitted by Barb Gordon

As a result of the Covid 19 pandemic, it was considered unsafe for our group to meet until November of 2021. It was the first meeting since March 2020. It was great to reconnect and the members were glad to be back. In December, the group enjoyed a visit by part of the ukulele group. It was fun to sing Christmas carols accompanied by the ukuleles.

As for plans for 2022, the group hopes to return to monthly meetings. Since the initial suspension of the group, at least four of our members have passed away and a few more are no longer able to attend. We hope to get the message out to other seniors with low vision, who might also be interested in attending. In addition to providing support, we hope to have guest speakers. It will depend on the interests of the group, who we might approach to present. In addition, we plan to have time for socializing and some games.

## **PARKINSON SUPPORT GROUP**

submitted by Kathy Lynn

Due to health issues of our members along with the pandemic we have not often been able to meet over the past year. However, we did have a Zoom meeting and one outdoor meeting.

Our current facilitator Shirley Oda, stepped down and Kathy Lynn took over as chair of the group in the Fall. We want to thank Shirley for the work she has done to keep connected to our group members. She has been a real asset to the group and will be

remaining as a member.

We supported the BC Parkinson Society annual fundraiser with a Super Walk around Moody Park. We hope, in 2022 to have a larger group and have some profile in the community.

We currently meet on the first Tuesday of the month at 2:30. When the pandemic does not permit an in-person meeting we arrange to have a Zoom meeting.

## **SCRABBLE**

submitted by Ingrid Hedin

Scrabble resumed on July 23, 2021 to the joy of its members. We met 21 times with a total attendance of 128. We were able to contribute \$40 to Century House Association. Although some of our pre-Covid participants haven't returned, we do have three new members. In 2022 we intend to enjoy our games and attract some new players.

## **SENIORS EMBRACING TECHNOLOGY(SET)**

submitted by Tim Hicks

SET is a group of members who are keenly interested in helping other members become comfortable with their electronic devices. SET members are continuing with 1-1 support and educational presentations, on Zoom and gradually in person as well. Demand for our assistance remains steady, and we're getting good feedback. We are steadily increasing our crew of support helpers.

We have completed data collection for our survey, with 131 responses, and analysis is done. Next step is processing all the requests to start or stop receiving email. We are also continuing research into new applications of technology (such as Zoom and video) to support CHA activities. A subcommittee of SET is now working with a local designer to give the CHA website a new look. We hope to start user testing of the new look in late January, with implementation this spring. We'll have information sessions and training for it.

## **SENIOR PEER COUNSELLING (SPC)**

submitted by Elizabeth Philip

During 2021, it felt like the "COVID finish line" kept getting moved further away. It was both an exciting yet challenging year for the Century House Peer Counselling Group. Look forward to a new Peer Counselling webpage. This is all part of the ongoing Century House Website Refresh project. We did manage to find time to organize two in-person social events: the "Picnic in the Park" in August and then the Christmas "Jingle Mingle". Both events were well attended, and a good time was had by all.

This was a very successful year for receiving funding from Grants for our projects. We were successful with our applications to the New Horizon Seniors Program, the Community Social Services Training Fund (CSSTF), and the New Westminster

Community Grant. We also thank Thornebridge Gardens for their continued financial support for our programs.

Our main project this year was to rebuild the Peer Counselling Training program from being in-person to being available on a virtual platform. This included the Training Program for new volunteers as well as on-going training for existing volunteers. In October we welcomed MaryAnn Becher as our new Coordinator/Professional Counsellor. MaryAnn will help manage ongoing projects and support the volunteers. We currently have ten (10) new volunteers who will be going through our new training program starting in January 2022. Bi-weekly sessions for our existing volunteers will be led by MaryAnn and will also start in January 2022.

Thank you to all the experienced Peer Counsellors who continued to work during 2021 to answer those calls for help. Thank you to the Century House Association executive and Century House Management and Staff for all your support throughout the year. For 2022, it's all about remaining flexible and adaptable to weather the disruptions and surprises.

## **SNOOKER**

submitted by Ted Grewcutt

On Friday December 24, 2021, executive liaison Carol Wylie, Jacklyn Altamura, Ted Grewcutt and Jack Cooper held a short meeting to discuss the current Province Health Orders regarding the snooker room. As stated by the Provincial Health Order, you need to show proof of vaccine at the front door; and masks are mandatory in the Snooker room. The snooker room is now open 5 days (Monday to Friday) 9 A.M. to 4 P.M. By being open 5 days a week we can keep existing members as well as increase the membership. The reopening plan has been working well and we are positive that our club can keep moving forward.

As far as we know there will be no league play this year, but it has been suggested that maybe we could have an in-house tournament. We have had about 30 people returning for 2021 after re-opening in July, and we expect that 2022 will be the same or better this year. Everyone is welcome to come and play, 3 times complimentary then an annual fee of \$40.00 as well as a Century House membership will be required.

## **TUESDAY CRAFTS**

submitted by Dianne Clark

After being closed because of COVID since March Tuesday Crafts came together on August 10, 2021. Janice, our Treasurer, agreed to open up while I was away for several weeks. Thank you Janice!!!!

We continued to meet during August, September, October, and November. During these months we met 16 times with a total attendance of 113 members.

On November 30<sup>th</sup>, our group gathered together for our annual Winter Break lunch at The Waffle House. All of us were vaccinated and healthy. It was so nice to get together and share a meal and wish each other a Happy Winter Holiday. We continued to knit, crochet and cross stitch and kept our space in the Display Cabinet filled with our endeavours. We began the new year with gathering together on January 4, 2022. We are all hoping that 2022 will be a healthy, productive and profitable year for Century House.

## **WALKING CLUB**

submitted by Richard Nazarewich

Following the cautious easing of public health restrictions in the summer our Executive met in early August to map out the first walking schedule in 16 months for September and October.

Walking was easy during balmy September in New West not far from the Fraser and on a foray into Burnaby. As usual, the stroll along tree-lined Brunette Creek refreshed and uplifted us. The ever popular private sculpture garden off Armstrong drew a sizeable, enthusiastic crowd of walkers. Deer Lake drew few while Port Royal and Burnaby Lake drew double digits, as did November's walks to Robert Burnaby Park, Beresford Trail, Fraser Cemetery and Victoria Hill.

In December, a busy month for many, total participation plummeted. While the early to mid-month West End and various park walks each attracted 7 to 9 walkers, the "Mystery" decorated homes tour attracted none on Dec. 24th and only 2 to Queen's and Albert Parks on Dec. 31st.

We look forward to walking in close-to-seasonal temperatures over the balance of January and in February. A February highlight will be the Annual Lunch, this year in Sapperton. As Spring approaches and, we hope, Omicron wanes, we anticipate extending our walks to further points in Metro Vancouver as was common in years past.

## **WEDNESDAY CRAFTS**

submitted by Elizabeth Christie and Gwen Dumfries

Number of Times Met: 27 Total Attendance: 223

Comments: We averaged over 8 people per week and enjoyed viewing each other's projects. The focus this year has been on creating items for sale in the window. About 50 hats and scarves were donated to a New Westminster charity.

