

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING

South Fraser Branch of BC Registered Music Teachers' Association

**Wednesday, September 20, 2017**

Northwood United Church, 10am

Attendees:

Leslie Chen	Catherine Bundt	Sandra Starek
Maureen Hollins	Carmen Roberts	Andrea Mesana
Kevin Thompson	Karen Daggett	Sharon Poon
Helga Murray	Berva Warkentin	Colleen Branson
Sylvia Leigh	Paulette Nielsen	Lea Tsui
Dianne Szarapka	Elizabeth Hammermeister	
Yvette Rowledge	Darlene Brigidear	

**Welcome** by Helga Murray, President

Update: 1) Helga thanks everyone for their support during this difficult time as her husband, Doug, passed away in August.

- 2) Beverly Johnson lost her husband in a plane crash this summer.
- 3) Margaret Brew has suffered a stroke which has affected her vision. She is no longer teaching.
- 4) Our vice-president, Marlene Bartsch, is unable to come to the meeting today as she is meeting with the team of doctors working with her husband, who suffered a stroke at Easter.
- 5) As of June, Helga has resigned as the RCM rep for Surrey. The new rep is William Tang.

### **Correspondence**

Helga Murray has written a card to our branch, expressing her gratitude for our support during her time of loss.

**Minutes** of the June 21<sup>st</sup> meeting are posted on our website.

*Moved by Leslie Chen, seconded by Jennifer Condie to adopt the minutes as circulated.*

**Treasurer's Report:** (as of August 1, 2017)

Total General Account	\$ 24,762.25
Total Festival Account	\$ 7,637.51

**Committee Reports**

**1. Junior Festival:** Christy Kuettel (read by Helga Murray)

The Junior festival is excited to welcome both Alan Crane and Barbara Siemens as our 2018 adjudicators.

For those that don't know much about Mr. Crane:

He holds a Bachelor of Music (University of Western Ontario) and a Master of Music in Piano Performance. In addition to being on the faculty of the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra School of Music, where he recently completed a term as Chair of the Piano Department, Mr. Crane teaches part-time at the Langley Community Music School where he served for many years as Coordinator of the Piano Program. As well as teaching, Alan Crane is an active performer, both as a chamber musician (he is a co-director of the popular series West Coast Chamber Music) and as an accompanist. He is also active as a festival adjudicator and is a member of the College of Examiners of the Royal Conservatory of Music.

Barbara Siemens has adjudicated for us in the past. She's great – she has over 20 years' adjudicating experience successfully coaching students at all levels in festivals throughout British Columbia. We look forward to working with her again!

The Junior Festival committee will be meeting early October. If you would like to contribute in some way or learn more on how you can be involved, please contact Christy Kuettel.

**2. Senior Festival:** Leslie Chen

We originally had Corey Hamm and May Ling Kwok scheduled to come adjudicate for the Senior Festival. Unfortunately, May Ling can no longer come due to health reasons. In her place, we now have Donna Symons as our second adjudicator.

Geneviene Wong has been our Duties Coordinator for the Senior Festival for the past three years. She is now no longer able to continue with this role for our festival, and so we are looking for someone to and take her position on our team. She has the templates, and is more than happy to show you how to coordinate and schedule the duties. If anyone would like to be our new Duties Coordinator, please contact Leslie Chen.

We have printed the festival promotional letter on “BCRMTA South Fraser” letterhead for you to take and approach corporations and businesses to ask for donations. Donations received will go towards our festival scholarship fund. Please remember to tell the businesses that any donations more than \$500 will give them a full page of advertising space in our festival program. (And if they ask, \$250 would be for half a page.) For those who were not able to make it to the meeting today, we will put the promotional letter online so you can print them at home. If we can have lots of donations come in for the scholarship fund, that will free up some of our existing festival funds to allow out-of-town adjudicators to come next year (which is what we are planning to do).

### **3. String Festival Update:** Helga Murray

Harold and Carla Birston are now completely out of White Rock and have moved to Vancouver 100%. This means they are no longer in charge of the Strings Festival here. Their newly appointed person in charge is Rick Dorfer.

### **Business:**

#### **1. Provincial Council Report:** Colleen Branson

Matthew Chan is our new provincial treasurer.

Heritage Fund: The 2017-2018 Heritage fund \$200 grant is available to each branch in support of an event celebrating Canada’s sesquicentennial celebration to be held between Jan 1 and Dec 31, 2017.

Online Renewal: Please note that whatever name and address you use in the online renewal process is what will be used in the website listing and the mailing list.

BC Piano Competition & Conference: The third place prize for the competition was increased to \$300 and the second place prize increased to \$500. South Fraser will host just the competition for 2018. The Provincial Council is now looking for a host for the 2020 conference.

Young Artist Tour: Markus Masaitis performed 5 concerts sponsored by Chilliwack, Sunshine Coast, Quesnel, Mid Island and North Island branches. The next opportunity to host one of these inspiring concerts will be after the 2018 competition.

Archives: Susan Olsen is asking for donations relevant to our history as BCRMTA, and is busy compiling a database for inclusion on the website in the future. In December 1995 many boxes of materials were donated to the physical Provincial Archives of British Columbia in Victoria. We cannot take them out or get them back but we can see them and take pictures of items by making a personal appointment.

Progressions magazine: A motion was made to offer the magazine in digital form as an app for a one year period beginning in September 2017. This is in addition to paper form. (It was not yet decided whether non-RMT subscribers would have to pay.) This is available in Apple, Google Play and browser formats.

Provincial website: From our web administrator Dina Pollock: A decision was made to move the website to a new server (MediaSmart). Some content has now been moved from the Members Only site to the Archive site and is now password protected. The balance of the content on the main page will be moved to password protected pages and the Members Only site will be eliminated. (The old site was not working.)

Social Media: We are launching a Facebook Closed group to start: [www.Facebook.com/BCRMTA.Provincial/](http://www.Facebook.com/BCRMTA.Provincial/). Colleen Branson and Vicki will be moderating it. Posts are to relate strictly to Provincial events, not Branch activities. The page allows only posts by the moderators. It is intended mainly as a way parents (and others) can find us on Facebook and be referred to the official Provincial site.

Branching Out 2017: The deadline is December 31, 2017 for submission of pictures and a 50-100 word description of the birthday event, to receive this \$100 CFMTA grant available to all branches in Canada.

Provincial Positions: Carol Schlossar (outgoing past President) and Lois Kerr (Treasurer)

are both stepping down after many years of service, and were paid tribute. Provincial currently has no second Vice President. If anyone is interested, please let us know.

Reminder: Logging in on the BCRMTA provincial website:

Log in: mybcmrta

Password = 1947aMusical#

## **2. Forrest Kinney Workshop:** Marlene Bartsch (read by Helga Murray)

We had the Forrest Kinney workshop set up for October. Unfortunately, we did not pick up on the fact that it was set for the Thanksgiving weekend (so enrolment was low). It has now been cancelled. Money submitted will be held over for next time. Forrest is now coming – tentatively – the last weekend of January. Once we have the date set, we will let the membership know.

## **3. Canada Music Week:** Kevin Thompson & Maureen Hollins

Saturday, November 25th, at Northwood United Church, is the date to mark on your calendar. Teachers have been encouraged to get their students composing for this event. It will be a recital of student compositions as well as other Canadian works.

If you have students who have handwritten their score, you can send a scan to Rob Hollins at [hollinsrob@shaw.ca](mailto:hollinsrob@shaw.ca) by October 1st. He will notate it using software. October 22nd is the deadline for all entries. Entries should be emailed to Kevin Thompson at [ktpianostudio@telus.net](mailto:ktpianostudio@telus.net). Please include student name, age and teacher name with the score. There is no entry form.

Also, there is an Artwork contest for the cover for the book. Students must use “Canada 150” in the design. The deadline is October 22<sup>nd</sup>, submitted to Kevin Thompson.

For the concert, remember that it is open to all ages and genres (and not just to piano). We can have instrumentalists, duos...etc. The more variety the better! We have the church booked (on November 25<sup>th</sup>) from 5pm to 10pm. (Last year, we had two recitals.) The deadline to enter your students in this recital is November 10<sup>th</sup>; please E-mail Maureen Hollins.

#### **4. BC Piano Competition: Kevin Thompson**

South Fraser is going to host this event! Saturday, September 22nd, 2018. We have booked Kay Zavislak from Western Washington University. The location will be White Rock Baptist Church. We will be using a Fazioli concert grand. Maureen Hollins, Jennifer Condie, Helga Murray, and Kevin Thompson are on the committee. For the actual day of the event, we may be looking for a few more teachers to help us out.

South Fraser is allowed to enter one student in this competition. We have not done this in a number of years and it would be great to have an entry since we are the host branch! Competitors need to be competitive, playing at the ARCT and graduate level. The winner becomes the Young Artist, giving concerts hosted by various branches around the province. Contestants need to be prepared to play at the National competition in July of 2019. I've not been able to find just where that is yet, but hope to find out Sunday at the Provincial Council meeting.

The deadline for branch entries is February 1st to Kevin Thompson at [ktpianostudio@telus.net](mailto:ktpianostudio@telus.net). The BC deadline for entries is March 1st. Application forms by request will be available by the November meeting.

If we get more than one entry, then we will need to host a competition. The best option would be to use the resources we have in place for the festival: one of the senior adjudicators and a good piano. The latest date we could use would be Monday, February 26th (which is the first day of the Senior festival).

Rules and regulations can be found online on the BCRMTA website, members only side.

#### **5. Announcements:**

##### 1) Masterclasses: Helga Murray

I have been coordinating with Jennifer West, from the MuzeWest concert series, to bring in their pianist guest artists to do masterclasses held at my studio. Usually the guest artist performs a concert for MuzeWest on Friday, and then we have the masterclass on the weekend.

You are all invited to attend the masterclass and/or to submit a student to participate in the masterclasses. The performing students would need to be at a minimum of Level 10 or ARCT. The fee for students to perform in the masterclass is \$75.

For this season, we currently have these three guest artists lined up for masterclasses:

Saturday, October 21: Wayne Weng

Sunday, November 26: Asiya Korepanova (our first woman guest artist!)

Sunday, March 4: Alexei Tartakovsky

## 2) New Tax Laws: Kevin Thompson

Do you own an incorporated small business? This will most likely exclude most private piano teachers as we are usually sole proprietors. This new rule will only affect those of you who are incorporated. If you pay a family member, this could affect you. If you have set up a family trust to take advantage of the capital gains exemption, this may affect you. Tax on investment income earned by a corporation will increase.

Here is a link to explore if you think this might affect you:

[New Tax Rules for Small#28CB8A0](#)

## 3) February Recitals at Northwood United: Jennifer Condie

Jennifer Condie and Esther Neufeld are trying to organize pre-festival recitals for February 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> at Northwood United Church. Please contact Jennifer if you are interested in joining them in holding a studio pre-festival recital. Preference will be given in the order the E-mails are received.

## **Thank You for the Music Society presentation: Practice-a-thon**

Presented by: Shelley Gimbel, Kelly O'Hagan, and Brian Morris, directors.

Through our South Fraser branch, Thank You for the Music Society is launching a Practice-A-Thon to support music students and teachers in the Surrey School District.

**Please see the handout posted online for all the info!** South Fraser branch is now committed to this project. Teachers who would like to sign up, please E-mail them at [tyftmsociety@gmail.com](mailto:tyftmsociety@gmail.com) by October 6<sup>th</sup>.

*Maureen Hollins moved to adjourn the meeting.*

Adjournment