

# VOLKSSPORT ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Annual General Meeting Minutes

Saturday, April 28, 2018

d'Esterre Seniors' Centre - 1801 Beaufort Ave, Comox

## VABC Executive Members:

President	- Brenda Dudfield
Vice President	- Vacant
Treasurer	- Joan Sanderson
Secretary	- Linda Warnick (absent)
Past President	- Beverley Cattrall

## VABC Directors:

Director (Publicity)	- Vacant
Director (Sanctions)	- Ada Robinson
Director (Website)	- David Cattrall
Director (Materials)	- Joan Sanderson
Director (Mail-in Walks)	- David Cattrall
Director-at-Large	- Christine Desjardins

## Club Delegates:

Bastion City Wanderers	- Ria Edmond
Comox Glacier Wanderers	- Pam Taylor
Garden City Wanderers	- George Copley
Juan de Fuca Pathfinders	- Christine Desjardins
Surrey Trekkers	- Frank Dudfield (proxy)
Vancouver 'Venturers	- George Copley (proxy)
Victoria 'Y'	- Brenda Dudfield (proxy)

## Affiliate Member:

Victoria International Walking Festival Society	- Christine Desjardins
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## Guests:

**Bastion City Wanderers:** Jennifer Allin, Beryl Shepherd

**Comox Glacier Wanderers:** Crystal Harsarski, Hazen Taylor, Ann Pokol, Peg MacMillan, Rodney MacMillan, Bernice Takahashi

**Garden City Wanderers:** Wendy Pratt (minute taker), Gord Keeble, Astrid, Hauth, Diane Copley

**Juan de Fuca Pathfinders:** Rick Desjardins

**Surrey Trekkers:** Sandi Walton, Sheila Davidson, Betty Agren, Jill Powers, Rob Orton, Doug Jackson, Nancy Jackson

**Vancouver 'Venturers:** no attendees

**Victoria 'Y':** no attendees

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 1:22pm, President, Brenda Dudfield presiding.

A moment of silence was held in memory of members: Kaye Farmer (Victoria), Christopher Stanbury (Vancouver) and Peggy Schindler (Surrey)

## 2. AGENDA

Motion to adopt agenda (provided in advance of meeting) by George Copley, seconded by Christine Desjardins. Carried

## 3. AGM 2017

Motion to accept the minutes of AGM held March 19, 2017 by George Copley, seconded by Christine Desjardins. Carried

## 4. VABC REPORTS from Executive Members and Directors - were distributed prior to the meeting.

- President (Brenda Dudfield) - report attached
- Vice President (Vacant) - no report
- Treasurer (Joan Sanderson) - report is not posted online

Clubs see attached Reports.

**MOTION** to accept Treasurer's report by George Copley, seconded by Christine Desjardins. Carried

Joan reported that Christine Desjardins had reviewed the accounts for 2017 and found them to be correct.

- Secretary (Linda Warnick) - no report
- Director Publicity (Vacant) - no report
- Margarita Steer (Surrey) edited the 2018 VolkssportingBC and is prepared to produce the 2019 edition.
- Director Materials (Joan Sanderson) reported that fewer books are sold each year
- Director Sanctions (Ada Robinson) - report attached
- Director Website (David Cattrall) - report attached
- Director Mail-in Walks (David Cattrall) - report attached
- Director-at-Large (Christine Desjardins) - no report

## 5. CLUB REPORTS

attached for:

- Bastion City Wanderers Volkssport Club
- Comox Glacier Wanderers Volkssport Club
- Garden City Wanderers Volkssport Club
- Juan de Fuca Pathfinders Walking Club
- Surrey Trekkers Volkssport Club
- Vancouver 'Ventures Volkssport Club
- Victoria 'Y' Volkssport Club

## 6. OLD BUSINESS

- none

**7. NEW BUSINESS**

- Meetup – Doug Jackson & George Copley provided an update on interest in volkssporting resulting in new members
- CARP (Canadian Association of Retired Persons) Promotion to "Get Seniors to Help Themselves & Walk" – Doug Jackson connected on linking with Volkssport Clubs – May 26, 2018 is CARP's National Walking Day
- IVV 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary - May 21, 2018 - celebration on the Mainland with the Coquitlam - Mundy Park Permanent Trail

**8. ELECTIONS**

President	(2-year term ends at 2019 AGM)	not applicable
Director-at-Large	(2-year term ends at 2019 AGM)	not applicable

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|--------------------------|--|
| Vice President           | - Jerry Van Zuuk (Surrey Trekkers)                       |
| Treasurer                | - Joan Sanderson (Garden City Wanderers)                 |
| Secretary                | - Agnes Liau (Vancouver Ventures & Surrey Trekkers)      |
| Director (Publicity)     | - Doug Jackson (Surrey Trekkers)                         |
| Director (Sanctions)     | - Denise McDougal (Vancouver Ventures & Surrey Trekkers) |
| Director (Website)       | - David Cattrall (Garden City Wanderers)                 |
| Director (Materials)     | - Joan Sanderson (Garden City Wanderers)                 |
| Director (Mail-in Walks) | - David Cattrall (Garden City Wanderers)                 |

The elections were conducted by Christine Desjardins.

Joan Sanderson and David Cattrall agreed to continue in their positions. Bios were provided for Jerry Van Zuuk, Agnes Liau, Doug Jackson and Denise McDougal. Attached.

There were no nominations from the floor. All 8 positions elected by acclamation.

**9. OTHER DISCUSSION**

- none

**10. NEXT MEETING**

2019 VABC annual general meeting will be held in Nanaimo on May 11, 2019. It was noted that Victoria Volkssport Phoenix Festival is scheduled from May 3 to 5, 2019.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn by George Copley at 2:20 pm.

Minutes taken by Wendy Pratt (Garden City Wanderers).

Original signed by Brenda Dudfield, President.

## **ANNUAL REPORT FOR BRITISH COLUMBIA**

Submitted by Brenda Dudfield, President

The seven Clubs in British Columbia had a successful year in 2017.

MeetUp has been a successful tool for increasing membership, especially in Surrey, and now VABC has decided to pay for the 3 Groups within the BC License for another year. These also include Bastion City Wanderers and Greater Victoria.

Surrey Trekkers have developed a members' only Facebook page and also a VABC Facebook page has been set up and I am monitoring those who wish to join as this is also a Closed Group open to any Volkssporter, not just from BC.

In 2017 there were 85 Sanctioned Scheduled Events with 3,792 walkers in attendance, compared to 90 events and 4,464 walkers in 2016. The difference is mainly because the Victoria Volkssport Phoenix Festival is only held every two year. There were a total of 81 Permanent Trails sanctioned, including 2 bike events, with a total of 8,725 walkers. Unfortunately we were down 406 walkers compared to 2016. A new bike event was established in the Victoria area, making two bike events in B.C.

For 2018 a total of 76 Scheduled Map/Guided Walks and 84 Permanent Trails have been sanctioned, including two new Events in Abbotsford and Lantzville, both of which qualify for the Canada Walks A – Z Special Programme.

We have continued to have joint walks with Clubs in Washington, with The Olympic Peninsula Explorers Club crossing the Strait to join the Victoria clubs and vice versa. The NW Tulip Trekkers also attend walks sponsored by the Lower Mainland Clubs. Members from BC also attend events put on south of the border. A good arrangement for the Friendship part of our motto.

Unfortunately Anita Beecroft, who was in the position of Publicity Director, temporarily moved to Mexico City, so was unable to edit VolkssportingBC. Margarita Steer, a Surrey Trekker, stepped up to the plate and I thank her for doing an excellent job for us.

At the latter part of 2017, email and phone discussions were held with residents of Kimberley about the IVV trail that has been in existence for many years, and used regularly by locals. There is a threat that land adjacent to the trail will be built on which will detract from the ambiance of the trail. There will likely be more on this in 2018.

As I write this a group of at least 46 walkers will be doing the "Walk to Comox", all or any of the 10 Permanent Trails from Mill Bay, out to Tofino and Ucluelet and up to Comox. We have planned a group dinner on Friday night in Courtenay and lunch is offered to member on Saturday prior to the Annual Meeting.

I think it is very important for the sustainability of Volkssporting to really live up to the Friendship part of our motto when new people attend our walks. It is very off-putting if

Club members do not walk with them and just expect new walkers to take the map and go off on their own. They should be made to feel welcome throughout the walk. This is also very important when having visitors who are seasoned Volkssporters. We need to walk and talk, especially about Volkssporting, to make sure that new walkers return, so we can get new blood into the organization.

## **REPORT TO VABC AGM, April 2018**

Ada Robinson, Director/Sanctions

I would like to thank all the clubs for their prompt submission of sanction requests, stats sheets, and slugs, which allowed me to do my job in a timely manner.

### **STATISTICS 2017:**

Attached are the 2017 summaries and comparisons with previous years for both the scheduled and permanent trail events. Please note that, in the comparisons, the 2016 count of participants for PTs is slightly higher than was reported at the AGM in March 2017. This is because the count for one PT was adjusted after the AGM.

Once the effect of special events is taken into account, it appears participation is up on the Mainland and down a little on the Island. Participation in the VABC and CVF/BC Director PTs appear to be on a downward trend.

### **SANCTIONS 2018:**

For 2018, the following numbers of walks and bikes have been sanctioned:

84 PT walks and bikes (29 by the five Vancouver Island clubs, 15 by the two mainland clubs, 33 by the CVF BC Director, and 7 by VABC)

76 event walks (31 on the mainland and 45 on Vancouver Island and other islands)

Ada Robinson

Director/Sanctions

Attachments: 2017 PT Summary

PT Comparison 2007 - 2017

2017 Scheduled Event Summary

Scheduled Event Comparison 2007 – 2017

Comparison by Region 2015 - 2017

**VABC AGM April 28<sup>th</sup> 2018**  
**Website Director – Report for 2017**  
**David Cattrall - March 2018**

The VABC Website continues to receive, on average, about 7 hits per day – about 3000 hits in 2017. The website is actually pretty simple – just informational, not transactional. So, the major workload is at year end when the event schedule and the PTs for the following year are updated and entered. Thanks to Margarita Steer and Brenda for doing a great job in getting that information to me in good time. After that, the job of keeping the site up to date as changes occur has been quite straightforward and low volume. Ada is doing a fine job of giving me all the details when something changes relating to an event or PT walk.

**Mail-in Walks Director – Report for 2017**

The mail-in registration process continues to work well and is quite successful as measured by the volumes, the financial returns, and the positive feedback from those who did the walks.

The number of mail-in locations has grown from 8 in 2010, when we first started, to 32 in 2018. New locations this year are Lantzville, Revelstoke and Abbotsford, while West Vancouver Horseshoe Bay has become mail-in. At those 32 locations we have 72 routes.

In 2017, 350 mail-in walks were done. This is the highest number yet (except for 2014 when over 100 people on the bus tour after the Banff Convention walked Emerald Lake). The main contributors to this record number were a group of 50 from Belgium who walked in Whistler, the A to Z program (Qualicum, Ucluelet and Yale were popular), and several group walks.

Of the 350 walks, it is noteworthy that 161 were done by out-of-province Canadians, US walkers or European walkers; 189 were done by BC residents.

In the past 8 years we've had almost 2000 walks done. About 600 of these were from out-of-province and out-of-country visitors. So, we feel this is a benefit to all Volkssporters.

We have considered ways to improve the method of sending in money and sending out stamps and we may well change this in the next couple of years. But for only about \$300 per year it is not worth spending much time or money on this so we are not rushing into it.

We reduced the walk fee to \$1 in 2015 but last year we still had a small surplus after sanction costs and expenses. So, it costs us nothing and it encourages people from all over the world to walk throughout BC. Therefore, I believe that the program as a whole is well worth while and that we should retain all of the walks.

**REPORT FOR DIRECTOR AT LARGE APRIL 2018**  
**Christine Desjardins**

This year was a little more active for me as Director at Large. At our meeting last year I was asked if I could organise a “Walk to Comox” and also to design a walk in Lantzville for the members who are doing their Canada A – Z programs. I have done these two jobs and we have had an encouraging response from all the members. Brenda will have the final totals for the number of walkers that participated. It would be nice if we can continue to think of walking trips for our members.

**BASTION CITY WANDERERS REPORT:**

We currently have 39 members, with approximately 18-22 attending most walks. Lunch after the walk is still an important element with many walkers attending. Members take turns doing registration and sign up each quarter for the times when they are able to register the walkers, give a short spiel, and ensure they start at the designated time. Either the member doing registration or another member will make the lunch reservation. Interested members also get together at the library several times a year either in the evening or after our Saturday walk for slideshow presentations of members’ travels, and this month we are having a demonstration of flamenco dancing. We have only one Event walk for this year, Haslam Creek and Timberland Lake, near Nanaimo Airport in Cassidy. This walk (8 or 11k) is mostly on gravel roads and includes views from the Haslam Creek suspension bridge and views of Cedar, Mt Benson and Timberland Lake. The 11k also includes views of Crystal Lake and the Haslam Creek Valley. This is a new Event walk for us as we’ve decided to take a break from Newcastle Island and do a few other walks instead. Club members feel that one Event walk is sufficient at the moment as Volkssport members seem to prefer walks closer to home these days.

We continue with 6 YREs which have various versions and lengths.

We are continuing to publicize events with Meet-up (including all the walks for the “Walk to Comox”), and have had a few new walkers through Meet-up but so far only two new members.

BCW will host the next VABC AGM on May 4, 2019 in Nanaimo if that date is acceptable to VABC.

Submitted by Jennifer Allin, Ria Edmond and Beryl Shepherd

## COMOX GLACIER WANDERERS

Our membership of 46 has only changed by the addition of a couple of new members this year. The daily walk attendance varies between 8 and 15. We have a small group who walk faithfully daily rain or shine. One day each week, we have tried to add variety to our walks by choosing a walk highlighting one of the many spectacular views around the Comox and Courtenay areas. Attendance those days is proof that the members are appreciating the change. We have done some member initiated impromptu walks that get us together. We maintain 2 PT walks; one in Comox from the Port Augusta Motel and the other from the Lewis Centre in Courtenay. These are the two walks scheduled in the "Walk to Comox" for the "X" stamp.

The crowning walk each year is the sanctioned walk at Mt. Washington, Paradise Meadows Courtenay. This year it will be Sat. Sept 1<sup>st</sup>. We missed seeing some of our friends from other clubs who have joined us previously this past Sept.

We are very fortunate to have a committee that plans together and keeps the membership well informed.

Pam, Peg, Crystal, Karen, Betty, Bernice, Anne

### **Garden City Wanderers 2017 Report VABC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING April 23, 2018**

Garden City Wanderers had another very successful year in 2017. As of the date of the club's AGM, November 4, 2017, the club had 84 members, a number which has remained relatively stable in recent years with new members joining to replace those who move away, are no longer able or do not wish to continue to walk with the club. Of those 84 members about 1/3 actively volunteer for and work in the various offices and volunteer positions that are needed to ensure that the club's walk activities run smoothly. Those walk activities include 39 weekend walks (both event and PT), 4 Permanent Trail locations (with anywhere from 2 to 4 or 5 routes each) and two evening walks each week, Tuesdays (all year) and Thursdays (seasonal -April to September). We generally have lunch at a nearby restaurant after each weekend walk, and the lunch is usually attended by anywhere from six or eight to fifteen plus members. Potluck meals are a feature of many of our special walks such as Walkfest in April, US/Canada Friendship Walks in July and August, the AGM in November and the Christmas Walk in December. Our PT walk owners and event hosts are continually suggesting improvements to established routes and we continue to develop new routes. One new event walk in 2017 was the Cobble Hill walk held on Dominion Day, otherwise known as Canada Day, this year. This was a particularly successful new walk attended by about 65 walkers, 50 of whom went for lunch afterwards at the Cobblestone Inn. I am pleased to report that the Cobblestone Inn coped with this dramatic influx of patrons smoothly and competently, having been given some advance warning of expected numbers. The weather cooperated, being sunny and warm but not too hot, and a photo of some of the walkers on that day can be seen on the Home page of the Greater Victoria Volkssport Meetup website.

In 2017, the GCW Managing Group continued to implement a long term commitment adopted in 2016 to concentrate on two initiatives. These initiatives were to encourage new members to join in walking to enjoy the benefits of Volkssporting, Fun, Fitness and Friendship, and to build upon one of the club's strengths by encouraging even more members to not only walk with us but also to volunteer for active participation in the various offices and positions that support the club's walking activities. As part of these initiatives a new GCW brochure aimed at attracting new members continues to be distributed at various public locations in Victoria. We also continue to ensure that information about the weekend walks appears in various local publications, including the Times Colonist Thursday edition. At the AGM in November 2017 the membership voted to continue to investigate participation in Meetup to provide information about our walks to a wider group of potential walkers. After looking into the possible benefits the Managing Group decided to participate for 2017 in Meetup. The Greater Victoria Volkssport Meetup website, which was established with minimal information about the clubs in October, 2017, was provided with weekly walk information for Garden City Wanderers and Juan de Fuca Pathfinders walks starting at the end of January 2018. Since October some 135 people have signed up on the website, most of them after the walk information started to be published at the end of January. While it is too early to assess the long term success of the initiative indications so far are that Meetup will be a valuable tool, in addition to our other tools presently in place, in support of our initiative to attract new walkers and encourage them to join the club.

Respectfully submitted

George Copley, President, Garden City Wanderers Volkssport Club

### **REPORT FOR JUAN DE FUCA PATHFINDERS APRIL 2018**

In the past year Juan de Fuca Pathfinders has continued to be a viable club. Our membership has continued to remain constant, our number of walks has remained about the same and we continue to have our 8 permanent trails and one bike event. Just about all our members volunteer in some capacity with the club. Our events tend to favour the trails in the Westshore and on the peninsula. We hope our participation in Meetup gains us some more members. We are gearing up in the next year to help host the Victoria Phoenix Walking Festival with the two other Victoria area Volkssport clubs and we thank all the Victoria volkssport members for their continued support of our club and its walks. We held our annual general meeting on March 10<sup>th</sup> and elected a new President Wendy Renwick and Vice president Sandy Malcolm. All our other executive members remain the same.

Submitted by Christine Desjardins

## **SURREY TREKKERS VOLKSSPORT CLUB 2017-2018 Annual Report to VABC AGM**

2017 year was the year of being in the forefront of electronic platforms within CVF. Our club membership has now jumped to the 136 mark thanks to renewed enthusiasm within the club and the addition of new members. During the later part of 2017, we had an increase in the turnout of participants for our map walks and scheduled weekend PT walks of an average of some 55 participants while our Wednesday morning PT walks have an average of some 24 participants.

For 2017, we hosted 25 map walks where we encountered weather problems during the winter (January – February and again this past November - December) with significant snowfalls and icy routes. This impacted our participation rate. Notwithstanding, we had a good turnout during the remainder of the year. All in all we had a slight decline in walkers year to date. The impact was similar on our 9 PT walks scheduled during this period.

This past year, our executive concentrated on our electronic platforms. For our existing website we transitioned in a new Web Master who overhauled the site to great benefit for our club members and others who viewed our site. Check it out! We also have a Gmail account wherein emails are sent weekly on our upcoming walks as well as other information benefiting club members.

We established an Adhoc Committee to look into Public Relations and Membership. This action brought great results:

- The committee did a blanket coverage of community centres and other target locations with posters and rack cards;
- In August, we went live with on Meetup with participation on that platform of in excess of 400 to date. This platform has increased enthusiasm with club membership and has positively increased participation with Meetup members to our walks. This initiative has brought us 11 new club members.
- In the Fall we went live with a club member Facebook page providing a platform for club members only to post information and photos on club activities. This platform has enhanced enthusiasm within the club.

The Executive Committee now has a challenge to review our walk start point locations to address our increasing level of participation as well as how we can as a club increase our support to our start point host locations. Like buying a cup of coffee before a walk or a cup of soup after the walk. This is a good challenge to have. The EC is now examining ways to retain our current and new members. We are planning to define our “service/product level” as defined by current membership, how we can provide that level and maintain it to keep our club healthy. This is particularly challenging when anyone can simply “click onto” the internet and find a nearby club or group walk without having to be member. This will impact our ability to seek walk fees when so many competing similar activities are free.

All in all, 2017 was a banner platform year indeed for the Surrey Trekkers. We advanced to the forefront on electronic mediums and have a positive increase in participation, which is continuing in 2018. I am happy to announce that for 2018, the Surrey Trekkers Volkssport Club is very active and a vibrant club both during the events and as per the Surrey Trekkers' reputation, socially after each event. We look forward to seeing you on the trails in 2018. Check out our newly designed Website and our Meetup page. We invite you to check out our Facebook page, all you need to do, is become a Surrey Trekker member!

Respectfully,  
Rick Bortolussi, President, Surrey Trekkers Volkssport Club

### **VVVC REPORT FOR VABC AGM**

by Verni Brown  
April 28, 2018

2017 was a special year for the Vancouver 'Venturers. In May, we celebrated Canada's 150th Anniversary with quizzes before the walk and draw prizes afterward. On July 3, we celebrated our club's 20th anniversary with a special cake and more draw prizes. In August, we celebrated CVF/FCV's 30th anniversary with another special cake. The room was decorated with Verni's "Convention Memories" quilt, as well as with photos and quotes from the 9 people who have been national president. In early September, there was a special International Friendship Walking Weekend, in cooperation with Surrey Trekkers and NorthWest Tulip Trekkers from Washington State. VVVC's walk in Tsawwassen went to the old Canada/USA border crossing to Point Roberts.

The club currently has 37 members. For various reasons, we did not get involved with Meet-Up, although we have heard that other clubs have gotten new members via this initiative.

During 2017, we hosted 8 map walks and 6 permanent trails. We also coordinated 5 PTs on behalf of VABC. Once again, we thank members of the Surrey Trekkers for supporting our events.

### **2017 REPORT – VICTORIA Y VOLKSSPORT CLUB**

No major changes for our club in 2017. At the end of the year there were no major changes in the number of members, however, less than half are interested in volunteering for walk registration and any of the other duties that occur throughout the year.

In 2017 we hosted 22 walks – 10 Event and 12 PT walks. We have 5 PT Sanctions and each has two routes and I would like to thank Bruce Hawkes for marking all of the Event walks throughout the year and Peggy Sherwood for her occasional assistance.

Most of the walks were well attended and once again thank you to the other Clubs for their support. We tried switching the Strawberry Vale start location. As I was away I heard about all the problems at a later date. I had checked with the school and Saanich and was told there were no events being held in that park. However, there was a private Baseball Tournament that morning, so parking was a bit of problem. Still everyone enjoyed the changes to the routes.

Our Christmas Lights walk had been declining the last couple of years. Bad weather, sick of the lighted truck parade were mainly to blame. We tried having it mid-month with coffee and cookies at 3pm, followed by the walk but once again the weather was horrendous. We did the 5k as a group, the lights were particularly sparkly in the rain and we all got soaked. Vic Y members have shown no interest in Meetup. No one wants to take on the task of entering walk information throughout the year. We had a couple of folks attend a couple of our walks that had seen the Meetup notice, however, they were very clear in saying they only attend something once and were not interested in membership with any club.

Submitted by Judy Haynes

**BIOS FROM NOMINATED MEMBERS:**  
**unable to attend the meeting**

**Vice-President - Jerry Van Zuuk**

Why would I be an awesome VP? I've been an enthusiastic member of the club for over 6 years and have walked almost 3,000 K as a Volkssporter. I'm a retired paralegal. To be a paralegal you have to be mentally sharp, an excellent communicator, a team player, detail-oriented, and well-organized. I'm super reliable and I enjoy volunteering. I've been a walk-box host, Map Walk host, and auditor for the club. My continued involvement with Meetup shows that I'm very passionate about the club. I have lots of time to devote to Volkssporting and would like to do more. As VP I would make sure that I would be a good backup for the President in his/her absence.

Jerry

**Secretary: Agnes Liao**

My name is Agnes Liao. I found out about Volkssporting in the Fall of 2016 and joined the Vancouver 'Venturers Volkssport Club in January 2017 and the Surrey Trekkers this year. Although I'm new to Volkssporting, I've enjoyed being a member and saw the benefits of contributing to the club and getting involved. To date, I have assisted Verni Brown in a pre-walk of one of the walks last July. I will be the contact person for an upcoming map walk on July 21 and the prep work for that walk will be done during the weeks prior to the walk.

I am a Chartered Professional Accountant, Certified General Accountant, (CPA, CGA) and have recently retired from the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) after 33.5 years of service. In my position as Regional Program Advisor in the CRA Pacific Regional Office for 11 years, (2003-2014), as part of my job, I had coordinated meetings amongst executives and management staff

within the CRA in the Pacific Region. I ensured meetings are effectively administered, organized and minuted and proper records are kept.

I am confident that I have the ability to perform the role of Secretary of the VABC and I look forward to being able to serve the organization.

Agnes

**Director - Sanctions - Denise McDougal**

I enjoy walking, meeting new people...Volkssport is a really good fit as is the motto "fun, fitness, and friendship"! It's great walking in new areas I would never go to on my own nor have even known they exist. I have been a member of the Vancouver 'Venturers since 2011, and also joined the Surrey Trekkers this year.

I have a very gentle, friendly, black lab mix named Colby who accompanies me on all the walks. I think he enjoys it as much as I do. He is always so happy at the sign-up to see everyone. And his tail wags the entire walk. He only gets disappointed when I won't let him play with every single dog we see.

I am retired, 63 years old. Part of my former job of over 30 years was in front of a computer analyzing data so I believe I can be successful as Director of Sanctions. Unfortunately, Excel was not the program used but I am confident I can learn what is needed and learning is always a good thing! Fortunately, I have been in email contact with Ada Robinson who has been very gracious in sending needed files, info, and instructions. She assures me her continued help. Thank you, Ada!

I apologize for not being present at the AGM and meeting everyone. We moved in the fall and are presently undergoing some renovations. There have been so many questions and decisions along the way that it is best if we stay close to home.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to volunteer with VABC and to Brenda for having this confidence in me.

Denise

**Director - Publicity - Doug Jackson (in person)**

I was a postman for 17 years (walking experience) and a salesman for 25 years (sales and marketing experience) all leading up to me being the perfect candidate for the Publicity position with VABC.

We all have found something that we seem to like a lot and I just want to help the 7 clubs in BC grow and still be around so our children can enjoy, when they are 60 years old, what we have found.