



Message from our Chair

Inside this issue:

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Message from Union Chair | 1 |
| Union Goodreads | 1 |
| Is Retirement an Option? | 2 |
| (Retirement con'td) | 2 |
| Best of 2024 | 3 |
| (Best of 2024 cont'd) | 3 |
| Red Lentil soup recipe | 4 |
| Word Search | 4 |

Hi everyone!

Hope everyone had a wonderful December celebrating the holidays with loved ones or just enjoying some well deserved time off from the library. 2024 seemed to have gone by as quickly as it came, and 2025 has already started to prove to be an... interesting year, to say the least.

Meanwhile, the Union is working hard on a few different, exciting things for the local in the new year, most of which are things that were identified to us while talking to all of you at your workplaces, at General meetings, or just through casual conversations. Stay tuned for more information! Which is a perfect segue for...

Staying informed about the Union! The best way to stay up-to-date with what the Union is doing is by subscribing to our email list. If you haven't already, or if you're not quite sure if you're on the list, email Kelly your full name and branch at cupe40202secretary@outlook.com with your personal email. Any @surrey.ca email addresses received will not be added.

Happy reading!

In solidarity,

Jasper

UNION GOODREADS

The Ministry of Time
by Kaliane Bradley

A time travel romance, a spy thriller, a workplace comedy, and an ingenious exploration of the nature of power and the potential for love to change it all:

"I laughed, I had tears in my eyes, and I was turning pages well into the night. The Ministry of Time has everything you want in a book, and I wish I could time-travel back to the beginning, and read it all over again."

-Veronica



CUPE402.02
SURREY LIBRARY WORKERS

2025 Meeting Dates

9:30 pm

February 19: Zoom

March 19: Zoom

April 16: in-person

May 21: Zoom

June 18: in-person

September 17: in-person

October 15: Zoom

November 19: in-person

*no meeting

in July, August, or December



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Is Retirement an Option—guest contributor Robin Price, Circ Supervisor (Cloverdale)

If you are thinking of retiring in the next 5 years or sooner be sure to do your homework. There are so many things to take into consideration, and it is essential that you visit the [Municipal Pension Plan](#) website (mpp.pensionsbc.ca) and set up [My Account](#).

I recently attended a 2-day retirement session, and the instructor could not stress enough that “Every person is different, every retirement is different. Get informed before you decide so that there are not surprises in your financial future of you and your loved ones. You cannot change your mind once collecting.”

Quick facts:

BC's Municipal Pension Plan: the earliest age you can retire is **55**. Normal retirement age is **65**.

Required by the *Income Tax Act*, you must begin receiving your pension no later than the end of the year in which you turn **71**, even if you are still working.

In addition to your pension, other sources of retirement income can include your own personal

savings, registered retirement savings plans (RRSPs), tax-free savings accounts and other investments, Government benefits such as the Canada Pension Plan (CPP), old age security (OAS) and guaranteed income supplement.

Things to consider:

You can apply for CPP as early as age 60, although the amount you receive will be reduced if taken before age 65.

Review options with a financial advisor. Estimate your monthly income and try living on the amount for 6 months before deciding to ensure your needs and maintain your standard of living.

Your choice of pension option will determine the amount paid to you each month and it determines the amount paid to your spouse or beneficiaries after you die.

Review the retirement checklist on website.

Learning resources available:

Videos

Browse our video library to learn more about the latest available services, how-to tips, and the plan's news topics.

Online courses and webinars

Get answers to your pension questions. Our online courses and webinars focus on situations you will face during your career.

Articles

Take a deeper dive into popular pension plan topics.

A to Z

Pensions are complicated. This A to Z can help you understand the language.

Hoping you found this informative if retirement is on your horizon. Being prepared is essential in celebrating your next chapter. You can make it happen smoothly, stress free and then enjoy getting your pension cheque without coming to work!

In solidarity,

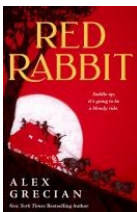
Robin Price

Best of 2024—compiled by guest contributor Alan Woo, CSL (Collections)

Check out these favourite reads that members picked up last year!

Red Rabbit
by Alex Grecian

“A great western/ fantasy crossover, filled with amusing characters, suspense, and even ghost romance.” - Keerth at FL

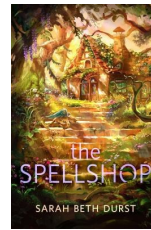
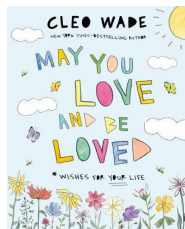


A Psalm for the Wild-Built
by Becky Chambers

“I've never read anything quite like it. It was like a warm hug and I can't wait for the next title in the series!” - Kay at CV

May You Love and Be Loved
by Cleo Wade

- Rei at NE



The Spellshop
by Sarah Beth Durst

“Filled with endearing characters, a little bit of action, and a smidge of magic, this book was a perfect escape from the real world for a little bit.” - Andrea at CT

Did You Know?

Good of the Union

Do you know a fellow member who is celebrating something special? In need of support or acknowledgement?

You can email Veronica (cupe40202@outlook.com) or let any member of your Union Executive team know, and we'll send the member a card.

Do you have anything you'd like to see in our Spring Newsletter? Please let Veronica or any member of our Executive know. Next issue expected May 2025.

Favourite Movies watched in 2024:

I Saw the TV Glow (2024)

“Watching *I Saw the TV Glow* felt like unearthing a deeply-buried childhood memory, familiar yet unnerving.”



“A beautiful heart-wrenching nightmare of a movie. It's definitely not for everyone, but fans of horror or David Lynch might really connect with this one much like I did.”

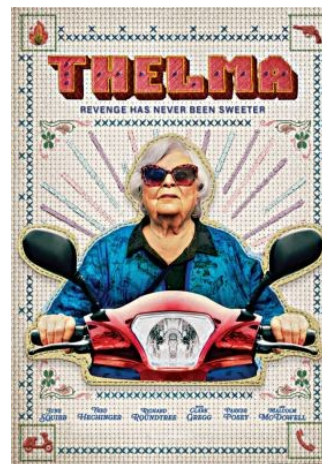
- Kaitlyn & Chris at GL



Totem (2024)

“I remember being moved by this.”

- Satinder in CS



Thelma (2024)

“It has exactly what this world needs right now: to laugh a lot, cry a little, and hug your grandma.”

- Mandi at GL

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Morrocان Red Lentil Soup

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|--------------------------------|---|
| 3 Tbsp. extra virgin olive oil | 1/2 tsp. sea salt |
| 1 large onion, chopped | Dash of pepper |
| 1 celery stalk, chopped | 8 cups vegetable broth |
| 1 carrot, chopped | 1-15oz can crushed tomatoes (or diced tomatoes) |
| 3 garlic cloves, chopped | 2 cups dry red lentils |
| 2 tsp. ground coriander | 1 lemon, juiced |
| 1 tsp. ground cumin | 4 Tbsp. fresh flat-leaf parsley, chopped |
| 1 tsp. ground turmeric | 1 Tbsp. fresh cilantro, chopped (optional) |
| 1/2 tsp. sweet paprika | |
| 1/4 tsp. ground cinnamon | |

1. Heat olive oil in a dutch oven or large pot over medium-high heat. Add the onions, carrots and celery and sauté until tender. Add the garlic, coriander, cumin, turmeric, paprika, cinnamon, salt and pepper and continue cooking for another 2-3 minutes, stirring the whole time.
2. Add the broth, tomatoes, and lentils stir well and heat to a boil.
3. Simmer uncovered on low heat for about 20 minutes {until the lentils are tender}. Remove the soup from the heat and ladle half of the soup into a large mixing bowl. Carefully blend half of the soup in a separate container with an immersion blender (or use a blender) in small batches if necessary. Return the blended half of the soup back to the pot and mix well. Stir in the lemon juice, red pepper flakes, parsley and cilantro, cover and cook for 10 minutes. Serve hot with warm pita bread or bread of your choice.

Winter word search

X S Z D I Q N U D E E D F H B M Q K N K
Z V F L S C H R H T E B O G L I G R W T
E G V Q E I A C A C N D O N I S Q E H W
B H N D D O N N E S H P T G Z T R P F Q
N K R I B A R M O R Z M P M Z L V M O D
P L Z W L E B G V A L Z R I A E P J M G
K K O A B E Y Z I Y H A I M R T I D B N
P N V I R R V I Q N H Y N F D O A H S I
S A H I O J D O W Y G H T I K E Q N B N
C H I M N E Y G H O C E S S D K L N T E
I T F Y G L I A O S N H R J T R C W E T
P O L A R O M O N U L D U B R H A F K S
E L S C Q A P O I L A H E E R U P C A I
I Y C H G W N V U G I I P R F E Y N L L
J L B I Q Q Y R G Z V W I C L H A E F G
Q B C O M U A X N G V B E Y G A D D W D
G A I R H N I O E T O B O G G A N O O X
L H K L E C A L P E R I F W Z R T D N Z
H G I E L S Y F T Q Z N O K S L D H S G
Z M W V Y X I V Q D Y U J C Z Z R J D K

Send your completed puzzle (with your full name) to Kelly Kennedy to have your name entered into a draw for a \$10 gift card!

Please send your puzzle in by February 28.



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|------------|----------|-------------|
| AVALANCHE | BLIZZARD | CARDINAL |
| CHIMNEY | DECEMBER | FIREPLACE |
| FOOTPRINTS | QUILT | GLISTENING |
| HIBERNATE | MAGICAL | MISTLETOE |
| PENGUIN | POLAR | GINGERBREAD |
| SHOVELING | SLEIGH | SNOWBOARD |
| SNOWFLAKE | TOBOGGAN | WONDERLAND |