

# UVRA 2016 AGM – Events Committee report

Annual Report, 2015-2016

From September 2015 to May 2016, the Events Committee organized eight events. Members of the Events Committee were Jane Milliken and Rashna Charania.

- **Optum Information Session** - Optum offers free counselling (health, finances, etc.) to UVRA members at no cost to UVRA members. Covered by the University, this is the same service provided to current UVic employees. Ten people attended the session on October 1.
- **Victoria: A City Goes to War** - On October 15, Jim Kempling, a retired Colonel from the Canadian Army and a current PhD student in History at UVic, shared his interesting doctoral research on our city's contributions to World War I, in *Victoria: A City Goes to War*. Nine UVRA members were enthralled with his stories, slides, and detailed documentation.
- **Celebrate Diwali** - On November 18, over 30 UVRA members celebrated the Hindu Festival of Lights, with a curry buffet lunch at the Spice Jammer Restaurant. Mr. Andi Jani provided an informative and entertaining cultural presentation, illustrated with beautifully colourful slides. The events committee has been encouraged to make this an annual treat.
- The **Annual Christmas Luncheon** was held at the University Club on December 9, with 32 people attending. After lunch, Dr. John Esling, emeritus professor from Linguistics, led us in an exploration of the nuances of human sounds and speech.
- **Chinese New Year** was celebrated with lunch at Don Mee on February 11, when 33 UVRA members and guests were entertained by Chris Adams' stories of Chinese history and culture in Victoria.
- **Research on the Raincoast: Applied Conservation Science in Bear-Salmon-People Systems of Coastal BC** was a coffee morning presentation planned for Monday, March 7. Dr. Chris Darimont, Hakao-Raincoast Conservation Scholar in the Applied Conservation Science Lab., UVic Department of Geography was to present his research. Unfortunately, the event was cancelled due to insufficient registration, likely due to a conflict with an Elder Academy session.
- **Annual Volunteer Recognition Lunch** – 32 people who have given their time to UVRA this past year enjoyed lunch at the University Club on April 13, and listened to a fascinating presentation by Dr. Michael Best about his Internet Shakespeare Editions website.
- **Get to Know Your H2O - Source to Tap** – In a flurry of internet activity, we were able to secure 6 spots on May 3<sup>rd</sup> and 12 spots on May 6 for this day-long tour of the CRD Watershed. It was a very informative and enjoyable trip and the first school-bus ride in many years for most of us!

With the committee chair stepping down from the board, please consider joining and possibly chairing this committee. You don't have to be a Board member. If you enjoy coming to these events, you might as well join in the fun of making them happen. At the very least, call the UVRA office and convey your ideas for interesting places we might visit and new things we can learn.

Respectfully submitted,



Jane Milliken