



**Annual General Meeting: Letter from the President**  
**7:00 pm, Tuesday September 25, 2018**  
**First Baptist Church**

After an extremely busy year, it is time for another exciting Annual General Meeting and the yearly Letter from the President. I'd like to start off by thanking the 2017-2018 PGPS Executive: Past President Debbie Malm, Vice President Selena Laing, Secretary Michelle Sims, Treasurer Tanya Stewart, and our Directors at Large, Greg Drozda, Kevin Gagel, Sandra Hay, Joann Kennedy, Jim Mullen, Jen Sawicky and Bob Steventon. It has been a busy and challenging year, and we couldn't have accomplished all that we did without these dedicated people.

I'd also like to thank everyone who helped organise the many classes and community events that the PGPS hosted over the last year. Thank you Joann Kennedy for spearheading the workshop on Abstraction in Photography with Chris Harris. Bob Steventon was instrumental in organising a book presentation of Tall Tales, Long Lenses in the Canfor Theatre, and a workshop Getting Wild About Photography, both with John E Marriott. The club also organised the BCNE Photo Contest, as well as a display of PGPS member photos at the BCNE, which we could not have done without Debbie Malm. And we can't forget the lovely photo display up in Cafe Voltaire, which we could not have done without Michelle Sims, who organised the display with Cafe Voltaire, and Sandra Hay and Selena Laing, who set up the physical display. Thank you all for your hard work, which made this an extremely memorable year for the club!

It has been an interesting year full of Monthly Photo Challenges, CAPA club photo competitions, and member presentations. Our range of monthly challenges included topics such as Panoramas, Tablet and Cell Phone Photography, Orange is the New Black, PGPS Open (best photo of the past year), Animated GIFs, Hinterland Who's Who videos, Letters, All That Glitters, PGPS Nature (best nature photo of the past year), and Water. Club field trips included trips to Allan's Scrap & Salvage, the Festival of Trees, the Dew Drop Alpaca Farm, and Cottonwood Island Park. Debbie hosted a party to celebrate Mike Kohut's retirement, and the club's Summer Picnic was at Cluculz Lake (thanks Barb!). We just completed our major weekend photo trip to the Robson Valley, which was a resounding success thanks to Sandra Hay's organisational skills, and Doug Lamb's ability to find hidden gems for us to photograph. Our club meetings have been filled with interesting presentations, and I'll try to thank everyone, but if I've left you off of this list, let me know and we'll fix it ASAP! Thank you to Lynn S., Michelle S., Doug L., Selena L., Carol W., Debbie M., Joann K., Kevin G., Sandra H., Greg D., Dana S., Jim M., Mike F., Tanya S., and Clive K. Also, thank you to the organisers of the three CAPA competitions the club participated in! Without you, we wouldn't have had strong showings in the Lions Gate Celebration of Nature Photography, the Pacific Zone Print Competition, and the CAPA Black and White Competition.

Finally I'd like to say a special thank you to Bob Steventon who helped the club navigate the transition to the new Societies Act in May, and who wrote the update to our Bylaws that we will be voting on at our Annual General Meeting on Sept 25. Thank you Bob for all of your hard work, and thank you for the list of activities that I used to write this letter!

Sadly, we lost beloved member Viktor Bopp this past year, so I'd like to say that he will be missed and fondly remembered.

Thank you all for your help, as it makes this club what it is, and it allows us to fully participate in our community. As the club is affiliated to the Canadian Association for Photographic Art (CAPA) and the Prince George and District Community Arts Council, dedicated volunteers such as yourselves allows us to give back to the community around us.

Sincerely, your 2017-2018 President,  
Dana Schwehr

PS: I nearly forgot to thank Michelle for the bell she brought me, as I wouldn't have been able to lead meetings without it!