


TALK
Third Age Learning
at Kwantlen



KPU
Kwantlen Polytechnic University

Third Age Learning at Kwantlen (TALK) in partnership with Kwantlen Polytechnic University has a long commitment to learners over the age of 50 and allows them to explore a diverse offering of programs and stay connected with other lifelong learners.

Celebrating 25 Years of Lifelong Learning with creative and stimulating educational activities for adults over 50





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Celebrating 25 years of stimulating lifelong learning for adults over 50!

FALL 2025

Courses start September 26

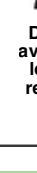





KPU
KWANTLEN
POLYTECHNIC
UNIVERSITY

Online, on-campus and off-site courses

TALK's Classes in December

DECEMBER 2025						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
 1 Navigating Social Media 11 am Langley	2 Fantastic Films from an Anxious Decade 10 am Richmond	3	4 Philosophers' Corner 10:30 am Richmond	5 Shakespearean Politics on the Small Screen 10 am Surrey	 6	
7 Did you know that TALK now has Gift Cards available? Give your friends the gift of lifelong learning. You can purchase these when you register for courses or at another time. Go to www.kpu.ca/talk/courses	8	9	10	11 Philosophers' Corner 11:30 am Surrey	12 Shakespearean Politics on the Small Screen 10 am Surrey	13
Field Trip	Online	Richmond	Surrey	Cloverdale	Langley	

TALK uses a secure Canadian company called Amilia to process online registrations. If you have any difficulty or questions, you can phone the TALK office at 604-599-3077 or email talk@kpu.ca for assistance. Your call will be returned within two business days.

Philosophers' Corner in December

TOPIC	LOCATION	DATE
Should there be limitations on the right to free speech?	Richmond	Dec 4
Monarchy: keep it or not?	Surrey	Dec 11



For more information, please visit: www.kpu.ca/talk/philosophers-corner

Classes in Review

- Field Trip: Cranberry Bog, Langley, BC, September 26, 2025 from 10 to 11:30 am

Led by Mandy DeWit

Facilitated, story and photos by Carol Mitchell



Twenty enthusiastic TALK members arrived on September 26th to the Cranberry Bog Farm. The farm and its businesses are owned and operated by Brian and Mandy DeWit and their five children.

After about 10 years working with his father developing the cranberry farm, Brian and his family decided to venture out on their own by purchasing about 45 acres from the senior DeWits.

In 2010, they laid out a field plan, leveled the ground, installed dikes, water reservoirs, irrigation and drainage to the fields. The 45 acres were divided into smaller parcels separated by dikes, the largest field being 10 acres.

They were left with 34 acres for planting and planted a variety of crops. This area was developed by the Rutgers University Research Farm team, named Crimson Queen. It produced a large red berry.

Prior to planting, the farm became a member of the farmer owned, Ocean Spray Co-operative and had its acreage approved for receipt of the crop.

This arrangement for a small farm such as theirs was not a very viable situation, so the family set out to explore other avenues which would enrich their farming experience and allow them to continue to raise their family in a rural farm setting.

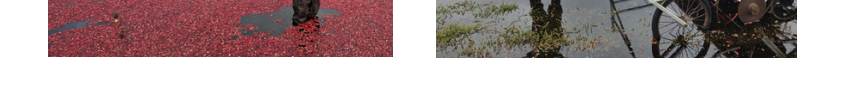
Mandy, a former school teacher, began offering guided farm tours during harvest and also worked on developing products to market in a small store that they set up on the farm to complement the tours.

To improve the margins received for their cranberries, they developed a cold press juice line, which produced jams and a variety of other products including chocolate-coated raisins and an eggshell, packaged fresh at the market. In addition, they market fresh cranberries to smaller grocery outlets and had a breakthrough three years ago when Sobey's contracted to purchase fresh fruit from them.

Now in 2025, they supply Sobey's with their needs for all of Western Canada. But, alas, farming is very unpredictable, and Mother Nature and the plants themselves sometimes choose a different path. This occurred this year, as the crop developed. What was thought to be a fungus had affected some of the fruit resulting in soft, unsaleable fruit.

While sorting the fruit could be accomplished, the DeWits decided that it was too great a problem for them to be able to supply sufficient quality fruit. The future of this more lucrative direct marketing breakthrough may be jeopardized. Meanwhile, the family remains optimistic that the problem may be resolved.

Thanks to Mandy, the TALK participants enjoyed a wonderful learning experience of not only the development and management of a cranberry bog, but also the challenges that farmers are faced with, as they labor to supply an abundance of excellent healthy food and food products.



Field Trip: The Storehouse Community Hub Society (Cloverdale Community Kitchen), Langley, BC, November 18, 2025 from 10 am to 12 pm

Led by Marty Jones, Executive Director

Facilitated and story by Jim Zalusky



An enthusiastic crew arrived early for the grand tour of The Storehouse Community Hub Society's warehouse, kitchen and office complex, formerly known as the Cloverdale Community Kitchen.

Our guides, Lindsey, Rolf and Courtney gave us a background of their humble start in 2013 from a request to help feed the homeless, when another facility closed.

Today The Storehouse Society assists over 1000 families with bi-weekly food hampers, provides daily meals (to 100+), and meal deliveries 5 days per week (about 200).

In addition, they also assemble over 1,000 Christmas hampers and distribute clothing to the needy. They also provide temporary shelter to those in need.

Of course, none of this could be done without the help of over 1,000 volunteers who donate a few hours or a few days per week (as much or as little as they can).

Volunteers sign up and choose a shift and can assist in one of the many tasks required to run their operation. From stocking shelves, to unloading food trucks to picking up donations or sorting clothing into bins.

Volunteers can also help-out in the kitchen with food preparation, baking, serving or cleaning up after a big meal.

All donations are private; they receive no government financial support.

On this day, our TALK participants were assigned a pallet load of pasta and tasked with portioning the large bags into smaller family size bags.

It took eight of us about an hour to complete. It was only afterwards that we learned that this was only one of the eight pallets of pasta that had been donated and needed to be repackaged. I guess we will leave that for the next group of volunteers. Could that be YOU?

The Storehouse Community Hub has a Seniors Christmas Lunch and social event on Tuesday, December 9th from 11 AM – 1 PM.

They can even cook your holiday meal via their Christmas Dinner Fundraiser, which includes turkey and all the fixings.

Order deadline: Monday, December 15th and pick up: Tuesday, December 23rd

You, too can help The Storehouse by supporting, subscribing to their newsletter, donating and/or volunteering.

Check out their website at www.storehousesociety.ca

Interested in becoming a TALK Volunteer?

Here are some of the volunteer opportunities TALK has to offer

- Become a Course Facilitator
- Join the Board and/or the Program Committee and/or the Marketing Committee
- Become a Presenter

For information, please visit: www.kpu.ca/talk/volunteer

TALK IS ALSO LOOKING FOR MARKETING COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS

Do you prefer spending your time on the computer or chatting with people? Do you like organizing or writing? Would you rather research or generate? Whatever your preference, we have a place for you.

We are a unique combination of people with similar interest in education for people 50+. Check us out; we would love to have your skills, talents and company!

We are seeking volunteers willing to help in the following areas:

- Content Writer; Graphics Creator/Designer
- Contacting Media, Leisure Guides, Newspapers and various Senior Publications to submit promotional material

For a detailed description on these roles, please email: talkkwantlen@gmail.com

Website: www.kpu.ca/talk

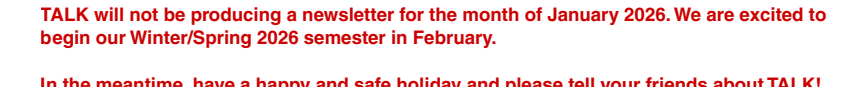
Lifespan Cognition Lab

KPU's Lifespan Cognition Lab is currently recruiting participants for an online research study.

For more information, please visit: www.lifespancognition.com



Programs and Events of Interest



Celebrations and holidays in December and January

- Saint Nicholas Day: December 6
- Human Rights Day: December 10
- Hanukkah: December 14 - 22
- Winter Solstice: December 14 - 21
- Christmas Eve: December 24
- Christmas Day: December 25
- Kwanzaa: December 26 - January 1
- New Year's Eve: December 31
- New Year's Day: January 1

TALK will not be producing a newsletter for the month of January 2026. We are excited to begin our Winter/Spring 2026 semester in February.

In the meantime, have a happy and safe holiday and please tell your friends about TALK!