

Cornwall & District



National Association
of Federal Retirees

Association nationale
des retraités fédéraux

Réunion extra-ordinaire des membres
Association nationale des retraités fédéraux
Cornwall & District
National Association of Federal Retirees
Special Members Meeting

Agenda – Ordre du jour

- **Determine Quorum**
- **Call meeting to order**
- **Moment of silence in memoriam for departed members**
- **Recognition of where we are**
- **Presentation of board and invitees**
- **Preamble and Discussion**
- **Election of a president or vote on motion to request to the National Board to dissolve the Branch**

Quorum

8.5 Quorum

At any Branch Annual, Special or General meeting, the quorum required to conduct business shall be 3 times the number of directors then in office (who are excluded from the count).

Branch Special Meetings

8.2 Branch Special Meetings

A Branch Special Meeting may be held at the call of the Branch board at such time and place as the Branch board may designate.

8.2.2 A Branch Special Meeting may deal only with the business listed in the notice of the meeting and any matter that arises directly from that business.

Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we are gathering on the traditional territory of the Mohawk People of Akwesasne.

Nous reconnaissons que nous sommes rassemblés ici sur le territoire traditionnel du Peuple Mohawk d'Akwesasne.

Your elected directors

President: (vacant)

Vice-president: Gérard Piette

Treasurer: Veronica Britton

Secretary: Michael Griffon

Non-Members present:

Hélène Nadeau,

Chair of the National Governance Committee

Josée Desrochers Leduc,

Société Alzheimer de Cornwall et District

Special Members Meeting

This Special Meeting was called to:

- **Elect a new president**
- or-**
- **Decide to dissolve (fold) the Branch**

By-laws requires a board

5.1.1 Composition

The Branch board shall be of four to seven (4-7) directors. Of these, four must serve as directors in the positions of:

President

Treasurer

Vice-President,

Secretary.

Director Automatic Vacancy...

5.9 Director Automatic Vacancy

The position of director shall be automatically vacated:

- (a) if the director resigns by delivering a written resignation to the Branch president, Vice-president, or Treasurer; or**
- (b) if the director becomes ineligible to hold office in accordance with the Act, the national By-laws, or these by-laws; or**

...Director Automatic Vacancy

5.9 Director Automatic Vacancy

The position of director shall be automatically vacated:

(c) if the director is removed by Ordinary Resolution of the Members in accordance with the Act; or

(d) The director has missed four consecutive regularly scheduled board meetings.

Role of a president

5.2 President

The President, as chair, shall call and chair Branch board meetings and Branch General Meetings.

5.2.1 The President shall serve as the chief spokesperson of the Branch including at national Meetings of Members.

5.2.2 The President shall have such other duties and powers as the Branch board may specify.

Role of vice-president

5.3 Vice President

The Vice-President shall assume the duties of President in the event of the President's absence, disability, or refusal to act. The Vice-President shall have such other duties and powers as the Branch board may specify.

Branch Proposals to the Association's Annual Meeting

8.8 Branch Proposals to the Association's Annual Meeting

In accordance with the national By-Laws, the Branch president may, on behalf of the Branch, submit proposals for consideration at a national Annual Meeting of Members or a Special Meeting of Members.

To be submitted on behalf of the Branch, a proposal must receive the support of a majority of the Branch board or a majority (50% + 1) of the votes cast at a Branch Annual or Special Meeting.

Duration of term of office

6.4 Election and Term of Office

Members of the Branch board shall be elected at the Branch Annual Meeting, for a term of three (3) years . Thus, in order to assure continuity within the Branch board, at least one third of the members should be elected each year. The term commences at the close of the Annual meeting at which they are elected.

Not for profit

2.4 Not for profit

The Branch shall carry out its operations without financial benefit to its members. Any profit or other financial gain accruing to the Branch shall be used to promote the objectives of the Association.

Reimbursement of expenses

9.8 Expenses

Subject to national policy, a member serving the Branch in any capacity shall be reimbursed expenses necessarily and reasonably incurred in the conduct of the affairs of the Branch or Association.

PART XI - Dissolution of the Branch

11.1 Approval of a proposal to request to the national Board to dissolve the Branch requires two-thirds of the votes cast at an Annual or Special Branch Meeting. The proposal to dissolve will be indicated on the meeting notice.

11.2 Upon approval of a motion to dissolve the Branch, members shall be re-allocated by the national Board to adjacent Branches and administration of the winding up of the Branch shall be turned over to the national Association and any assets remaining after settlement of the Branch's liabilities shall be transferred to the national Association.

Allocation of members

3.3 Allocation

New members who reside within the administrative area of the Branch shall be allocated to the Branch unless they specifically request allocation to another Branch.

3.3.1 Members may request re-allocation to another Branch at any time.

3.3.2 In the event of the dissolution of the Branch, members shall be re-allocated by the Board to adjacent Branches.

Advantages of having a local Branch

Members know their communities better because they live there.

Local representation at the national level by way of your elected president at the Annual Members Meeting in Ottawa every June

Your elected directors live in your local area

Less distance to travel to meetings, and to volunteer.

Belonging to another branch

You retain all of your benefits as a member

You can volunteer to serve on a board or committee just the same as before

General meetings can still be held in your geographical area

Attending the AGM or Special meeting is farther.

Why are we here today?

This week is Volunteer Week. Thanks to all those who have volunteered for this branch

"Branch board" means the group of volunteers elected by the members of the Branch to conduct and manage the business of the Branch.

Without other volunteers to help the branch board, these directors bear all the work.

Core Functions of the Branch

2.3.1 Core Functions

The core services of the Branch are

a) Advocacy, at the local level, in support of nationally approved strategic advocacy priorities to:

(i) Advocate measures to protect and promote the pensions, benefits and general welfare of members and potential members;

(ii) Oppose measures detrimental to the interests of members and potential members;

Core Functions of the Branch...

- b) Information sharing;**
- c) Membership recruitment and engagement;**
- d) Member support - Connecting individual members and their families with the information they need to access their pensions and benefits;**
- e) Volunteer support and development;**

...Core Functions of the Branch

f) Financial management - Responsible management of Branch finances and programs.

g) Governance - Sound governance in accordance with applicable laws, by-laws and policies.

Members have to engage

Without members actively engaging in the core functions of our branch, the branch is not viable.

Recruiting members to serve on the board has been always been very difficult to the point where a vacancy in one of the four mandatory director position creates a critical void, bringing the branch on the brink of dissolution.

Dangers of not engaging

Every time a director vacancy occurs, we HAVE to fill the position. This is not enough!

The branch is silent by its absence at forums to advocate for our rights.

Due to lack of activities, we do not spend our annual budgets, and a big portion of your dues paid to the branch for these activities, have to be returned to the national office.

Dangers of not engaging

The branch board does not get any feedback from members on local issues and has to operate in an information vacuum.

The president has to echo the opinion of the local board directors at the Annual Members Meeting in June – your absence is silent.

The branch board members have to do ALL of the work besides supervising and managing branch affairs.

Where do we go from here?

Do we elect a new president just to 'save the Branch from folding' one more time?

Do we individually volunteer in the core activities of a Branch and help with the work involved in belonging to a Branch?

Do we ask the National Board to dissolve our Branch and merge us with a nearby board?

This is YOUR Branch

THIS IS YOUR DECISION

**ANY QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION BEFORE
WE ASK IF THERE ARE ANY NOMINATIONS
TO FILL THE POSITION OF BRANCH
PRESIDENT?**