

**National Association of Federal Retirees
South-East New Brunswick
Section du Sud-Est du Nouveau Brunswick
Branch 64**

**MINUTES - GENERAL MEETING
November 24, 2017**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by 1st Vice President Lise Bourque at 10:00 a.m.

NEW MEMBERS

The following new Members were introduced and welcomed to the meeting: Louise Parker (Public Works) and Lillian Surette (CRA).

REPORT FROM LEONARD LEBLANC - Atlantic Director, National Board of Directors

1. Board decision to proceed with appeal of the Court decision on the PSHCP

History: PSHCP had been funded 75% Federal - 25% retirees until the 2014 Budget changed this to 50% - 50%. The Association fought to have this phased over four years; we are now at approximately 43% - 57% and in April 2018 it will be 50% -50%.

The Association fought hard to do the phase-in and protect the most vulnerable. On August 1 2017 the court rendered the decision, and the conclusions can be summarized as follows:

- The PSHCP is not a benefit earned by retirees during their employment
- The PSHCP has nothing to do with collective bargaining for unionized public servants
- The Government has no obligations to abide by past agreements with the Association
- The Association agreed with the 2014 changes and was not under duress when it did so
- Government breached no contractual agreement or Charter of Rights obligations

The Board of Directors decided to appeal the decision on the basis that the Court's decision was erroneous. Arguments will be heard by three Judges of the Federal Court of Appeal probably March or April 2018. - We need to remember that a Court decision is jurisprudence or case law and can be used in other decisions similar to our case.

2. Association focus on Advocacy and Recruitment

Advocacy is a Branch core function. NB Advocacy Officer, Pat Goobie and her team will be establishing a network with all NB Branches and she will be looking for one volunteer from each Branch to do advocacy work. Contact Pat if interested.

Recruitment - Nationally the retention rate is 95%. We'll be focusing on recruitment during the coming year and some initiatives include working with the military to encourage service members to join.

3. President's document Moving Forward

Our National President has launched a paper with a perspective to discuss where our Association is proposed to be in 10 to 20 years. We need to do this in order to understand where we are going and how we are going to get there.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the September 29th meeting were presented by Elizabeth Steeves. Moved by Glen McClusky; seconded by Norma Jeanne Lavoie that the Minutes be accepted as presented. All in favour. Motion carried.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Treasurer's Report

Lise Bourque presented the Treasurer's Report for the months September through October 2017. Total Receipts were \$125.64; Total Expenses \$1,269.02; leaving a Cash Balance at October 31 2017 of \$2,329.09.

Lise moved that the Treasurer's Report be accepted as presented; seconded by Dorothy Burns. Motion Carried.

Membership Report

Jack Dennahower advised that the current Branch membership is 2,924, this being an increase of 33 members since the last meeting. Our General Meeting Minutes are now being posted on the NAFR website - send an email to Jack if assistance required fnsasenb64@gmail.com

Luncheon and Banquet Reports

Luncheon

Lorraine requested anyone not using a luncheon ticket to please advise her at least a week prior to the luncheon date. There are luncheon meetings scheduled for February 23, 2018 and April 27, 2018.

Banquet

Norma Jeanne advised that the June 4 2018 NAFR Banquet shall once again be held at Four Points Sheraton. Meal prices have not increased this year and ticket costs continue at \$15 for members and \$45 for non-members. Meal selection remains similar however there will be a slight change in dessert options.

Caring Committee

Sheila Huntley provided the Caring Committee report. Condolences were sent to families for the following deaths: Everett Hunter Pellerin, Edna Burns, Arthur James Grant, Jeannine Cormier, Mary Carolyn Thompson.

A moment of silence was recognized in honour of departed members.

Nominating Committee - 2ND call for nominations

Paul Cassidy, Chairman of the Nominating Committee said the Executive Board positions open for nominations are President, 1st and 2nd Vice Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer as well as nine Director's positions. Members interested in being on the Board should contact the Nominations Committee - either Paul Cassidy or Jo-Ann Milburn. Elections will be at the January 26th General Meeting and installation of Board Members will be at the February 23rd meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

NEW BUSINESS

Lise advised that our January 26th General Meeting Guest Speaker will be Mathieu Landry, topic - Mental Health and Fitness and that our February 23rd General Meeting Guest Speaker will be Steve Campbell, PROBUS Shediac Shore Past President.

NAFR Survey re PSHCP

Lise Bourque commented if any of you members receive an NAFR Survey participation request would you please complete it.

NAFR sent a short survey to a sample of NAFR members, as they will soon be negotiating changes and improvements to the Public Service Health Care Plan. Input from this survey will help NAFR better understand and represent the needs and expectations at the PSHCP negotiating table.

GUEST SPEAKER

Jim Wade of King's County Museum, Petitcodiac was introduced by Lorraine Casey. Mr. Wade addressed the topic of getting started with genealogy. He recommended using a computer but added that some people compile data manually. Information can be gathered from memory, old papers such as bibles and libraries and especially the internet.

Mr. Wade answered members' questions on this informative and interesting topic.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

A Member from the floor advised that the topic Privatization of Healthcare in NB and Pharmacare will be discussed at a meeting to be held at 7:00 pm, Wednesday November 29th at St Paul's United Church, Riverview. We were encouraged to attend.

50/50 DRAW

Jim Dixon and Roger Paulin were the lucky recipients of today's draw, each received \$70.50.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Next NAFR General Meeting - **JANUARY 26, 2018 "ELECTION OF OFFICERS"**