



National Association of Federal Retirees Association nationale des retraités fédéraux

WINNIPEG & DISTRICT

Newsletter - Spring 2015

President's Message

Pat Jarrett

As I write this in mid March the snow is all but gone and the weather has been remarkably mild for this time of year. I expect that by the time you receive this, many of our "snowbird" friends will be returning or have returned home. Kudos to those who remained here over the winter and hopefully you were able to take in some of the many sports and/or cultural activities available for our enjoyment.

Our Branch Annual General Meeting will be taking place on April 23, 2015 at the St. James Legion where the Auditor's Report will be presented to the members for approval. In addition, elections will be held to fill those positions where terms expire. The following is a description of our current position. There are three Directors at Large for whom their term expires. These positions will not be filled. According to advice from our national office our branch by-laws should reflect fewer positions on the board. I want to extend my most sincere thanks and appreciation for the contributions of Vivian Stunden, Val Gottfried and Gordon Criggar.

Position	Name	Term
President	Pat Jarrett	Expires but willing to let name stand for further two year term, at the wish of members (2015-17)
1st Vice President	*Nicky Compton	Will resign as 1st VP but will let her name stand as a Director at Large for a term (2015-17)
1st Vice President	Vacant	2015-17 (Cynthia Foreman has indicated interest)
2nd Vice President	Wilfred Sommers	Term expires 2016
Secretary	Lynne Belding	Currently acting - if elected term will end 2017
Treasurer	Jim MacGill	Term expires 2015 - Pam Proctor will let her name stand for Treasurer with term 2015-2017
Health Benefit Officer	Penny Wright	Term expires 2015 - Barb Smith-Molloy will seek election to this position and is currently being mentored by Penny - term would be 2015-17
Director at Large (Membership)	Dorothy Watermulder	Term expires 2016
Director at Large (Membership)	Gerrit Westerhof	Term expires 2016
Director at Large	Lil Atamanchuk	Term expires 2015 (is letting her name stand for re-election for term 2015-17)
Director at Large	Lucille Mahon	Term expires 2016
Director at Large	Jim Jarrett	Term expires 2016
Director at Large	*Cynthia Foreman	(has expressed an interest in letting her name stand as 1st Vice President, will resign current position in order to run) Nicky Compton will seek election to fill vacancy. (2015-17)
Director at Large	Pam Proctor	Will resign in order to run for Treasurer, Jim MacGill will seek election to fill this position (this eases transition of new Treasurer) Term 2015-2017

The formal part of the meeting takes place after we enjoy the luncheon provided by Kendall's Restaurant & Catering. In addition, we are delighted that we have been able to get a guest speaker, Lorraine Mitchell of "Clutter Denied" a professional organizer. It's spring and time to go through closets and cupboards to scale down on any of our unessential or no longer needed articles. Lorraine will let us know how best to tackle this in the least stressful way.

*** Please note, there is a change in registration for lunch**

Please, RSVP by April 17 that you will be attending. **DO NOT CALL LIL**, e-mail the Branch at fsnawpg@mymts.net with ``FSNA LUNCH REGISTRATION`` in the subject line or call our Branch telephone number at 204-989-2061. Make sure you provide the names of those who will be attending.

NAME CHANGE OF ORGANIZATION In July Industry Canada approved our name change. As of that date the Association is now legally : National Association of Federal Retirees. With this change branches are required to update our bank accounts, our own communication tools and to update our branch by-laws that align with the national by-laws and regulations. Pam Proctor and I have been working on the development of our Branch by-laws and feel we are getting close to finalizing these so that they can be presented to our members for approval. The next step will be to develop Branch operational procedures. If you or someone you know is adept at writing procedures, please volunteer to help with this important task. Call me at (204)832-8642 or e-mail pljej@mymts.net to indicate your interest.

REGIONAL CONFERENCE: This year Stan Hrabarchuk, our Regional Services Officer is organizing this event. It will be in Thunder Bay, May 11-13 at which time the main focus of the meeting will be to review the Proposals that are being presented at the Annual Members Meeting. Many of your board members will be attending. We are expected to have a guest from our National Office in attendance.

ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING: This year the meeting will be held in Ottawa June 24-26th. At this meeting a number of Proposals are put forward by various branches or members of the national board. These are discussed and are either accepted or rejected by the assembly. In addition, there will be elections for a Vice President, District Director of the Prairies and Northwest Territories, District Director of Ontario and District Director of Ottawa and Nunavut. The Annual Financial Statements are received and the Auditor for 2015 is appointed. The President and Chief Executive Officer will also be presenting the Strategic Plan together with costing for the period 2016-2018. There has been time set aside for the Presidents, Provincial/Territorial Advocacy Officers, and Regional Services Officers to get together. As your President I will be attending. As you know, this Branch has traditionally included members of our board to attend as Observers as it is seen as a great learning opportunity. This year I will be accompanied by Cynthia Foreman and Dorothy Watermulder.

PRE RETIREMENT SEMINARS - Between November and March members of your board presented at two pre-retirement seminars. One, at the Canada Public Service School and the other at CFB Winnipeg. The combined number of participants at these events was 100+ . The evaluations indicate that it is worthwhile for us to continue to participate in these events. It helps with our recruitment efforts and raises the profile of the Association.

GOLF TOURNAMENT: With summer right around the corner it is time to remind members that once again our Branch is planning its 5th annual golf tournament. We have tentatively booked Scotswood Links, in Elm Creek for Tuesday, August 11, 2015. So, circle your calendar for this date. We will attempt to keep the fees and format as close as we can to last year's tournament, but this will depend on negotiations with the pro in late spring. Once we have confirmation, details will be posted on our website.

SAGE MAGAZINE: The Spring edition of the magazine has many informative and entertaining articles but the major focus is the upcoming federal election and what we can do as voters to influence its outcome. Once the federal election is called, we will all receive a toolkit called *Your Guide to the 2015 Federal Election*". I would encourage each of you to make your voice heard, this can be done in many ways and the toolkit will be a handy reference to help with that. As members of an association of 185,000 strong we can make a difference!

CF Appreciation Program is the official discount program for the Canadian Forces (CF) which is defined as "One Community - One Million strong". It is the principal place for members to find savings through a number of industry partners, including local, national and international partners, offering access to unique vacation getaways and savings on everyday goods and services. The CFOne Card provides confirmation that an individual is a member of the CF Community. It is the passport in providing access to a wide array of programs/services, including the CF Appreciation Program. For those who like to travel... by presenting your CFOne card or military ID, you do not have to pay to check your luggage, a savings that can add up.

Visit www.cfappreciation.ca for more information about eligibility. **CANEX announces new online shopping site - www.canex.ca** The Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) Morale and Welfare Services has launched CANEX'S e-commerce online shopping site. This is another valuable service in support of the CAF. Check out the site where you will find the many features the site provides.

I am very proud of the efforts of the members of your board and of our achievements as a team to date. You can be assured that we will continue to serve you in the best possible manner and, as always, we welcome your feedback.

Retirement is wonderful. It's doing nothing without worrying about getting caught at it - Gene Perret

Membership Report (Dorothy Watermulder - Gerrit Westerhof)

In our Branch, we have 1932 Double Memberships plus 2,245 Single Memberships for a total of 4,176 memberships (households) representing 6,109 members. Apparently payment notifications have been automatically sent out from National Headquarters and signed by President Gary Oberg by e-mail so it would appear that once CRM is fully operational, these notifications will be sent to all members with internet access. The remainder will be the responsibility of the membership committee. In addition to

the double barrel approach, reminders were also published in SAGE. With all these notifications being sent out, we should not have to chase after delinquent payments.

IN MEMORIAM - Our most sincere condolences to the family and friends who have lost their loved one.

Anderson, Grace	Anderson, Marjorie	Bains, Parkash	Bates, T	Bodykevich, Mary
Braden, Mary	Campbell, Jonina	Campbell, Roy	Jones, Carol	Cole, Edwin
Cook, Irene	Dacquisto, Lola	Davidson, R	Dempster, Muriel	Desrochers, Roger
Eckert, Edwin	Edge, Leslie	Edger, Abdul	Emery, Gertrude	Foisy, Joseph
Fox, Clifford	Garland, Kenneth	Graham, Audrey	Grant, Gary	Hanlon, T
Hawkins, Raymond	Hayward, Charlotte	Hein, Margaret	Hill, Harry	Hobday, C. Robert
Huebner, Amanda	Ireland, Lillian	Isleifson, M	Johnson, Ann	Joyce, Mary
Kubisewsky, E	Labossiere, Donat	Lafreniere, Denis	Laidlaw, Alan	Lister, Peter
Mileham, M	Martin, C	Martin, K	McKenzie, Kaye	Milne, Forbes
Moskal, Victor	Murphy, J	Myskiw, Evelyn	Olender, Robert	Osinski, Ken
Pambrun, Gerald	Parker, B	Parubochy, Demeter	Pearn, J	Coward, Peter
Phillips, Elsie	Radcliffe, C	Relke, Claudette	Richards, Frank	Rivard, Lucille
McCorry, R. Ronald	Schultz, Walter	Scott, Joan	Scrutton, Hilda	Soper, Joan
Tait, Lindsay	Tomiuk, H	Watkins, Charles	Wedge, Phyllis	Edwards, William
Walker, Daphne	Williams, William	Erickson, Waldermar	Obirek, June	Lyons, Dora
Johnston, Harris				

ADDRESS UNKNOWN

This list is published in an attempt to locate members for whom we do not have a valid mailing, e-mail or telephone number. If you know anyone listed below, please have them contact National Association of Federal Retirees, Winnipeg & District Branch, 526-3336 Portage Ave., Winnipeg, MB R3K 2H9, phone (204)989-2061.

Allard, J	August, W. Roger	Barclay, Barbara	Beaudoin, L	Bovard, Wendy
Cameron, K	Colpitts, Lillian	Cook, Betty	Curtis, C	Davis, Lillian
Eckersley, R	England, G.	Erenberg, Barry	Evenson, William	Flewin, Vivian
Fontaine, L	Gates, Howard	Gauthier, Raymond	Gillespie, G	Hayden, Michajlina
Hucaluk, William	Hudson, C	Johanson, Ingrid	Johanson, S	Johnson, David
Jubinville, Marie-Paule	Klubi, Pete	Kohler, Delores	Lacroix, J	Leblanc, Gladys
Menard, Leo	Letendre, A. Giles	Linnen, Diane	Lyons, G	Mahon, J
Martin, George	Martin, Stan	Maynard, Marcel	McAlpine, Dorothy	McDonald, Sheila
McLean, Elaine	Moran, Wayne	Moris, Clifford	Muyres, R	Nelson, Earl
Orpin, K	Petty, Fred	Phillips, Mary	Postras, Arthur	Ramdahin, Harold
Richard, Dennis	Hiebert, Shirley	Skimming, Craig	Skowronski, Joseph	Smith, Roberta
Spence, Andrew	Stevens, Muriel	Stevenson, Rita	Sullivan, Donna	Tapping, Helen
Tiessen, Harry	Tingley, Muriel	Todd, Margaret	O'Brien, Tom	Topolnitsky, Edna
Vance, S	Will, H	Fidler, Robert		

CARING COMMITTEE - (Lucille Mahon)

Lucille received notification that twenty-four members passed away but you will note from the above "In Memoriam" list that we have lost several more members. A number of sympathy cards were sent out but we know that several opportunities to send our condolences were missed because of the timing of when we received notification. It is important that condolences are timely. Members are asked that if you know of a member who is sick or has passed away, please let Lucille Mahon know by calling (204-339-6194) at your earliest opportunity.

TELEPHONE COMMITTEE - (Val Gottfried) The telephone committee has been very busy phoning and welcoming new members. They have added the question "How did you hear about us?" to the script. Val is still looking for more volunteers. Jim MacGill has offered to help.

HEALTH BENEFITS OFFICER - (Penny Wright)

Penny indicated that it has been fairly quiet but there were a few inquiries on claims forms and she and Barb Smith-Malloy met with a member to discuss MEDOC and PSHCP. Barb will be receiving web training for HBO's on Sun Life. The Pharmacare Program added 94 drugs to their program, 80 of which are generic. The Seniors Guide for 2014-2015 is available. The senior's information line is 204 945-6565 or 1-800-665-6565 or the website is www.gov.mb.ca/shas.

PWGSC recently sent letters to some federal employees, retirees, and veterans who do not have PSHCP premiums deducted from their pensions, advising them to sign up for the plan before April 1, 2015 when years of pensionable service changes from 2 to 6 years.

Penny can be contacted at (204)896-8043 or e-mail flo1@mts.net

FINANCE COMMITTEE - (Chair, Jim MacGill, Nicky Compton, Pam Proctor, Pat Jarrett)

The Finance Committee met on January 5th, 2015 to review and prepare the 2015 budget. The committee reviewed the 2014 Budget & Financial Statements and completed a Budget by Line Object for 2015 by discussing intentions and estimated costs for the year. As it turned out, the recommended budget for 2015 is higher than last year by \$18,185. This is due, in part to the fact that in 2014 we spent \$10,700 less than what was planned for. Our 2015 expenses are going to be increased due to several factors including expected major increases for postage, training, President's travel to attend new District conference, Regional Conference (due to RSO's reduction of financial support) and anticipated increased costs for national AMM. However, due to the prudent management of the Branch members' funds, we remain in positive financial territory. Our audited financial statements will be presented at our AGM.

2015-16 SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

Board of Directors Meetings: April 9, 2015, September 17, 2015, November 5, 2015, January 14, 2016 and March 31, 2016. General Members Meetings: These will be held at the St. James Legion, 1755 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg except for the *October meeting, location to be determined. Lunch at noon followed by business meeting and guest speaker. April 23, 2015 AGM, * October 1, 2015, November 19, 2015, and April 14, 2016 AGM and we are exploring the feasibility of doing an information meeting in Gimli, approximately October 7th.