

**National Association of Federal Retirees – AB17 – Edmonton Branch**  
**Minutes to the Annual Membership Meeting – May 3, 2017**  
**Royal Canadian Legion, Kingsway Branch - 14339 - 50<sup>th</sup> Street, Edmonton, Alberta**

Present: 84 members and Board Members: Brian Emdin, Dave Riffel, Ross Gillespie, Lillian June, Clay Kolstad, Delbert Dahl, Heather-Anne Elliott-Martin, Rick Brick, Judy Tracz, and Joan Brick. Also in attendance were the following guests: Ron Wills President Kingsway Branch Royal Canadian Legion, Anne Ashcroft Director Prairies/NWT, and Luella Webber who provided CART (Communications Access /Realtime Translation) for deaf/hard of hearing members.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Ross Gillespie at 6:45 p.m.

Opening Remarks: Ross Gillespie welcomed everyone and then asked for a moment of silence to honour deceased members. Ross asked for grace to be given by Rick Brick after which the meal was served.

Approval of Agenda: Ross Gillespie asked if there were any additions/amendments to the agenda. There were none noted after review. Motion for approval Jean-Claude Jette, seconded by Bob Gerow and unanimously approved.

Approval of Previous Minutes: Ross Gillespie then asked if there were any errors or amendments to the minutes from the December 7, 2016 General Membership Meeting. There were none noted after review so there was a request for approval of those minutes. Approval of the published minutes was moved by Joan Brick, seconded by Clay Kolstad and unanimously approved.

Guest Speakers: During coffee/dessert, the following presentations were provided.

Ron Wills President Kingsway Branch Royal Canadian Legion: Canada 150 Celebration will be held on July 1, 2017 with the Edmonton Multicultural Coalition and the National Association of Federal Retirees (NAFR) Edmonton Branch AB17. Events will include a free pancake breakfast, free birthday cake, free hotdog lunch, adult and children's activities, history boards of Canada, etc. The only event for which there will be a charge is the evening steak dinner followed by a free dance.

Anne Ashcroft Director Prairies/NWT: Anne Ashcroft brought greetings from the National Board of Directors. She also congratulated the branch on their activities regarding advocacy, communication to members, and volunteer recruitment. She reviewed a recent extensive survey on members' level of satisfaction with NAFR and reported the results were very positive at both the National and Branch levels.

President Ross Gillespie thanked both speakers on behalf of the Branch members for their remarks.

AB/NWT Branch Services Co-ordinator Report: Dave Riffel spoke on various activities taking place within the association and the vital role it plays in supporting NAFR members. He stressed the importance of volunteering.

Advocacy Program Officer for Alberta Report: Brian Emdin addressed the essential role of advocacy that NAFR performs both locally and at the Regional and National levels. He mentioned a number of recent successes we have seen due to advocacy efforts including work on a dental fee schedule in Alberta.

Branch President's Report: Ross Gillespie provided a report on various activities that have taken place this year. He then outlined a plan to look at developing a strategic approach to ensure the Branch is meeting the needs of the members. Ross Gillespie concluded his remarks by reminding everyone of the importance of volunteerism, and a requirement for more board members.

Treasurer's Report: Clay Kolstad presented the reviewed financial statements for 2016 showing a loss of \$256.12. Clay Kolstad made a motion to accept the financial statements, seconded by Rick Brick and unanimously approved by the members.

Clay Kolstad presented the following Defense of Benefits Reserve Resolution:

Be it resolved that:

the Edmonton Branch No. 17 rescind two motions approved at the Annual Membership Meeting held on May 6, 2015 concerning a Defense of Benefits Reserve Fund covering establishment, expenditures and replenishment, and replace them with the following motion:

that the Edmonton Branch No. 17 establish a Defense of Benefits Reserve Fund of \$42,313.00. The Edmonton Branch AB17 Board of Directors is authorized to make withdrawals from the fund when necessary up to the amount of \$10,000.00 in any fiscal year. Withdrawals over this amount require member approval at a Branch Annual, Special or General Meeting. When there have been withdrawals, the fund must be replenished at a rate of not less than \$4000.00 per year, provided there are funds available to support this rate. This rate may be adjusted by a motion of the Board of Directors following an examination of the Branch books. Such an adjustment will be reported to the members at the Branch Annual meeting.

The motion was moved by Clay Kolstad, seconded by Delbert Dahl and carried unanimously.

Elections for Branch Executive Positions – Nomination Committee Chair Brian Emdin presented nominees for the two executive positions open for election. He called for additional

nominees for each position in turn. None were received and the following were elected by acclamation.

1st Vice President - Rick Brick  
Secretary - Joan Brick

Dave Riffel AB/NWT BSC conducted the installation ceremony of the newly elected officers.

Door Prizes: The two \$50.00 door prizes were won by Bob Gerow and Lillian June. Tillie Chudyk and another member split the 50/50 draw.

Adjournment: President Ross Gillespie adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Next Meeting: The next general members meeting is scheduled for September 6, 2017 in the afternoon.

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Ross Gillespie  
President

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Joan Brick  
Secretary