

BRANCH REPORT

ON36 | Bluewater

President's message

Greetings from Chris Hawksworth, President of the Bluewater Branch (ON36). I trust you are enjoying the finer weather (less the rain) we are experiencing in late spring/early summer.

I have just returned from the Annual Members Meeting in Gatineau, QC. This was a good experience for me, I certainly learned a lot and met some good people from around the country. Our introductory guest speaker was David Coletto, he is CEO and founding partner of Abacus Data. This company conducts marketing research in industry and the political arena, and we learned about the most up to date polling data in the federal government. This proved very interesting, given there will be a federal election in October.

All Branch members are encouraged to speak to their local federal candidates about the priorities within NAFR; that is Pension Security, Pharmacare, National Seniors, Strategy and Veterans well-being. If any member wishes to obtain additional information, please go to the website www.federalretirees.ca and look in the Advocacy section. Also a synopsis of the June AMM should be available by the time this is published, but be advised that Jean Guy Souliere was acclaimed as National Board president and will serve a new three year term - good news for NAFR.

Also please refer to the Bluewater Branch website for upcoming lunch events in the fall.

www.federalretirees.ca/en/branches/ontario/bluewater

I am always interested to hear your suggestions for guest speakers/presenters for our lunch events, please send them along.

Enjoy the warm weather and I hope to see you in the fall.

Sincerely,
Chris Hawksworth
Branch President
chawksworthnafr@gmail.com



TREASURER'S REPORT

My quote for this issue:

“Happiness is not a goal; it is a by-product of a life well lived”.

On May 1, 2019 I received my “Certification of Completion for Financial Management and CRM Training” along with other Ontario Treasurers. The training for treasurers was held in conjunction with the Ontario District Meeting and Training conference in Toronto. Even though I set up our Branch’s finances in CRM when I became treasurer in 2016 this training was worthwhile and it was the first time it was offered. Recently National Office had updated the site and some well needed changes were made. Surprisingly not all the Branches across Canada were using CRM for their finances. Hopefully all Branches will be on board as it will make Consistency, Accountability and Transparency easier for our National Office to track. Our finances are in good shape. A new Budget was approved at our AGM in April. See you in September at our next meeting. Hopefully everyone will have had a great summer.



...Diane...

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

I am writing this for the fall 2019 Sage magazine. We have just had a very unusual spring this year so far, cold rainy weather and now warm and dry weather. Mother Nature sure has been acting funny lately. Must be the global warming effects.

I hope everyone will exercise their right and vote in our fall federal election.

Our Branch membership is 536 members. Down slightly from my last report. Once again I ask that if you know of any Federal retiree or potential retiree please let them know about our Association. Or have them contact any member of the Branch executive for further information. Phone numbers and e mail addresses for the executive can be found on the last page of this insert. I have information pamphlets available and can pass them on to anyone who is interested.

New for the 2020 membership year, renewal for non DDS members will be handled by the National Office. Renewal notices will be emailed or mailed to non DDS members and follow up notices will be sent if necessary by the National Office.

Please feel free to contact me with any membership concerns or information as necessary.

I hope you and your family had a safe and healthy summer and do look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our upcoming meetings in the fall of 2019.

Bill Mason
Membership Chairperson

IN MEMORIAM NOTICES

- Florence M Kettle
- Joyce Marie Scotchmer



PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

General meeting updates

- Thursday, September 19, 2019, 12 noon, at the Legion in Goderich.
- Thursday, November 21, 2019, 12 noon, in Sarnia (location to be announced later).

NOTE: These meetings have been moved from Wednesdays to Thursdays.

Volunteer Recruitment and Engagement

We are always looking for new Volunteers for the Bluewater Branch, do not hesitate to contact me if any questions.

Chris

Volunteer Recruitment and Engagement Director

WEB SITE AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY REPORT

Please take a look at our National and Branch Websites. They are full of great information.

- National Site: www.federalretirees.ca
- Branch Site: www.federalretirees.ca/en/Branches/Ontario/Bluewater

Information for the future Branch Events appear on the right side of our Branch's HOME page. Please check prior to meetings/luncheons for latest updates. Information on any additional scheduled events, not showing on the home page, can be retrieved by clicking on "Branch Events" in the Bluewater Branch (ON36) box at the middle bottom of the home page.

Please check our "Members' Profiles" page. Your input is essential! We need profiles so the title of this page can remain "Members' Profiles" (plural). Please pass any suggestions and information you may have, to our president, Chris Hawksworth.

Our Branch Web site has: Contact information for our Branch Executive and Board; Listings for upcoming Branch Events; The current Sage Branch Inserts, available weeks prior to publishing, as well as past Branch Inserts; Minutes from Branch and Executive meetings; and much more.

I am always looking for web content suggestions and pictures relevant to Branch activities and/or our members. Forward any suggestions/input to nafr.bluewater.kerr@cogeco.ca. We must confirm individuals in pictures are OK with having their pictures published on our web site, in the public domain.

Doug Kerr

IT and Web Site Coordinator



We are no longer listing all email addresses as spamming and phishing have become an annoying problem.

Anyone who wishes to email any Board member can send their email to one of the addresses below. Please include the name of the intended recipient in the Subject Section, and on the first line in the body of the email. It will be forwarded as appropriate:

- fsna.bluewater@gmail.com
- nafr.bluewater.kerr@cogeco.ca

Executive (Elected by Membership)

President - Chris Hawksworth, 519-330-1492

Past President - Gloria Cayea, 519-869-6326

Vice-President - Earnie MacDougall, 519-524-6981

Treasurer - Diane Kerr, 519-869-8824

Director of Membership - Bill Mason, 519-869-8872 | fsna.bluewater@gmail.com

Board Members (Appointed by Board)

Volunteer Recruitment and Engagement Director - Chris Hawksworth, 519-330-1492

Program Coordinator - Gloria Cayea, 519-869-6326

Outreach Coordinator - Pat Mason, 519-869-8872

IT and Web Site Coordinator - Doug Kerr, 519-869-8824 | nafr.bluewater.kerr@cogeco.ca

Health Benefits Officer – This position no longer exists

Secretary – Bob Jackson, 519-383-6568

Member at Large - Murray Lester, 519-481-0385

Member at Large - Georgina Maclsaac

Member at Large - Diana Wright, 519-786-4738

Where to find us

Federal Retirees, Bluewater Branch (ON36)

PO Box 263, Sarnia, ON N7T 7H9

Telephone: 519-330-1492; **E-mail:** fsna.bluewater@gmail.com;

Web: www.federalretirees.ca/en/branches/ontario/bluewater

