

Livewire



The CBC Pensioners
National Association
Ontario Region

L'Association nationale
des retraités de la SRC
Région de l'Ontario



September, 2019

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President's Report

Hello everyone!

I hope that you have had a marvelous summer in spite of the heat. The Chapters held many events throughout the summer and hopefully you got to participate in a few of them. You can read all about them in this edition of Livewire.



I wish that I could report to you that Bill C-27 is dead. Actually, it is dead now that we are in an election campaign. Unfortunately, Howard Simpson is warning us of a new approach to introduce Targeted Benefit Pension Plans. The Conservative government and now the Liberal government have failed to get Targeted Benefit Plans passed through Parliament so our Minister of Finance, Bill Morneau, is attempting a new approach. In the August edition of Contact Howard wrote an article outlining the new approach. I am positive that Howard would not object to my quoting from his writing.

“Pension plans in the Federal domain are monitored by OSFI – the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions. OSFI is an independent agency of the federal government that reports to Parliament through the Minister of Finance. It assures the application of the relevant pieces of legislation governing pension plans and, more importantly, rigorously interprets and applies the regulations that flow from the legislation. Apparently, the Ministry of Finance is pressuring OSFI to modify those regulations to allow an employer, if it wished, to “amend” its Defined Benefit Pension Plan so that it behaves more like a Target Benefit Pension Plan. ...this would remove the employer’s responsibility to ensure that the defined benefit is completely funded, allowing the employer to reduce the benefits temporarily or permanently to a level that the funding can afford. The “defined” or guaranteed benefit would, thus, become a “target” – sometimes we hit and sometimes we don’t – with the employees and pensioners in the plan assuming all the risk.”

continued on page 2

ONTARIO REGION'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING and ELECTION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DATE: OCTOBER 30, 2019

TIME: 11:00 AM

PLACE: HOT HOUSE RESTAURANT, 35 CHURCH STREET, TORONTO

See inside this issue for more information about the meeting and the election

Questions re the AGM: *Gerry Head gercrhead@gmail.com or 519 250-8516*

Questions re the election: *learls@rogers.com or 416 463-0314*



How do we stop this? As Howard suggests, send a letter to the Minister for Seniors, Filomena Tassi. She represents the riding of Hamilton West-Ancaster-Dundas. Make her aware of what is going on behind the scenes. Also, raise the issue at any candidates' meeting that you attend. When a candidate knocks on your door, let them know how you feel about the matter. As Howard says, "If they are Liberal – shame them; if from other parties, inform them and encourage them to support retirement security and condemn Morneau's apparent plans."

The other major issue approaching us is the Ontario Region PNA Board election. On October 30th you will be electing or re-electing your Board of Directors. All positions are up for election. A nomination form is included in this edition of Livewire. If you wish to nominate someone for President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer or Director (s) please follow the instructions provided. Our By-Laws allow for nominations from the floor of the meeting subject to the nominee being a member of the association and agreeing to let his/her name stand for election.

We are also seeking an editor for "Livewire". Please contact Leone if you have any questions regarding this position. The National Board of the CBC Pensioners Association will be meeting in Gatineau, Q.C. the week before our election. A full report on this meeting will be presented at our Annual General Meeting October 30 before the election. The National Board of the CBC Pensioners Association will be holding its next meeting in Toronto (May 2020). You will be invited to a meeting on the second day which will include a luncheon. Please mark your calendars in anticipation of this event.

As always, please feel free to contact me at 519-2150-8516 or by email at gercarhead@gmail.com .

Gerry Head,
President

FROM TORONTO

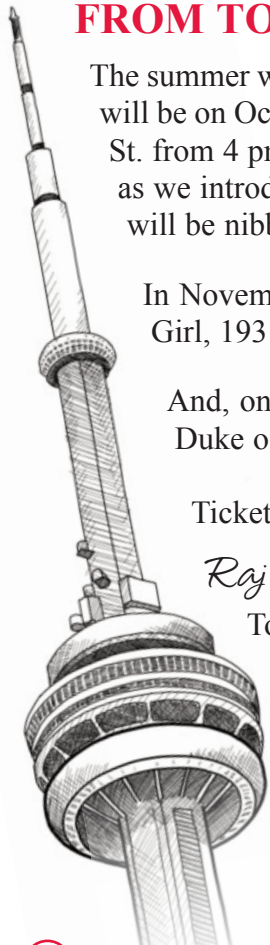
The summer was quiet in "the 416" but we are picking up speed as Fall has arrived. Our first Pub Afternoon will be on Oct. 17th: This is a Pub Afternoon with a difference. It will be at Grace O'Malleys at 14 Duncan St. from 4 pm onwards. See the poster on page 10. Come out and meet some of current CBC employees as we introduce them to the CBC Pensioners' Association and the advantages of being a member. There will be nibbles so please RSVP at cbctorontoronretirees@gmx.com.

In November, we will be having our End of Year Pub Afternoon at the usual place and time, Factory Girl, 193 Danforth Ave. Toronto from 1 PM onwards.

And, on December 7th, the Ontario Region/Toronto Christmas lunch will once again be held at the Duke of Devon, 66 Wellington Street, under the TD Centre.

Tickets will be available beginning at the AGM and up to the day of the lunch.

Raj Narain,
Toronto Director





ELECTION INFORMATION

Every three years elections are held to elect/re-elect your Board of Directors. You can make your voice heard by attending our AGM on October 30th, by standing for election, by nominating another member or if you cannot attend, by either voting electronically or by giving your proxy vote to another member who will be at the meeting.

Please see nomination and proxy form on page 5. Slate of nominees at time of publication:

President – Gerry Head

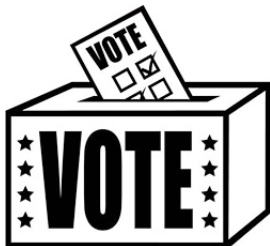
Vice-President – John Dixon, Raj Narain

Treasurer – Ben Daube

Secretary – Gino Piazza

Director – Gail Carducci

Director – Mary Depoe



Further nominations for all positions will be received until October 6, 2019 (see form on page 5). Electronic voting for those who cannot attend the AGM will commence on October 8 and will close on October 26. Any member who has email, will receive instructions on how to vote from ontario@cbcpensioners.ca on October 8th.

Proxies must be received by October 26th (see form on page 5). Nominations from the floor will be accepted at the AGM. If there are any, and to ensure your vote counts toward the full slate of nominees, you must either come to the AGM or give your proxy vote to another member who will attend.



JOHN DIXON for VICE-PRESIDENT

I am putting my name forward to serve the Ontario Region as Vice President for a further term. This includes Chapter Liaison.

I have been on the Board continuously since it started in 1999, serving in various positions as President; Past President; Vice-President; Treasurer (as required); Livewire Editor; and most recently as Vice-President/Chapter Liaison.

Your support would allow me to fulfill a few things such as getting Sudbury and Thunder Bay areas up and running as social groups funded in part by our Region. As my trips to these locations over the last several years to meet with members there have seen increased costs, it makes sense they become self-sufficient and the Ontario Region would save money.

As Vice-President, I have assisted our President when called upon; attended and participated on the National Board since our founding Convention in 2000; visited and spoken at many of our Chapter events; helped organize our Annual Ontario Region Christmas Lunch and acted as M.C.; phoned many members having health problems and any surviving spouses needing assistance; signed up new members (8 so far this year).

I was awarded a Life Membership in the PNA in 2012.

If you are unable to attend our AGM, please send in a Proxy Vote which is enclosed on page 5 of this Livewire. I would appreciate your support.

Thank you.

John Dixon,

Vice-President & Chapter Liaison -
CBC PNA Ontario Region



RAJ NARAIN for VICE PRESIDENT

The CBC Pensioner's Association (PNA) has a long history of advocating on behalf of its members as well as being the voice of CBC pensioners. As your Vice President, I will not only continue that tradition, but build on it through:

Increasing Membership

- Raise awareness of the PNA among CBC employees by offering Pre-Retirement Courses at every CBC location. As someone who gives the Pre-Retirement sessions in Toronto, I'm always answering questions about the PNA.
- Elevate the profile of the PNA by sending the local area newsletters to CBC employees, opening up local retiree events to CBC employees, and including the PNA enrolment form in the retirement package.

Improving Benefits for Retirees

Retirees have enjoyed better rates on their health insurance through the PNA but more incentives are needed for joining the PNA, e.g., discounts on theatre, books, films, museums, etc.

Supporting Older Retirees

Create a seamless system for survivors so they can access their health benefits and their survivor pension while the paperwork is being processed. Recently, a survivor had to wait 2 months to access her health benefits and survivor pension.

Why I Would Make a Good VP

For the last 5 years I've organized the CBC Toronto Retirees group and 3 years ago, I was elected Toronto Director with the help of the Toronto Committee. This has led to an increased number of events in the area including pub afternoons. For 2020, 6 events are planned. In addition, the Toronto area has its own newsletter, CBC Toronto Retirees. It includes the latest news from the PNA, as well as upcoming events in the Toronto area.

To subscribe, send a note to cbctorontoretirees@gmx.com. While I'm actively involved in promoting and recruiting for the PNA in Toronto, more needs to be done and I'm the person who can get it done. So, I would really appreciate your vote to ensure CBC pensioners in Southern Ontario get what they deserve.

Thank you.

Raj Narain



NOMINATION FORM FOR ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

As long as the member is willing to stand as a candidate, any member may nominate an individual to run in the election(s) for the following positions:

President, Vice-president, Secretary and Treasurer, Toronto Director(s)

I, _____ nominate _____

(Name of member – printed)

(Name of candidate – printed)

To run in the above election for the role of _____

Signature of member: _____

I, _____, agree to stand for the role of _____

(Signature of candidate)

Please complete this form and either send a scanned copy to Ontario@cbcpensioners.ca

or mail to: 358 Danforth Avenue, P.O. Box 6502

Toronto ON M4K 3Z2

% Leone Earls

for receipt by **October 6, 2019**

PROXY FORM FOR ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Members of the Association who are unable to attend the Annual General Meeting may appoint a fellow member as proxy to vote on his/her behalf.

I, _____, do hereby give permission for

(Print name)

(Name of Proxy)

to vote on my behalf in all matters arising at the Annual General Meeting to be held on October 30, 2019.

(Signature)

(Date)

Please complete this form and either give to the person you have selected as your proxy or mail to:

358 Danforth Avenue, P.O. Box 6502

Toronto, ON M4K 3Z2

% Leone Earls

For receipt by **October 26, 2019**



BILL C-27 CONTINUED – A MEMBER’S LETTER TO HIS MP

What follows is a slightly abbreviated form of a letter written by our Association member Bob Waller to his Liberal MP Swen Spengemann. He attached to his letter a detailed report written by Howard Simpson, our representative on the Canadian Coalition for Retirement Security, and a copy of the August edition of Contact in which the report appeared. When writing your MP, please feel free to use Bob’s talking points



Some time ago, I wrote you about my grave concerns with Bill C-27. As you know, it’s the piece of legislation introduced by Finance Minister Bill Morneau which would add Target Benefit Pension Plans to the list of available options for employers in the federal arena. In my view the bill does more than just make these plans available. It openly encourages employers to convert their existing Defined Benefit Plans (such as the one I belong to) to Target Benefit Plans and thereby significantly reduce their financial obligations.

This concept was originally introduced by the Conservatives under Stephen Harper but it generated such a significant backlash from DB plan members and retirees, as well as fair-minded voters, that they withdrew the proposed legislation in the run-up to the 2015 election. That was the first time it died. Sadly, the Liberals under Justin Trudeau resurrected the idea and Morneau personally introduced it in the form of Bill C-27. Thankfully, widespread criticism saw it stall in Parliament and languish on the order paper and in all likelihood it will die in a matter of weeks once the 2019 election campaign begins.

However, what Morneau was unable to achieve through legislation because it could not withstand open debate in the House of Commons and on the public stage he now appears to be trying to sneak in the back door by regulation controlled by the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions that will not be subject to the rigours of public scrutiny and Parliamentary debate.

This is shameful behaviour and completely at odds with democracy in Canada. I am so shocked by Morneau’s behaviour that I now have to seriously reconsider my support of the Liberals in the coming campaign. Supporting the Liberals with Morneau’s manoeuvre hanging over my head would be akin to sharpening the knife of someone who wants to diminish my quality of life by opening the way to cut my pension benefits. I am certain I am only one of millions across Canada, many of whom are represented by the Canadian Coalition for Retirement Security, who find themselves in the same predicament. We may believe that Liberals are the best available choice in the coming election but not with C-27 still in play. Prime Minister Trudeau must lay down the law to Morneau end his nonsense once and for all.





GOLDEN HORSESHOE CHAPTER



Golden day at the Royal Botanical Gardens

Gardening wizard Paul Zammit wowed members of the CBC Pensioners National Association for the second year in a row with a spirited and insightful presentation at the Royal Botanical Gardens in Burlington on Wednesday, May 29th.

Paul used wit and photographs to entertain and educate more than 60 people at the Spring Luncheon organized by the Golden Horseshoe Chapter of the PNA.

When it comes to gardening, the Director of Horticulture at the Toronto Botanical Garden takes the road less travelled. He challenges conventional views on what constitutes a healthy and responsible garden at a time when our climate is changing dramatically.

Everyone enjoyed a tasty lunch before the presentation. There were also several door prizes including gift cards to the RBG shop, bottles of maple syrup from Jay Mowat and Clare Booker and tickets to a garden tour donated by Paul.

The Golden Horseshoe Chapter's next big event is the annual Christmas luncheon and Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 4 at the Burlington Legion. Tickets go on sale at the end of September.

There'll also be an election for a new chapter executive: president, vice-president, secretary-treasurer and two directors-at-large. If you're interested, get in touch with David Knapp - 905-331-5435 or dknapp7@cogeco.ca

NORTH CENTRAL ON LAKE COUCHICHING

Hello Everyone: The North Central Chapter of the CBC pensioners Association had a reasonably successful picnic on August 22nd at the residence of Robert and Wendy Burt who live on the shore of Lake Couchiching. It is a beautiful spot to have such a gathering.

We had a fairly good turnout from our CBC members but in order to make it more successful we invited our local Probus Club to join us to assist in bringing the number of attendees to a profitable position.

Our Chapter sincerely hopes that those of you who might be reading this copy of the Livewire will consider joining in our event next summer, usually held sometime in August.

I wish to thank Bob & Wendy for their continued hospitality

David Hauraney, President



TRENT'S TRIP UP THE TRENT-SEVERN

On July 11, the Trent Chapter had its annual Liftlock Cruise. This year we were joined by the Durham Chapter as a cooperative venture. Some 24 CBC Pensioners enjoyed a barbeque chicken dinner while travelling a little way up the Trent-Severn Waterway. The weather cooperated with the rains coming after the cruise was over. Our next activity will be our Christmas luncheon, planned near the end of November.

Barrie Burhoe, President



DURHAM IN THE SUMMER

This summer, we joined the Trent Chapter of the PNA on their luncheon cruise down the Trent-Severn Waterway. About half the attendees came from Durham. It was good to see the support for our sister chapter and we look forward to sharing future events.

Our summer BBQ at the Ocala Winery was also well attended with 33 people including several from the Toronto PNA showing up for burgers, beverages, and an excellent talk from our guest speaker, Toronto City Councillor Jennifer Gray McKelvie, daughter of interim Chapter Secretary-Treasurer Glen Gray. Jennifer shared tips for how retirees can contribute to going green which can be found in our Fall newsletter due out September 9th.

Barb Saxberg, President





SOUTHWESTERN ONTARIO CHAPTER

Good day sunshine! We could not have asked for a better day for our annual BBQ. Just a few clouds here and there, perfect all around. A little over forty were in attendance at this year's festivity. We were once again very fortunate to have Gabe and Linda Menard open up their new home for us. Although we were not on the water, the surroundings were perfect, as Linda once again made magic in her yard. We all thank you both again and look forward to next year. We were also very fortunate to have the President of the Ontario Region, Gerald Head, attend and give a full breakdown as to what was happening at both the Regional and National levels. This made it very easy for my follow-up speech on our upcoming news and event. After giving a full financial breakdown I pointed out that this year was an election year both at the Regional and our Chapter level. The last item was a reminder of our upcoming Christmas Party that will be held on Saturday, December 7 at the Giovanni Caboto Club. The full breakdown will be covered in our Fall Newsletter. With announcements completed the BBQ was fired up, the conversations continued and the laughter could be heard a block away! On a last note we would like to extend a big thank you to our Executive Chef Patrick Ryan who stepped in at the last moment to assist!

To view the collection of photos from all of our events on Facebook, copy or paste this link:
https://www.facebook.com/SWOChapterCBCPensioners/?ref=aymt_homepage_panel

Looking forward to seeing many of you soon!

On behalf of the SWO Chapter, Gino, Sandy, Jackie, Gerry and Manny!





**The CBC Pensioners
National Association**

Preserving our Future, Sharing our Past



Join us Oct. 17, 2019

Past and Present CBC Employees are meeting up for a drink. It's an opportunity for you to catch up with old work colleagues and a chance for them to find out about the Pensioners Association.

Where: Grace O'Malley's
14 Duncan St. Toronto
From 4pm onwards



Please RSVP by sending a note to
cbctorontoretirees@gmx.com

Looking forward to seeing you all



OBITUARIES:

MCCAW, Aubrey Ross – died on December 02, 2018 in his 86th year. Ross was a Senior Television MCR Technician, TV Technical Services at CBC Toronto, retiring after 37 years.

CLARIDGE, Jeannie – died on January 12, 2019. Jeannie worked as an AD (Script Assistant) on several shows including Take 30 and Adrienne Clarkson, and in several departments including Sports and News.



ZAZA, Ann – died on January 13, 2019 at the age of 64. Ann was a writer, producer and editor, working for many years at the CBC.

SMITH, David – died on March 1, 2019 in his 57th year. David was an editor at The National in Toronto.

BERTON, Pamela – died on March 17, 2019 at the age of 68. She worked as a researcher at the CBC's Ombudsman (TV series).

HARGREAVES, Terry – died on April 4 2019 at the age of 82. Terry was a Radio/TV Reporter and CBC's first Parliamentary Bureau Chief (Ottawa).

DOOL, David – died on April 19, 2019. Dave worked in the CBC Windsor production department, specializing in sound and lighting.

HACKBORN, Bob – died on May 13, 2019 at the age of 90. Bob worked as a set and production designer for CBC Design for 38 years.

REID, Donald – died on May 15, 2019 at the age of 83. Don worked in props and later became a floor PA.

DALRYMPLE, Angus – died on May 20, 2019 at the age of 91. Angus was a writer, a night news editor and raconteur extraordinaire.

MACDONALD, Gerald (Jerry) – died on June 3, 2019 at the age of 82. Jerry worked as an editor on The National and was a long-time CWSG representative.

KING, Gerry – Gerry died on June 8, 2019 at the age of 88. Gerry was a production sound mixer.

SNIDER, Lily (Lillian) – died on June 24, 2019 at the age of 94. Lily joined the CBC in the 1950s, worked in television news and was a key figure in the creation of the Film Library.

WARD, Ing-Wong – died on July 6, 2019 at the age of 46. Ing worked as a producer on several TV programs, as well as working for 15 years as a radio producer on CBC Toronto's local programs.

RAULICK, Lynda – died on July 10, 2019. Lynda was director of CBC Toronto News Network Morning Show and had worked as an Assistant Director in various departments over her career.

ENGEL, Howard – died on July 16, 2019 at the age of 88. Howard was a Toronto radio producer/executive producer and a well-known detective novel writer.

MCLEAN, Margaret – died on July 16, 2019 at the age of 90. Margaret held positions in CBC Radio, most likely in Sales or Communications

WILLETT, Pat – died in August 2019 in her 90th year. Pat was a CBC Toronto Radio producer.

MACKEIGAN, Forrest – died on August 8, 2019. Forrest worked in various capacities at CBC Toronto including Sports, Newsworld and the Documentary Unit.

LEE, Johnny – died on August 13, 2019 at the age of 89. Johnny worked in the Toronto CBC TV studios as a cameraman in the late 50s.

PICOSKI, David – died on August 22, 2019 at the age of 65. David worked at The Journal and, in particular, on documentaries.

REMINDER: When you move, change your phone or email, PLEASE let the Ontario Region and the National Office in Ottawa know. TOLL FREE NUMBER 1-877-361-9242, email at cbcpensioners@on.aibn.com. We have had quite a bit of mail returned recently as there is no forwarding address. Also, we would appreciate it, if those with email could arrange to receive LIVEWIRE, CONTACT and all other communications by email to help us reduce our mailing costs.



YOUR ONTARIO REGION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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