

LiveWire



The CBC Pensioners
National Association
Ontario Region

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

December, 2018

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President's Report

The National Board met in Gatineau, Quebec on October 23, 24 & 25, 2018. The first order of business was to finalize the Three-Year Action Plan.

This is the plan:

- a) Strengthen relationship with CBC – meetings with upper management.
- b) Developed Mission/Vision/Values statements. (See next edition of CONTACT)
- c) Review Web Design and develop use of other social media.
- d) Pre-retirement Seminars organized by PNA in partnership with Unions and CBC
- e) Set a goal of increasing the membership to 55% within 3 years.
- f) Maintain contacts with Unions for access to lists of people planning retirement.
- g) Update PNA by-laws. (To be approved in May 2019)
- h) Succession Planning at National, Regional, Chapter and staff levels.
- i) Financial Records-regional financial statements to be submitted to National Treasurer.
- j) Review Memorandum of Agreement-Pension Plan Surplus Sharing.
- k) Bill C-27 – maintain active participation as a member of the Canadian Coalition.
- l) Surviving Spouses Pension Fairness Coalition - moving forward to amend the CBC plan.
- m) Supplementary Health Care Plan - maintain efforts to improve benefits, lower costs and open to new subscribers.

National Treasurer's Report - The update showed that the Association is being financially prudent.

Supplementary Health Care Plan - Reviewed the financial statement ending August 31st. The plan is currently in a surplus position and is expected to end the year in a surplus. The PNA asked the plan designers to come back with an increase in the Paramedical expense area. The PNA asked that the \$950.00 limited be increased. (Paramedical expenses will now be capped at \$1,150.00) *cont. page 2*

Christmas Social

CBC PENSIONERS & 20 YEAR ASSOCIATION

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Saturday, December 8th, 2018 from 11:30 am

THE DUKE OF DEVON PUB

Toronto Dominion Centre 66 Wellington St. West, Toronto, ON

CASH BAR • FREE PARKING • PRIZES

Members & Partners: \$15.00 each | Non-Members: \$25.00 each

For tickets: Send a cheque made out to CBC PNA Ontario Region

To: JOHN DIXON, Suite 608, 50 Baif Blvd., Richmond Hill, ON L4C 5L1

or LEONE EARLS, CBC PNA Ontario Region, #65021-358 Danforth Ave., Toronto ON M4K 3Z2



Employees' Assistance Program - An every employee/retiree mail out is in the works. It is intended to increase the awareness of the program. The PNA hopes to dovetail on this mail out with PNA enrollment information.

CCSB - Special Assistance Fund – Statistics show that between 2013 and now \$951,165.00 in expenses were claimed by retirees and employees. Hearing aids lead 215 payments. If you have something you would like assistance with, please contact Dianne or Suzie at the PNA Office for guidance.

Pension Plan Update - Alain Pineau is the PNA representative on the Pension Plan Board. Alain updated us on the status of the Pension Plan. It is possible that by the end of this year, the plan may be in a surplus position; If not this year probably next year. A surplus can only be determined as of December 31 each year. As interest rates grow, so does the pension plan which now exceeds \$7,000,000,000 (billion). The solvency ratio currently sits at 101.0%. It must exceed 105.0% to be in a surplus position. When it does reach a surplus position there are several steps that must be completed before it can be distributed.

A meeting of the PNA executive board and CBC management is being arranged to occur soon to review the Memorandum of Agreement-Pension Plan Sharing.

The PNA will be asking the CBC to give retiring employees a consent form allowing the PNA to have the retiree's name and address. We encourage you to talk to your retired CBC friends who are not members and encourage them to join.

The next edition of CONTACT will be sent to all retirees just before Christmas. This edition will include our Mission/Vision/Values statement, our 3 year plan, an article on Dianne St. Germain - one of our staff members in the Ottawa office, a report on the Special Assistance Fund and an update on Bill C-27.

Please support the PNA by contacting fellow retirees that are not members and inviting them to join you at a PNA function. Our membership makes the best recruiters.

There are many Christmas Holiday events planned in November and December. Please check this edition of Livewire and make arrangements to attend as many events as you can. They are a great opportunity to connect with fellow colleagues.

I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Gerry Head, President



AGM NOTES

AGM guest speaker, Heather Conway, Executive Vice-president, English Services, CBC

Just a few days before the announcement of her exit from the CBC, Heather Conway was our guest speaker. What follows are some of the highlights from her talk.



Programming - When Heather became Executive VP, she had a vision of what the corporation could and should be – more distinctly Canadian, more diverse and more digital. For her, great strides have been made, while staying true to the Corporation's mandate to inform, enlighten and entertain. Shows like Murdoch, Anne with an E, Kim's Convenience, Shitt's Creek and Baroness von Sketch have performed well both in Canada and internationally. TV is investing in News and Arts and Documentary programming and she believes that ensuring coverage of Canadian artists and the "creative process" through shows like In the Making is an important part of CBC's mandate. CBC is also deepening its commitment to high performance amateur sports.

CBC and the digital environment - Right now, the foundation is being built for a digital CBC, one that will replace the linear and in our lifetime. Some digital stats – it is the # 1 news app in the country, it touches 60% of Canadian millennials online every month, it is the most trusted news source in the country, the most trusted brand in the country, the #1 Canadian digital media company in the country and it reach more Canadians online than any other Canadian company.

The Challenges - The need to maintain the Corporation's more mature legacy services while investing in new digital strategies is incredibly costly and the CBC's budget is not growing. Canadians have learned to expect content everywhere, rely more on their phones than any other device and prefer the internet over cable.

The number of competitors providing content is staggering...Netflix is the #1 channel in Canada and is in close to 60% of Canadian homes. The content is excellent and seems "infinite". Money is no object. 10 episodes of The Crown costs 130 million, the equivalent of the total non-news budget of the CBC for a year.

The CBC workforce needs to be modern with diverse talents that are in constant learning mode.

Meeting the challenges - The Corporation's audience - its stakeholders - are Canadian and that understanding needs to guide everything it does.

It is investing in technology, especially ensuring the delivery of content on all platforms. CBC launched Gem, its own OTT platform last year, available for \$4.99/month without ads, free with. It is also aggregating other Canadian content from sources like TVO and the NFB to run on Gem.

It is initiating experiments in Artificial Intelligence for CBC News. As an example, the CBC news service is first up when a user asks Alexa for the news.

The CBC is investing in as much programming as it can and is partnering with global giants like Netflix for programs like Anne and Alias Grace, in order to gain larger budgets.

And finally, work is being done to transform CBC's workplace culture. Diverse hires have been increasing -- 37% in the last quarter – with the aim of better reflecting Canadian audiences. A diverse emerging leaders program has been created in order to qualify staff from within and unconscious bias training has been initiated with success. For all else to work, the CBC needs to foster an environment where people want to come and do their best work and without the carrot of great pay.



AROUND TORONTO

Christmas Social

Over 80 tickets have already been bought or spoken for so don't delay in arranging yours. Because of rotating mail strikes you can also call or email John and / or Leone directly. See back page for their contact info. Parking is free and can be accessed from Wellington Street between Bay and York. The meal will once again be turkey with all the trimmings and bottles of wine will be available for half price.

Our Holiday luncheon is a great way to start the festive season and if you are up to it once the lunch is over you won't even have to go outside to do some Christmas shopping at The Bay and The Eaton Centre!

THE TORONTO AREA CONTINUES TO GROW.

Over the past year, the Chowder Club continues to attract new members to its monthly lunches and The Pub Afternoons are always well attended. In fact, the next Pub Afternoon will be on Nov. 28th at Factory Girl from 1 pm onwards and there will be nibblies. If you plan on attending, send a note to cbctorontoretirees@gmx.com. We need to have some numbers on who is going to be there, in order to get a handle on the food. The details are also in the CBC Toronto Retirees newsletter.

If you have not been receiving the newsletter and would like to get it, again, send a note to cbctorontoretirees@gmx.com and we'll be happy to get your email added to the list. Have a safe and happy Holiday.

Raj Narain



REPORT ON TRIP TO SUDBURY AND ELLIOT LAKE

October 9th & 11th, 2018

This fall I had the pleasure of meeting with the Pensioners in Sudbury and Elliot Lake areas. I mentioned that the Ontario Region had passed a motion to visit Members in the Northern Regions – Sudbury and Elliot Lake one year and Thunder Bay the next. There are not enough members to form a Chapter which requires 25. This is presently under review. I went through – REASON FOR THE MEETING; CBC WEBSITE; RULE BOOK; PENSION; BILL C.27; SHCP; SAF; EAP; SECOND SPOUSE AFTER RETIREMENT; SURVIVOR SHEET and PLANNING BOOK; LIVEWIRE; CONTACT; ENROLMENT FORMS and SOCIAL FUNCTION SUBSIDY. I stressed the need to keep the SURVIVOR INFORMATION up to date. Also to make a list of all your PASSWORDS to keep in a secure place, not on the computer, and to be sure and let the Survivor know. I also had handouts of the various forms such as SAF and EAP.

In both places, everyone seemed happy with what we are doing and enjoy getting LIVEWIRE and CONTACT. There were no suggestions for improvement on anything. The meetings had been arranged in local restaurants and when we finished, lunch was provided. This allowed plenty of time for informal talk which was interesting and enjoyable. I am hoping that they will have a Christmas function in Sudbury.

I have to thank Ken Kauffeldt, Sudbury, and John Sewell, Elliot Lake, for contacting members and arranging the meeting places and lunches. This was a great help and much appreciated. Ken had to leave right after the lunch and is not in the photo.

John Dixon, V.P. and Chapter Liaison, CBC PNA Ontario Region



SOUTHWESTERN ONTARIO CHAPTER

OUR ANNUAL

Christmas Party

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1



Our Christmas party will be held once again at the Giovanni Caboto Club, 2175 Parent Avenue. Doors and bar open at 4:00pm and dinner will be served at 5:30pm. (SHARP!)

Santa has guaranteed us a good choice of door prizes and we were able to once again put together a surprise raffle! Members from other Chapters are always welcome!

Please Note: If you are attending, we need you to confirm by Friday, November 20, 2018. This will ensure that we will have enough seating, so please mark your calendar and reserve early!

To reserve: please contact any of the SWO Board Members.

The menu: Antipasto Italiano & Bruschetta, Penne with Meat or Blush Sauce, Roast Chicken, Roasted Potatoes, Mixed Vegetables, Tossed Salad with Radicchio in a Bread Bowl, Bread Rolls, Italian Pastry, Coffee and Tea

Drinks available at the Cash Bar

Also: Please let us know of any dietary restrictions/special! *

NOTE: For all our Associate Members (if you have not paid) you can pay your 2018 dues at the Christmas Party!

Along with Barbara Peacock and Kim Kristy that became members earlier this year, Please welcome our newest member Neil Cornwall!

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

On behalf of the SWO Board, we would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Gino, Sandy, Jackie, Gerry and Manny!

NORTH CENTRAL CHAPTER

On November 8th we will have had our Chapter's AGM meeting in Bracebridge to review our situation and determine the future of this chapter.

We do not seem to attract a large number of our membership to any meetings which is a shame, because all of the chapters depend on participation of our members to keep them going.

This chapter is one of the largest geographically and in the next edition of the Livewire I will report on decisions made.

This past August we once again hosted a BBQ at the residence of Bob Burt on Lake Couchiching. We hope to continue this North Central Chapter tradition in 2019 with a day announced at a later date.

David Hauraney, President



DURHAM CHAPTER

This is the 4th year of our 3 year term as the executive of the Durham Chapter. We now refer to ourselves as the "acting executive". All positions are now open.

Our AGM will be Wednesday November 21, 2018 at the Ocala Winery.

We are looking forward to another successful event. Lunch is at 12 noon. Prime Rib is proposed. This will be followed by the AGM. (also door Prizes)

Mail to: CBC Pensioners National Association, Durham Chapter
President, John Bailey,
707 Sandcastle Court, Pickering, ON L1W 3Z3 OR:

RESERVE TICKETS: cbcetireddr@gmail.com

DIRECTIONS TO OCALA WINERY

• Located at 971 High Point Road, just southwest of Port Perry, west off Hwy. 12, at Scugog Line 2, follow the Tourism Ontario signs.

• From Hwy. 401: take the Thickson Rd. exit, located between Oshawa and Whitby. Travel north to Hwy. 12 (Thickson Rd. ends at Hwy. 12).

• Continue north on Hwy. 12 turning west off at Scugog Line 2, follow the signs. Reference points: Ocala Winery is located one hour drive west of Peterborough, one hour south of Orillia and one hour north-east of downtown Toronto.

Any additional information may be obtained by contacting John Bailey at jw.bailey@sympatico.ca or by phone at 416-528-6992. Try www.ocalawinery.com or call Ocala toll free at 1-866-985-9924 for more information and directions.

John Bailey, Acting President Durham Chapter

TRENT CHAPTER

This year, the Trent Chapter conducted its General Annual Meeting by mail. Various documents were sent out including the Chapter's financial report. President Barrie Burhoe and Secretary Treasurer Clive Valentine have agreed to remain in their positions. V.P Mark Roper has resigned for personal reasons. Thus far, there has been no response from members regarding the contents of the mailing. The Chapter plans to hold a Christmas lunch on November 29th at the Baxter Creek Golf Course, just south of Peterborough. In order to encourage attendance members who have not responded will be called and car pooling is being arranged. Consideration is also being given to booking a summer cruise on the Trent-Severn lift lock.



GOLDEN HORSESHOE CHAPTER



LAST CALL



**Christmas Luncheon
& Annual General Meeting**
Royal Canadian Legion - 828 Legion Rd., Burlington
Wednesday, Dec. 5, 2017



Grand Door Prize
Peter Mansbridge
is donating a pair
of **PLATINUM**
tickets to a **Maple**
Leafs home game!



There are also tickets to the Stratford & Shaw festivals, free dining at Woodbine-Mohawk, gift cards to The Keg (Sue Heddle Homes), maple syrup from Willow Creek (Jay Mowat), beer from Oast House & much more

**11:00 Reception
(Cash Bar)**

**12:00 Traditional
Turkey Dinner, Wine,
Dessert, Coffee, Tea**



**Music
by
JustUs**

\$20 per person

CBC PNA members **must** buy tickets in advance. **Cutoff: Mon., Nov. 26**
Easy pay payghchapter@gmail.com **Mail** cheque made out to
John Bainbridge, 77 Arcade Cres., Hamilton, Ont. L9C 3J1
Please advise him of the full names of any guest(s) for name tags
Pick up your tickets on Dec. 5 on arrival in Victory Hall at the Legion

OBITUARIES:

NAKAMURA, Kenneth (Ken) – died on March 16, 2018 at the age of 92. Ken was a TV Mechanical Maintenance Technician in Toronto.

HOSTY, RAYMOND (Ray) – died on August 17, 2018. Ray was a Technical Producer and Supervisor of Outside Broadcast Films, CBC Toronto, at his retirement.

SCHERER, Karl – born in 1931, died on September 16, 2018. Karl started his career in sound in the early 60s as a sound technician working for the CBC.

HALE, ELIZABETH (BETH) – died on October 4, 2018. Beth was the Administrative Supervisor of Design Administration, CBC Toronto.

GILCHRIST, Robert (Bob) – died on October 7, 2018 at the age of 79. At his retirement, Bob was a CBC Toronto ENG Editor..

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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