



The CBC Pensioners
National Association

L'Association nationale
des retraités de la SRC

Contact

December 2020

President's Message



Hello everyone,

Following a very successful virtual Annual General Meeting on November 3rd, I thought it would be important to share some of our achievements in the past year for the benefit of members who were unable to attend the meeting.

Last February, we successfully launched our new website and completed the design of the PNA's official brochure used to inform and recruit new members. On the governance side of things, we filed our new by-laws with Corporations Canada, reviewed regional by-laws with the assistance of Paul Gaffney and we are in the process of upgrading our membership database system with the help of Pierre Lévesque. As well, we have started the planning process of next year's triennial Convention with the collaboration of more than twenty PNA members representing most regions.

The AGM was followed by a presentation given by Duncan Burrill, CEO and Managing Director of the CBC Pension Plan. Despite ongoing volatility in financial markets worldwide, Duncan was the bearer of good news. As at June 30, the plan's net assets totalled \$8.29 billion and funding ratios were at 157.1% (Going Concern) and 98.4% (Solvency). Both ratios have to exceed a ratio of 105% to trigger the sharing of pension surpluses.

In a recent update about the status of the review process of the Memorandum of Agreement relating to surplus sharing, Dan Oldfield, chair of the PNA review committee, had this to say: *"As you know this Agreement reached in 2009 was up for review this past year. The parties, the PNA, the Unions and the CBC, last met in December 2019 to conclude the review. Unfortunately, the CBC has taken the position that the deal has expired and no longer exists as of March 31, 2020. There is nothing in the terms of the Agreement that allows any party to cancel or amend the MOA without the agreement of all parties. It is our intention to vigorously protect our rights under the terms of the Agreement. We have advised the Corporation that we intend to arbitrate the issue as per the terms of the Agreement. We will keep you informed as events unfold."*

On a brighter note, I am happy to report that our latest campaign efforts in the October edition of Contact, sent to all 10,000 retirees in cooperation with the CBC, resulted in more than one hundred non-member retirees and surviving spouses, answering our call of solidarity and joining our ranks. A very warm welcome to all of you and many thanks for supporting the PNA.

As we approach the holiday season in these unusual times, it is more important than ever that we look out for one another. May each of you have a peaceful, safe holiday and remain in the thoughts and hearts of all who love you and are loved by you.

Denis

May 2021 Triennial Convention - Planning for the Future



Every three years, as per PNA by-laws, we hold a convention where a certain number of delegates from across the country meet with members of the National Board. The Convention is the principle planning body of the Association, ultimately responsible for developing its 3-year strategic plan. The theme for our 2021 Convention is: ***The PNA is considered indispensable to all CBC/Radio-Canada retirees and indispensable to CBC/Radio-Canada. CBC/Radio-Canada retirees are indispensable to the PNA.***

With COVID-19 impacting many face to face meetings and with the uncertainty that we will be able to hold an in-person gathering in May 2021, the PNA board has approved a new approach to developing our 3-year strategic plan. We have established teams made up of members from across the country to work on 4 key topics and have hired Marc Wilson former CBC employee to mentor the teams and facilitate the May convention. The four topics are:

- Diversity – Team led by Gail Carducci
- Communications – Team led by Dan Oldfield
- Recruitment – Team led by Suzanne Cunningham
- Advocacy – Team led by Jean-Claude Labrecque

These teams will meet virtually a number of times from now until May where they will then present their ideas and plans to convention delegates and Board members for incorporation into our new 3-year plan. Each team met the first week of November with Marc to get things started and we are all very encouraged by the commitment and ideas already being discussed among the members.

Although COVID-19 has been tough on all of us across the country, it has forced us to think of new ways of doing things. I feel we have a winning formula with teams working in advance of the Convention to come up with an excellent 3-year strategic plan.

Dave Jeffrey
Chair – 2021 Convention Planning Committee

OYEZ, OYEZ, OYEZ....

This is a reminder that the terms of the four national officers of the PNA -- the president, the Anglophone and Francophone vice-presidents and the treasurer – will expire at the end of the triennial convention scheduled for May 2021. It is the responsibility of the delegates to the Convention to elect national executive officers for the next three-year term.

Our By-laws provide for the formation of a Nominating Committee and set out its duties (see the By-Laws, Section 8, online at <https://www.cbcpensioners.ca/governance/> for all the details of national elections). The committee's job is to solicit candidatures for the national executive positions, to assure that candidates are qualified and willing to run and, generally, to make sure the election of officers is carried out in an orderly fashion.

The National Board of Directors has appointed a 2021 Nominating Committee composed of Suzanne Aubin, Denis Collette, Jim Nelson and Paul Gaffney (Chair). We are now seeking candidates for each of these positions. The Nominating Committee and prospective candidates will be informed by the CBCPNA's critical Vision Statement:

The CBC Pensioners National Association supports and enhances the general economic well-being of all CBC Pensioners. It maintains a mutually respectful and meaningful working relationship with the CBC and other organizations that share a common vision and goals. It also provides interaction and social connections for its members. The PNA strives to be a diverse and inclusive association.

Article 8.7 of our By-laws demands that candidates for these offices be members in good standing of the PNA; that they accept their nomination and are prepared to serve; that they not be in bankruptcy; and that they "must not have been declared incapable by a court in Canada or in another country" (Covid-19 cabin fever doesn't count). Officers of the PNA are protected by directors' liability insurance.

The rules further specify that the Nominating Committee must forward the list of candidates received as of 45 days before the Convention (i.e., 2 April, 2021) to the Boards of Directors of each Region.

If you are interested in serving your fellow pensioners in one of these capacities, or if you want to nominate someone else who will agree to stand, please contact any one of the members of the Nominating Committee (coordinates below) as soon as possible, and copy Dianne St-Germain at dst.germain@on.aibn.com before March 26, 2021.

Suzanne Aubin: suzanne.aubin@gmail.com
Denis Collette: dcollette402@gmail.com
Paul Gaffney: pgaffney@rogers.com
Jim Nelson: jimn@nplusdesigns.ca

The Radio Revolution - A Tribute to Margaret Lyons



Join us on **Thursday January 28, 2021 at 7:00 PM** for an online tribute to the legend that was Margaret Lyons – fierce advocate, champion of new ideas, producer, program director, the first Vice-President of CBC Radio and the woman who helped reshape and save public radio.

Margaret Lyons died in October 2019, having led an extraordinary life that wound through almost 100 years of our country's history.

Her work and extraordinary leadership through the 1960s, '70s, and '80s laid the foundations of CBC Radio's success today.

We will celebrate Margaret – the woman and what she gave us – with an hour long tribute hosted by Michael Enright and featuring insights from former CBC colleagues: - Peter Herrndorf, Pamela Wallin, Mark Starowicz and many others, plus the songs of Nancy White.

Register to attend at <http://tiny.cc/mlyonstribute> -- the Zoom details will be sent to you the week of the event.

