

National Capital Region & Nunavut **Communiqué** The CBC Pensioners' National Association



A Note from the President

Hello everyone.

Well this has been one surprising year. We started off strong then everything except us went south. We did get our annual Christmas Luncheon in before the pandemic but that was the last face to face meeting we were able to have. Our Board has been meeting via Zoom and we were able to have a very successful Zoom Chat with many members joining in. We hope to have more of these in the future. Below is a short article on the Memorandum of Agreement (MOU). Please take the time to read it. There is also an article on the Benefits plan for the new year. This is important for all of us so, please read it over. You will be receiving a letter via Canada Post soon with more details. We have also made connections with our neighbouring PNA Chapter of Durham. Some of our members joined in their AGM to listen to Dr. Brian Goldman speak about the pandemic. We intend to have more joint sessions/meetings with the Durham Chapter in the future.

As usual we are looking for new members to join our Board of Directors. We are looking for new ideas, fresh ideas, ideas that will spark the imaginations of us all. What we have achieved this year has been done through a very hard working Board of Directors. They have worked endlessly and tirelessly to ensure that all of what we do on your behalf is done with the utmost efficiency. However, during this pandemic, we have lost 4 of our Board Members due to various personal reasons. This puts a larger workload on the remaining 8 members. So we are asking for members to step forward and volunteer to join your Board of Directors to help us help you.

I hope that everyone is doing well and staying healthy. We have all been going through some very unusual and for many, very trying times. We have missed weddings, births, family gatherings and of course the passing of loved ones and dear friends. If any one of you is having problems please know that you can call on the EAP for assistance. If you don't have the phone number it is 1-866-838-2025. You can also get more information on the EAP and the services they provide by going to the PNA website at www.cbcpensioners.ca. We are all hoping that this pandemic will soon come to an end and that we can return to some sort of normalcy. I for one, am looking forward to getting together and seeing you all in person at a luncheon soon. Merry Christmas and a Happier New Year!

Thank You all

Kerry Adams, President NC&N Region

CBC PNA NEWS UPDATES

NEW RATES IN THE NEW YEAR FOR SHCP

The CBC has advised the PNA of new rates coming into effect next year for our supplementary health care plan (SHCP).

The increased costs mean an increase in premiums. However, thanks to discussions with the PNA executive, the Corporation has agreed to offset the cost of the increases by using close to \$500,000 in surplus funds. What that most likely means for members is little to no increase in the cost of benefits next year despite the rate change.

You should have received or will receive a notice from the CBC with details of the changes. **And if you have questions, please wait till you've received that notice before contacting the PAC or Canada Life.**

The PNA closely monitors the SCHP in consultation with the CBC and our advisors to ensure the greatest benefits while ensuring the plan remains affordable.

PENSION MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT HEADING TO ARBITRATION

By Dan Oldfield

You may recall that an agreement reached in 2009 regarding pension surplus was up for review last year. The PNA, the Unions, and the CBC last met in December 2019 to conclude the review.

Unfortunately, the CBC took the position that the deal had expired and no longer exists. We, the PNA and the Unions, have rejected that position based on the clear wording of the agreement. We have advised the Corporation that we intend to arbitrate the issue as per the terms of the agreement.

The CBC, for reasons not fully understood, has been reluctant to agree on a neutral third party.

The Memorandum of Agreement was reached after several years of litigation and grievances. In order to reach the agreement, the PNA withdrew a class action lawsuit and the Unions withdrew more than 20 grievances.

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.

The PNA intends to protect our rights under the terms of the agreement. We'll keep you posted.



This is a difficult time for so many...COVID-19 has affected our lives and will continue to do so for a while yet. You asked what people were up to these days... here are some thoughts from one of our members...

LIVING WITH COVID-19, THE VIRUS WITH COLLATERAL DAMAGE.

Some of us have lived through and survived world wars, cold wars, market crashes, tornadoes, hurricanes, Spanish and Asian flus, plane crashes and marital crashes and have come through the other side more or less intact. Now, a virus that came from nowhere has overnight changed the physical and mental landscape of our world.

We retirees are perhaps best equipped to deal with Covid: we already had reduced expectations when forced into social isolation, more time at our disposal and we have broader experience of the ups and downs life can throw our way. Most of us have probably viewed the pandemic with a certain detachment but, as soon as it moves too close for comfort, we are forced to change our assessment and perspective.

I am the parent not only of a Covid victim but of a so-called "long-hauler" who has been plagued by it for several months. My son didn't just brush it off with mild symptoms but lived through hospitalization, pneumonia and confinement to a ventilator and somehow came out the other end. To make matters worse, He had just survived treatment for a lymph cancer that is going to be with him for the rest of his days and had a fine collection of co-morbidities to exacerbate the effects of the virus. Now, many weeks into convalescence, he still wakes in a sweat from nightmares about the ventilator.

What is his prognosis? With this new and so insidious viral invader, he is told that the medical profession know painfully little about it or its physical and psychological effects. After the slightest effort he is exhausted and he suffers from breathing issues, tachycardia, fevers, migraines and 'brain fog.' These might be with him for months or years and, in the meantime, he cannot even have booster chemo treatments for his cancer because he keeps testing positive for Covid. We do as much as we can for him, delivering food and medication, giving him pep talks online, but cannot even give him a re-assuring hug.

His nightmare and our helpless anxiety for him are just one more sad story about the virus that has left so many dead, scarred, unemployed, financially ruined or just plain scared and depressed in its sinister wake.

Alan Yates



MYTHS AND FACTS

I don't want anything to do with the CBC. Why should I consider the PNA?

The PNA is about CBC Pensioners, and it speaks to the CBC on behalf of pensioners, it is not the CBC. It is a separate not-for-profit organization and entity separate and apart from the CBC. The PNA's purpose and reason for being is about you our pensioners.

When we completed our survey to find out more about what you, our members, might be interested in, we saw that our pension and health benefits are important, along with the latest on issues related to older adults, health information, and stories of what members are up to now. Here are a couple of these stories ...

Since March 13th - my husband and I stayed in the house - David, my son, did our groceries for the first 3 months - until one day - I just said to my husband - I am going to go myself to get our groceries - as I was suffering from Cabin Fever!!! I did and felt really good again for a couple of months. For the last months I am doing my groceries - in and out - of the store. I have been knitting dish cloths for a young girl who sells them CHEO as a friend of hers and sends the money to passed away there. I am now knitting poppies for a local church here in Carleton Place - to decorate the outside of the church for Remembrance Day. I have put my name in happen until Covid-19 - for a Rug Hooking group - but that won't poppies - I will return to the dish cloths. **Take care -Helen Freda**



MASKS SAVED ME IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE DURING THIS VERY SOLITARY TIME OF COVID 19

On March 14 when the lockdown was announced I was more than happy to just stay home and relax.

At first, like many of us, I thought it would be the perfect time to get to those 'projects' we all have but keep putting off until we have more time to dedicate to them.

Well it only took a few weeks until I realized that cleaning out my clothes closet, finally sorting the boxes of old photos or, like some of my other family members and friends, baking up a storm. Nope, not for me. None of these made me happy.

When it was announced that mandatory, my cousin started purchasing a few. They were for Canada Day.



wearing a mask was going to be making cotton masks and I great especially the ones she made

After a while I decided to watch an 'easy' mask. It only took a pattern for me and got busy some really great fabrics.

some tutorials online on how to make few minutes to find the perfect going to the fabric store and choosing

I have made approx.. 25 masks and I am loving every minute. My favourite part is finding a colour or theme fabric and match them to the person that I am making the mask for. I especially love making theme masks for kids, Holloween, Xmas, Spider Man etc. The more they like the mask the more they will wear them. The older kids have to wear their mask ALL DAY AT SCHOOL. They are real troopers in all this.

My advice, especially during the second wave of Covid 19, is to find something that really makes you happy, that makes you smile rather than doing things that you think that you should be doing.

Stay safe and wear your mask.

Patricia St-Germain



MEMORIES! PIX OF LAST YEAR'S CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON AT THE RIDEAU CARLETON RACEWAY CASINO



CONTACT US:

Would you like to comment on this or anything else in the Communiqué? We welcome letters to the editor.

Perhaps you have a story to tell – something from your days at CBC or something interesting you're doing now?

Maybe you know of a CBC retiree with a skill to share? Or a retiree we should profile?

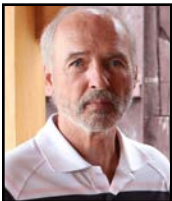
REMEMBERED FRIENDS



BARBER, Mark Joseph, sales department CBOT. Mark passed away on Sunday, September 13, 2020 at the Cape Breton Regional Hospital, Sydney, Nova Scotia

after a brief battle with cancer. Born October 21, 1961 in Ottawa, Ontario, Mark was the son of the late Robert and Marie (Brady) Barber. Mark will be remembered for his love of coffee. Lots of coffee. But perhaps even more for his infectious laugh, gourmet cooking skills, and deep love of his family, friends and predeceased "fur-babies," Montana, Dakota and Willow. Mark, amazing brother of Stephen, Comox, BC, Lynn (Jason), Hamilton, ON, Tanya (Phil), Ottawa, ON and Dianne (Andrew), Braeside, ON; loving uncle Mark of Cove, Eliza and Alex; cherished stepson of Susan and Chuck Gillan; special nephew of Ricky and Gloria Brady, Brian and Maura Brady of Groves Point, Cape Breton, the late Patricia (Brady) MacNeil; the late Shirley (Brady) Adams and the late Cathy Brady; beloved cousin of Bill and Kevin Adams as well as many other cousins from coast to coast. Life long best friend of Dan Champagne and family.

CHARTRAND, Roger, manager, CBOFT, died accidentally on September 17, 2020 at the age of 68. He was the husband of Marie-Paule Laviolette



and the son of the late Roland Chartrand and the late Gabrielle Miron. In addition to his wife, he leaves to mourn his two children: Murielle (ex-spouse Jasmin Belletête) and Marc Chartrand (Audrey Wells); his five grandchildren: Mathias, Noémie and Jade Belletête, Thomas and Justine Chartrand. He also leaves behind his brothers and sisters: Gilles Chartrand (Lyse Villeneuve), Nicole Chartrand (Terry Tomkins), Diane Chartrand (André Thibault) and Guy Chartrand (Carmen Bégin); his mother-in-law Rita Phillon-Laviolette; his brother-in-law Robert Laviolette; his sister-in-law Louise Laviolette (Donald Burbidge) and several nephews and nieces. He is also survived by many tennis, golf and hockey friends, neighbours, and old colleagues at Radio-Canada. Roger was a caring husband, father, and grandfather to his family members. He was a fun-loving and athletic man, a particularly good cook and carpenter.



GRAHAM, John Cameron (Cam) producer CBOT

died at Owen Sound, Ontario on September 8, 2020 at the age of 88. Cam Graham left a promising career as an announcer at CBO in Ottawa and

started making political documentaries for the new medium, television. He told his father, then the Minister at the old Dominion United Church in Ottawa, that journalism and broadcasting were to be his life's work. His father thought for a moment and then said that he was pleased that they would both be in the business of communicating ideas, although he thought that his were more substantial. By the time Cam retired from the CBC in 2000 he had produced many substantial award-winning television series and programs. Viewed today, they document the extraordinary changes in Canadian society during and after the 1960s and 1970s as much as their ostensible subject-matter: they include "The Style is the Man Himself" (1968) about the rise of Pierre Trudeau; "The Tenth Decade" (1971) about the emergence of modern Canada during the late 1950s and 1960s; "The Canadian Establishment" (1980), a television version of Peter C. Newman's book about big business in Canada; and "Flight: The Passionate Affair" about the history of aviation in Canada. He produced several other public affairs programs, many featuring host Patrick Watson including "Some Honourable Members" and "The Watson Report". For 25 years, Cam taught documentary filmmaking at the Carleton School of Journalism.

Cam met Jocelyn Sanderson and they were together for over 70 years. Jocelyn died in February 2019 and Cam died this month of a broken heart. Cam and Joc had three children: Sandy (Wendy-Anne Jones), Deb (Charly Reithmeier) and James; six grandchildren, Michael (Rebecca Morey), Laura (Peter Hrkal) and Kathryn Reithmeier, Mackenzie Graham (Samantha Bradley), Jaya Levy and the late William Levy. He was overjoyed to meet his great-granddaughter Emilia Jocelyn Reithmeier at Christmas 2019. On retirement, Cam and Joc moved to Leith, Ontario where they restored the old Cameron family home, a log house built in the 1850s. Cam and Joc went on to organize a committee to restore the old Leith United Church and then helped to run a summer classical music concert series to feature the gorgeous acoustics of the restored church.

Cam brought music, history and his boat altogether in his final film, "We Shall Fight on the Beaches", a documentary about the little ships crossing the channel back to Dunkirk on the 45th anniversary of the evacuation. In the film, Charles Ritchie, the Canadian diplomat, says of Dunkirk, "I felt as if I was living in history". That's what Cam was always striving for in his programs and in life: using music and images to help Canadians understand and appreciate their history together.

GAUTHIER, Roger passed away on December 6, 2020 following serious health problems in the past year. Roger worked as a cameraman for CBOT/CBOFT. He also worked in Head Office in Regional Broadcasting and he finished his career in Toronto where he worked in Network Radio first as Head of the Radio Technical Department and retired as the Director of English Radio Operations.



GREEN, Earl Kent, November 29, 1934 - October 12, 2020, news editor CBOT Adored by his wife Patricia, loved and admired by his daughter Iona (Bruce) and grandchildren Esmé, Charlotte and Miles, died of leukemia on Thanksgiving Day, at approximately 5:15 pm, in his 86th year. He also

leaves behind siblings Sharon, Harold (Susan), and Lorraine. Earl was an original: funny, curious and kind - always reading and learning. A natural storyteller with a rare ability to see the best qualities in everyone he met, he delighted in relating tales spun from the characters who coloured his life. His broad, well-informed world view was fed by a deep interest and political intelligence that helped provide insight into the most complex global events and their implications. He found his vocation in journalism quite early in life and began a career that spanned 50 years. He first worked for the Oshawa Times in the late '50s, before moving up to the Telegram in Toronto, and then way up, in 1969, to the Guardian, a London newspaper he described as the best in the world. It was for him a dream come true. Upon his return to Canada, he joined the Ottawa Citizen, rising to the position of city editor. He spent the last three decades of his career with CBC Ottawa News, to which he contributed in various capacities, including assignment editor and online news writer, until the age of 78. Loved and respected by family, friends and colleagues, Earl will be profoundly missed.



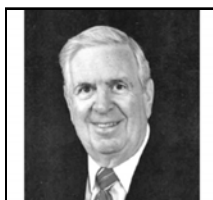
HAMON, Francine, secretary/administrative assistant to several Regional Directors on Lanark Ave. 1943 - 2020 Passed away on October 10, 2020 at the age of 77, surrounded by her family. Wife of the late Jean-Daniel Légaré and the daughter of the late Albert Hamon and the late Gertrude Laprade. She leaves behind her godchild :

Christine Baker, Martin Carrière, Zakary Carrière and Isabelle Légaré; many nephews and nieces : Francine, Anne-Marie, James, Christian, Nicolas, Olivier, Louise, Christine, Pierre, Brigitte and Frédéric; many cousins and friends, especially Madeleine, Pierrette, Lorraine and Ghyslaine. She was predeceased by her brothers and sisters : Jean-Baptiste, Jacqueline, René (Annette), Anne-Marie, Louise and François (Micheline)



MENDUK, William (Bill), sound technician, CBOT Peacefully on Friday, November 27, 2020 in his 91st year. Beloved husband of Elizabeth (nee Whitehead). Loving father of Stephen (Sara Jane) and Anthony (Allison). Cherished grandfather of Michael and

Melanie. Dear brother of Margaret. Predeceased siblings Michael, Stanley, Steve and Mary. He is survived by many nieces and nephews.



NORMANDIN, Pierre G., Executive Producer, CBC-TV Passed away peacefully at the age of 96 years. Predeceased by 1st wife Huguette (Reny). Beloved husband of Jacqueline (Lascalles) predeceased by 1st husband (Alex Leger). Son of the late Col. A.L. Normandin and Eugénie Hamel.

Loving father of Pierre (Nicole), Ann (Jean), Julie (Barry) and Michelle (Tom). Grandfather of Philippe (Valerie), Sophie (Julie), Isabel (Sebastien), Melanie (Erik), Anthony, Alyssa, Sydney and Savanna. Great-grandfather to Samuel, Rosalie, Rylén and Elliot. Stepfather to Joanne, Daniel (Guylaine) and Marc (Louise). Step-grandfather to Anthony, Wayne (Emilie), Stephanie (Anthony), Chad, Ashley. Step- great-grandfather to Viktor, Melodie, Autumn, Michael and Corey. Former Editor and Publisher of the Canadian Parliamentary Guide, member and director of the National Press Club of Canada and member and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Ottawa Sports Hall of Fame.



O'KELLY, Cory was born in Dublin on Nov. 27, 1946, and with his mother sailed for Canada at the age of seven. At 16, O'Kelly's mother marched him down to the offices of the Chronicle-Journal and demanded her son be given a job. "She dragged me into a newspaper office and said, 'This kid can write. Give him a chance.'"

O'Kelly later shifted to CBC Radio in Thunder Bay, and it was there that he was given perhaps his most famous assignment, when a 22-year-old Terry Fox, on Sept. 2, 1980, tearfully announced the Marathon of Hope had come to an end.

O'Kelly moved to CBC Television in Ottawa in 1984, and while he spent most of his time covering municipal affairs, he was especially proud of Metro, a local current affairs program he co-hosted for three years in the late 1980s. A favourite segment was called Open Your Purse, in which O'Kelly somehow convinced unsuspecting women to dump out their handbags and discuss the contents for the enjoyment of viewers at home. O'Kelly covered the city like no one else, once sifting through the recycling bins of local politicians to see what secrets they held. or covering the territorial blackbird that dive-bombed joggers who strayed too near its nest near the Rideau Canal.

He married Andrea in September 1988, and their children arrived in quick succession. The family built a happy life together in Kanata. O'Kelly enjoyed cooking, golfing and gardening, and on weekends he and Andrea would set out on what he called "bikes and beer" adventures around town. But his favourite place to be was always at home with his whole family. "His family was his everything," Andrea O'Kelly said. "His kids were his greatest joy and nothing made him happier than sitting on our deck in the sun all together. He called our family 'the nest,' formed from the circle that Cory and I made when we married — a safe and loving place for us all to be."

In 2016, two years after retiring from CBC, O'Kelly was diagnosed with myeloma, a malignant tumour of the bone marrow. He underwent treatment and carried on bravely with his family at his side. Never one to complain, even his doctors remarked on his upbeat attitude.



PULLEN, Heather February 19, 1955 - September 15, 2020 , CBC radio

Forever in our hearts, our beloved wife, mother, sister and friend passed away quietly at St. Peter's Hospital in Hamilton after a three-year battle with breast cancer.

Born in Regina, raised in Calgary, schooled in Ottawa, Heather had a rich

and varied career as a journalist (London Free Press, Ottawa Today), broadcaster (CBC Radio), communications specialist (Toronto General Hospital and Hamilton Health Sciences), academic (McMaster University) and teacher (McMaster). Heather particularly treasured the final chapters of her career when she went back to university at the age of 52 to join the very first cohort of McMaster University's Master of

Communications Management program. She cut such a wide swath as a student and, later, a teacher in the program that they established the Heather Pullen Pathfinder Fund, to sponsor student research and learning in the MCM program. Heather leaves behind Ken Fidlin, her husband of 41 years, sons Tyler (Megan) and Samuel Fidlin, a granddaughter McKenzie Fidlin, brothers Richard Pullen and Stuart Pullen and a host of in-laws, cousins, nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her parents, Jack and Kay Pullen and her beloved sister Carol.

SMITH, John Murray Roxburgh ...Peacefully in hospital surrounded by his loving family, Murray passed away on Friday, August 14, 2020 at the age of sixty-five as a result of complication from ALS. He was diagnosed with ALS in the spring of 2019 and courageously took on the challenge. Murray leaves his best friend and loving wife

Maureen, his beloved daughter Caitlin (Steve Hoare) and his sister Susan (Roy Smith). He will remain in the hearts of his in-laws forever, Nancy (Donald Peever), Brian (Carolyn Dignard) and Sharon (Dan Brady)nieces and nephews, Devon, Andrea, David and Steven and will be deeply missed by his Aunt Judy Smith and cousins Hayley, Drew and John, and many



friends. Murray will forever be remembered for his quiet humour, kindness and devotion. Murray followed in his father's footsteps and was a long-term employee of the CBC where he will be remembered by his colleagues including Rusty and Jerome.



YOUR National Capital and Nunavut Chapter EXECUTIVE Officers:

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- **Vice-President – Suzanne Cunningham**
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