



Fred Walker

1939-2022

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**Golden
Horseshoe
Chapter
UPDATE**

April 1, 2022

The way ahead

Dan Oldfield on the arbitration over sharing the CBC Pension Fund surplus **Page 4**



SPRING THAW



Paul Zammit takes centre stage in the **Rock Garden** at the RBG, 1185 York Boulevard, Hamilton. Join us on **Wednesday, June 1st at 11 am**. Mingle with old friends before a buffet lunch at 11:45 and a draw for door prizes. Then be informed and entertained by the passionate gardening guru before he takes your questions. All PNA members welcome. A ticket costs **\$20** and must be paid for **in advance** by CBC PNA members. Receive your ticket and name tag on arrival at the Rock Garden. **EASY PAY**— payghchapter@gmail.com; **MAIL**—John Bainbridge, 77 Arcade Cres., Hamilton, ON L9C 3J1 (Make cheques out to Golden Horseshoe Chapter CBC PNA.) **Cut-off date is May 20**. Free parking. Accessible.

Who is Paul Zammit?

Paul Zammit is no stranger to the CBC PNA Golden Horseshoe Chapter. He was the guest speaker at our Spring events in 2018 and 2019 and wowed the crowd with his spirited and insightful presentations.

Paul is a graduate of the University of Guelph. He began studying there with a view to become a chicken farmer, but plants and plant science got in the way and the rest is history.

Paul's devotion to horticulture launched him into a 20-year career at Plant World in Toronto. He also became adept at sharing his knowledge by reaching out to the public in presentations



and workshops.

In 2009, the Toronto Botanical Garden recognized his knowledge and communication skills and asked him to become its Director of Horticulture.

Paul continues to be a highly sought-after speaker and that has taken him to events around the world as well as many guest appearances on

CBC Radio's Here and Now in Toronto.

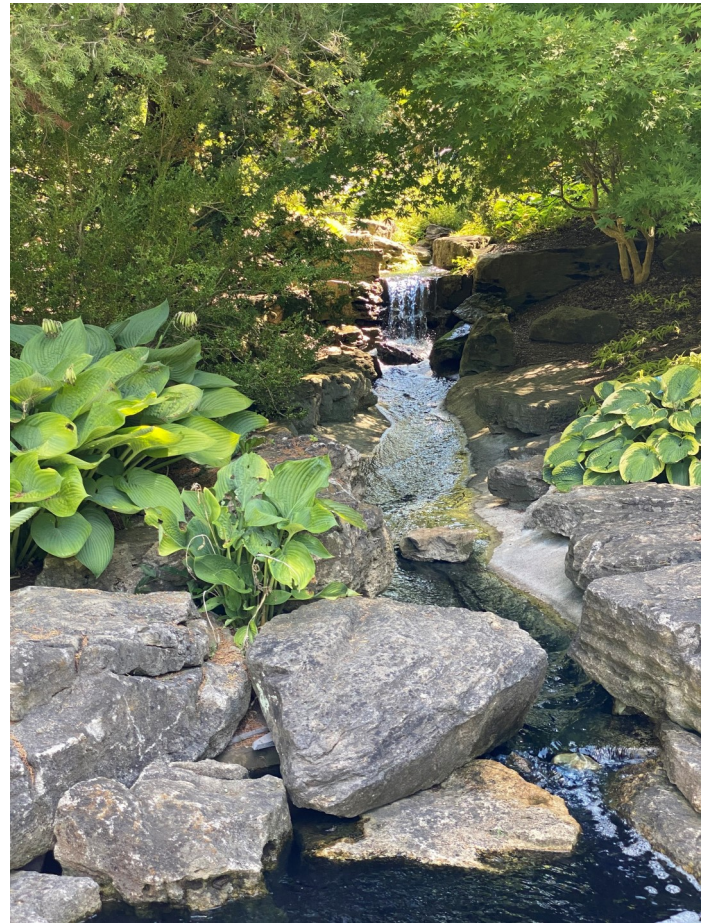
The latest step came in 2020 when Niagara College asked Paul to become a professor in its Environmental and Horticultural Division.

He has received several honours, among them the Garden Communicator Award from Landscape Ontario in 2019 and 2021.



Royal Botanical Gardens is within the Traditional Territories of the Haudenosaunee, Anishinaabe, and Huron-Wendat Nations, on land covered by a Treaty between the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and the Crown.

Les Jardins botaniques royaux se trouvent à l'intérieur des territoires traditionnels des nations Haudenosaunee, Anishinaabe et Huronne-Wendat, sur des terres couvertes par un traité entre la Première Nation des Mississaugas de Credit et la Couronne.



Beauty at every turn in the garden

History?

Opened to visitors in 1932, the historic David Braley & Nancy Gordon Rock Garden is considered the birthplace of Royal Botanical Gardens. Following a significant rejuvenation, the Rock Garden reopened in 2016 to embrace sustainable trends in garden design and management while respecting the integrity of its heritage setting. Bold swaths of brilliant perennials provide sweeps of inspiring colour and texture throughout all seasons.

Parking?

It's available in the large lot across the street, included in your admission. Accessible spaces are available directly outside the building.

Accessibility?

All garden paths indicated on the garden

map are either paved or made of finely packed gravel.

The Rock Garden includes many original limestone staircases, as well as newer staircases outfitted with handrails. Two paved and sloped pathways around the outer edge of the garden provide access to the lower bowl for those unable to take the stairs.

The lower bowl of the garden includes flat pathways with some arched bridges. Some original exploratory pathways along the inside of the bowl are not accessible for those unable to climb stairs, though much of the garden can be seen from accessible paths and lookout points.

Are there washroom facilities available? Washrooms are available in the Rock Garden Visitor Centre, or in the bottom level of the Garden House (in the lower bowl of the garden)

Arbitration on CBC pension surplus-sharing dispute to resume in September-October

Dan Oldfield explains what's going on

Pension surplus - fighting for our fair share

The arbitration has begun to determine whether an agreement on pension sharing between the CBC, the PNA and its Unions is still valid.

The PNA along with its union partners are challenging a position taken by the CBC that an agreement (the MOA) signed more than ten years ago has expired.

It is anticipated that the CBC Pension Plan will report a significant surplus as of the end of 2021. The agreement is significant for both retirees and employees because it sets out the terms for the sharing of surpluses.

The CBC plan had a very good year and now has assets of more than \$8-billion. It provides pensions to approximately ten-thousand retirees and surviving spouses. The MOA provides for an equal 50/50 sharing of any declared surplus beyond 105% of plan liabilities.

To put that in context a five-percent surplus for the purpose of sharing amounts to



Dan Oldfield - PNA Rep

around \$400-million dollars. Under the terms of the MOA, we'd be talking potentially about \$200-million dollars that would constitute the pensioner/employee share. In 2000, the last time a surplus was shared, we saw \$134-million distributed to pensioners and employees by way of 17 percent return of contributions.

More details of the status of the plan are expected to be announced in the next few weeks.

Memorandum of Agreement arbitration process explained



Justice Dennis O'Connor

The arbitration process is similar to a court proceeding in that it involves the appointment of an individual – the arbitrator - often referred to as the neutral. Like a judge, the arbitrator is the person who makes a final decision on the matter in dispute. In other words, who wins and who loses.

Arbitrators are engaged and paid for by the parties in dispute.

As with a court proceeding, the parties are represented by

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legal counsel and present evidence to support their case. That evidence can take the form of sworn testimony from witnesses, documents, notes, and supporting law (decisions from similar cases).

Why is the process taking so long?

The first hearing dates were held on February 24 and 25. One witness was called and has completed his evidence and cross examination. It's anticipated the proceedings may take another 4 or 5 days. Unfortunately, the CBC has rejected hearing dates that would have seen the hearings resume in April and/or May. But as of now, dates for resumption are being held in September and October.

One of the major differences between a court proceeding and an arbitration concerns the appointment of the neutral. In court, judges are appointed to cases by the Chief Justice. In arbitration, the selection of the arbitrator is by agreement of the parties. In the courts system, the judge normally dictates hearing dates and times. In arbitrations. The arbitrator has the power to oblige parties to attend on certain dates should he feel any of the par-



ties are being unreasonable. However, the normal practice is that dates, times and locations are generally established by mutual agreement

of all the parties and the arbitrator.

Complicating matters in the current situation is the number of parties and individuals involved. There are more than 20 individuals attending. Scheduling the arbitration involves picking dates and times that work for the arbitrator, legal counsel, witnesses, advisors and others who may be required. The arbitrator, in particular, is in high demand and his availability is limited.

What will the arbitration decide?

The arbitrator is being asked to determine whether the deal signed in 2009 is still valid and whether pension surplus must be shared consistent with the agreement. It will not determine whether a surplus exists, or amounts that may be paid out. Those details are covered within the MOA itself.

We understand the concern of PNA members and fully appreciate the importance of this issue to all CBC retirees. We have made it clear the PNA is prepared to accept any earlier dates that may become available.

We will keep you advised of any developments as they occur.

FRED WALKER

April 30, 1939 - March 18, 2022

Fred Walker, one of the most recognized voices in Canadian radio sports died suddenly at his home on Friday, March 18, 2022 while enjoying a relaxing evening in front of the fire with his beloved wife Wendy. He was 82.

Fred was born and grew up in Halifax, Nova Scotia where his love for radio and sports took root. In 1961, Fred hosted the first overnight radio show for CHNS Halifax seven days a week until he left for CBC Halifax a year later. The move to CBC Halifax was the start of a long and rewarding career with CBC Radio that brought him to Montreal and then to Toronto.

Fred had internationally recognized credentials in a wide-ranging career spanning more than 30 years as: national newscaster; TV and radio host and anchor; reporter; commentator; writer; editor and producer.

He was best-known for his career in sports broadcasting, having covered every aspect of sport, amateur and professional, including winter and summer Olympic Games since 1972; Pan American Games; Commonwealth Games; the World Series; the World Junior Hockey Championships; Wimbledon and US Open Golf.

Fred worked with Danny Gallivan in broadcasting the Montreal Canadiens Sunday night NHL hockey games on CBC Radio and covered the Stanley Cup finals for 28 years.

Fred was a pro's pro, a generous colleague and mentor but his love of sports extended far beyond his position behind the microphone. From his days of playing varsity basketball for St. Mary's University in Halifax to the many years of softball with the gang at



CBC, golf courses far and wide and countless hours on the tennis courts around the globe. Fred's love of sports was a constant throughout his life, whether it be as a competitor, a fan, or the consummate professional behind the microphone.

After retiring from the CBC in 1995, Fred established his own communications company, and was involved in media and presentation skills training with some of Canada's largest corporations. One of his great pleasures came from teaching media applications, publicity, and promotions at George Brown College.

Fred was a loving, supportive, and proud father, husband, brother, brother-in-law, uncle, friend, colleague, and neighbour. He will be deeply missed by his surviving family: wife Wendy (nee Payne), his daughter Christine (Rainer) Zimmermann, brother Wayne, sister Pat (Jim) Pandolfo, brother and sister in-law Sue and Dan Bennett, niece and nephews: Greg (Laura) Walker, Susan (John) Hamilton,

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Kelley Lloyd-Jones. He will also be greatly missed by his nieces and nephews of the Creaser's family in Alberta, the Bennetts in British Columbia and the Walker's in Nova Scotia.

The family is holding [a Celebration of Life on Thursday, May 19th from 3-5 pm in the Glenn Gould Lobby of the CBC Building at 250 Front St. W. in Toronto](#). Their greatest wish is to welcome anyone who wishes to come and share a story about Fred, their beloved storyteller.

Please R.S.V.P. by E-mail to

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In lieu of flowers, the family would like donations in Fred's memory to be made to the Trillium Health Partners at http://thcf.convio.net/goto/Fred_Walker or The Scott Mission at <https://www.scottmission.com/> or a charity of your choosing.

Private family arrangements have been made through Turner & Porter 'Neweduk' Chapel, 1981 Dundas Street West, Mississauga), 905-828-8000. *Online condolences may be made through www.turnerporter.ca*



Fred served as a director of the CBC PNA Golden Horseshoe Chapter from 2016-2019. These photos were taken in May 2019 when Fred was MC for Paul Zammit's presentation at the Royal Botanical Gardens in Burlington (left). He's shown above lunching with David Knapp LVO, our president.

A tribute to legendary CBC sportscaster Fred Walker

By Phil Dugas

CBC has lost one of its iconic voices.

Fred Walker passed away Friday March 18, 2022, at his home in Mississauga. He was 82.

The sound of Walker's wonderful voice – the kind that was the envy of most broadcasters - filled the CBC Radio airwaves for more than three decades from sporting events around the globe.

“Fred was a man for all seasons be it amateur or professional, summer or winter. His reporting carried on the great tradition of storytelling on CBC Radio.”

These are the words of Alan Clark - the former Head of CBC Radio Sports and CBC Television Sports. He went on to share the type of sentiment expressed by so many former colleagues when hearing the news of Walker's death.

“He was also one of the kindest, most generous individuals I have had the privilege to meet.”



Fred Walker with “Tucker” (Courtesy of Juli Lyons)

CBC Sports Host Scott Russell – the face of the Olympics on CBC Television - remem-

bers being drawn-in many times by the 6-foot-4-inch

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giant of radio - back in the day - in the CBC hallways.

"Fred was a raconteur. He would often lean in and begin a conversation by saying... 'I've got a good story to tell you.'"

"You couldn't help but stop and listen. His generosity with his tremendous recollection of sport and all of his wonderful experiences was infectious."

Walker started out as a CBC staff announcer in Halifax in 1962 while he was still attending St Mary's University. He moved on to Montreal in 1970 before his final stop at the National Sports Desk for CBC Radio in Toronto - from 1980 until he retired in 1995. He belonged to Radio but he was often called-upon to work on television for CBC Sports.

Some of his biggest and best moments came from Hockey – covering countless NHL Games, Stanley Cup Finals, Olympic Finals, World Juniors and World Hockey Championships.

Montreal was a good place to be in the 1970's if you liked to cover hockey. Walker witnessed the Montreal Canadiens dynasty of that decade - up close.

He did play-by-play of some

Saturday night Canadiens games for CFCF Radio and teamed up with the great Danny Gallivan to broadcast NHL games when CBC Radio had Sunday Night Hockey. He interviewed the greats of the game; Gordie Howe and Bobby Orr; Jean Beliveau and Guy Lafleur; Wayne Gretzky and Mario Lemieux.

He would bring the listener the big story of the day not only in hockey but from so many major sports and events in his career.

Scott Russell says there was a reason Walker was embraced by the audience.

"He made his name in radio and for Fred that was so appropriate because he didn't need pictures to make a story come alive. He made it happen with the lilt of his voice and the emotion he invested into every tall tale. Fred was a great example to follow for every aspiring sports broadcaster."

He not only connected with the audience but he connected with so many of the athletes he interviewed.

Walker would become one of the most recognized and respected broadcast voices in swimming and diving – highlighted by his reporting and play by play calls from the Olympics, Commonwealth

Games, Pan American Games and the World Aquatic Championships

Linda Cuthbert is a four-time National Diving Champion and 1978 Commonwealth Games gold medalist. She says there was something special in his approach,

"He cared about the essence of sport and the people in it, and not just the big names. Fred felt genuine, like he cared; he wasn't just talking to you to get a story. You could trust him to represent your story."

Mark Tewksbury can relate. Upon learning of his death, the Olympic gold medal swimmer from 1992 – and frequent guest analyst on CBC's Olympic coverage – vividly reflects on the many memorable interactions with Walker.

"I know journalists are supposed to be neutral, and Fred was in his reporting, but his humanity came through his eyes and voice no matter what he did. There was such a spark; it encouraged me to keep talking in interviews, as if he was cheering me on. I will never forget breaking my first world record in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, of all places! Fred was the first reporter called, and his booming voice and his congratu-

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lations came barreling through the phone. It brings a tear to my eye to this day. I will miss you Fred Walker. We were lucky to have been part of your world."

In 1972 Walker was at the pool to see Mark Spitz win a record seven gold medals. The next day when he was to meet Spitz for an interview at the Olympic village, it was closed. Israeli athletes were under siege in a tragic hostage taking.

Twelve years later, Walker brought CBC Radio listeners the thrilling events from the outdoor pool in Los Angeles. Fred was there for Sylvie Bernier's gold medal in diving, Anne Ottenbrite's gold, silver and bronze in swimming and Alex Baumann's two gold medal victories. Walker spent a lot of time following the career of the swim star from Sudbury, Ontario. At his induction speech into the CBC Sports Hall Of Fame, Walker said that second Olympic gold medal for Baumann was perhaps the most exciting race he ever called.

Byron MacDonald is the "Dean" of Swim analysts in Canada and was with CBC Sports once again at the recent Summer Olympics in To-

kyo. He remembers exactly who was by his side when he started out as a TV analyst.

"I actually called my very first race with Fred doing the play by play so our relationship has been over many decades. He was a pro in every sense of the word. And a calming presence in a very hectic business. Absolutely one of the most genuine and nicest guys in the business."

According to so many former colleagues, Fred was always making time to guide and mentor. There are dozens working behind a microphone today who give Walker some credit for their success.

Robert Bettauer was also in Tokyo for CBC Sports – as a Tennis analyst.

The former National Team Coach says Walker made an impact on him in a couple of different ways.

"I have such fond and appreciative memories of Fred going back to my Tennis Canada years. He loved covering Canadian tennis and was always so fair and supportive. He also mentored and encouraged me as I started broadcasting and I will always be appreciative."

Walker's influence continued long past his retirement staying involved in broadcasting circles and spending

even more time teaching, mentoring and coaching. Many are grateful he did.

A year before his retirement in 1994, Walker would travel to his last major Games with his Radio colleagues.

Nancy Lee, former head of CBC Radio Sports and CBC Television Sports, assigned Walker to the Commonwealth Games in Victoria, British Columbia.

Lee was always appreciative of Walker's talent and variety of skills but she says it was his character that stood out for her.

"It is a rare skill to be an announcer, reporter and a play-by-play sports commentator. Fred did them all in such a way it seemed second-nature to him.

But I think the outpouring of our memories reflect more on Fred's common decency and overwhelming generosity. He was pretty exceptional in that way."

Fred Walker was inducted into the CBC Sports Hall of Fame in 2008 and leaves an indelible legacy on the CBC, sports broadcasting in Canada and on his former colleagues.

Phil Dugas is a former colleague of Fred Walker at CBC Radio Sports.

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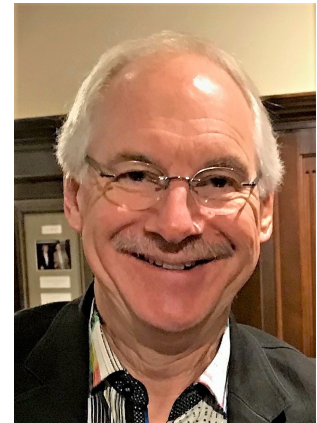


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