

Your Toronto PNA Team reports...summer 2022



Back row: Raj Narain, Susan Gagliardi, Talin Vartanian, Bob Waller, James Hay

Front row: Ted Hackborn, Louna Venis, Gail Carducci, Jade Mah, Lise Lareau, Steve Athey, Leone Earls

In early June, a group of Toronto area members met to talk about recruiting new members and the upcoming Ontario Region elections. Although it was a small gathering, there were a lot of good ideas and enthusiasm, and reviving the Toronto newsletter was thought to be important to our members.. You can [read more in Lise Lareau's article on page 3.](#) A special thanks to Susan & James for joining Leone on the Election Committee! Your team's contact information is on page 4 of this newsletter if you'd like to know more..

We need retirees to understand the value of PNA membership. That's where we begin. Help us reach potential members!

JOIN US AT THE ONTARIO REGION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This is an election year for the Ontario PNA.

The AGM will be held on Wednesday 12 October at 11:00 a.m. in Toronto (location to be confirmed).

All Ontario members are welcome to attend. Please email Ontario@cbcpensioners.ca to RSVP. A light lunch will be served following the meeting. Make sure your voice is heard, or consider running for one of the following elected positions:

President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Toronto Director (4 positions)

See the nomination form on Page 4

NEWS YOU CAN USE !

BE ON THE LOOKOUT !

Three of the most common frauds or scams are banking & credit card scams, spam emails & texts, and charity scams. If you become a victim of any of these, and especially if you've lost any money, it's important to report the incident to the police. In Toronto, the non-emergency number to contact the police is 416-808-2222. Outside of Toronto, the Ontario Provincial Police non-emergency number is 1-888-310-1122.

Keep your money and your information safe!

Alert your bank or credit card company about any suspicious correspondence you receive that looks suspicious, either by mail, email, or telephone. And always use the contact information on your actual account or on the back of your credit card. Never reply to or link to an unsolicited email, text, or phone call.

Spam emails or texts should not be opened. Delete them and, if it's an option, report them to your provider.

CRA has a Registered Charities database. Before donating, you can do an online search to make sure the charity or other qualified group is real. Don't be pressured into giving at the door or over the phone, any legitimate charitable organization will be willing to wait for your donation.

Keeping fit in your retirement just got easier!

Goodlife Fitness—Corporate membership

If the pandemic has left you a little out of shape and you're considering getting back to the gym, here's a deal for PNA members.

As of 1 April 2022, CBC now gets a 30% discount across the board—so no matter what program you choose, it will be 30% off the regular price.

This includes towel service.

Pensioners will need to contact Anita Adams at anita.adams@cbc.ca for their individual code in order to get the price.



A BOOSTER SHOT FOR THE TORONTO PNA

A group of Toronto retirees is working together to reinvigorate the CBC National Pensioners Association (PNA), with a special focus on members who live in the city.

About a dozen CBC retirees met at a restaurant on the Danforth in mid-June in a session organized by PNA Toronto Director Gail Carducci.

The group discussed the need to attract more members to the PNA and ways to reach them. This is seen as especially vital during the pension surplus-sharing dispute with CBC that has been simmering for more than 2 years. The dispute centres on the validity of an agreement that could mean millions of dollars in pension surplus money would be distributed to pensioners.

Membership in PNA is not automatic and pensioners have to sign up, which is a step not always understood as people leave the Corporation. PNA leaders say it is vital that a majority of CBC pensioners join the PNA so it continues to have uncontested standing in any discussions about pension matters such as the surplus. Currently just over 50% of CBC pensioners belong to the organization, which is considered to be dangerously low by many PNA officials.

More than 625 signed-up members of the PNA live in Toronto, and Carducci says there are “at least that many who have not joined yet. We have to reach them.” The group discussed ways to use Facebook and other social media apps to get the word out.

Retirees in Toronto can be forgiven for not knowing much about the PNA. The CBC does not promote it to retirees, partly due to terms of a Memorandum of Understanding between the CBC and PNA. There is a single sign-up membership form in packages when people leave the Corporation and an agreement to put the form in a national newsletter once a year. Plus, the structure of the PNA currently disallows members in major cities from having their own separate chapters, leaving Toronto members part of a broad Ontario region, and not a chapter of their own. This makes Toronto-specific events more complicated to organize. By contrast, the structure allows smaller centres to have regional chapters such as those in Durham-Trent, Golden Horseshoe and South-West Ontario with annual budgets funded by the PNA.

To partly address the issue, a recent change has put 4 directors from Toronto on the Ontario Region Board while all the other regional chapters have 1 each.

An election for those 4 Toronto directors plus the positions of President, VP, Treasurer and Secretary of the Ontario Board will take place at Ontario Region AGM to be held in Toronto (location to be confirmed) on October 12 at 11 a.m. followed by lunch.

Following the Danforth meeting, former radio producer Talin Vartanian announced her candidacy for Secretary, and former News Network producer and CMG president Lise Lareau announced her candidacy for one of the four Toronto director positions. Steve Athey, Mary Depoe, and Gail Carducci intend to stand for the director positions as well.

The group also discussed the need to communicate other benefits to membership in the PNA including significant discounts on insurance and other benefits and access to a ready-made group of people who may have a shared interest and expertise in a wide range of hobbies.

Summer 2022

Several of our members asked for a PNA 'Primer'. Your Toronto team is more than happy to answer any of your questions about our organization, but here's the basic structure.



YOUR PNA – HOW DOES IT WORK ?

The CBC Pensioners National Association is a Canada-wide organization. It was first established in 1985 to represent the interests of CBC pensioners. Here's how the PNA is structured:

National – there's a President (rotating between Anglophone & Francophone), Vice-President (Anglophone), Vice-President (Francophone), and Treasurer who make up the Executive. Two part-time employees run the National office in Ottawa. The National Board of Directors consists of the executive members, presidents of each of the 8 regions, and vice-presidents from Quebec & Ontario. The non-voting seats on the board are occupied by the chairs of the Standing Committees for Recruitment and for Equity, Diversity & Inclusion, the PNA representative on the Consultative Committee on Staff Benefits, and an observer to that body. The Executive members are elected every 3 years at the National Triennial Conventions. The regional presidents and vice-presidents are elected every 3 years by their own regions.

Regions – There are 8 regions in the PNA:

BC / Yukon
Alberta / Saskatchewan
Manitoba
Ontario
Quebec
National Capital / Nunavut (most of this region's members reside in Ontario or Quebec)
Maritimes (includes New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island)
Newfoundland & Labrador

The regional boards of directors generally consist of a president, vice-president, treasurer, secretary, and directors (either representing chapters or districts or at-large).

Chapters – If there are enough members in a geographic area within a region, they may form a chapter and have a similar governance structure to the region (i.e., president, vice-president, treasurer, secretary, directors). In highly populated areas like Montreal and Toronto, the bylaws require that those members be under the governance of the region and not in separate chapters.

Ontario – We have 4 chapters in the Ontario region: South-West (which includes Windsor and London), North-Central (which includes Barrie and Muskoka), Durham-Trent (which includes Oshawa & Peterborough), and Golden Horseshoe (including Oakville, Burlington, Hamilton, Guelph, Kitchener-Waterloo, Niagara and Stratford). All Ontario PNA members elsewhere in the province but not in a chapter are represented by the Ontario Region officers. Representing members in Toronto are 4 Directors.

How much does it cost? The dues for PNA members are deducted at source from the monthly pension payments at the rate of \$3.20 per \$1000 of pension. The dues are tax deductible and members receive a tax receipt at the end of each year. The National PNA keeps about three-quarters of the dues and sends the other quarter to the regions based on membership numbers. If a chapter exists, a portion of money will be transferred to the chapter based on that membership. Otherwise, the region retains the funding for the benefit of members not represented by chapters.

Want to know more? Contact one of your Toronto team. Email your questions or comments to us.

YOUR TORONTO DIRECTORS

Steve Athey	nextunion@hotmail.com	647-228-5551
Gail Carducci	gail.carducci@gmail.com	416-333-8556
Mary Depoe	marydepoe2@gmail.com	416-924-6113
Leone Earls	learls@rogers.com	416-463-0314

2022 Nomination and Proxy Forms

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 (4 positions)

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 & date)

Please complete this form and send a scanned copy to

Ontario@cbcpensioners.ca for receipt by September 21, 2022

PROXY FORM FOR ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Members of the Association who are unable to attend the Annual General Meeting may appoint a fellow member who will be attending the meeting 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 12, 2022.

_____ (Signature)

_____ (Date)

Please complete this form and give to the person you have selected as your proxy. For receipt by October 10, 2022

If you are unable to attend this year's AGM, consider signing the proxy form and giving it to a member who will be attending. Want to know more? Contact one of your Toronto Directors.