

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



EDITOR'S NOTE: Welcome to 2023! in the hopes that it will be an improvement! In this issue, an update from Dan Oldfield about the pension plan surplus, photos from our AGM in November, another episode in our series on Life after the CBC, and a very moving note about one of our members who recently died on his own terms with help from MAID assistance. We welcome your comments and suggestions for the Communiqué .



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome 2023!!!

We start this New Year looking forward.... we are excited to work with those of you who have generously volunteered and look forward to several events for our region in the coming months. There is much happening within the PNA, both nationally and regionally.

Membership Recruitment

Starting in 2023, each region across the country will be initiating membership recruitment campaigns. This year we thought we would try something a little different, influenced in part from the campaign being launched in the Ontario Region out of Toronto.

We are proposing a challenge to each of you our members....It is pretty easy...since each of us know other CBC retirees or surviving spouses receiving a CBC pension. The challenge is for each of you, our members, to seek out a non-member and recruit them to the PNA membership. If each of you recruited just one non-member, we would probably secure most CBC pensioners as members in our region.

To make things a little more interesting...we will be holding a draw for a gift card to a local eatery from those members who are linked to the recruitment of a new member. We will also be drawing a similar prize from among the new members recruited. Finally, you aren't limited to reaching out to just one non-member...a similar prize will be given to the member who recruits the most members during the challenge period.

So, here is how this works...you reach out to a non-member. Let them know why the PNA is important to all CBC retirees. Here are a few reasons you can mention:

- Pension fund surplus arbitration - the PNA is defending retirees's share of any surplus in arbitration hearings
- Managing the escalating costs of supplementary health care - the PNA works with the provider and CBC to use every means possible to mitigate huge increases to the CBC Pensioners' Supplementary Health Care
- Facilitating submissions to the Special Fund for health-related costs not covered under Supplementary Health care or any other source
- Defending you the pensioners
- Providing timely information to members on issues related to their pension and other pertinent matters
- Providing occasions to connect with previous CBC colleagues

Let them know that the PNA is the voice for CBC pensioners...their input matters. This is not about the "other" pensioners covering the costs (which are very low). This is about their representation in matters of importance to each of them.

You can direct them to the CBC Pensioners website at: <https://www.cbcpensioners.ca/join-us/>. All the information they need to join is readily available there, including an enrolment form. Then after a few days, follow-up with your contact and make sure that they have indeed completed the registration form.

Next, send us an email at: cbcpna.ott.nun@gmail.ca and let us know the name of your newly recruited member. Once we have confirmation that their registration form is in, your name will be put into the "Recruiters" draw. Your recruited new member's name will be put in the draw for new members.

The challenge will run from January to the end of March 2023. The draw for the prizes will be in April 2023.

Arbitration

Work continues in this file that includes how our pension plan will deal with surpluses. All parties (Unions, CBC and the PNA) will be making final arguments before former Associate Chief Justice Dennis O'Connor on February 23, 2023.

For more information, I invite you to read Dan Oldfield's article "Decision Day is coming" below.

Supplementary Health Care Plan

In January, the fees for the supplementary health care are going to increase. Late last fall, PNA worked with the CBC and the provider to ensure that the anticipated increase was limited to about half of what were the true increases by leveraging funds from the surplus that accumulated in previous years. The current coverages remain in place with no changes to the plan.

Pension Plan

Our pension plan has adjusted pension payments for 2023 by 2.7% - which is the maximum amount allowed under the plan. Every bit helps!

So, as you can see, much is underway. We will continue to relay information to you and keep you informed. We also look forward to seeing you at the next event early this spring. In the meantime, reach out to those non-member pensioners you know!

Wishing you all health and happiness for 2023!

Suzanne Cunningham



Decision Day is coming

(reprinted from the Golden Horseshoe Chapter newsletter, December 2022)

By Dan Oldfield

PNA Rep on the CBC Consultative Committee on Staff Benefits

Final arguments are scheduled to be heard on February 23, 2023, in an arbitration that will determine whether CBC retirees and employees are entitled to share a recently declared pension plan surplus.

Hearings conducted by Ontario's former Associate Chief Justice Dennis O'Connor have been going on since early 2022.

The proceedings were made necessary when CBC management unilaterally declared the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) that guaranteed an equal share in any future surplus, was no longer valid.

The MOA came into effect in 2009 and put an end to nearly a decade of arbitrations and court battles. The agreement between the CBC, the PNA and CBC's unions establishes the conditions and process for distribution of any pension plan surpluses. Under the terms of the agreement the parties are required to review its terms "every ten years, beginning in 2019." That review took place between June and December of 2019.

However, rather than reviewing the terms of the agreement, CBC sought significant changes which the PNA and the unions rejected. The CBC then unilaterally declared the agreement terminated. It has no legal right to do so and the PNA and unions referred the matter to binding arbitration.

In the meantime, at the end of 2021 a significant pension surplus was declared. The CBC took advantage of that surplus, granting it a \$43 million dollar contribution holiday. An equal amount should have been distributed to pensioners and employees. The CBC has refused to live up to its end of the agreement.

Once the arguments have been heard, Justice O'Connor will render his decision. There is no timeline for the delivery of that decision but we expect it will come fairly soon after the conclusion of the hearings.

Should the PNA and the unions win, which we believe will be the case, the agreement will be declared valid and the CBC will be required to abide by the conditions of the agreement. In those circumstances it will be obliged to ensure the distribution of the 2021 surplus and any future surpluses. One final note: there is the remote possibility of an appeal on points of law which would further delay enforcement of the agreement. The PNA national office will keep members informed as events unfold.



The CBC Pensioners National Capital and Nunavut Region 2022 Annual General Meeting was held on Friday October 28 at the RA Centre for the first time in person in 3 years. Guest speakers were Alain Pineau, National PNA President, Duncan Burrill, Managing Director/CEO who updated us on the status of the CBC Pension plan, and Marc-Philippe Laurin, PNA representative to talk about the ongoing work at the National level.





SPECIAL ASSISTANCE FUND

The Special Assistance Fund (SAF) helps CBC retirees, their spouses and dependents with health care expenses not covered by OHIP or the SHCP. It also offsets the cost of hearing aids and mobility devices. (There are some restrictions) Contact the CBC PNA staff in Ottawa for eligibility requirements and help in applying. More information and application forms are on the PNA website. www.cbcpensioners.ca

PNA SPOUSAL MEMBERSHIP

Individuals who receive pension survivor benefits are eligible to become members of the PNA and access all PNA member benefits including the Special Assistance Fund, loyalty programs, discounts and social activities. They are also eligible to hold office in the PNA and serve on committees. We hope you will join us.

If you have any comments, article or profile suggestions for the newsletter, please don't hesitate to let us know.



In our continuing series on “Life After the CBC”, meet Marc Parizeau, sound technician who now runs his own company in retirement and is a very busy guy!

Hi there! I’m Marc Parizeau, retired recording engineer after 33 years of service with CBC/ Radio-Canada in Ottawa.

At almost a decade now since my retirement, my passion for all things audio continues in the form of teaching, recording and consulting work that I take on under my company “Paz Productions”. I continue to do contract work for both public and private sectors, as well as for non-profit organizations and private citizens...still loving every minute of it!

Here is just a snapshot of what has kept me working in the field over the past 10 years...

I have recorded:

- 2CDs with Pinchas Zukerman, Amanda Forsyth and the NAC Orchestra
- 150th Canada Anniversary Celebration with Rogers TV and Aboriginal TV
- Christmas special with MaTV
- Audio books with Penguin Random House
- Numerous special concerts of Christmas choirs and school choirs
- Demos for various musicians

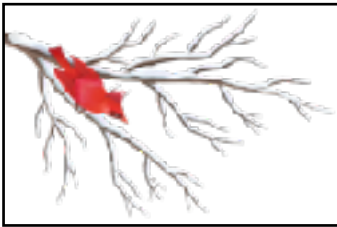
I have taught:

- Audio Master classes to the students of the Music Industry Arts Program at Algonquin College
- Ensemble recording techniques as well as Master recording techniques (with WAVELAB) to students of the Applied Audio Recording program at TARA, Ottawa
- Pro Tools Mixing and editing workshops, also at TARA.

I’ve done consulting work for the NCC, redoing the audio setup of their Video suite.

So who knows what the next 10 years will look like! I sure hope to keep doing what I love for as long as I have all my faculties!! Cheers!





One of our colleagues, Marc Laflèche, died recently with assistance from MAID (Medical assistance in dying). His wife Lynn McLaurin told me recently that even on the day he died, Marc still had a few laughs left in him. I think everyone who knew him can remember that laugh! Since MAID is still a controversial topic I thought it might be important to hear about someone who had gone through it. I asked Lynn to tell me about the experience, why Marc chose this, and the importance to him that death, like his life, be on his own terms...

Marc Lafleche retired July 22, 2009 after 42 years at the CBC. He always said he wanted to retire at 60 -- so many friends and colleagues retired at 65 and died two years later. He didn't want that.

Marc enjoyed his unscheduled days. He joined a gym close to home and would go every morning Monday to Friday. There he made friends with a group of retired men and women. They shared laughs and stories and the occasional lunch and Christmas gathering. Now he had time to indulge in reading, watching movies and cooking.

In the fall of 2018 Marc was diagnosed with bladder cancer. By December of that year he started a regime of chemotherapy and radiation. Sadly his cancer was aggressive and kept coming back. Beginning February of this year to May Marc took an ambulance to the hospital five times. It seemed that everything that could go wrong did. May 6th of this year he was scheduled for bladder removal. He spent 20 days in the hospital recovering from what they referred to as radical surgery. When he was finally released he was determined to work hard at getting his strength and mobility back. He seemed to be getting stronger and more mobile but the pain returned and became almost unbearable. October 5th he took an ambulance to the Civic Hospital. The following evening the doctor called me to say I needed to come to the hospital that evening and see him. The cancer had returned and basically had taken over most of his lower body. If he was to live he would have no quality of life. He decided to ask for assistance from MAID (Medical Assistance in Dying). The pain team assigned to Marc were excellent. They visited every day and sometimes twice to make sure he was comfortable and not in pain. The nursing staff were so caring and compassionate too. Marc never complained and always thanked them for their help. A nurse would come every 3 hours and give him a needle of hydromorphone. They always told him he was their best patient. One night at 1:30am when the nurse arrived to give him his needle he woke up and said to her "I have an ear worm". She asked what it was and he said "Bob Marley singing Redemption". She said I know that song. After she left she returned with a monitor with Bob Marley singing Redemption. He had tears he was so taken aback by the nurse's kindness.

In his last days at the hospital almost everyone he cared for came to visit. He was touched that so many people cared. I told him that everyone that knew him loved him.

October 18 Marc left us very peacefully. His life was cut short but had been a life well lived.

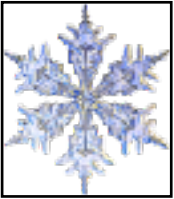


REMEMBERED FRIENDS



DOYLE, Patrick Michael, in his eightieth year, of Carleton Place, ON, died at the Ottawa Civic Hospital of Myelodysplastic syndrome (MDS). Predeceased by his parents, John "Jack" Doyle & Beverly. Also predeceased by his wife of 32 years, Linda Morey of Carleton Place, ON. Survived by his son, Liam Doyle of Mississauga, ON (fiancee Karina Flores of Marilao Bulacan Philippines), his sister Dawna Monahan of Penticton BC, niece Kimberly of Calgary, AB. Nephews; Michael & Kelly of Penticton, BC, and Kenny Morey of Abbotsford, BC. Kenny lived

with Patrick and Linda on the family farm when he was young and was always thought of as more a son than a nephew. He is also survived by three adoptive children; Rosita, Blair and Corrigan. Patrick was born July 26th, 1943 in Westmount, QC. He had a diverse and varied career in journalism (The Gazette [Montreal], The Toronto Star, CBC Radio, CBC Television). He also served in government as an executive in the federal public service, in various capacities. Up until the time of his death, he worked as a psychotherapist at Sandy Hill Community Health Center. Over the years he took great pride in serving his community. Often serving on advisory and governing boards, including; Concordia University School of Community and Public Affairs, St. Paul University, Children's Aid Society, etc. He continued to serve up until the time of his death on the board of directors of the Clinical Hypnosis Society for Canada (Ontario Division). Patrick was cheerful and saw the irony in much of human existence, and when faced with adversity he joked about having a personal motto -- "Humour in the Face of Adversity." In lieu of flowers, Patrick's final request was to have you take someone you care about to dinner, and tell them you love them.



MILSTOCK FORTUNE, Andee (Annette)

Peacefully at Hillel Lodge in her 94th year on Friday, August 5, 2022. Beloved wife of the late Lee Fortune (Gluck). Dearly loved daughter of the late Dora and the late John Milstock. Dearest mother and mother-in-law of Nancy Fortune, Stephanie Fortune and Eric Mazoff. Cherished granny of Carolyn Borer.

Despite contracting polio at an early age, Andee began a broadcasting career when she was just 19 at CJAD, where she met her husband, her lifelong partner and became the first female disc jockey in Canada. She later moved to the CBC where she worked as a freelancer on human interest stories

and interviews of notable persons and authors.

Andee will be remembered for her creativity, keen curiosity, wide range of interests and fiercely independent spirit.



LAFLECHE, Marc . Television archives, film/video and production assistant CBOT. It is with much sadness that we announce the peaceful passing of Marc Lafleche on Tuesday, October 18, 2022 age 73. He leaves behind his beloved wife of 35 years, Lynn McLaurin; his siblings Claire, Sue and Peter; brothers-in-law Gary (Ghislaine), Brian (Carroll), Les (Diane), Cavie (Sandie); and nephews and nieces. Predeceased by his parents Marc and Lucille; and sister Therèse. Early in life Marc went fishing with his dad. That seed grew into a life-long passion of fishing trips with his buddies. After

graduating from college, he joined the CBC where he made life-long friends; retiring in 2009 after 42 years. He enjoyed his unscheduled days reading, watching movies and cooking. He now had more time for his leather craft making unique change purses and carry-alls. Over the years he did a lot of research on vineyards and wines; looking at the different growing regions, always on the hunt for a quality wine at a reasonable price. He rarely disappointed on his choices much to the delight of family and friends. Marc's beautiful smile and outgoing nature endeared him to many. He would often greet you with his wonderful bear hug. Thanks to the staff at the Civic Hospital for their care and compassion in Marc's final days.



RACETTE, Hélène 1933 - 2022. C'est avec tristesse que nous vous faisons part du décès de Hélène Racette, survenu le 29 juillet 2022 à l'âge de 89 ans. Elle était l'épouse de feu Germain Tessier et la fille de feu Eugène Racette et de feu Desneiges Gunville. Elle laisse dans le deuil son fils Gaëtan Tessier; ses soeurs : Rollande (feu Fernand Robert) et Gisèle (feu Réjean Drouin), incluant sa belle-soeur Denise Latreille. Elle fut prédécédée par ses frères : Aurèle (feu Cécile Dufresne), Émile (feu Jacqueline Lefebvre), Jean-Maurice (Louise Bessette), Gérald (Vivian Preiss), Eugène Jr (feu Hélène Demelo), Jacques (Colombe Lécuyer), Ronald (Christiane Bergeron) et Laurent; ses soeurs : Jacqueline (feu Roméo Parker), Jeannine (feu Ernest Bouchard), Raymonde (feu André Gauthier) et Lorraine (feu Georges Rochon). Elle laisse également plusieurs beaux-frères, belles-soeurs, neveux, nièces, cousin(e)s et ami(e)s.



PROULX, René Ernest, news editor, 73, of Ottawa, ON passed away suddenly on October 27, 2022. René was born May 20, 1949, to Dominic and Margaret (Gauthier) Proulx of Pembroke, ON, brother to Simone Joanisse (John) of Cumberland, ON, The Rev. Peter Proulx of Pembroke, ON, predeceased by his sister Gisele (Ron) Wall. René will be dearly missed by his three children: Corey of Burnaby, BC, Jennifer (Brian) of Limoges, ON and Erica of Ottawa, ON. He was predeceased by his first wife, Judith. He will also be missed by his previous spouse, Karen and by several nieces,

nephews and great-nieces and nephews. He worked for more than thirty-five years at the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) before retiring in 2011. He began his career in Vancouver and was soon working for the CBC National News as an editor. From there, he was transferred to the Parliamentary Bureau in Ottawa, where he worked until he retired. His colleagues will remember him for his skill and speed in the editing suite as well as his sense of humour. He utilized those skills to enrich his retirement, volunteering with Connected Canadians, a small non-profit organization connecting older Canadians with technology training and support.



WARCHOW, Peter , lighting technician, CBC/Radio-Canada, Ottawa

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Peter Warchow on Thursday, March 3, 2022, at the age of 87 peacefully in his home with family by his side. Predeceased by his parents Michael and Anna Warchow (Shafran); sister Nina Plaut, and brother William.

Beloved husband of Katrine Mason in their 67th year of marriage. Beloved father of Daniel (Kimmé). Survived by his loving sister Eileen Kurban (Fred); sisters-in-law Anne Warchow and Carol Mathieu, and many nieces, nephews and cousins in Canada, United States and Ukraine.

Peter was an avid collector and restorer of antique clocks. Trained as an electrician, he worked in television and film production with the Canadian Broadcasting

Corporation for 35 years. A longtime member of Christ the Saviour Orthodox Church, Peter was proud of his service to the Church, in particular, his work conserving the Church's Cemetery and managing burials. Peter will be truly missed by all those he touched with his kindness, curiosity, humour, stories and offers of help and support.



Know any ex-CBC'ers who aren't members of the PNA yet?
Please send this newsletter on to them and their spouses and encourage them to join.

YOUR National Capital and Nunavut Chapter EXECUTIVE

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