

# WE WON!

## Arbitrator's decision marks big victory for CBC pensioners



### From the PNA president:

Dear members,

After more than a year of hearings, I am pleased to report that Justice Dennis O'Connor has ruled in our favour in the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) arbitration issue, concluding that the MOA is still in effect. His decision reads as follows:

*"Accordingly, for the foregoing reasons, I make the following Award:*

*(a) A Declaration that the MOA is a valid and subsisting contract between the parties and that the notice of termination dated December 13, 2019 by which CBC/Radio Canada purported to give three months' notice of its intention to terminate this agreement is of no force or effect and does not operate to terminate the MOA;*

*(b) An Order that CBC/Radio-*



**Justice Dennis O'Connor**

*Canada forthwith recognize STTRC as a full party to the MOA, and meet with the CCSB to reach any necessary agreements on the implementation of this Order."*

*--Justice Dennis O'Connor*

### **What happens now?**

We will contact the CBC to implement the agreement and

meet its obligation to pay pensioners and employees their shares of the past two pension surpluses.

We are hopeful that the Corporation will do the right thing by working with us to implement the deal, rather than trying to challenge it in Superior Court. Such action would only cause further delays to people receiving their fair share. Should CBC decide to appeal the Arbitrator's decision, we are confident that the courts would not overturn the decision.

We will provide you with more details as soon as we have more information to share. We ask for your understanding and patience as the parties work through the process.

**WE WON! —> Page 2**

**WE WON! from Page 1**

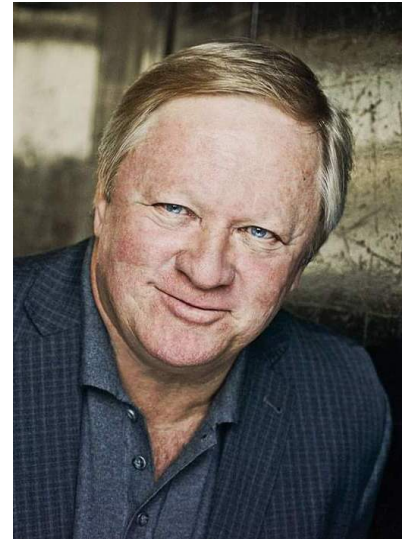
**Special thanks**

Many people have been involved in this process, including our union partners who contributed in countless ways. Special thanks are in order for Dan Oldfield, who led the original negotiation and developed our arbitration strategy, our legal team of Sean Fitzpatrick, who skillfully presented our case, and Amanda Pask, who brilliantly wrote our closing argument. This victory for the PNA would not have been possible without you.

— *Donald Langis, President  
CBC Pensioners National Association*



**PNA Pres. Donald Langis**



**Strategist Dan Oldfield**



**Lawyer Sean Fitzpatrick**



**Lawyer Amanda Pask**

**Background: the parties and their positions**

The issue for the arbitrator to rule was whether an agreement reached by the CBC with the PNA and its unions remains valid, and whether the conditions requiring the sharing of pension surpluses were met.

The PNA sought to have the arbitrator rule that the agreement remains in full force and

that CBC must honour the following provisions:

1. The deal continues to be in force, based on the language in the agreement. This stipulates that the parties must review the agreement every ten years, beginning in 2019.
2. They fulfilled their obligations to conduct a review of the MOA between June and December of 2019.
3. The agreement was de-

signed to resolve the issue of pension surplus sharing once and for all.

The CBC's position was that the agreement expired on December 31, 2019, and that the parties must reach a new agreement. CBC sought to have the arbitrator agree that it was within its rights to unilaterally terminate the agreement.

-----

# Golden Horseshoe Chapter holds spring luncheon at the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum

By Bridget O'Toole

On a sunny June 1st, the Golden Horseshoe Chapter of the CBC Pensioners National Association held its annual spring luncheon. About fifty members and guests gathered at the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum beside Hamilton Airport.

The highlight of the outing - and not on the agenda - was an inspiring and uplifting story told by museum volunteer Mike Tarbone.

But first, we enjoyed a buffet lunch. Following the meal, Golden Horseshoe Chapter president Bob Waller introduced Gail Carducci, President of the Ontario Region of the PNA.

Gail concentrated on two big priorities:

First, the Ontario Executive has updated the bylaws that determine the way the region conducts its business, especially elections. The next step will be to ask the entire membership to approve the refreshed bylaws by a two-thirds majority during the region's annual general meeting at 11 am on Wed., Oct. 11. The meeting will be virtual and will be conducted using the ZOOM application which you can download from the web to your laptop, tablet or smart phone for free.

The second, and ongoing priority is to convince more CBC pensioners to join the PNA. Across Canada, the Association is currently hovering at just over 50%. If we drop below that number for six months, we risk losing our voice in negotiations with the corporation in a variety of matters.



## Warplane Heritage Museum from Page 3

Members of the executive then drew for 13 door prizes, including four museum gift cards, four bottles of wine from 13th Street Winery, and five jugs of maple syrup from Chapter member Jay Mowat and his wife Clare Booker of Willow Creek Farms in Erin, Ontario. Phil Samuels won the 50/50 raffle and received \$115 from GHC Treasurer Cindy Beatty.

After the prizes were drawn, Bob asked everyone to mark Wednesday, Nov. 29<sup>th</sup> on their calendars for the Chapter's annual holiday luncheon, to be held this year at the Burlington Convention Centre.

Then, as a prelude to viewing the classic aircraft, Bob introduced museum volunteer Mike Tabone to provide an overview of the museum's history and highlights, before everyone headed into the hangar to check out the exhibits.

Mike wrapped up his talk and made to leave but then turned back and asked, "Do you have five more minutes? I have a great story."


Bob looked at the nodding heads in the audience and said, "Go ahead." Mike began his story.

"A few years ago the museum was gifted a Second World War era C-47 Dakota transport




4






## DOUGLAS C 47 DAKOTA




**Specifications:**

Type:	Transport
Wingspan:	95ft 0 in
Length:	64 ft 5 in
Engines:	Two Pratt and Whitney R-1830 Twin Wasps
Max Speed:	230 m.p.h.
Service Ceiling:	24,000 feet

The Douglas DC3 was designed in 1935 as a fast airliner, capable of carrying up to 21 passengers. The US Air Corps soon became interested in the DC 3 and in 1940 ordered a militarized version. During WWII, the Royal Air Force received about 1,928 Dakotas under the lend-lease agreement and they became the RAF's main transport aircraft. The RCAF took delivery of its first Dakota in March, 1943 and at its peak had 169 on strength.





The museum's C-47 Dakota (C-GRSB) was built in the USA in 1943 and was delivered to the RAF in February 1944 (registered as FZ692). It first served with No.233 Squadron, under aircraft code 5T-UK. The aircraft was painted olive green and had black and white invasion stripes applied shortly before D-Day. On D-Day, 5T-UK dropped parachutists of the 3rd Airborne Brigade, which included the 1st Canadian Parachute Battalion, into Normandy. Later in the battle, 5T-UK served as an air ambulance, bringing wounded soldiers back to hospitals in England. The aircraft was also involved in the airborne assault upon Arnhem, Holland and the airborne operation of the Rhine crossing at Wesel, Germany.

### Warplane Heritage Museum from Page 4

plane from the Ministry of the Environment, when they could no longer maintain the aircraft. They had put glass on the floor bottom, added padding to the walls and used the plane for aerial photography. We repaired the bottom and pulled away the wall padding. During the war, the plane had been used to drop paratroopers behind the German lines on D-Day, and later to carry back wounded soldiers from Europe to England. The plane had layers of stretcher beds on each wall. Above one of them, we found a soldier had scratched his name, rank and hometown into the wall while, laying on the stretcher.”

“At the start of the pandemic, I decided to try and find that soldier, Charles Stanley Pryer. He was from a small English village of 500 people. With others in England playing detective, we conducted a wide internet search. On May 20, 2020, I was eventually put in touch

with his daughter, Jenny Harrington, from Dorchester, England. We began an e-mail relationship.”

“Jenny was a pensioner and wanted to visit, as she called it, ‘Dad's plane.’ Air Canada gave free first-class seats for the trip, and Hamilton's Courtyard Marriott Hotel provided two suites for Jenny and her best friend of 50 years to stay in during their visit. The airline also arranged for a camera crew to follow their journey from England to our museum in Hamilton.”

“The trip was postponed twice due to COVID restrictions, but finally on June 9, 2022, 77 years after Charles scribbled his name, his daughter was joined up with the Dakota, and very emotionally traced her Dad's name with her fingers, where he'd printed it on the aircraft wall.”

Warplane Heritage Museum —> Page 6

## Douglas C47 Dakota, FZ692 Signed, Sealed, Delivered

The CWHM Douglas C47 Dakota is not only unique in its role during the Second World War, but also in its ability to bring people together. FZ692 carried 298 casualties to medical aid, some writing their names inside the aircraft only to be discovered decades later.

In 1980, while the aircraft was being fitted with new electrical components, 8 names were found under the bulkhead insulation. Upon completion, the bulkhead was reinstalled, and the names were covered up until it was removed again during the museums restoration of the aircraft in 2019. With the names finally exposed, one of the museums tour guides wanted to find a connection to the names written inside the aircraft so many years ago.



Charles Stanley Pryer's signature and message located inside FZ692

Charles Stanley Pryer was flown back to the UK on March 26, 1945, about one month after sustaining his injuries in Germany



Realizing that one of the names, DVR Pryer had written that he was from Loders, England, the tour guide contacted a local school there, asking for help in locating any known relatives to DVR Pryer. Soon through a local historical society, a woman named Sue Curtis, recognizing the name Pryer to be that of her grandfather, connected with the tour



The interior of a C47 loaded with stretchers to accommodate the wounded

guide and suddenly DVR Pryer became known as Charles Stanley Pryer. Ms. Curtis then told the story to her aunt, Jenny Harrington, the daughter of Charles Stanley Pryer about her dad's markings in the aircraft and of the search to find his family.

After successfully contacting the relatives of Charles Pryer, a connection was made with another name on the aircraft, TPR Wright. This response came from being featured in the Yorkshire Evening Post e-paper, which published the tour guides letter asking for help in locating TPR Wright. Soon Mr John Koros, a nephew of TPR Wright's, contacted the tour guide and from that moment forward TPR Wright became known as James Charles Wright.

In June 2022, with the generous help of Air Canada and the Courtyard Marriott Hotel in Hamilton, members of Charles Pryer's family visited the museum to finally see "Dads Plane" and his signature left within the walls of the aircraft. A fitting tribute to the memory of all those who were transported by FZ692.



Trooper James Wright from Chapel Allerton left his military service number and home address inside FZ692

James Charles Wright in uniform

### Warplane Heritage Museum from Page 5

Following a standing ovation for Mike's moving account of the story, we headed into the museum.

*(Mike has written a much more detailed account of this heartfelt story in the CWHM magazine, Flightlines. Just paste this link into the Internet browser in your computer or tablet: <https://cdn.flipsnack.com/widget/v2/widget.html?hash=c82zfi5hp8> )*

*(CHCH TV aired a report you can watch on YouTube by pasting this link into your Internet browser: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jPqgnEjqNa8> )*

Everyone was very impressed with the vintage aircraft in the massive hangar. My husband and I were able to sit in the cockpits of three of the planes, while a wonderful volun-

teer provided a running commentary.

There is also a theatre where you can watch 17 various short films, from "The Dam-busters, one of the most iconic RAF Bomber Command crew missions of WW2" to "How Canada trained over 100,000 air crew in WW2, highlighting training facilities in Southern Ontario" or "The story of the Avro Arrow." The gift shop is also very impressive, with a ton of things to purchase at a variety of price points.

To top it all off, you can buy a ride on 11 of the various vintage aircraft from \$300 a seat up to \$3,900 on the Avro Lancaster. (You get a tax receipt of \$1,300.00 for the Lancaster.) The heavy bomber is sold out for this year, but there are seats available on many of the other planes.

It was a great day!

# Touching base in Toronto 7

## ***CBC pensioners pack a pub on the Danforth***



Seventy people braved the smoky air on Wednesday, June 7th to gather in Noonan's Irish Pub on the Danforth and join other CBC pensioners at one of the best-attended PNA pub lunches in Toronto in years.

The event featured free finger food and the 'first annual CBC PNA Toronto Quiz' hosted by Ontario Region Secretary Talin Vartanian.

She called on her experience writing quizzes for shows such as *As It Happens* and *The Sunday Edition*.

One example of her quiz questions: "Which of these CBC programs had the longest on-air run? *The Rick Mercer Report*, *Morningside* or *The King of Kensington*." [Answer: *Morningside*]

PNA Ontario President Gail Carducci gave a short speech. Here's an excerpt:

"I'd like to ask each of you to mark an important date on your calendar: Wednesday, October 11<sup>th</sup>.

"We'll all be getting together on Zoom for some important

business. That's the date of our Ontario Region Annual General Meeting. It's a particularly critical one this year as we have a new set of bylaws for members to approve.

"Most of the changes to our bylaws fall under the category of 'housekeeping,' and that matters. Our old bylaws were incomplete, they hadn't been updated in years, and there were omissions and errors, so we struck a Bylaw Review Committee.

**Touching base —> Page 8**

## Touching base from Page 7

“It was spearheaded by Vice President Barbara Saxberg and Director Lise Lareau, who toiled over every clause, made corrections, added missing information, and brought everything up to date. Then they asked the PNA’s bylaw guru, former national president Paul Gaffney, to review their work, to ensure our new Ontario bylaws jibe with the National bylaws. They do.

“Perhaps the biggest change will be the way we conduct the triennial regional election in Ontario, killing the antiquated practice of collecting proxy votes, and instead, allowing every PNA member to cast a ballot online or on the phone. One of my promises when I ran for president last year was to make our region more democratic, and your participation is key to that progress.

“The Ontario Board of Directors has approved all the changes, including the critical one about how we hold elections, but *we need your vote* to approve them at the AGM. In fact, we need a two-thirds vote of those attending the AGM for the new bylaws to pass. Please read them over. They’re available on the Ontario Region page of the PNA website.”

That wasn’t the only time Gail was in the spotlight.

Later on, her ticket in the 50/50 raffle was selected as the winner of \$164. She donated her winnings to Second Harvest, so all \$328 collected will go to the charity.

The Pub Lunch was attended by a good cross-section of former CBC employees, from engineering to current affairs and music, to news and technical departments.

**Touching base —> Page 9**





## Touching base from Page 8

It was coordinated by one of Toronto's four regional directors, Lise Lareau, with help from a team of people from the 'Toronto Advisory Group' including regional director Susan Helwig, Jade Mah and Leone Earls.



Photos by Ted Hackborn, Jonathan Churchill and Talin Vartanian

# Golden Horseshoe Chapter Executive



**President:**

**Bob Waller**

**(905) 278-1267**

**bobbywaller@hotmail.com**



**Vice-President:**

**Marie Clarke-Davies**

**(416) 529-8294**

**marie.clarke.davies@  
gmail.com**



**Treasurer:**

**Cindy Beatty**

**(905) 823-7887**

**cbeatty7887@rogers.com**



**Immediate Past President:**

**David Knapp LVO**

**(905) 331-5435**

**dknapp7@cogeco.ca**



**Secretary:**

**Bridget O'Toole**

**(437) 778-0472**

**bridget.otoole53@gmail.com**



**Director:**

**Toni Tosti**

**(289) 213-8547**

**tonitosti01@gmail.com**

---

*Have you changed your E-mail address recently or perhaps set up an E-mail account for the first time? **If so, please let us know. The same goes if you've changed your home address or telephone number.***