

**DRAFT MINUTES**

***Ontario CBCPNA Annual General Meeting***

**11:00AM - October 12, 2022**

**Virtual by Zoom**

**48 members registered for Zoom**

**AGENDA:**

1) Welcome

2) Memorial Moment

3) Acceptance of Agenda

4) 2020 AGM Minutes / 2021 Information meeting notes

5) President’s Report 6) Vice-President’s Report

8) Treasurer’s Report (September 1, 2021, to August 31, 2022)

9) Budget for 2022-2023 (September 1 to August 31, 2023)

10) Livewire Report

11) Chapter Reports, Toronto Report

12) EDI Report

13) Recruitment Report

12) Bylaw changes

13) New Business

14) Adjournment

15) Elections

A) President

B) Vice-President

C) Secretary

D) Treasurer

E) Toronto Directors (4)

1. President Raj Narain called the meeting to order at 11:05am and welcomed everyone in attendance. He then explained how both himself and Gail Carducci were appointed President and Vice-President due to Gerald Head’s sudden leave. He also mentioned the Land Acknowledgment.
2. Raj Narain then acknowledged a moment of silence for those retirees that are no longer with us.
3. Motion to Accept the Agenda: **Moved – Alan Grant; 2nd – Gino Piazza**: some discussion took place regarding the order of the Agenda; Raj Narain explained that once the original Agenda was approved, amendments to it could then take place as a revision. It was also noted, on a point of order (Talin Vartanian), that the numbering of the Agenda was incorrect and Raj Narain noted that it was already corrected on the Revised Agenda. The vote was taken on the original Agenda, **Moved – Alan Grant; 2nd – Gino Piazza AIF**
4. Lise Lareau proposed changes to the existing Agenda to move up the Bylaw changes to #5 and Elections to #6 as the first order of business.

**Moved – Lise Lareau; 2nd – Barbara Saxberg**: discussion took place on the merits of changing the order of the Agenda. Bob Waller then stop discussion by calling the question, **Passed by Majority.**

**The Revised Agenda is as follows:**

**1) Welcome / Land Acknowledgement**

**2) Memorial Moment**

**3) Acceptance of Agenda**

**4) Changes to the Agenda**

**5)Bylaw Changes**

**6)Election**

**(a)President (b) Vice President (c) Secretary (d) Treasurer (e) Toronto Directors (4)**

**7) President’s Report**

**8) Vice-President’s Report**

**9) Treasurer’s Report (September 1, 2021, to August 31, 2022)**

**10) Budget for 2022-2023 (September 1 to August 31, 2023)**

**11) Livewire Report**

**12) Chapter Reports & Toronto, - Durham Trent/ Golden Horseshoe/ NCO/ SWO / Toronto Report**

**13) New Business:**

**- Phil’s motion**

**14) Gerry Head**

**15) Adjournment**

1. A) Bylaw change #1: *The Ontario Regional Board of Directors will invite each Chapter in the Ontario Region to select a delegate according to its own procedures. Then the Board will fill the remaining vacancies from among its members or members at large. ’*Raj Narain gave a preamble regarding this bylaw, where it was somehow missed and that each Chapter should have a delegate at all National Conventions. Moved - Barbara Saxberg; 2nd – Gino Piazza: some discussion took place regarding this bylaw where Barbara Saxberg explained that this is really a house keeping issue and this bylaw was already in there but somehow got misplaced and dropped.

* Gino Piazza pointed out that the top section of the bylaw was left out where it defined it. A correction was made and shown, and a friendly amendment was added and agreed to by the Mover and Seconder as follows: *‘We, the Ontario Regional Board approve that all accredited delegates to convention from regions: The Ontario Regional Board of Directors will invite each Chapter in the Ontario Region to select a delegate according to its own procedures. Then the Board will fill the remaining vacancies from among its members or members at large.’* ***Accepted by the Mover – Barbara Saxberg and Seconder – Gino Piazza AIF***

1. Bylaw change #2: **3.2 Composition of the Regional Board:**

*The Ontario Board shall be comprised of as many voting directors as decided by the entire board. Four shall be duly elected as the Executive Committee by all members of the region (President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary). One director shall be elected by the members of each chapter and that person shall be the chapter president. Four directors shall be elected to represent Toronto but only by the members residing in Toronto. (Note: The legal boundaries of present-day Toronto are the same as those of Metropolitan Toronto upon its dissolution: Lake Ontario to the south, Etobicoke Creek and Highway 427 to the west, Steels Avenue to the north, and the Rouge River to the east). Moved – Bob Waller; 2nd- Gail Carducci.*

Discussion started to take place and Bob Waller called the question to end discussion, but there were individuals still waiting to speak on this bylaw so the question to end discussion was not accepted therefore allowing those to speak on it. Barbara Saxberg pointed out that the only change that was being proposed was the number of Toronto Directors from 3 to 4. Gino Piazza pointed out that was not correct, there were other changes to the original bylaw as was read out.

*For clarification purpose I added the original bylaw: 3.2    Composition of the Regional Board:*

*The Ontario Board shall be comprised of up to fifteen (15) Directors, ten of whom shall be elected by the Members of the Region, and one from each Chapter. Of those directors elected by the members of the Region, three (3) shall be designated Toronto Directors, and these individuals must reside in the City of Toronto. The number of Directors can be changed by the Ontario Board but each Chapter will have one director on the Ontario Region Board.*

*Note:  The legal boundaries of present-day Toronto are the same as those of Metropolitan Toronto upon its dissolution:  Lake Ontario to the south, Etobicoke Creek and Highway 427 to the west, Steeles Avenue to the north, and the Rouge River to the east.)*

After further discussion, Barbara Saxberg called the question and Bob Waller seconded it: Raj Narain then called for the vote: count as announced by Suzie Bougie *in Favour 23, Against 7; approved by Raj Narain’s.* ***NOTE: 48 members were registered on Zoom.***

1. **Elections Started at: 12:00pm – Leone Earls explained the voting process.**

* **President** – Gail Carducci **(114)** and Raj Narain (86) – **Gail Carducci** is the successful candidate as President.
* **Vice-President** – was not contested **Barbara Saxberg is acclaimed**.
* **Secretary** – Gino Piazza and Talin Vartanian had submitted nomination papers. Gino Piazza declined the nomination, Talin Vartanian accepted, Sandy Tymczak (was nominated from the floor by Gino Piazza) she accepted.

Secretary – **Talin Vartanian (**158 **- corrected to 112)** and Sandy Tymczak (74)

* **Treasurer** – Ben Daube and Gino Piazza (was nominated from the floor by Gerry Goulet) he declined. **Ben Daube – is acclaimed.**
* **Toronto Directors (Four) –** **Steve Athey, Mary Depoe, Lise Lareau submitted nomination papers and Raj Narain who was nominated from the floor by Steve Athey he declined. No vote was required as all three directors were acclaimed.**

1. **President’s Report – Raj Narain (as reported and emailed):** As I mentioned in my opening remarks, Gerry Head recently stepped down as President for health reasons. The Board appointed me President and Gail Carducci VP for the rest of this triennial.

As you know the CBC wants to toss out the Memorandum of Agreement they signed with the unions and the PNA. At the moment, the issue is in Arbitration and a decision is not expected until next year. This decision will also affect how the Pension plan surplus from 2021 will be handled.

Speaking of our Pension plan, despite all the turmoil in the stock markets, it looks like it could be in a surplus position again this year. The reason this could happen is because rising interest rates is helping the plan investments.

Accessing the Special Assistance Fund has become a pain these days because of changes made by the CBC on who will look after it. It is now run by Canada Life and a lot of their staff is not familiar with how the fund works. So if you need to access the fund, get in touch with the PNA national office and have them help you with the forms.

Since our last information meeting in 2021, we have seen the lifting of COVID restrictions across the province and the Chapters and Toronto have started to resume their social events. The South Western Ontario chapter, once again had their summer BBQ and the Golden Horseshoe had its garden lunch. The Toronto area was able to have another pub afternoon. All these events had wonderful turnouts and plans are been made for the Chapters’ and Ontario Christmas lunches.

Toronto has formed a core group of interested members, to work on recruitment, event planning and general member engagement and participation. On September 22nd, the PNA was invited to set up a table at a joint CBC / CMG / APS ‘Welcome back to the Office’staff event at the Broadcast Centre. We had 8 members volunteer to promote the PNA. With a draw for a few Tim Hortons gift cards as an enticement, we collected 10 pages of contact information for current employees and signed up a few new members at this event.

Which lead me to meetings we have been having with the CBC

Dave Jeffrey, The English VP of the PNA, Gerry Head and I met with Barbara Williams, the CBC English Vice President in August. At that meeting, we talked about the PNA giving pre-retirement seminars to CBC employees, a spot on the CBC internal website iO for PNA information , access to CBC buildings, and strengthening the relationship with the PNA across English Canada.

In a follow-up in September, Dave Jeffrey, Gail Carducci and I met with Ms Williams’ Chief of Staff, Chuck Thompson and Kerry Kelly, the Director of PR and Communications. They have agreed to give us space on the iO Portal to link to PNA content and information.

We talked about using CBC facilities across English Canada for our meetings, pre-retirement seminars and other PNA promotional activities. They are very supportive on establishing a closer working relationship between the Senior Managing Directors and the PNA Regional Presidents. Kerry Kelly will be our Ontario contact for activities in the Broadcasting Centre, and she will also advise us of upcoming staff events where the PNA can play a role. She is in the early stages of planning a Resource Fair for employees and that might be a good opportunity for us to connect with future pensioners.

Although the two meetings were mainly broad strokes, there is agreement to have further meetings. The CBC’s commitment to opening up iO to the PNA, agreeing to have the PNA do pre retirement sessions for CBC employees, indicates that they are interested in pursuing a more positive relationship with the PNA.

After years of friction between CBC and its retirees, the door to working together is slowly opening.

Thank you.

1. **Vice-President’s Report – Gail Carducci (as reported and emailed):** Since I was appointed to the office of regional Vice-President on 8 September, you might be forgiven for thinking that there cannot be much to report. But there’s been a lot to do for our members, and I’m happy to give a report on the work I’ve undertaken.

For the past 2+ years, I’ve led the national Standing Committee on Equity, Diversity & Inclusion. As a result, I co-chaired the recent joint meetings that were held in Ottawa with the Recruitment group. The Chair duties for the EDI committee have now been handed over to Rochelle Porter from Ontario and Ron Charles from BC / Yukon.

Raj Narain and I met with Dave Jeffrey, our national VP, and Chuck Thompson and Kerry Kelly from CBC to talk about improving access to CBC facilities, including continuing PNA participation in the pre-retirement seminars that are of such value to employees who are considering retirement. The communique sent from the national office on 7 September emphasized the importance of developing better relations with CBC and I’m working toward that. CBC has agreed to put links to PNA information on the iO!, the employee portal and that’s a good start.

Work that I started as a Toronto Director needed to be seen through. I organized a group of volunteers to attend a CBC/CMG/APS lunch in Simcoe Park where we were invited to set up a table. On 22 September, 9 of us were there sporting t-shirts that say, “ask me what’s new with the CBC pension” and armed with brochures. This was an opportunity to connect with current employees who are thinking of retiring as well as those who have retired since the beginning of the pandemic. We enrolled a couple of new members and got contact information for almost a hundred current employees. Then, after such a long time apart, I arranged a ‘pub afternoon’ for our members on 28 September. About 45 people turned out to meet up with colleagues and enjoy an afternoon together at last.

Raj and I also represented our Ontario Region members at the recent National Board of Directors meetings in Ottawa on 3 & 4 October. Important items were on the agenda, like whether to create a new region in New Brunswick, and if national board meetings should be open to observers. I was delighted to be asked to work with 3 other colleagues on the national board to make a proposal on the observer question.

And last, but certainly not least, I am working with a group to plan an Ontario Region holiday lunch. The tentative date is December 10th and the location that we’ve booked is the Duke of Cornwall restaurant in Toronto. Tickets will be available for purchase by members soon so stay tuned for details.

I’ll conclude my report with sincere thanks to all who have volunteered to contribute to the important work we’re doing on behalf of the Ontario Region PNA members.

1. **Treasurer’s Report – Ben Daube (as emailed):**

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1. **Budget for 2022 – 2023: Note: Only a motion to approve the 2022 – 2023 budget was put forward and voted on, but I assumed it applied to both the report and budget.**

**Moved - John Dixon 2nd- Steve Athey AIF**

1. **Livewire Report: Raj Narain:** Reported that he has been doing Livewire since November 2020 and announce earlier that this past September issue would be his last. He mentioned that if anyone that was interested in taking up the reins to bring a fresh look and new ideas, to get in touch with the board.
2. **Chapter Reports & Toronto: Durham-Trent/Golden Horseshoe/NC/SWO/Toronto Report**
3. **Durham-Trent: Barrie Burhoe (reported and emailed):** Just a very brief report from Durham Trent. We had a ZOOM meeting in September. We began planning for our Christmas Event which we expect to have sometime at the end of November before the Christmas rush. The updated list of Durham Trent Chapters members with email addresses have been formed into groups ready to go out once details are finalized. Those without email addresses will be sent letters.
4. **Golden Horseshoe: Bob Waller (reported and emailed):** The Golden Horseshoe Chapter emerged from the Pandemic last June 1st with a gathering at the Rock Garden of the Royal Botanical Gardens in Hamilton.

Almost four dozen PNA members and guests enjoyed lunch together and then a spirited presentation by noted horticulturalist Paul Zammit.

Now the Executive is busy organizing its first Holiday gathering since 2019 for December 1st at RBG Centre in Burlington. It will also be the chapter’s Annual General Meeting and Triennial Election. The Chapter has published eight editions of its newsletter, the UPDATE, over the past year and will publish its ninth within the week. You can read about what happened today.

1. **Southwestern Ontario: Gino Piazza (reported and emailed):** The year for us started with the hopes of renewing our face-to-face gatherings. After the past two years of sitting idle it was time. Our Chapter began with our annual BBQ in July and the turnout exceeded our expectations, just a wonderful success. Sixty plus members (both locally and out of town) attended and once again the renewal of friendships was at hand. Our next social gathering will be our AGM on Saturday, December 3rd for our annual yearend Christmas party. We have two very special guests attending as guest speakers. Alain Pineau (President CBCPNA) and Dan Oldfield (Representative on the Consultative Committee on Staff Benefits). The event will take place at the Giovanni Caboto Club with a Multi-course sit-down meal. And a reminder it is **FREE** to all our Chapter members and $25 for all others. Why free you may ask because our members deserve it. After all it is their dues that pay for all our activities. Our Triennial Elections will take place in November and the formal results will be announced with an email blast and at our AGM in December. After our annual Christmas Party, your board will commence work on our 20th anniversary BBQ and Christmas celebration. We are the first and longest serving Chapter in Canada and we intend on making this celebration extraordinary. More updates will be forthcoming with our email blasts and in our Good Life newsletter.
2. **North Central: David Hauraney (no report submitted):** John Dixon spoke on their behalf, they will be holding their AGM tomorrow on October 13, 2022, at the Legion in Orillia. He mentioned that age is taking its toll not only in the NC Chapter but across the country. An example is the outgoing board is 90+. Hopefully after their AGM a new board will be in place and become more active.
3. **Toronto: Steve Athey (reported and emailed):** The Toronto group has been very active since our last report.  Members of the Toronto Core group (and other interested PNA members) set up an information table at a joint CBC / CMG / APS "welcome back" lunch that was held on Sept.22nd outside the Broadcasting Centre for returning employees and retirees who left since the pandemic. The CBC provided box lunches which were distributed. Our purpose was to raise the profile of the PNA, answer questions about our organization, and collect contact information of potential members for recruitment purposes. Our reps wore t-shirts that said 'ask me what's new with the CBC pension', matching a banner to draw attention. Weather was sunny , and the event was very successful - about 500 people overall attended, and just under 100 contacts, e-mail addresses and phone numbers, were collected, and some new members were recruited as well.  After a long hiatus, we revived our popular Toronto Pub Afternoon on Wednesday 28 September at Factory Girl on the Danforth. Light snacks, Coffee, tea and soft drinks were provided for free, and members paid for their own alcoholic drinks.  About 45 members attended, and a lot of interest was generated for the upcoming AGM., with an eye to getting members to register for the AGM.   More contact information was also collected, It was great to see people reconnecting after such a long time - it felt like a good beginning for a growing return to PNA in-person social gatherings.

Although recruitment can be challenging through the summer, the Core group efforts with this are continuing. We have signed up about 34 new members that we can welcome to the PNA.

1. **New Business:**
2. **SCEDI Report: Rochelle Porter (reported & emailed):** The PNA’s vision is to strive to be a diverse and inclusive association. Members of our committee hope to act as motivators to give those words meaning and help make its vision a reality. Our focus is on gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, sexual orientation - or identity, ability challenges (related to hearing, sight, mobility, and other age-related issues), education, language, geography. The committee’s end goal is to help ensure current and future pensioners feel included and welcomed in the PNA.

**SCEDI's activities:**

* At the October 3rd, the PNA's national board's Ottawa meeting, Co-Chair Ron Charles presented the SCEDI guide.
  + The guide offers pointers to help PNA leaders and volunteers to hold ]truly welcoming events and meetings and encourages more members to get involved in the PNA.
  + Plans are to distribute the guide, in both web and written form.
  + The national board recommended the guide be posted, in its current draft form, on the PNA website, and shared with the boards of the regional chapters.
* SCEDI updated its mandate and the structure of our committee.
* Re-wrote the web page entry about our committee for the PNA's web site. Currently submitted for board approval.
* Offered questions for the PNA member survey.
* SCEDI is pursuing an outreach component to SCEDI's activities.
* Challenged to find an effective method to provide insight, achieve understanding, and share the benefits of equity, diversity, and inclusion. The committee concluded the best approach is through storytelling.
* It's interactive with the storyteller sharing their personal story and connects the listener to recognize elements of their own experience.
* Each story is relevant to one of the SCEDI's focus of: gender, race, challenges to age-related issues such as hearing, sight, mobility, etc. Still in the early stages of planning.
* Both the guide and storytelling outreach will share best practices to senior-driven organizations such as CARP, Rotary Clubs, and other groups.
* The government of Canada grant called “New Horizons for Seniors” provides senior-driven organizations like the PNA with up to $25,000 to fund projects. The SCEDI plans to apply for the grant next year to fund a more expansive and professional-looking guide and support the story-telling outreach series.
* Rochelle Porter is an experienced grant-writer. She will write and submit a New Horizons grant application.
* The PNA Board of Directors approved the idea.

1. **Recruitment Report: Philip Peck (reported & emailed):** The big news from the recruitment committee is the creation of a new membership category for the Pensioners Association. The proposal for non-voting members was approved last week by the national board of directors.

The proposal required a change in the national bylaws. The change is effective immediately but will have to be approved by the membership at the national AGM next year.

The change creates a category of non-voting members, people who will be eligible to become voting members in the future. This includes people who are currently working for the CBC, people who have a deferred pension and spouses of current members.

The goal is to bring potential members into the tent before they start collecting their pension.

In the past, a lot of people who started collecting their pension without any introduction to the Pensioners Association and did not become members. The goal is to help future pension recipients transition into retirement and become Association members.

The fee to become a non-voting member is set at a minimum of $25 per year. The amount will be collected by the Region and Chapters which will keep the money.

The other main project of the Recruitment committee is to do follow up on the Survey of Pensioners. The results are slow to come in, but the committee hopes the results will guide us to make recommendations on how to make the Association more attractive to pensioners who are non-members.

Initial results show that non-members have an unfavourable perception about the Association, or they have little knowledge about what the Association does and what it has to offer.

Based on this situation, I am making a proposal to the Ontario Region that I hope will address this situation. I plan to present that under new business.

**Proposed Resolution:** Right now, there is a large number of CBC pensioners Ontario, who are not members of the Pensioners National Association. There are also Association members who don't fully understand the activities, programs and benefits of the Association. And, the Ontario Region of the Association would benefit greatly if more of its members were to help with its undertakings.

Based on these points, I am proposing the creation of an Ontario Region **Outreach and Growth committee.** Its mandate would be to define the methods and implement two-way conversations with all CBC pensioners living in the region.

**Moved - Phil Peck 2nd – Gino Piazza**

How it could work

The committee would build a list of pensioners who are not members of the association. Those on the list would be kept informed of association initiatives, to give them a better appreciation of the association.

The goals would be: to make the association more accessible and inclusive, to make the association appear more welcoming, and to make all pensioners feel that their interests are taken care of by the Association.

The Association would similarly aim to have conversations with current association members about how they could assist the association with its activities and events.

The Committee would report to the Ontario Region Board of Directors. The Committee will include at least one member from Toronto and at least one from each chapter. The Committee could add as many members and as many implementation assistants, as it sees fit.

Although this Committee will be created on a Region-wide basis to develop strategies and to coordinate activities, the implementation will be done mainly on the local level in consultation with the Chapters and Toronto directors.

Current efforts to recruit pensioners would continue as they are currently being conducted in Toronto and the Chapters.

The committee would focus on letting pensioners know that the Association is doing important work on their behalf, both locally and nationally. From the committee’s efforts, there may be individuals who decide to join or who may be directed to those who are doing recruiting.

After some discussion on this topic, with Philip Peck agreeing to put together a short report listing some the topics that were discussed, a motion was put forth to table this item and refer back to the Regional Board at a later date:

**Moved - Gail Carducci 2nd – Steve Athey AIF**

1. **John Dixon –** from the 2021 AGM minutes regarding the recruitment committee will be in touch with each of the Chapters proposed by Len Carter, has any steps been taken to fulfill this proposal. It was pointed out that Len Carter is no longer the Ontario representative on recruitment committee and Philip Peck has taken his place.
2. **Gino Piazza gave a few words regarding Gerald Head:**

I previously sent out an announcement to our Chapter and other individuals that are connected to our Chapter.

As you may or may not know Gerald Head has been President of the Ontario Region since 2016 and was seeking a third term at this year's election in October. A while back Gerald experienced a TIA or minor stroke but has since returned home. After a follow-up with the neurologist, he did decide to step down as President of the Ontario Region (immediately) and as well, he did not seek another term at this year's election.

Gerald has had a very long history with the CBC, the SWO Chapter, the PNA, and the Ontario Region. As mentioned, he was completing 6 years as President this October and prior to that was the CBCPNA - Ontario Region's Treasurer since 2011.

In Windsor he was the 2nd President of our Chapter beginning in 2006 - 2012 and continued and added a positive flow that was started here at the birth of our Chapter. He joined the CBCPNA upon retiring in October 2003 and has been heavily involved in many aspects and committees.

I personally met Gerald in the 70s, although he was already well established there during the CKLW days and found out that he has not changed much when it comes to dealing with individuals. Gerald is kind, fair and always mindful of others during his tenure as a CBC employee and when dealing with issues at the Regional/National level.

We spent many hours discussing/arguing about many issues within our travels to the Ontario Regional meetings. One thing that will remain with me is that Gerald always had the interest of the Region as a whole and refused to waiver away from that belief whatever the cost.

Although Gerald has stepped down, I have a feeling he will still be involved in some aspect within the CBC.

Gerald, I want to thank you personally on behalf of our Chapter and as a past member of the Ontario Regional Board for all your hard work and commitment to our organizations!

Thank you, Gerald.

Gerald responded by first congratulating those that were elected and gave words of encouragement in completing future tasks. He gave a personal update on himself, and things are getting better. He thanked everyone for their support, wishes and prayers. He is still available for one-on-one chats but call him on is cell phone.

1. Prior to adjourning, Raj: thanked Suzie Bougie and Leone Earls for putting this all together.
2. **Adjournment: Moved – John Dixon (13:51pm)**

**Those in Attendance/Registered for the Zoom Meeting as reported by Leone Earls:**

Susan Gagliardi Sandy Tymczak Linda Litwack

Gino Piazza Louna Venis Leone Earls

Alan Grant Steve Athey Lise Lareau

Philip Peck Randy Blyth Archie Reid

Michael Darley Gail Carducci Karin Kaus

Jade Mah Alex Sutton Elizabeth Jenner

Bob Waller Gerald Head Jeff Allen

Peter Robertson Lynda Barnett Mary Depoe

Barrie Burhoe Raj Narain Jaroslaw Borys

James Hay Tom Bilenkey Gerry Goulet

Barry Mean Daniel Schwartz Terry Brown

D.Patricia Schofield Nancy Dimenna Jill Burns

Susan Helwig John Dixon Talin Vartanian

Barbara Saxberg Betty Chiu John Bailey

Rochelle Porter John Corcelli Marie Clarke-Davies

James Rogers David Knapp Debra Rowe