

# LIVEWIRE

CBC PNA RADIO REGION



# PNA HERO

# LIVEWIRE

## CBC PNA ONTARIO REGION

### HERE HE CAME, TO SAVE THE DAY!

EDITORIAL BY TALIN VARTANIAN, COVER ART BY SCOTT GALLEY

No one has worked harder for all CBC pensioners than Dan Oldfield.

While most of us have been going about our post-retirement lives, Dan tirelessly has been strategizing, negotiating, and jumping hurdles on our behalf, to ensure we will receive the pension surplus cheques that are owed to us.

There were two years of talks with the CBC, when the Corporation decided the Memorandum of Agreement it had signed with the PNA and the unions was no longer in effect. A respected arbitrator ruled in our favour.

The most recent hurdle was a demand from the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions (OSFI) that two-thirds of all pensioners sign and return a consent form before surplus pension funds can be disbursed. At first, that process was going to be managed solely via Canada Post, and at a time of year when many pensioners are winter Snowbirds. Countless pensioners—both in Canada and those who permanently live abroad—reported

they did not receive their information package and ballot. Dan successfully negotiated online submission of forms as an option. Many PNA members do not own a computer. Others have family members with Power of Attorney who struggled to meet OSFI's demand on behalf of a parent. More than 2,000 CBC employees have deferred

*Dan Oldfield tirelessly  
has been strategizing,  
negotiating, and  
jumping hurdles on  
our behalf.*

*Continued...*



## DAN OLDFIELD, CONTINUED...

pensions. Those who were less than diligent about updating their contact information with the Pension Administration Centre did not receive their ballots.

Perhaps the biggest obstacle was that almost half of all CBC pensioners are not yet members of the PNA. They faced ten pages of legalese, along with a suggestion to consult a lawyer, and wondered what to make of it all.

Given all the challenges, the fact that we met OSFI's goal is nothing short of heroic. Many in the PNA helped, but none of this would have happened without Dan Oldfield's determination, his hard work, and his patience. Thank you, Dan.

*"Dan Oldfield is a brilliant strategist, generous with his time, clear in his communications, and a visionary who is quick to share credit. He is the very definition of a leader. Did I mention tenacious? We, in the Association, are lucky to have him."*

Gail Carducci, Ontario Region President

**Livewire is the Ontario Region newsletter of the PNA**

**The CBC Pensioners  
National Association**

*Preserving our Future, Sharing our Past*

**L'Association nationale  
des retraités de la SRC**

*Assurer notre avenir, partager notre passé*

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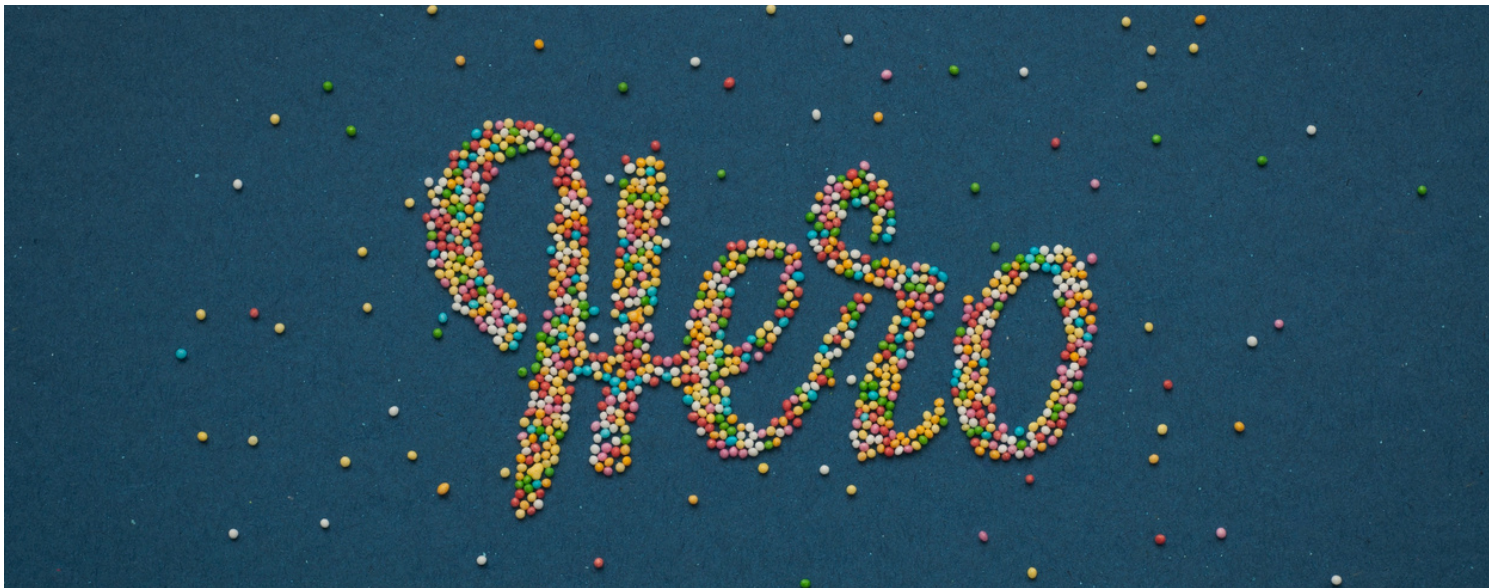
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**Please write to [pnalivewire@gmail.com](mailto:pnalivewire@gmail.com).**

DAN OLDFIELD, CONTINUED...

*“Dan effectively tackles thorny issues from different angles, and he knows how to be strategic about it. He peppers all that with humour and the occasional bombast, so sometimes I have a hard time keeping a straight face.”*

Jon Soper, Newfoundland and Labrador Region President  
and Retiree Representative on the CBC Pension Board of Trustees



*“By the time Dan got off the stand, I felt very confident that we had won this case. He did a phenomenal job of just being himself, and presenting straightforwardly what happened in 2009 [when he had negotiated the Memorandum of Agreement about surplus sharing]... There were things, of course, he couldn’t remember and he didn’t pretend he could remember. He came across so well, as just the guy you know: very self-confident, straightforward. It was fun to watch CBC’s lawyers try to cross-examine him, and get nowhere.”*

Sean Fitzpatrick, Partner, Cavalluzzo law firm  
PNA/CMG lawyer

Continued...



DAN OLDFIELD, CONTINUED...

*“Dan défend les droits des retraités de l’ANR avec autant d’ardeur et de conviction que je lui ai toujours connu. Il ne change pas, toujours passionnée et fidèle à ses principes.*

*Merci de tout ce que tu fais pour nous tous. Dan, on t’aime.”*

Micheline Provost, Vice Présidente  
National (Francophone)

*”A brilliant negotiator who always sees the end game before anyone else does; and if you’re really lucky, he’s also your close and valued friend, and confidant.”*

Marc-Philippe Laurin  
National Capital Region President  
and PNA Representative, Consultative  
Committee on Staff Benefits

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## A LIVELY AND CHALLENGING AGM

BY ONTARIO REGION VICE PRESIDENT BARBARA SAXBERG

The Ontario Region held its Annual General Meeting via Zoom on October 11, 2023. Attendance ranged from 53 members at the start of the meeting to 42 members at adjournment. It was the best-attended AGM in several years. The meeting was presided over by President Gail Carducci.

Members overwhelmingly passed the new Region bylaws, with 93% voicing their approval. The new bylaws are clearer, more democratic, and will make governance simpler, going forward. Three amendments were offered. One passed, the other two failed. You can read the new bylaws on the PNA website. We thank Dan Oldfield for so ably chairing this portion of the meeting, allowing the President an opportunity to speak to the amendments.

The Region Board Executive met to review the proceedings, and identified lessons learned. It was a lively meeting, although challenging at times because of a focus on process, instead of content. The Executive met to reflect on this, and we have created a plan for more orderly public meetings in the future. Nevertheless, we covered a lot of ground at the AGM.

*“We have created a plan for more orderly public meetings in the future.”*

The financial report was approved, and we are committed to ensuring we are better prepared to answer detailed questions at future meetings.

You'll be glad to know the Region's finances are in good shape. Additionally, a resolution was passed unanimously to encourage all

members to play a role in recruiting new members.

Toronto Director Lise Lareau reminded members that there was a vacancy on the board for a Toronto/York Region representative and she encouraged eligible members to consider getting involved. (The position has since been filled by Mike Darley, who attended the AGM.)

*Continued...*



### LIVELY AGM, CONTINUED...

Later in the meeting, Dan Oldfield returned as guest speaker. Dan is the PNA representative to the Consultative Committee on Staff Benefits. He updated members on the latest developments concerning the payout of the pension surplus, noting that OSFI ( Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions) had requested new information before approving the surplus distribution. That information was provided, but it now appears we will have to wait until spring for payouts.

We thank everyone who took the time to attend, and to learn more about the workings of the Region. And we encourage you to get more involved, either by volunteering to help your Chapter Board or by running for office in the next round of elections.

## MEET A MEMBER: JILL BURNS

BY TALIN VARTANIAN



Jill Burns with her friend Knowlton Nash, in the late 1980s. (Photo by Lorraine Thomson)

When Jill Burns left school at age 17, she was living in the north of England with her mother. Her father had died four years earlier, her mother didn't have a career outside the home, and university was not an option for the young student. She needed a job. She landed one at the BBC in London. Her first post was in the News Information Bureau, then on the Audience Research Information desk.

*Continued...*

## MEET A MEMBER: JILL BURNS, CONTINUED...

"Post-war London was a fascinating place, and my finishing school was the BBC hostel where I lived during the 1950s," Burns recalls. "It wasn't a polished finishing school, and it certainly wasn't an academic finishing school, but I feel as if I've had a life. I don't feel deprived. Now and again, I wish I'd had a better education but, in general, I'm happy with my lot."

After a near-fatal bout of Asian flu in 1958, Burns emigrated to Canada for a couple of years, and decided to stay. An attempt to parlay her BBC experience into a job at the CBC didn't succeed at first. She sensed an anti-English sentiment at the time: "They sent me to accounting, which was the last thing I wanted."

Instead, Burns found work in an advertising agency, where she conducted research about Canada, and learned about the country she'd decided to adopt. One day, she spotted a posting for a secretary in the BBC office in Toronto and was hired, despite her lack of secretarial experience. The

*Her attempt to parlay  
her BBC experience  
into a job at the CBC  
didn't succeed at first.*

office was in the CBC building on Jarvis Street, "and then I met everyone in Radio," she recalls.

"When I first arrived in Canada, I was sitting in a friend's kitchen and heard a CBC Radio play produced by John Reeves. I was so delighted with the play because it reminded me of Dylan Thomas's *Under Milk Wood*," says Burns. "I called to see whether I could speak with John Reeves. I couldn't, but I spoke to his secretary. I've forgotten what her name was then, but her name now is Mary DePoe. That was in 1958, and I'm still friends with Mary."

Three years later, following a chance encounter with someone from CBC personnel, Burns was hired as secretary to Doug Nixon, the director of program-

Continued...



**MEET A MEMBER: JILL BURNS, CONTINUED...**

ming for both radio and television. She stayed in the role through what became known as the Seven Days crisis, a controversy over an episode about Stephen Truscott, that aired on the ground-breaking current affairs program *This Hour Has Seven Days*.



Jill Burns (Photo by Amanda Smith)

"Blood flowed and survivors survived," Burns says. Nixon was demoted and, in a show of loyalty, Burns declined an offer to be secretary to his replacement. She stayed by Nixon's side.

A few years later, she was hired in a new position that would mark the favourite decade of her career, as a script assistant for two half-hour TV quiz shows, *Flashback* and *Front Page Challenge*

(*FPC*). Burns worked on the production of two recorded episodes of *Flashback* on a Monday; and, on the following Monday, one taped and one live episode of *FPC*. The studio was on Yonge Street near Summerhill.

*FPC* flew in guests from all over the world, and accommodated them at Toronto's Park Plaza Hotel. As a result, Burns met countless celebrities, including actors (such as Ethel Merman and Peter Ustinov), musicians (Artie Shaw and Anne Murray), TV stars (Ed Sullivan), and politicians (every Canadian premier of the day).

Taking the program to Expo '67 was a highlight, where former Prime Minister Louis St. Laurent was a guest.

"He was lovely," says Burns. "The day of that production—it was a male chauvinist thing—the producer and the writers went off for meals, and I was left on my own. So, I went off to Expo for the day by myself. I fell, and I didn't break anything, but sprained my knee so badly I had to be taken to the medical tent, then sent home in a taxi."

Continued...

**MEET A MEMBER: JILL BURNS, CONTINUED...**

The program was taping that evening. Fortunately, Burns had bought herself a pantsuit, a new fashion trend for women at the time, and the pants handily covered her bandaged leg.

"I get off the elevator and the producer-director turns around and says, 'Go back up and change because you're not wearing pants in the studio,' and I said, 'Yes, I am.' That was the thinking of the day. It wasn't that he was being a bad guy, but looking back on it, it was crazy, you know."

Shortly after that, Burns met feminists Gloria Steinem ("a very nice woman, very together") and Germaine Greer ("not so likeable.")

"I remember booking Dr. Benjamin Spock," Burns recalls, "and on the same show we had a GI during World War II named Christine Jorgensen. She'd gone to Denmark in 1952, and was the first American to have a sex change operation. Dr. Spock had dinner with her, and they got on famously. When they came back, she was holding an autographed copy of his book!"

Spock's appearance on *FPC* depended on a guarantee he would return to the U.S. the same day. Burns managed it, through creative travel arrangements.

"The very next morning, I was listening to the radio and heard that Dr. Spock had just been arrested," Burns recalls. "He'd just set fire to his draft card on the steps of the library. I guess I got him back in time to do that."

*Continued...*



Jill Burns at the Agra Fort, near the Taj Mahal, Agra, India (Photo courtesy of Jill Burns)



**MEET A MEMBER: JILL BURNS, CONTINUED...**

On January 5, 1968, Spock was indicted for conspiring to urge people to violate draft laws. He and four other opponents to the Vietnam War, became known as "The Boston Five." Spock's conviction and two-year jail sentence eventually were thrown out by an appellate court.

Typically, Burns would meet *FPC* guests, bring them to the studio, walk them through their paces, then send them to the hotel for dinner. They would return to the studio at 6 p.m., where Alex Barris was the audience warm-up person.

"It was critical to keep the guests separate from the panelists prior to airtime," says Burns. "It kept you on the edge of your seat. In those days little editing was done because you had to physically splice the tape with a blade. Once it was edited, the tape couldn't be reused. In those days, you kept taping over everything."

*"In those days,  
you kept taping  
over everything."*

Much as she loved the job, Burns looked for change: "I needed to come back down to the earth and be myself again. I was getting a little worn, and tired. I knew I'd had enough."

After various stints in the Variety department, working with *Wayne and Shuster*, and *Hart and Lorne*

(Hart Pomerantz and Lorne Michaels), Burns became assistant to the head of Arts, Science and Religion, in 1976. The department evolved and changed its name over the years. By the time she left the CBC in 1990, it was Arts, Music and Science, and Burns was in charge of the production staff, unit managers, and scheduling. She took early retirement, at the age of 55.

"There was a lot of infighting going on in the upper echelons," she says. "It was a nasty time politically. It didn't affect my particular job, but it affected people around me." Again, she felt she'd had enough. She also yearned to travel.

After a three-month return to England, Burns took a part-time job working with the local architects who were putting the finishing touches on the new Toronto

*Continued...*

**MEET A MEMBER: JILL BURNS, CONTINUED...**

Broadcasting Centre. Three years later, when part-time had turned to full-time, she left that position, too.

To help fund her travels, she became a tour guide with a bus-tour company called Mary Morton Tours, leading trips to areas outside Toronto such as Stratford and Niagara Falls. She also began to realize her dream to see the world, visiting Australia, New Zealand, India, China, Africa, and South America.

Burns had been living for almost four decades in a co-op building in Rosedale, serving for most of that time as president of the board, when a better living arrangement appeared in 2007. Actor Roy Woodsworth, a former CBC colleague from *Wayne and Shuster*, was a cofounder and president of the Performing Arts Lodges (PAL), which had opened a 205-unit apartment building in Toronto, just steps from the St. Lawrence Market. PAL offers affordable housing to workers in the performing arts and related industries.

"Roy said, 'You should move here because it's cheaper, and you'll have more money to travel,'" says Burns, "So I did and, other than the stop due to Covid, I've been traveling ever since!"

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Did you know that when you move, it's critical to share your new address not only with the PNA, but with the CBC's Pension Payroll division?

By telling the PNA, you'll continue to receive all its emails, newsletters, and other communications. And updating your information with Pension Payroll will ensure your tax slips and other critical documents will arrive at the right address. Payroll will inform the Pension Administration Centre on your behalf, so you'll receive information such as the recent pension surplus package.

Let both know with one email. Send it to [info@cbcpensioners.ca](mailto:info@cbcpensioners.ca) and to [pension@cbc.ca](mailto:pension@cbc.ca).



# PNA 101

BY PNA ONTARIO PRESIDENT AND PROFESSOR GAIL CARDUCCI

A national committee is examining the structure of the PNA to make sure the decisions that were made more than twenty years ago still make sense today.

As many people don't quite know how it works, welcome to class! Here's PNA 101.



## At the national level

The CBC Pensioners National Association is a Canada-wide bilingual (English and French) organization. It was established in 1985 to represent the interests of CBC pensioners.

We have a president (a position that rotates every six years between an Anglophone and a Francophone), vice-president (Anglophone), vice-president (Francophone), and treasurer. These four officers make up the Executive.

In addition to the Executive, the presidents of each of eight regions sit on the National Board of Directors, as well as the vice-presidents from Quebec and Ontario. There are five non-voting seats on the board: the chair of the Standing Committee for Recruitment; the chair of the Standing Committee for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion; our representative on the CBC's Consultative Committee on Staff Benefits (CCSB); a PNA observer to the CCSB; and the pensioners' representative on the CBC Pension Board of Trustees.

Executive members serve for three-year terms, and we will hold an election in 2024.

*Continued...*

## PNA 101, CONTINUED...

The vote will be conducted in April and, for the first time, it will be an electronic election. This means all members of the PNA will be able to cast a ballot online, or by telephone. The PNA's National Triennial Convention will be held in May.

Two part-time employees run the National office, and we have a part-time Communications Coordinator. These are the only paid positions. Everyone else in the PNA is a volunteer.

### At the regional level

There are eight regions in the PNA: BC-Yukon / Alberta-Saskatchewan-NWT / Manitoba / Ontario / Quebec / National Capital-Nunavut / Maritimes / Newfoundland and Labrador. The regional boards of directors generally consist of a president, vice-president, treasurer, secretary, and directors (representing chapters or districts, or directors-at-large).

Regional elections also are held every three years. The next one in Ontario will be in 2025.

### At the chapter level

If more than 25 members live 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, such as Montreal and Toronto, members are under the governance of the Region, not in separate Chapters.

This is because of a concern that, as Chapters, the large number of members in these cities would command too great a share of the Region's resources.

*Continued...*

## PNA 101, CONTINUED...

Four directors represent members who reside in Toronto and York Region.

The chapters in Ontario are Golden Horseshoe (including Oakville, Burlington, Hamilton, Guelph, Kitchener-Waterloo, Niagara, and Stratford), Durham-Trent (including Oshawa, Peterborough and Prince Edward County), Southwestern Ontario (which includes Windsor, London, and Leamington), and North Central Ontario (which includes Barrie and Muskoka).

Ontario PNA members who live elsewhere in the province, but not in a chapter, are represented by the Ontario Region officers.

### The PNA offers excellent value

Dues are deducted at source from our monthly pension payments, at the rate of \$3.20 per \$1,000 of pension. For most members, this comes to about \$100 a year. Dues are tax deductible, and the PNA issues a receipt at the end of each year.

The national PNA keeps about three-quarters of the funds, and sends one quarter to the regions, based on membership numbers. If a chapter exists, a portion of the region's money is transferred to the chapter, based on its membership.

Want to know more? Contact one of your Ontario region team. You can also email your questions or comments to [ontario@cbcpensioners.ca](mailto:ontario@cbcpensioners.ca).

Class dismissed!





## LIFE SUPPORT OR THE KILLING FLOOR?

BY TALIN VARTANIAN



Illustration by Scott Galley

*Last month, CBC management held an all-staff meeting to share the news of a potential \$125 million shortfall in the Corporation's budget. They announced a 10 per cent reduction in the workforce, and yet another round of programming cuts. During my 43 years as a network CBC Radio producer, I sat through many such meetings. After one that was held in 2014, I wrote a column for Rabble.ca. We hope you'll agree it's as relevant today as it was then.*

A few days before black clouds descended yet again over the CBC, I was editing some compelling audio for *The Sunday Edition*, a panel discussion about the future of public broadcasting. One voice stood out. A former BBC executive named Mark Damazer was uttering things through my headphones that I could never imagine emerging from the mouth of anyone in CBC management.

He spoke in an unapologetic, forthright tone, describing public broadcasting as "an ideology, an act of political will." It must be dedicated, he said, to "making all the good programs popular and all the popular programs good." Then Damazer threw down the gauntlet: we must believe in it and invest in it or simply kill it.

*Continued...*

LIFE SUPPORT OR THE KILLING FLOOR, CONTINUED...

“Keeping a kernel of public service broadcasting, but depriving it of weight and energy by endlessly hacking away at its funding...is in some senses worse than abolishing it,” he said, “because it allows politicians and you, the public, and an entire society to believe in the illusion of a civic space without actually having the substance of one.”

Well, amen to that.

Endless hacking away at the CBC’s budget has been going on for decades through a succession of both Liberal and Conservative governments. But this time, management is making a point of saying, in so many words, that it’s our fault, it’s not their fault. We’ve been told our financial woes are due to a number of internal pressures—such as lower-than-expected ad revenues and the loss of NHL broadcast rights.

*“Keeping a kernel of public service broadcasting...is in some senses worse than abolishing it.”*

None of this would be an issue if the CBC had a funding model like the BBC’s. In Britain, the public broadcaster is not dependent on the whims of the party in power; and there is no revenue from advertising because there are no ads. Instead, every household with a television pays a licence fee for public broad-

casting (about \$270 a year or 74¢ a day). This means the Beeb knows how much revenue it will have year after year. It also means that Brits would choke on their crumpets if they felt they weren’t getting their money’s worth.

Public funding of the CBC costs each of us about \$34 a year (9¢ a day) for a much more demanding range of services than in Britain: radio, television and online programming in French and English, plus eight aboriginal languages across the North; not to mention the challenges of our geography. More money would not result overnight in better programming, but it sure would help. It might also change the culture of fear in the management corridors of the CBC.

*Continued...*

### LIFE SUPPORT OR THE KILLING FLOOR, CONTINUED...

Radio is the Mother Corp's favoured child. We are held up to our brothers and sisters in English Television as a shining example of how to be distinctive and how to do things right; but we don't always feel deserving. CBC Radio fans are loyal to a fault, maintaining our consistently high ratings; but many producers believe, as I do, that the quality of programming in "the senior service" is not what it used to be, and we hear from listeners who agree.

We are not immune to budget cuts. Before walking into those gloomy all-staff meetings, we can recite the litany of clichés we are about to hear as readily as our TV colleagues: it is time to rethink, reinvent, re-envision, re-imagine; be leaner, more agile, more adaptable; do more with less. The "Town Hall" gathering last week was no different. A grand total of 657 people are about to lose their jobs through this round, budgets will be slashed and those who stay will try, as always, to do more with less.

There was one warm round of applause at that meeting. It was for a radio colleague who asked Hubert Lacroix why we are not pressing all the political parties to tell us where they stand on the principle of having a public broadcaster.

The CBC President sidestepped the question. Perhaps he doesn't want to press because he's afraid of the answer.

I want to know and I'm not alone.

If, as Mark Damazer put it, there is no longer the political will to have a public broadcaster, it would be more merciful to put a knife through the Mother Corp's heart than to slash her wrists, and leave her to bleed to death.

*Talin Vartanian worked at CBC Radio for 43 years on programs such as Morningside, This Morning, As It Happens, Canada Reads, and The Sunday Edition.*





# THE INSIDE WIRE: A KOREAN FILM WITH HUGE HEART

BY CHARLOTTE ODELE

It's hard to expect perfection in a film. (What in life is ever perfect?) But a tender, beguiling movie by Korean-Canadian filmmaker Celine Song, remarkably her first feature, offers us something of a gift that's as close to faultless as we dare hope for the price of a ticket. There's not a misstep anywhere.

The sly opening begins with Nora (the enchanting Greta Lee) sitting in a bar with two men. They exchange words and glances. Off camera we hear others ponder the relationship: which guy is the one Nora is actually with? That's the question Nora will, in fact, ask herself as the story progresses by first jumping back into the past: Korea. Schoolgirl Nora and classmate Hae Sung are childhood sweethearts. They feel destined to be together. But when Nora's parents emigrate first to Canada and then to the U.S. destiny takes a detour. A long one.



Twelve years later, Nora is a writer in New York City. Hae Sung, the intensely appealing Teo Yoo, has been studying engineering back home. But miraculously, he finds her via the Internet and they reconnect online. Their virtual encounters, at first tentative and shy, are soon filled with giddy delight, Nora and Hae Sung are ebullient

*Continued...*

**THE INSIDE WIRE, CONTINUED...**

at finding each other. But distance and different time zones eventually give Nora second thoughts. (A bird can love a fish, but where will they build a nest?)

*Past Lives* jumps ahead yet another 12 years. Nora is now married to Arthur, a sweet, gentle guy beautifully played by John Magaro, in the tricky role of the third person in this triangle. He's crazy about Nora. When a real reunion with Hae Sung is on the horizon, this wise director manages to have us rooting for all three of these deeply likeable characters. How often does a film pull that off?!

This is a very romantic story. It has a huge heart, without ever being sentimental. And with understated artistry, it asks those perennial questions: What if I'd met that person at a different time? In a different place? When is the time to let go of the past? But it also offers additional, unexpected layers: Who are we? What makes us who we are? When Arthur says to Nora, "You dream in Korean," (a language he cannot understand) he reminds us that we're connected to our past in ways we ourselves may not even know or be capable of sharing.

Late in the film, Nora and Hae Sung stand facing each other, just a few feet apart but with a world of emotion in the space between them. Both utterly still except for the slightest breeze moving her skirt. You hold your breath. Has a silence ever felt as full? The present is filled with the past, the past with the future. It's one of the most sublime moments of any film in the past year. It might just be perfect.



*Charlotte Odele was a CBC Radio and TV producer for 30 years, during which time she worked at Morningside, Marketplace, Witness, The Passionate Eye, The Lens and in the Documentary Unit.*

*Since leaving the CBC in 2012, she has worked for many independent production companies.*

Charlotte Odele (Photo by Frank Faulk)



## PARTY TIME! A ROUND-UP OF PHOTOS FROM THE ONTARIO REGION'S HOLIDAY PARTIES

### THE DURHAM-TRENT CHAPTER PARTY ON NOVEMBER 29TH

(PHOTOS BY EFFY TERRY)



JOE SOLWAY WITH DURHAM-TRENT CHAPTER PRESIDENT EFFY TERRY  
(PHOTO COURTESY OF JOE SOLWAY)



NEW PNA MEMBER ANTHONY WOLLERY AND HIS PARTNER DENISE CHARLEMAGNE



### THUNDER BAY PARTY ON NOVEMBER 30TH

STANDING, BRAD LACO AND MAUREEN JUDGE; SEATED SHANE JUDGE, MAVIS RINNE, GARY RINNE, DAN OLDFIELD, FRED JONES, AND GERALD GRAHAM.

(PHOTO BY BARBARA SAXBERG)



## PHOTOS FROM ONTARIO HOLIDAY PARTIES, CONTINUED

### ONTARIO REGION HOLIDAY LUNCH IN TORONTO ON DECEMBER 2ND

(PHOTOS BY KONRAD EJBICH)

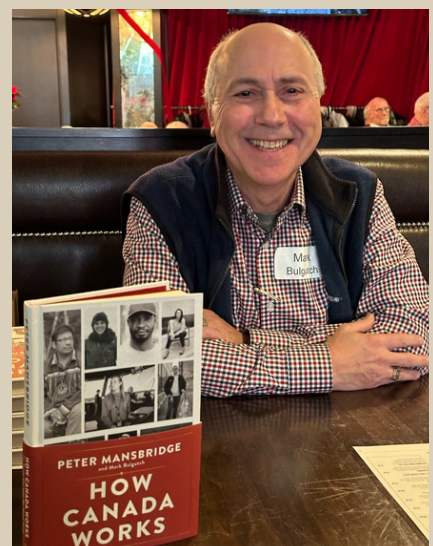


PNA MEMBER AND AUTHOR  
MARK BULGUTCH

(HIS BOOK IS FEATURED IN  
LIVEWIRE ON PAGE 28.)



NEW TORONTO DIRECTOR MIKE  
DARLEY, WITH MARIO ARTALE,  
AND JEEVAN PRAGASAM



## PHOTOS FROM ONTARIO HOLIDAY PARTIES, CONTINUED

### GOLDEN HORSESHOE PARTY IN BURLINGTON ON NOVEMBER 29TH



(PHOTO BY MARK PUNGA)



SUE HEDDLE WITH GOLDEN  
HORSESHOE CHAPTER PRESIDENT  
BOB WALLER

(PHOTO BY TALIN VARTANIAN)



## PHOTOS FROM ONTARIO HOLIDAY PARTIES, CONTINUED

SOUTHWESTERN ONTARIO CHAPTER HOLIDAY PARTY  
IN WINDSOR, ON DECEMBER 2ND



VERONIQUE MANDAL,  
CHRIS VANDER DOELEN,  
AND CLAUDIA TAYLOR

PHOTOS BY  
MICHAEL FITZSIMMONS

PAT RYAN HUGGING HIS WIFE  
CATHY, ROSALIND PECK (HAND  
ON PAT'S SHOULDER), STEVE  
KRISTOF (BLACK JACKET), TO HIS  
RIGHT ALMA DOUCETTE. LEFT  
SIDE, PHIL PECK, AND LAUR  
PRAY.



## WHATEVER HAPPENED TO THE LIBERAL PHARMACARE PLAN?

BY BETTE LADEROUTE

When Sir Frederick Banting and Charles Best developed insulin in 1920, they didn't see it as a get-rich-quick scheme. In fact, in 1923 they sold their patents for a dollar each to the University of Toronto, with the intention that the life-saving drug would be made available for no charge to diabetic sufferers worldwide. That year marked the first time that insulin was administered. It was given to a boy who was dying of diabetes in a Toronto hospital.

Banting thought it was demeaning for a doctor to make money from medical advances. When he applied for the insulin patent, he added the names of the six-member team he had assembled when he was getting close to an effective formula and needed help.

Speculation in the medical world that Banting was on the cusp of bringing insulin to life stimulated interest in the pharmaceutical community. Eli Lilly had an inside track, and successfully lobbied the University of Toronto Insulin Committee. It finally acquired exclusive U.S. rights until 1924, when other firms were granted licences.

The delivery and financial support of healthcare in Canada was a provincial responsibility, but the federal government was charged with healthcare oversight and subsidy.



Enter the Honourable Tommy Douglas. He was a Saskatchewan member of parliament (CCF) from 1935 to 1944, and the NDP premier of the province from 1944 until 1971. Douglas championed medicare throughout his political career, and saw it passed into law in 1962. Following Saskatchewan's lead, other provincial healthcare

Continued...



## NATIONAL PHARMACARE, CONTINUED...

planners gradually created their own versions of healthcare insurance.

At the federal level, the Liberal government headed by Prime Minister Lester Pearson created a Royal Commission on Health Services, also known as the Hall Commission (1961 to 1964). Justice Emmett M. Hall and nurse Alice Girard chaired the eight-member group. It was mandated to study whether Canadians wanted pharmacare, what would it look like, how would it be financed, and how could it meet the diverse needs of a diverse population. Pharmacare, after all, is included in the plans of every other country that has medicare.

It wasn't until 1984 that the federal government enacted the Canada Health Act, legislation for "publicly funded healthcare insurance." But there was still no pharmacare.

Public concern about the rising cost of prescription drugs was growing, and citizen groups were vocal on the issue. In 2018, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's Liberal government created the Advisory Council on the Implementation of

*"Pharmacare, after all, is included in the plans of every other country that has medicare."*

National Pharmacare. The seven-member group, headed by Dr. Eric Hoskins, followed in the Hall Commission's footsteps. The Advisory Council reported that "it's not whether Canada needs national pharmacare, it's how Canada should move forward to create it."

Canada hasn't moved forward.

After consulting with thousands of ordinary Canadians in many walks of life—including doctors, nurses, medical professionals, healthcare providers, and ordinary Canadians—the Advisory Council pointed out that a prescription drug coverage plan would have to vary greatly from person to person, and from province to province.

Then along came Covid-19.

*Continued...*

## NATIONAL PHARMACARE CONTINUED...

All the country's loose change and borrowed bucks were devoted to pulling us through the pandemic. However, we are on the other side of that now, and the prospect of pharmacare is back. Not surprisingly, the NDP is strongly in favour. The party has threatened to pull out of its Supply and Confidence deal with the Liberals, and take its pharmacare model with them, if Trudeau doesn't deliver on this issue.

The most pervasive argument against pharmacare is the price tag. The Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO) estimates the cost would be \$11.2 billion in the first year, rising to \$13.4 billion by 2027.

Although Canada's national debt is big enough to cause a collective Canadian nosebleed, the Hoskins Advisory Council picked the brains of informed financial advisors and indicated a "ways and means" route to establish affordable pharmacare, similar to the one offered by the NDP and the Hall Commission.

For its part, the PBO notes that a pharmacare plan would allow for better price negotiations, and lower drug prices. Even though the use of prescription drugs would rise 13.5 per cent, the PBO forecasts economy-wide savings.

In the Liberal government's Fall Economic Statement, healthcare barely received a mention.

Cold comfort to Canadians who can't afford their insulin now.

## WHAT DO YOU THINK OF LIVEWIRE?

Let us know what you like, and don't like, about your Ontario Region newsletter. Care to suggest someone for our "Meet a member" feature? Have any other story ideas? Would you like to write for us?

Please write to [pналivewire@gmail.com](mailto:pналivewire@gmail.com).

## WRITTEN ANY GOOD BOOKS LATELY?

OUR MEMBERS WRITE BOOKS, AND WE'D LIKE YOU TO KNOW ABOUT THEM



### ***How Canada Works: The people who make our nation thrive* by Mark Bulgutch and Peter Mansbridge**

Non-fiction, published in 2023

Profiles of inspiring Canadians who perform everyday jobs, with kindness and empathy.

### ***The Abortion Caravan: When women shut down government in the battle for the right to choose* by Karin Wells**

Non-fiction, published in 2020

The story of 17 remarkable women who traveled from Vancouver to Ottawa in 1970, and sparked both a national campaign and a revolution.

### ***The Changeling* by Gail Gallant**

Non-fiction, published in 2019

A haunting memoir about life that began as a changeling, a child born to replace another.

If you're an author and would like us to share news about your book, please write to [pnlivewire@gmail.com](mailto:pnlivewire@gmail.com),

## DO YOU HAVE A FAMILY PASSWORD?

Did you know that, in our age of artificial intelligence, scammers need only a few seconds of someone's voice to replicate it? That means a panicky phone call asking for money could sound exactly like the voice of your spouse, your grandchild, or your sister.

That's why it's smart to have a family password, a word you can demand from anyone who phones to say, "I'm in trouble. Please help!"

*Continued...*

### FAMILY PASSWORD, CONTINUED...

Pick a password that's easy to remember. It might be one that has significance for your family. Maybe the name of a much-loved pet? A favourite board game? A traditional food? What is critical is that you share it only with your family members.

If that disturbing call ever comes begging for help, ask the caller for the password.

No password, no bananas.

## LEGACY INTERVIEWS: A PROGRESS REPORT

BY TALIN VARTANIAN



His Excellency Whit Fraser  
(Photo by MCpl Anis Assari,  
Rideau Hall)

Arguably, he is the most storied Canadian journalist who has worked in the communities of this country's three northern territories. He covered historic chapters of modern Canadian history, including the McKenzie Valley Pipeline Inquiry, and the enshrining of Aboriginal rights in the Canadian Constitution. He is a broadcaster, an author, and the current viceregal consort of Canada.

Whit Fraser is the first person whose stories have been preserved for the PNA's Legacy Interviews project. Former *Ideas* host Paul Kennedy recently recorded a lengthy interview with Fraser, in Toronto, about his accomplished CBC career.

Kennedy has been invited to continue the conversation sometime soon at Rideau Hall, where he also hopes to interview Governor General Mary Simon about her years as a producer and announcer for the CBC Northern Service.



## EXPECTING THE MEDICALLY UNEXPECTED

BY TALIN VARTANIAN



When an unpredictable medical expense strikes, it can be challenging to find the money to cover it, especially for a senior on a fixed income. The Special Assistance Fund (SAF) is available to help.

Eligible expenses include occupational therapy, medical marijuana, and travel expenses for medical treatment. The SAF pays for things that aren't covered by OHIP or your personal plan: such as hearing aids, electric wheelchairs, and scooters, but it's

not a substitute for supplementary healthcare. The lifetime maximum benefit is \$12,500.

If in doubt, apply. Canada Life, the administrator of the fund, reviews all applications to determine whether they're eligible.

Additional details about the SAF are available on the PNA website. Go to <https://www.cbcpensioners.ca>, log in (top right corner), click on "Programs," then on "Special Assistance Fund."

Any difficulties or questions? Please write to the PNA national office [info@cbcpensioners.ca](mailto:info@cbcpensioners.ca).

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thank you to all who are involved in the newly revamped *Livewire*. It is an awesome improvement.

**Harry E. Horne, Peterborough**

Formerly with Toronto design and staging

*Continued...*

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR, CONTINUED...**

This is an excellent newsletter.

I thought I'd spend a minute just glancing through. And when I looked up again, my train ride home from work was over. Read almost every word. Loved the stories about what people are doing in retirement. It helped that I worked with several of them!

**Robert Lack, Toronto**

Executive Producer, CBC News Network

*(Editor's note: Livewire is emailed to some CBC employees)*

Today, I found myself reading *Livewire* from cover to cover. It was wonderful to make a connection again to the CBC I knew and loved. The interview with Dita Vadron is spectacular. I remember her... probably seeing her in the radio building in the late '70s.

I look forward to more of the same.

**Ruth-Ellen Soles, Toronto**

Former CBC spokesperson

I recognized the name [Beverley] Palef as listed in the current PNA newsletter ("In Memoriam," *Livewire*, September 2023). I didn't know her, but I believe she could have been the widow of long-time announcer Larry Palef, with whom I worked for several years when he did hourly newscasts, and filled in when the full-time hosts on some programs were away.

I loved the piece about Dita Vadron. She was a character, all right! One of her favourite lines was, "The CBC brass are so confused that they are stabbing each other—IN THE CHEST!" And I recall Dan Karpenchuk sharing that story about Vince Carlin—how he enjoyed shouting at him in a production of *Twelve Angry Men*.

*Continued...*



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**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR, CONTINUED...**

I like the chock-full newsletter, and the range of stuff it contains.

Cheers,

**Keeble McFarlane, Scarborough**

Former news writer/editor/reporter

*Raj Narain sent this tribute to Mary DePoe (Livewire, June 2023, page 30):*

"If I can make cars stop at the new stop sign in my neighbourhood, I'm going to make the Ontario Board see the error of their ways." And she did. Determined and focused, Mary Depoe wanted the Ontario pensioners' association to be representative of its members.

Our paths crossed when I was asked to be a part of an Ontario Region membership committee in 2013. The group, consisting of Jill Burns, Kathryn Atkinson, Kim Murton, and Mary, was asked to look at how to get more CBC retirees to join the PNA. We presented our report and the group disbanded, but Mary, Kim, and I stayed in touch. We'd often meet at Toronto pub afternoons, where the big question in the room was always, "Why doesn't Toronto have any representation on the Ontario Board?" Mary decided this was a question that needed to be answered.

With Kim, and me in tow, Mary had several meetings with various members of the Ontario Region executive. The answer was always Toronto can't have any representation. The reasons varied: The Ontario Region represents Toronto; the bylaws state that no major city can have its own chapter; and so on.

"Not good enough," said Mary. Given that the Toronto area had the highest number of retirees, she decided the city needed representation.

The breakthrough came in 2016 in an unusual way. Under "other business" on the AGM agenda, Arnold Amber nominated me to be the first Toronto director with voice and vote. The motion easily passed. Today, Toronto is well represented by four directors and has expanded to include York region.

*Continued...*

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR, CONTINUED...**

So Mary, through your sheer perseverance, determination and steadfastness, you've gotten Toronto the recognition it deserves. When Kim or I despaired that the goal was unattainable, you held us up and provided the backbone to get us over the line. Thank you, Mary.

**Raj Narain, Toronto**

Former news producer/director

***Phil Park**, formerly a CBC news editor in Toronto, was the first Livewire reader to submit a correct solution to our CBC/PNA crossword puzzle. He won a \$50 grocery gift card. As you may recall, we published the wrong crossword in our September issue, then followed up with the right one, along with an abject apology. This was in response.*

I was wondering if it was just me! That's a drag, but thanks for an overall wonderful newsletter!

**Ann Jansen, Toronto**

Former producer of *Canada Reads*

This was actually the first crossword I've ever attempted to complete, as I've never had the patience. Wordle is more my game.

Bravo for improving the newsletter with lots of interesting content. Livewire has also drawn me out of the PNA shadows with an offer to volunteer on the Legacy Interviews project. During my 29 years at CBC, I was a librarian (chronologically) in the Music Library, Radio Archives, and TV Archives. Following that I managed Rights & Residuals, the TV Secretariat, Closed Captioning, TV International Relations, TV Festivals.

The best job was being Editor of Take One, the English Network's employee newsletter. The most challenging was trying to manage the CBC/Radio-Canada Intranet while reporting to Head Office. In a nutshell, I have research and editorial skills which I still

*Continued...*



**THE INSIDE WIRE, CONTINUED...**

use for freelance assignments and would enjoy applying to the oral history project.

**Rhoda Gryfe, Toronto**

Former librarian, TV Archives

*Thank you to all for the kind words about Livewire.*

*Please consider following Rhoda's lead by volunteering for the PNA.*

*Each of us has useful skills: organizing, researching, interviewing, writing, planning events. We could even use help to stuff envelopes. It's a chance to collaborate with former colleagues and meet new people.*

***Please write to [pnalivewire@gmail.com](mailto:pnalivewire@gmail.com) to tell us you'd like to lend a hand, or to respond to anything we've published.***

## ONTARIO'S NEWEST PNA MEMBERS: ALL ABOARD AND WELCOME!

RESEARCH AND CBC PHOTOS BY TALIN VARTANIAN

Ontario's newest PNA members: All aboard and welcome!

In past years, the Ontario Region recruited an average of 32 new members a year. Your Ontario PNA leadership is proud to announce that last year we've almost quadrupled that number. Please join us in welcoming the members who joined us in 2023. We're listing them with their last job title, and the year they "officially" left the CBC.

*Continued...*



## ONTARIO'S NEWEST PNA MEMBERS, CONTINUED...

**Raj Ahluwalia**, Executive Producer, *The Current*, 2023

**Bruce Arculus**, Alert Desk Producer, National News, 2022

**Neil Avey**, Broadcasting Technician, Network Operations, 2018

**Ira Basen**, Documentary Producer, *The Sunday Edition*, 2007

**Pamela Bedore**, Administrative Assistant for TV News, 2004

**Sheldon Beldick**, Supervising Production editor, 2023

**Darian Bernard**, Media Librarian, will leave CBC in 2024

**Heather Boyce**, Director, Accessibility, Inclusion and Diversity, 2017

**Kate Breithaupt**, Unit Production Manager, TV Arts and Entertainment, 2023

**Florence Brodie**, spouse of the late Bryan Brodie, Music Librarian, who died in 2023

**Dave Carley**, Associate Producer, Marketing and Communications, 2023

**Denise Carter**, spouse of the late Len Carter, Associate Director, TV News, 2000

**Sally Caudwell**, Producer/Executive Producer, Montreal, 2014

**Victoria Chenery**, spouse of the late Warren Chenery, CBLT News Editor, who died in 2023

*Continued...*



ONTARIO'S NEWEST PNA MEMBERS, CONTINUED...

**Harsh Chopra**, Manager, Resources and Applications, 2013

**Jonathan Churchill**, Artistic Director, Design, 2021

**Warren Creighton**, Engineering Technologist, 2001

**Kelly Crowe**, Medical Sciences Correspondent, CBC News, 2020

**David Daigneault**, Executive Producer, CBC News, Windsor, 2010

**Jean Dalrymple**, Radio Producer, *The Sunday Edition*, 2012

**Gulbanu Dattu**, spouse of the late Amirali Dattu, Senior VTR Maintenance Technologist, 2003

**Jo Ann Davis**, Executive in Charge of Production, TV Arts & Entertainment, 2008

**Barb Dickie**, Associate Producer and Tech, 2021

**Gillian Findlay**, Host, *The Fifth Estate*, 2023

**Haruko Flower**, information unavailable

**Havoc Franklin**, Director of Content Development, 2022

**Todd Fraracci**, Producer/Recording Engineer, Radio Music, 2023



**Scott Galley**, Senior Graphic Designer, 2022

**Nancy Garant**, Video Librarian and Associate Director, Newsroom, Windsor, 2013

**Lynn Goldman**, spouse of the late Charles Goldman, Video Technician, 1998

**Jana Gonda**, General Manager, CBC Records, 1994

**Jeff Goodes**, Radio Producer, 2023

**Everett Gray**, Technical Producer, Program Production Services, 2005

**David Greenway**, Engineer in Charge of Mobiles, 2022

**Sophia Hadzipetros**, Managing Editor, Toronto News, 2012

**June Hall**, Unit Production Manager, *The Nature of Things*, 2015

**Leslie Haller**, Executive in Charge of Production, TV Arts & Entertainment, 2010

**David Henley**, Radio Manager for Northern Ontario, 1999

*Continued...*



## ONTARIO'S NEWEST PNA MEMBERS, CONTINUED...

**Bonnie Hewitt**, Writer and Editor,  
National News, 2005

**George Hoff**, Ottawa Bureau Chief,  
2008

**Bridget Hoffer**, Executive Director,  
Communications, Marketing and  
Brand, 2014

**Marita Hollo**, TV Media Librarian,  
CBC North, 2014

**Keith Hutchinson**, spouse of the late  
June Hutchinson, Administrative  
Assistant, who died in 1993



**Mary Ito**, Radio Host and Producer, 2021

**Heather Inksetter**, Radio Producer, Windsor, 2011

**Maria Jastrzebowska**, spouse of the late Jerzy Jastrzebowski, Journalist, *World Report*,  
who died in 2022

**Andrew Johnson**, Senior Producer, *The Passionate Eye*, 2011

**Victor Johnston**, Associate Producer/Tech, Radio, 2013

**Colman Jones**, Associate Producer, World News Desk, 2022

**Teddy Katz**, National Sports Reporter (on leave from 2012), 2023

**Marshall Kaus**, Scenic Construction Crew Leader, 2005

**Susan Kawidjaja-Cheung**, Manager, Budgets and Financial Reporting, 2016

**Margo Kelly**, National Arts Reporter, CBC News, 2023

**Lisa Khoo**, Senior Producer, National Radio News/Trainer, Learning and Development,  
2022

**Cynthia Kinch**, Director of Newsworld, 2010

**Brian Knott**, Head, Mass Digitization Project and Daily Archival Acquisition, 2021

**Bob Lackie**, Manager, Digital Systems Implementation, English and French Radio, 2000

**Brad Laco**, spouse of the late Lisa Laco, Host, *The Great Northwest*, Thunder Bay, 2020

**Yvette Ladarski**, Senior Business Finance Analyst, Ontario Small Markets, 2023

**Deborah Lamb**, Senior National Business Reporter, 2011

**Leonard Laporte**, spouse of the late Ruth Ann Laporte, Video Editor, who died in 2005

*Continued...*



## ONTARIO'S NEWEST PNA MEMBERS, CONTINUED...

**Nancy Lauzon,**

Representative, Media Sales  
and Marketing, Windsor,  
2015

**Alan Lawrence,** Camera  
Operator, 2012

**Robin Leatherbarrow,**  
Scenic Artist, 2007

**Sheila Lorimer,** wife of the  
late Tim Lorimer, Radio  
Engineer, who died in 2023



**Ralph MacDonald,** Cameraman, 2012

**Joan Mackian,** former Film Production Editor, 2004

**David MacQuarrie,** Writer, *The Current*, 2014

**Carol Anne Maher,** Manager, Data Analysis, Audience Research, 2002

**Pauline Malley,** Director, Libraries and Archives, 2014

**Tony Martino,** ENG Editor, CBC NewsNet, 2023

**Paul McCutcheon,** Video Technician, 2011

**Kerry McKee,** News Editor/Reader, *Afternoon Drive*, London, 2021

**Steve McNally,** Producer, *The World at Six*, 2022

**Bernie McNamee,** Host, *The World This Hour*, 2015

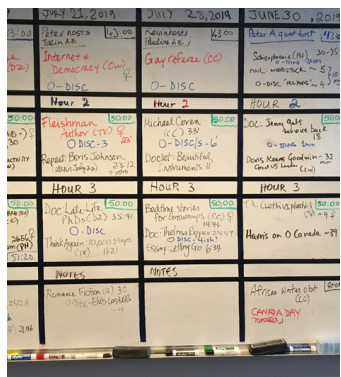
**Robert Megna,** Production Editor, 2023 ...

**Melissa Mercer,** Senior Manager, CBC News Design, 2023

**Sharon Musson,** Project Coordinator, CBC Studios, Entertainment, 2023

**Tim Neesam,** Producer, CBC News, 2021

**Mark Nelson,** Senior Business Analyst, Sales Group, 2020



**Lloyd Noel,** TV Plant Manager, St. John's, 2004

**Mary O'Connell,** Documentary Producer, *Ideas*, 2019

**Patricia Onysko,** Assignment Producer, 2014

**Diane Pain,** Producer, National Radio News, 2023

**Phil Park,** Network News Editor, 2012

**Stu Paterson,** News Reporter/Writer, 2000

Continued...

## ONTARIO'S NEWEST PNA MEMBERS, CONTINUED...

**Andrew Pepper**, Executive Producer, National News, 2020

**Pam Pilkington**, Producer, Marketing and Communications, 2023

**Frank Piscitelli**, Field Cameraman, 2013

**Don Pittis**, Business and Economics Columnist, National News, 2023

**Ted Poppe**, Senior Producer, National Radio News, 2016

**Mike Prokopec**, Senior Producer, News, 2023

**Franca Purificati**, Training Manager, Capital Projects, 2012

**Cathryn Reeves**, spouse of the late John Reeves, Documentary and Features Producer-Director, Radio, 1987

**Sheila Rider-Eadie**, Senior Producer of Specials, *The National*, 2023

**Pierrette Robillard**, Lineup Editor, Toronto Radio News, CJBC, 2007

**Vincent Robinet**, Video Producer, Windsor, 2017

**Gerry Samson**, Manager, Network Radio Master Control, 2010

**Neil Sandell**, Senior Producer, Radio, 2014

**Harry Schacter**, Producer and Writer, News Network, 2011

**Michael Shipton**, Manager of Program Production Services, 1997

**Maxine Sidran**, Producer, *Marketplace*, 2004

**Deborah Smith**, Producer, TV News, 2016

**Robin Smythe**, Executive Producer, *As It Happens*, 2023

**Kenneth Solilo**, Videographer, 2012

**Don Spandier**, Executive Producer, Journalistic Policy and Staff Development, National News, 2022

**Don Spence**, Group 6 Cameraman, 1996

**Bob Steele**, Announcer and Host, 2017

**Gail Sweeney**, spouse of the late Michael Sweeney, Director of Photography for *The Journal* and the Documentary Unit until 2016, died in 2022



*Continued...*



**ONTARIO'S NEWEST PNA MEMBERS, CONTINUED...**

**Jill Troyer**, Senior Director, Workflow Practice, 2017

**Dave Tweedie**, Assignment Editor, 2012

**Paul Vasey**, Host, *On the Island*, Vancouver morning show, 2007

**Jack Vethaak**, Cameraman/Editor and Supervising Tech, Windsor, 2015

**Kathryn Von Bezold**, Senior Manager, CBC Studios, 2023

**Eleanor Wachtel**, Host, *Writers & Company*, 2023

**Bruce Walker**, Scenic Artist, 2020

**Mike Wise**, Anchor, 2020

**Anthony Wollery**, Senior Clerk, Customs, 2023

**Claire Wootten**, spouse of Terry Glecoff, Anchor, Newsworld International, 2006

**Robert Allen Wylie**, Associate Director, Television, 2017

**Sarah Yee**, Senior Manager, Marketing and Communications, 2023

**Plus one** new spousal member, who asked to remain anonymous



## IN MEMORIAM



**Heather L. Jenkins** died on January 8, in Toronto. She was a spousal member of the PNA, the wife of Keith Jenkins, a CBC technician and lighting engineer.

**Blagoje Stojcevski** died on July 9 at the age of 86, in Mississauga. He was an HVAC millwright/pipefitter at the CBC, until the age of 70.

**Frank Drach** died on August 26 at the age of 88, in Toronto. He worked as an accountant in Children's Television and Sports.

**Marie Cecilia Pezell** died on August 30. (We do not have information about her role at the CBC.)

**Stefan (Steve) Andrusiak** died on September 5 at the age of 73, in London. *The National* ran many of Steve's stories from his base in Edmonton, then he moved to Windsor TV9 as executive news director. He ended his CBC career in the same role, in Charlottetown.

**Timothy Knight** died on September 6 at the age of 85, in Cape Town. Tim produced *The National*, later becoming executive producer for Journalism Training.

**Robert (Bob) Conroy** died on October 6 at the age of 81, in Haliburton. In 1993, he joined the CBC as director of production for Current Affairs and Newsworld, retiring in 2007.

Continued...



IN MEMORIAM, CONTINUED...

**Terrance (Terry) Cook** died on October 9 at the age of 83, in Toronto. He was a CBC Toronto production assistant.

**Ronald (Ron) Harrison** died on October 14 at the age of 81, in Newmarket. He had a long career as director of *Hockey Night in Canada*.

**Trevor Burns** died on October 16, in Toronto. He was a radio engineer who helped build Master Control in the Broadcasting Centre. Trevor also designed a recording studio at CBC Vancouver.

**Andrew Gorgeon** died on October 23 at the age of 86, in Ottawa. He was a technical producer for CBC, working on coverage of the '76 Olympics, early in his career, to eventually co-producing the Ontario-wide radio program *Listen to My Music*.

**Elizabeth Gray** died on October 25 at the age of 86, in Toronto. She produced "Shades of Gray," a series of audio essays that aired on *Morningside*, as well as documentaries for *Sunday Morning*. Elizabeth was best known as the host of two network radio programs, *Cross Country Checkup* and *As It Happens*.



**Eric Harris** died on October 25 at the age of 91, in Cobourg. (We do not have information about his role at the CBC.)

**Lorna Jackson** died on November 4 at the age of 77, in Toronto. She was the first female anchor on *The World at Eight*, anchored *Canada at Five*, *The World this Weekend*, *As It Happens*, *Anybody Home?*, narrated *The Nature of Things*, hosted *Music Around Us* and pioneered the CBC's website for kids.

**Dennis Baptiste** died on November 12 at the age of 79. He was manager of the Scenic Art department.

*Continued...*

## IN MEMORIAM, CONTINUED...

**Raphael (Ralph) Berney** died on November 19 at the age of 89, in Toronto. (We do not have information about his role at the CBC.)

**Margaret Saundry** died on November 23 at the age of 97, in Winnipeg. In the late 1960s, Margaret came to CBC Sports in Toronto, covering events such as the Olympics, Pan-Am and Commonwealth Games. In 2013, she was inducted into the CBC Hall of Fame.

**Herbert (Bert) Allen** died on November 26 at the age of 85, in Burlington. He began his career at the CBC, left for a period to work in Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau's office, and eventually returned to the Corporation.

**Peter Puxley** died on December 7 at the age of 81, in Sherwood Park, Alberta. He was a lifelong activist, and a fierce supporter of Indigenous rights. Peter's CBC career began at *Morningside*, and continued in the newsroom, where he worked at *Business World*, *The World at Six*, *The National*, and as Parliamentary Bureau Chief in Ottawa.

**Doris Noakes** died on December 16 at the age of 93, in Cobourg. She was the surviving spouse of Martin Noakes.

## WELCOMING TWO NEW ONTARIO REGION BOARD MEMBERS



Kerry  
Johnston,  
President,  
North Central  
Ontario  
chapter



Mike Darley,  
Toronto  
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**Visit the Ontario page of the PNA website for information about upcoming events, and to read our bylaws, and minutes of our Annual General Meeting.**

**<https://www.cbcpensioners.ca/regions/ontario/>**



**The CBC Pensioners  
National Association**

*Preserving our Future, Sharing our Past*

**L'Association nationale  
des retraités de la SRC**

*Assurer notre avenir, partager notre passé*

## ENROLMENT FORM – RETIREE

Clear data

### Please print

|           |       |       |             |
|-----------|-------|-------|-------------|
| Name      |       |       |             |
| Street    | City  | Prov. | Postal Code |
| Telephone | Email |       |             |

☐ ***I wish to join now*** (please fill in the remaining sections of this form).

☐ *I am uncertain about joining at this time. I understand that, with the information given above, a representative of Association may contact me and, upon request, provide assistance with the enrolment process.*

I, \_\_\_\_\_, wish to join the CBC Pensioners National Association and hereby authorize the CBC to deduct monthly membership dues from my pension cheque and remit them to the Association. I also authorize the CBC to provide the Association with such personal information relating to me as the Association may require to facilitate the administration of dues and other services related to the welfare of pensioners.

All personal information provided to the Association by you or by the CBC is held in strict confidence.

**Membership dues are 0.32% of a member's gross pension payment. For every \$1,000 of monthly pension, a member would contribute \$3.20.**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                 |                   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| CBC ID (See Notification of deposit, above your name)                                                                                                                                                            | Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)      | Gender (optional) |
| <b>Civil Status</b><br><input type="radio"/> Single <input type="radio"/> Married <input type="radio"/> Widow/er <input type="radio"/> Divorced <input type="radio"/> Separated <input type="radio"/> Common-Law |                                 |                   |
| <b>Preferred language</b><br><input type="radio"/> English<br><input type="radio"/> French                                                                                                                       | Date of retirement (dd/mm/yyyy) |                   |

### Spousal information

|                            |                   |                                                                    |                                                                   |
|----------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Name                       |                   |                                                                    |                                                                   |
| Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy) | Gender (optional) | CBC Employee<br><input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | CBC Retiree<br><input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No |

Signature Required

Date

This form can be mailed to:  
**The CBC Pensioners National Association**  
 P.O. Box 8570  
 Ottawa, ON K1G 3H9  
 or press the submit button to send via  
 email to [info@cbcpensioners.ca](mailto:info@cbcpensioners.ca)

Submit