

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

THE GOOD LIFE

***NEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTHWESTERN
ONTARIO (SWO)
CHAPTER OF THE CBC PNA***

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR BOARD

We have another packed issue of ***THE GOOD LIFE*** and a very busy year ahead. Looking forward to seeing many of you at our events. In this issue, we address the following topics:

- With regards to our Pension Surplus, we have no new updates at present but we do expect some news soon.
- We are always on the lookout for new members, and our upcoming recruitment drive will be on hold until late summer.
- Southwestern Ontario is a great retirement area, a fact recognized by new member Sharon Musson.
- As befitting a newsletter that is read across the country, another wonderful article has been received from a past co-worker. This one comes from the East Coast.
- Can retirement keep you busy? It depends on how busy you want to be. A hobby can become very fulfilling in retirement.
- Looking into our vault, we have come up with a pictures to bring back memories.
- Changes occurred at both board levels within the CBC PNA and Ontario Region.
- A little history contest with a nice reward – view the photos and send in the names of the people. A bottle of wine will await the winner at this year's BBQ.

2024 Spring/Summer

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Proof Editor: Brian Worrall

Pension Surplus Update

Posted by CBC - Marco Dubé



Further to our [last update](#) on this topic, we continue to wait on approval from the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions (OSFI) for the distribution of the 2021 and 2022 surplus.

Last month, we contacted the Office of the Superintendent to check the status on our surplus application. They advised us that while they are unable to provide an estimated timeline for a decision, their review of our file is ongoing and they are treating this application as a high priority, which will ensure that it proceeds as quickly as possible. So while we await further clarity from them regarding expected timelines, the Corporation is doing everything it can to proceed as quickly and diligently as possible, within legislative and regulatory requirements, to be in a position to issue surplus payments.

On a related note, the Pension Board of Trustees, who meet quarterly, have recently confirmed that the Plan is once again in a *surplus position* for the year that ended on December 31, 2023, as also noted in their quarterly communiqué [dated March 2024](#). As a result of this surplus, CBC/Radio-Canada is required to maintain a contribution holiday in accordance with the *Income Tax Act*. Therefore, the Corporation's renewed contribution holiday will continue through to the end of 2024. As with the contribution holiday announced at [this time last year](#), the funds that are usually contributed to the Plan will be reinvested in our programs and services to Canadians for the duration of the contribution holiday. It should be noted that the confirmation of this surplus was anticipated and was incorporated fully in our budget estimates and planning for 2024-25.

The level of this latest surplus will also trigger another surplus amount to be shared with eligible Plan members. The actuarial valuation report of the Plan has been submitted to government authorities at the end of April to begin with the process for sharing this surplus.

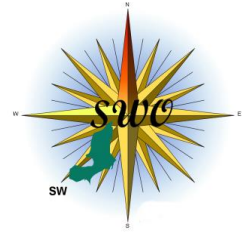
We'd like to thank everyone for their continued patience regarding the payment of past surplus assets. The CBC Pension Plan remains in a healthy position and Plan members can feel confident about their pension. More on this will be communicated once we have received the required consent from the pension regulator. If you have any general questions or concerns about the Pension Plan, please contact the [Pension Administration Centre](#), but remain mindful that they do not have access to more information than relayed here about the distribution of Pension assets.

Re-Posted by Dan Oldfield, President CBC PNA

Visit the CBC PNA website for full details and future updates on this and many more articles:

<https://www.cbcpensioners.ca>

Widen the Circle – Increase our Membership: Phil Peck



When I was a child, I hand wrote seven copies of a letter which promised me “good fortune”. The letter instructed me to give to the person at the top of the list a “penny for good luck”.

I added my name to the bottom of the list and gave a copy of the letter to seven of my friends. Then I waited.

It took longer than I hoped, but pennies did arrive. I promptly spent then on penny candy.

From that experience, I learned the benefit of enlisting others to work on a common goal.

Now, I hope to enlist you to assist with a goal - to have more than two thirds of CBC pensioners as members of the association. That might satisfy the federal regulator and avert another “ballot” on a pension surplus. Another surplus was recently announced.

Ask yourself, “who worked with me at CBC? Write down their names. Then start asking them, one by one, to enroll in the pensioners’ association”.

If they are already members, ask them “Who did you work with at CBC?” List those names. Make sure someone invites them to join, and so on.

We could widen the circle and bring additional pensioners into the organization. There is strength in numbers, especially when it comes to defending the interests of CBC pensioners.

Welcome: Our New Member to the SWO Chapter

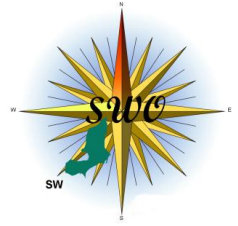


Sharon Musson - Sharon began her television career at TVO. Moving on to CBC in 1994 in radio, she started off in traffic and then on to scheduling with Charlie Cheffins. Next stop was program assistant, where she had the privilege of answering Peter Gzowski’s mail. In 1997 she went on to scheduling in television. In 2018, she became a project coordinator under Ruthie Calarco with her primary client CBC Kids.



She retired in 2023. Throughout her career at CBC, she had the pleasure of meeting Kenny Rogers, Gordon Downie and Elvis Costello. Although her career was based out of the Toronto area, she now splits her time in Windsor and Oakville, with her daughter, daughter’s partner and her newly welcomed-to-the-world grandson. The rest of her time is spent dodging Canadian winters at her villa in the Dominican Republic.

Janice Stein: Managing Editor, Windsor



I think of Windsor as the place that created me, in many ways, as a journalist. I worked as a reporter, a writer-broadcaster and finally as managing editor. I thought my calling was to be a reporter, but it was not to be 😞. CBC, in its great wisdom, pushed me into management, in which I completed my career attempting to do a decent job 😊 and felt pretty good about after 37 years.

In 2005, my daughter headed to University of Victoria, after about 20 years working in Windsor, so I smelled FREEDOM and headed to CBC in St. John's Newfoundland.

I spent six years there as Managing Editor. That was where I grew my passion for hiking, on the 300 km East Coast Trail, as hiker and maintenance volunteer. It's also where I bought my retirement biscuit box house, in Hants Harbour, a small fishing village of 300 people on the ocean, next to a lighthouse, at the end of a hiking trail. I call it Hearts Home, though the sign on the house is Seldom Inn 🍪

However, CBC needed a Director of CBC North, not an easy find. Under pressure from a relentless HR manager, in 2012 I agreed to head to Yellowknife at the age of 62, thinking to retire at 65. Hah! I stayed 9 years, fell in love with minus 30-degrees cross country skiing and snowshoeing, and summer canoe trips to the Arctic Ocean as well as volunteer work for Search and Rescue. Finally, stuck in an office in Covid, I retired at the end of 2021.



Meanwhile my daughter had moved to Townsville, Australia, married and recently had a baby. So, I split my time between Hants Harbour, Townsville and hopefully Cusco, Peru, high in the mountains with, of course, wonderful hiking to Inca ruins. In Townsville, I have joined both the Outriggers club and the Dragonboat Spitfires club (You can guess why the Spitfires caught my attention 😊). Both HARD work. I've just returned from competition at the Sydney Lunar New Year Dragon Boat festival with 3,000 competitors.



My hiking passion continues...every weekend 15-20 km bush bashing, creek rock hopping, mountain climbing to find magnificent waterfalls to bathe in.

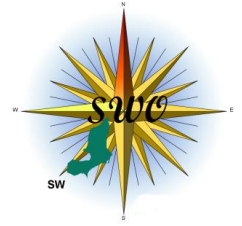
The reason for all of this is of course a love of the outdoors, but also a keen interest in staying healthy. As you no doubt know, aging can be a pretty daunting thing, my knees are no fun these days. I am determined to work at maintaining my health so I can live well as a senior. By the way, I also volunteer with the PNA where I am on both the Recruitment Committee with Phil Peck, and on the Diversity Committee. The PNA is important. The Windsor group is led by colleagues I remember well and value. I do encourage



you to join them and us.



Tony Doucette: Host Windsor Morning



Because the CBC's fiscal year ends on the 31st of March each year, their accounting people find it convenient if your retirement is effective on that date. Coincidentally, or perhaps ironically, that meant the first day of the rest of my life was April Fool's Day, 2022. Thirty-seven years after I went to work for the CBC, and forty-six years after I first "cracked" a live microphone.

When I retired, I knew Alma (my wife) and I would be financially stable. Some careful planning and some good fortune assured that. What I really hadn't planned out in detail was what I would do with my newfound spare time. I promised myself one thing - that I would take one calendar year to figure it out. No long-term commitments, no part-time job, no trip to an exotic destination. To use modern parlance, the idea was to merely "chill" for twelve months and see what fate might have in store.

My wife and my daughters gave me an acoustic guitar as a Christmas gift several years ago, and in a horrible show of appreciation, I stood it in a corner of our family room and allowed it to collect dust. All along, I promised them (and myself) that I would learn how to play it. One week after I retired, I took my first guitar lesson, and it's been a real gift. That was my single small concession to doing nothing for one year.

What that first year illustrated to me was how much I missed the structure of work. The Monday to Friday routine. The alarm going off at 3:45 a.m. Live on air from 6:10 to 8:40. Chasing stories and interviews for the follow day's show and heading home for dinner when most of the rest of the country was having lunch. I loved (and miss most of) the work, and the fun that came with knitting together a live show every morning. Most of all, I missed telling stories.



I had made occasional trips to the Canadian Historical Aircraft Association's Museum at Windsor Airport over the years, and was (and am) fascinated by their collection of vintage warplanes and the stories that go with them. I am the son of a career soldier, having grown up at CFB Gagetown, New Brunswick. That comes with an affinity for the uniform and a healthy respect for Canada's military. Also, I used to spend hours building airplanes from plastic model kits as child. Largely military airplanes - fighters, bombers and the like.

The CH2A, which their umbrella organization is called, rebranded itself a few years ago into what is now called the Canadian Aviation Museum. Their mission (love the term in this context) is to preserve an important part of Windsor's military history. It's military aviation history in particular. Also, to honour the veterans of Windsor-Essex who served Canada in any number of roles. No doubt you've seen several of the museum's "yellow birds" flying in formation over various ceremonies in the area. Notably Remembrance Day services, our annual Battle of Britain Memorial Ceremony, the Dieppe Raid memorial and so-on.

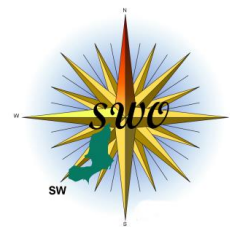
It's directly because of a flight in one of the museum's historic aircraft, the 1937 Boeing Stearman biplane, that our youngest daughter



caught the aviation bug and now serves as a captain in the RCAF. Inspired by a 20-minute flight when she was in grade eight.

After "chilling" for a year after retirement, I purchased a membership in the Canadian Aviation Museum and offered my services as a volunteer tour guide. I've always thought of myself as a storyteller and this place is chock full of them. We like to think the museum is one of this region's best kept secrets. We're not overly proud of that, but we're certainly proud of the organization. One our goals is to remove that secrecy if at all possible.

We're easy to find. The museum is at Windsor Airport. That's the physical structure. You'll find us online at canadianaviationmuseum.ca.



Note: Possible tour (TBA at the BBQ)

Tour guide, guitar player, and also recently, a grandfather. Had somebody told me retirement would be this good, I would have done it when I was thirty.

Healthy and happy in retirement, Tony Doucette



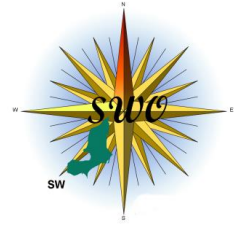
Take a moment to View, Click Like and Comment on all our posts on Facebook, visit:
<https://www.facebook.com/SWOChapterCBCPensioners>

UPDATES

• **Changes at the National (CBC PNA) & Ontario Region**

After the closing of the nomination period, the new National Executives were confirmed at the May 15, National AGM. Gail Carducci has moved on as the VP Anglophone of the CBC PNA and as per our Ontario Region Bylaws, VP Barbara Saxberg moves into the position of President for the Ontario Region for the remainder of the term. Secretary Talin Vartanian has moved into the Ontario Region's Vice-President's position. The Ontario Region Secretary

remains vacant, if there are any interested parties, please contact Barbara Saxberg or Talin Vartanian.



CBC Pensioners National Association

President – Dan Oldfield
VP Francophone – Pierre-Léon LaFrance
VP Anglophone – Gail Carducci
Treasurer – Réjean Labrie
<https://www.cbcpensioners.ca>

Ontario Region

President – Barbara Saxberg
VP – Talin Vartanian
Secretary - Vacant
Treasurer – Ben Daube
ontario@cbcpensioners.ca

- **SWO's** Kim Kristy has taken on the position as the Ontario representative to the National SCEDI (Standing Committee on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion).
- **CBC PNA Convention and AGM**, socializing and meeting new friends is only one aspect of these gatherings. Getting in touch with individuals from across the country is very important especially when you realize that there are many similar issues that we all can connect with. The workshops were very informative and very well presented. The highlight was the SWO proposed resolution which was overwhelmingly supported. This now will ensure that all Chapters across the country will be represented at all future conventions and AGMs held at the convention as delegates:

Whereas the Pensioner's National Association (PNA) must continue to grow its membership to survive,

Whereas the PNA needs volunteers across the country to spread its message within regions and chapters,

Whereas PNA Chapters play an important role in directly reaching and servicing retired members and surviving spouses,

Whereas Chapter Presidents represent and speak on behalf of their constituents and that chapter views and concerns need to be heard,

Whereas the PNA recognizes this important role Chapter Presidents play in leading their chapters within their respective regions,

Whereas the PNA recognizes the importance of having these front-line volunteer leaders present at conventions to share their views and concerns on all PNA matters,

BE it therefore resolved, that the PNA will recognize Chapter Presidents as delegates to all future PNA conventions with full delegate status and rights as stated in the PNA bylaws, and,

BE it further resolved that their attendance at all future PNA conventions be fully funded by the PNA, and,

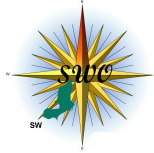
BE it further resolved, that the PNA National bylaws and all subordinate bylaws be modified to reflect this change as to ensure that Chapter Presidents, or their alternate, will always be delegates at all future PNA conventions.

Moved by : Gino Piazza, Southwestern Ontario (SWO), Ontario

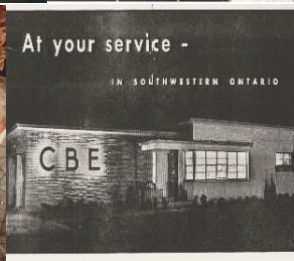
Seconded by: Bob Sharpe, St. John's, Newfoundland

Carried by an overwhelming majority

More on the convention and AGM to come soon.



As we look back in history how many names, items and events can you identify? First to guess all correctly receives a bottle of wine at the BBQ. Please send your replies to any board member.



OUR 2024 SWO CALENDAR OF EVENTS SCHEDULE

- Wine Tour #1 – June 22, 2024.
- SWO Summer BBQ – Saturday, July 20, 2024.
- Detroit River Cruise – Day or Sunset Cruise TBD in the month of August.
- Wine Tour #2 – October 5, 2024.
- Frankenmuth Day Trips – November 13 and 16, 2024.
- SWO Yearend Christmas Party – Saturday, December 7, 2024.

FULL DETAILS ON ALL EVENTS WILL FOLLOW IN MID-JUNE



Gino



Sandy



Jackie



Gerry



Manny



Phil



Gerald

The Southwestern Ontario Board

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 Secretary-Treasurer: Jackie Kervoelen-Chelsea (519-979-8147 jkervoelen2@gmail.com)
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 Director: Manny Pacheco (226-347-1104 manny.pacheco@outlook.com)
 Director: Phil Peck (519-990-4941 ppeck@kelcom.net)
 Director/Past President: Gerald Head (519-995-0345 gercarhead@gmail.com)

We were the first and are the longest-serving Chapter within the PNA organization.