

Annual General Meeting

Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Northwest Territories Region
 Royal Canadian Legion Kingsway 175
 14339 50th Street, Edmonton
 Wednesday, September 20, 2023

Attendance:

Devon, AB: Jim MacVicar, Nancy MacVicar,

Edmonton, AB: Bob Forrow, Bruce Cowan, Joan Dymainiw, Don Heichert, Gloria James, Krysua Jarmika, Sylvia Kuziw, Cecile Magnan, Dominique Roy, Bob Woodcock, David Dawkins,

Sherwood Park, AB: Michelle Gregoret, Jean Gregoret, ,

Sturgeon County, AB: Terry Whitson.

Calgary, AB: Ellen Armstrong, Eleanor Suddaby

Regina, SK: Richard Marcotte, Lutz Walsh, Susan Graham,

1. Call to Order -

President Bob Forrow called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. and welcomed members to the AGM

2. Quorum established & Housekeeping -

Vice President Lutz Walsh explained that 5% of the membership (19 members) was needed for a quorum. With twenty-one members present, the meeting proceeded. The voting process was outlined. And it was acknowledged that the meeting was taking place within Treaty 6 Territory, and within the Métis homelands and Métis Nation of Alberta Region 4. Members acknowledge this land as the traditional territories of many First Nations such as the Cree, Dene, Stoney, Anishinaabe, Saulteaux and Blackfoot.

3. (a) Virtual introduction of Donald Langis, Interim President of the CBC PNA

President Bob Forrow introduced the video clip that was sent by Mr. Langis who was invited to the AGM but was unable to attend. In the video, Mr. Langis mentioned the distribution of the pension surplus payment that was the result of the PNA and CBC unions winning an arbitration on the language of the memorandum of agreement. The payment was scheduled for October, but the process was long as it involved 17,000 staff and pensioners.

Mr. Langis advised that in mid-October, the CBC will provide to the PNA its recommendations for rates for the supplementary health care plan in 2024. This will include a breakdown of past costs and percentages. He reminded members that the cost for services is going up.

The Interim President also spoke about the Bylaws which were revised during the last year and now includes the adoption of a National Member Voting policy to allow everyone the right to vote for members of the Executive on the AGM. As well, he said the national board revisited its spending priorities, reviewed the entire structure of the National Association to better serve members and set a criterion for observers to know what board meetings they can attend.

Mr. Langis remarked upon the association's membership which is 5,345 people representing 52.1% of 10,252 CBC retirees. As the CBC does not provide the PNA with a list of names of retirees, Mr. Langis urged current members to advise the PNA if they know or hear of someone who is about to retire.

He also encouraged members of the Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Northwest Territories Region to consider running for the National or local boards.

(b) Introduction of the ABSKNT and Chapters' Executives

Following the video clip, President Bob Forrow introduced the regional board. They are Vice-president Lutz Walsh, Treasurer Richard Marcotte who are based in Regina and Secretary Del Simon who was away on vacation and sent her regards.

Ellen Armstrong, the Vice-President of the Southern Alberta Chapter and Susan Graham, the Treasurer/Secretary of the Saskatchewan Chapter represented their groups.

Bob Forrow then requested a Moment of Silence in recognition of former colleagues who passed away in the past year

4. Acceptance of the Agenda.

Bruce Cowan made the motion to accept the agenda, seconded by Bob Woodcock. Motion carried.

5. Approval of the 2022 AGM minutes.

Slyvia Kuziw made the motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Michelle Gregoret. Motion carried.

6. Discussion arising from the minutes.

There were no questions arising from the 2022 AGM Minutes.

7. President's Report

President Bob Forrow read his report as was presented in the AGM package.

8. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Richard Marcotte read the report as presented in the AGM package. Before answering questions from the floor he thanked Cecile Magnan for her work translating documents.

Lutz Walsh enquired about gift cards that were usually distributed to members every three years. There will be no cards for the next two years.

Dominique Roy asked about Edmonton's funding. Edmonton is not a chapter officially. Unlike the Calgary and Saskatchewan Chapters that receive funding from the national office, Edmonton gets funding from the region. It's an issue that has to be resolved considering it has the largest number of members.

The motion to accept the Financial Report was unanimous.

9. Southern Alberta Chapter Report -

Vice President Ellen Armstrong presented the Chapter's report as presented in the AGM package.

10. Saskatchewan Chapter Report -

Secretary/Treasurer Susan Graham presented the Chapter's report as presented in the AGM package.

11. General Discussion -

President Bob Forrow opened the floor for discussion.

Pension surplus payout. Members wanted to know if they could expect it in October. Bob Forrow explained that the CBC was working to make that happen, but it might be too soon, and suggested there might be partial payment this year and next year.

A question was raised regarding what happens if a retiree who is entitled to payment dies before the money is distributed - would the spouse or children under 18 years of age receive it? Payout is retroactive two years and payment would go to the deceased person's estate. There are 10,252 pensioners.

Printing costs: An attendee asked, “Why are we printing off copies of The Transmitter? Why not send it out via email and save \$250.” It was explained that there are members who do not have email.

Hybrid meetings: There was discussion about making the AGM hybrid. The treasurer explained that while a virtual meeting would be less expensive, there are other things to consider including the use of translation services. The Bylaws may have to be changed to accommodate hybrid meetings.

Spousal benefit was another issue raised. Bob Forrow explained that the spouse gets 60% of the pension. There is no accommodation in the benefits for a spouse from second marriage after retirement. It’s an issue that the national office plans to explore.

The Transmitter: In order to keep the newsletter going forward, volunteers are needed to edit and produce it. Otherwise, it will fold.

12. Draws for gifts

Gifts were donated by Bill Laing, Bob Forrow, the Southern Alberta Chapter and CBC Calgary.

Vice President Lutz Walsh read the names of our new members, and as usual, there was a draw for a \$100 gift card. Lutz asked an attendee to draw a name for the gift card. Richard Craig’s name was pulled.

13. Next AGM Date -

The date for the next ABSKNT Region AGM was set for Wed., Sept 11, 2024

14. Request for Adjournment of Meeting

President Bob Forrow made the motion to adjourn the meeting.