

**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) CBC PNA

**Another packed edition with some new ideas,
keep sending us your suggestions!**

- Pension Surplus update re: another payout on its way to you in 2025
- Some surprising stats!
- Here's your SWO Board, to serve for 3 years
- The BIG Anniversaries!
- Southwestern Ontario – Summer BBQ
- The Love of Gardening
- Ce n'est qu'un Aurevoir (Goodbye for Now)
- Membership Matters
- Upcoming AGM and Christmas Party

#3 – 2025 Summer

Page – 2:
**Pension Surplus,
SWO Election Results &
Numbers**

Page – 3:
CBC Anniversaries
By Phil Peck

Page – 4:
SWO BBQ
Lynn Raeburn (Baker)

Page – 5:
Master Gardener
Pat Jeflyn

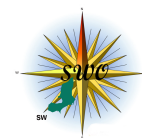
Page – 6:
Au Revoir
Lisette Leboeuf

Page – 7:
**Membership,
SWO Newest Member &
In Memoriam**

Page – 8:
**Save The dates:
AGM & Christmas Party**

Proof Editor: Brian Worrall

Pension Surplus Update: From the National Website



Please find below the notice seeking consent from the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions (OSFI) for the withdrawal of surplus assets for the surplus that was declared as of December 31, 2024. CBC/Radio-Canada has applied to OSFI for the withdrawal.

The distribution of surplus assets as of December 31, 2024, will not occur earlier than 40 days after the day on which OSFI provides their consent to the withdrawal of funds. If consent is received by the beginning of September 2025, we expect surplus amounts will be paid in autumn 2025.

OSFI has granted us the right to apply the consent already obtained from all active Plan members and former plan members for the distribution of consecutive surplus amounts until 2027 inclusively. This means that members did not need to consent before we sought OSFI's approval for this new surplus amount as of December 31, 2024, nor is member consent required for any consecutive surplus amounts that may occur for 2025, 2026 and 2027.

CBC Notice 2024 – Surplus Withdrawal



July 2025

<https://www.cbcpensioners.ca/news-articles/>

Southwestern Ontario (SWO) 2025 – 2028 Election Results:

Gabe Menard (Elections Chair)

Thanks to all the members accepting these positions and doing the work needed on behalf of Southwestern Ontario Pensioners.

Gabe Menard, ECC (Election's Committee Chair)

President: Gino Piazza (acclaimed)

Vice President: Gerald Head (acclaimed)

Treasurer: Jackie Kervoelen (acclaimed)

Secretary: Sandy Tymczak (acclaimed)

Director: Phil Peck (acclaimed)

Director: Gerry Goulet (acclaimed)

Director: Barbara Peacock (acclaimed)

Numbers:

- Our last Newsletter posted On Facebook generated 408 Views in 30 days!
- We currently have 113 followers on Facebook, click below, Like and Follow Us

<https://www.facebook.com/SWOChapterCBCPensioners>

- The SWO membership stands at 98



The Big Anniversaries: Phil Peck

Heard recently live on morning radio: “I brought a proclamation on behalf of Mayor Drew Dilkens, the rest of city council and the City of Windsor, for you guys, to congratulate you on your 75th anniversary of broadcasting.” So said city councillor Renaldo Agostino talking with Windsor Morning host Amy Dodge.

CBC Radio in Windsor (CBE) first went on air July 1, 1950. The proclamation goes on to recognize the 55 years that Radio-Canada has provided French language service in Windsor. It was 50 years ago that CBC became the owner/operator of TV 9 in Windsor. Windsor Morning was not going to broadcast on Canada Day, so councillor Agostino’s presentation was on June 30.

Later that day, a number of former Windsor CBC employees toured the current facilities on Riverside Drive. The technology has changed much over the decades, but one visitor noted that current CBC employees are just as proud of their work as those who worked there previously.



That evening, about 65 people got together for dinner at the River Room Restaurant. It was a mix of current and former CBCers; pensioners and non-pensioners; local residents and some from out of town.

The anniversary events continue this fall, with the Chimczuk Museum presenting an exhibit about CBC and Radio Canada in Windsor. It will feature photos and artifacts from the past decades, the evolution of broadcast technology and the people who used it to serve audiences.

When CBE first went on the air, it was not like other CBC local stations, which carried some American shows. The local broadcast rights to those U.S. programs belonged to stations in Detroit. CBE offered solely Canadian programming.

Twenty years after CBE launched, Radio-Canada opened CBEF in May 1970 to serve the francophone community. That same year, CBC became a 25% shareholder, with Baton Broadcasting owning 75%, in a Canadian company that purchased CKLW-TV from its American owners, as directed by Canadian broadcast regulators. Five years later, CBC took full ownership and changed the call letters to CBET in September 1975. So, **it’s CBET’s 50th anniversary as a CBC owned and operated station.**

The Wonderful SWO Pensioners' Barbeque: Lynn Raeburn (Baker)



It didn't rain in spite of dire predictions, and it wasn't too hot – there was a nice breeze. The weather was just one of the things President Gino Piazza was worried about as the committee planned this year's reimagined CBC Windsor Pensioners' Association SWO summer picnic.

The last eight BBQs were superbly hosted by Gabe Menard and Linda Major, first at their waterfront home on Lake St. Clair, and then in their new home in LaSalle. Each year, the party attracted more and more members.

Then the event became a victim of its own success. Last year, 94 people attended. That was a record. The party simply became too big for Gabe and Linda's neighbourhood, and their backyard. The search for a new venue began.

The committee finally settled on Optimist Memorial Park in South Walkerville. It had lots of parking, a sheltered gazebo and tons of space.

Except for the change of location, nothing much changed. Pat Ryan (in for Manny) and Gerry Goulet were back in front of the barbeques, serving up the usual burgers and sausages. Colourful salads and yummy desserts were abundant. Old friends and colleagues moved among the chairs and picnic tables, catching up and reminiscing. It became a competition to see who could hand out the most bags of potato chips. The City closed the washrooms early but nobody noticed.

Reviews of the day were all enthusiastic:

Joe Derikx – “This is really nice, a great spot!”

Linda Major – “This is wonderful, we loved hosting...but this is great!”

Anna Jurak – “Perfect!”

Heather Inksetter – “I think this is a wonderful spot!”

From one who will remain nameless – “This is great! I didn't even know this place was here!

And, finally, from Toni Piazza – “Whew! Gino was praying for this weather!”



Mike Darley, Secretary of the Ontario Region of the CBC PNA drove down the 401 to bring greetings from Toronto and then headed back later in the afternoon. He declared the day a great success and marvelled over how everybody knew everybody and had shared so many stories. (There is something to be said for a smaller shop.)

So, thanks so much Gino and committee for coming up with the idea, running with it, and showing up at the park three hours early to set up. That committee, in case anyone needs a reminder, includes Sandy Tymczak, Jackie Kervoelen, Gerry Goulet, Manny Pacheco, Phil Peck and Gerry Head.

And again, special thanks to Gabe and Linda for inviting us to their homes for all these years. You have earned our gratitude, and a rest.

See you all at the Christmas party! *(Lynn is a retired CBC TV & radio reporter, editor, and producer.)*

For more photos of the SWO BBQ, check out our Facebook Page:

Take a moment to View, Click Like and Comment on all our posts on Facebook, visit:

<https://www.facebook.com/SWOChapterCBCPensioners>



Why a Master Gardener? Pat Jeflyn

During the last phase of my career at CBC from 1994-2012, I was a video journalist. It was the best and most challenging job I ever had, one that provided almost daily physical exercise, research, writing, creativity in visual storytelling and a view into the ever-changing window of our community. One of my favourite projects was a series on gardening, which gave me a deeper insight into the power of plants and the natural world.

Gardening has been part of my life since I was a child. My father grew productive vegetable gardens that fed us delicious food all summer and stocked the freezer for the winter. In the summers, I spent several weeks on my grandmother's farm where she, too, had a wonderful garden. Every morning, I would help her harvest fresh carrots, beans, peas or spinach and potatoes for lunch. They were both "Master Gardeners" in their own right.



Despite all of this, I didn't really know much about Master Gardeners until my younger sister, who lives in Ottawa, became part of her local group. We occasionally travel together and on a trip to the Niagara region we were exploring the native plants along the river. That's the moment I decided to start on the journey to become a master gardener. It was partly inspired by my interest in the natural world and partly by a desire to have a stronger connection with my sister.

To become a Master Gardener, you need to belong to a local group. I joined the Essex-Windsor one. You also need to complete four courses through Dalhousie University or three through the University of Guelph. Alternatively, you can take a provincial exam. I felt I needed more scientific knowledge. My sister had studied through Dalhousie, so I did the same.

I began my studies in the fall of 2021 and finished in the spring of 2024. It was quite a transition from journalistic writing to doing scientific reports with its strict conventions, citations and style. The most valuable part of the courses was the sixteen projects I had to do, many of which involved growing plants. This led me to install grow lights in my basement. No doubt some of my neighbours have questions about what I'm up to, but at least now I am self-sufficient in lettuce!

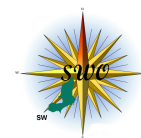
Being a Master Gardener involves doing at least thirty hours of volunteer work a year. This spring I helped students at Ste. Anne's French Immersion School in Walkerville establish a native garden.

It's a great opportunity to explore, too. My sister and I visited New York and prepared photo essays on the city's High Line Park. I also visited the original elevated park in Paris, France, and the first Canadian one in St. Thomas, Ontario, as part of my presentation. In the fall of 2024, I became the coordinator of the Essex-Windsor Master Gardeners.

With the changing climate and concerns over food security, I see an important place for Master Gardeners. We can help people learn how to grow more of their own food. We can encourage preventative measures such as establishing rain gardens to deal with flooding. We can help people transition to growing more native plants, which in turn will help feed the insects that pollinate our plants. We can help people create places of beauty to relax and enjoy life.



CE N'EST QU'UN AUREVOIR *Lisette Leboeuf*



Cet été, l'équipe de Windsor a eu le plaisir d'accueillir Elsie Miclisse de Radio-Canada Sudbury pendant un mois.

Normalement animatrice, Elsie a assumé avec brio pour la première fois, les tâches de réalisatrice et technicienne de l'émission Matins sans frontières animée brillamment par Émilie Dessureault-Paquette durant les vacances de Charles Lévesque.

En remerciement du passage d'Elsie à Windsor, nous lui avons remis ce bouquet ... non de fleurs mais plutôt de petits gâteaux ... miam!

Nous nous préparons maintenant pour la rentrée 2025-2026.

Première rangée : Gabriel Nikundana, Elsie Miclisse

Deuxième rangée : Ernst Jeudy, Lisette Leboeuf, Jean-Didier Ogobani, Émilie Dessureault-Paquette



Front row: Gabriel Nikundana, Elsie Miclisse

Back row: Ernst Jeudy, Lisette Leboeuf, Jean-Didier Ogobani, Émilie Dessureault-Paquette

Goodbye for Now

This summer, the Radio-Canada Windsor crew had the pleasure of welcoming Elsie Miclisse from our sister station in Sudbury, for one month.

Normally an announcer-host, Elsie took on, for the first time, the producer and technician duties which she passed with flying colours. She worked with Émilie Dessureault-Paquette (an associate producer) who sat in Charles Lévesques' chair while he was on vacation.

To show our gratitude, we gave Elise a beautiful bouquet of ... not flowers but rather cupcakes...yummy!

We are now getting ready for the upcoming 2025-2026 season.



Membership Matters *Phil Peck*

Imagine what would happen if there was no CBC pensioners organization.

There would be no one to represent pensioners on the CBC Pension board. There would be no pensioner input on the benefits committee, and there would be no payouts from the surplus in the CBC Pension.

The CBC Pensioners National Association is the only group that advocates for pensioners. It had to fight to ensure that millions of extra dollars in the pension fund are shared with those who contributed to the CBC pension over the years.

On behalf of all CBC pensioners, thank you for being part of it. Without members, the association would not be able to work on our behalf.

Welcome: *The Newest Member to Our Southwestern Ontario Family*



Many members have met Anna Jurak at our pensioners' events over the last dozen years. She was always there with her late husband, Rob Miller. Anna became a member of the SWO chapter when she started receiving a CBC pension as a surviving spouse after Rob passed in January.

Anna had her own media involvements over the years. She did segments about home decorating for a program that aired on weekends on TV9. She also was on local cable TV programs, appeared in a TV commercial once and was a guest for many interviews on CBC programs. At one of them, a CBC radio producer suggested Anna go on a date with Rob. Anna had never met him. A dinner date was arranged, and things went very well, to say the least. Anna and Rob eventually got married.

Anna retired from her job as an Executive Director for a local charity organization in December but continues to be active in the community. Recently she was honoured for her community efforts when she received the King Charles III Coronation Medal.

Anna was at the SWO pensioners barbecue this summer and intends to attend future association events. Keep an eye out for her.

In Memoriam:



Robert Lee "Bob" Waffle – June 12, 2025

Save The Dates



*Southwestern Ontario (SWO) Pensioners Annual General Membership meeting:

- Thursday, September 25, 2025
- 10:00 a.m.
- Giovanni Caboto Club
- 2175 Parent Avenue

Agenda to follow prior to the meeting

*Southwestern Ontario (SWO) Pensioners Annual Christmas Party:

- Saturday, December 6, 2025
- Giovanni Caboto Club
- 2175 Parent Avenue
- **Note Time Change:** Doors open at 12:00 (noon)
- Dinner/Luncheon served at 1:30 p.m.

Details to follow.



The Southwestern Ontario Board

President: Gino Piazza (226-260-4110 ginojohnpiazza@gmail.com)
Vice-President: Gerald Head (519-995-0345 gercarhead@gmail.com)
Treasurer: Jackie Kervoelen-Chelsea (519-979-8147 jkervoelen2@gmail.com)
Secretary: Sandy Tymczak (519-948-4436 sandytymczak@hotmail.com)
Director: Gerry Goulet (519-300-5347 ggoulet8@gmail.com)
Director: Barbara Peacock (519-9829702 emmasmum03@yahoo.ca)
Director: Phil Peck (519-990-4941 ppeck@kelcom.net)

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