

STAYING IN TOUCH



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WELCOME BACK !!!!!!!

After two long years of restrictions due to Covid 19 we are again able to meet in person. Our upcoming meeting on June 7th is special for a number of reasons. Besides allowing us to meet face to face, it is the **40th Anniversary of our Branch**. We discovered this when Bill Turnbull wrote an interesting piece on our history for our web site. To check it out, go to our website www.nijf.ca. You'll see it there along with pictures from both the past and present.

Covid 19 played a bit of havoc with our membership. It has dropped. Not significantly but enough to have us in a position where we might lose our 2000-member voting rights at the annual AMM. So... we are using our celebratory luncheon to recruit new members. If you know someone who is or was a federal civil servant or a member of the Military or RCMP and has not joined NAFR, bring them along to the luncheon. We will show them what a fun group we are and introduce them to the benefits of membership.

I'm looking forward to seeing you on the 7th. Lorene and Cecile have planned a really fun event with a reduced meal price of \$10 per plate, lots of prizes, draws and give aways, photo albums to look at and our National President, *Jean-Guy Soulière*, as our guest speaker.

NORMA DEAN, PRESIDENT
President



Membership Officer

Currently there are approximately 60 members who have had at one time had their partner/spouse as partner members but are no longer doing so. If these members would upgrade their memberships from single to double our branch would gain these partner's member as part of our branch's overall membership total.

In doing so it would help keep our membership total above the magic number of 2,000 members, which is used to determine our branch's voting power at the Annual Membership Meeting (AMM) where rules covering the organization are voted on and passed.

In doing this simple change in your membership type, you would greatly aid our branch's numbers.

STEVE BUNYAN, MEMBERSHIP



HAVING A PARTY JUNE 7th

NAFR Branches Focus their efforts on the following items:

- Delivering strong representation for federal retirees on their pension, health and dental benefits and security;
- Standing up for retirement income security;
- Working with veterans' on their well-being;
- Insuring that seniors' voices are heard and recognized in federal cabinet;
- Delivering historic advocacy efforts on behalf of federal retirees and veterans.

People are curious and ask how many members the association has? Some approximate numbers from the year 2020. Across Canada we have approximately 176,000 Members. Here in BC we have 15 Branches with approximately 26,000 members. Our North Island John Finn Branch (BC06) has approximately 2000 Members. So you can see that if we proceed ahead as a focused group we can influence our Governments both at Federal and Provincial levels.

Branch Executive 2021 NORTH ISLAND JOHN FINN BRANCH BC06

Position	Name	Telephone	E-Mail
President	Norma Dean	250-890-1218	n-ad-2@hotmail.com
Vice President, Advocacy	Warren Kelley	236-255-2327	wckelley27@gmail.com
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Treasurer			
Membership	Steve Bunyan	250-703-3558	sgbunyan@shaw.ca
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Publisher

NORTH ISLAND JOHN FINN BRANCH NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FEDERAL RETIREES (NAFR)

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Representing retired federal employees and spouses from the Public Service of Canada, the Canadian Armed Forces, Royal Canadian Mounted Police and Federally Appointed Judges

RELOCATION SERVICES GROUP

The CBC recently aired aMarket Place programme exposing some unscrupulous moving companies. These moving companies used methods of scamming customers to pay thousands of dollars more than the original estimates. The Relocation Services Group (RSG) is a National Association of Federal Retirees (NAFR) preferred partner who will help customers avoid these scams.

NOTE:

TO USE THESE SERVICES YOU MUST CALL RSG BEFORE YOU CONTACT A REALTOR OR MOVING COMPANY.

Home Sale: RSG will assist you with a proven realtor or you can choose a realtor from any real estate company. You will be free to negotiate commissions with the realtor who will assist you to establish a listing price based on a Comparative Market Analysis of homes sold in your area. You may also qualify for a Cash Back Reward when using RSG.

Home Search & Purchase: You may choose your own agent from any real estate company or use an agent recommended by RSG to help you find a home at your new destination. As a buyer you do not pay real estate commissions, but as an RSG client you may qualify for a cash back reward from your new home purchase.

Moving, Auditing & Guaranteed Pricing: RSG can find the right carrier for your move and due to the high volume of moves arranged pricing discounts are available and pricing within 10% is guaranteed for long distance moves, removing any price fluctuations. All aspects of the move are subject to an audit and you do not pay for your move until this is completed. If there is any damage during the move a relocation coordinator will help you through the claims process.

The final good news is that the customer does not pay RSG, the moving company does!!

More information is available at www.relocationservicesgroup.com or by phone: 1-866-865-5504

GORDON RICHARDSON - HEALTH BENEFITS OFFICER

ARE YOU SMARTER THAN A FIFTH GRADER

1. To the nearest mile, how long is a standard Olympic marathon?
2. True or False? Plants are not part of the food chain?
3. The supplementary angle of a 60-degree angle has how many degrees?
4. The US state of Indiana borders which Great Lake?
5. True or False? Lightning is a form of precipitation?

Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) Presentations

The CRA's BC/Yukon Outreach office regularly conducts online presentations covering subjects such as digital services, scam awareness, benefits and credits for seniors and caregivers as well as those available to persons with disabilities. They regularly send us their webinar calendar, usually on a monthly basis. Rather than mass e-mail it to all of our members, we upload it to our website www.nijf.ca. You can find it by visiting the website and selecting the [Links](#) tab. Scroll down to the *Government Agencies* section and look for [CRA Pacific Outreach Webinar Calendar](#). The calendar contains active links to the different sessions. The second page of the calendar provides instructions and a description of each webinar. Check back from time to time for calendar updates.

[JOIN US FOR OUR LUNCHEON CELEBRATION](#) **[JUNE 7th, 2022](#)**

MEMBERSHIP UP-DATE

Do we have the correct information on you as a member? It is important to us and to you that our records are up to date. If the label on this newsletter has your initials instead of your given name, we may not have all the information we need to ensure that you get all the updates from your branch or National Office. Please fill in the following and send it to us (address on Page 1).

Surname Given Names:.....

Mailing Address:

City/town Postal Code Phone

E-mail address:.....

Pension is from: CF PS RCMP Other I receive a survivor's benefit Yes.....No

It is important to let the branch know of any changes in the above information

2022 - Public Service Compensation Notification

Benefits

New contract awarded to administer the PSHCP

The Government of Canada has awarded a new contract for the administration of the Public Service Health Care Plan (PSHCP) to the Canada Life Assurance Company (Canada Life).

Canada Life will begin processing PSHCP claims July 1, 2023, following a transition period. Until then, continue sending your PSHCP claims to Sun Life Financial.

A new plan administrator has no impact on the cost of the PSHCP for plan members or to the benefits available to them and their families.

Deadline to submit your 2020 health benefit claims

The deadline to submit your Public Service Health Care Plan claims is within 12 months following the calendar year the expense was incurred. For example, if you incurred a health expense in 2020, you must submit your claim by December 31, 2021 to be eligible for reimbursement.

Deadline to submit your 2020 dental benefit claims

The deadline to submit your Public Service Dental Care Plan and Pensioners' Dental Services Plan claims is 15 months after the expense was incurred. For example, if you incurred a dental expense on January 1, 2021, you must submit your claim by March 31, 2022 (15 months later) to be eligible for reimbursement.

Does your coverage under the Public Service Health Care Plan and Pensioners' Dental Services Plan reflect your current situation?

The 2022 Annual Pensioners' Statements will be issued in January. Please take a moment to review your statement to ensure you have the appropriate level of coverage for the Public Service Health Care Plan and the Pensioners' Dental Services Plan and that the corresponding contribution rates are being deducted from your pension.

ANSWERS - ARE YOU SMARTER THAN A FIFTH GRADER

1. 26 miles
2. False
3. 120 degrees
4. Lake Michigan
5. False

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Happy Anniversary *North Island John Finn, Branch #06.*

I sincerely hope our members come out and celebrate this milestone with fellow members and hoping each member brings someone who is eligible to join the National Association of Federal Retirees (NAFR).

I would also like to acknowledge and thank our past treasurer, *Mr Serge Gosselin*, who has stepped down after handling all our financial matters for our branch since joining in the fall of 2013.

THANK YOU SERGE !

To quote BC's Medical Officer of Health, Doctor Bonnie Henry -
"BE KIND, BE CALM, BE SAFE"

Cherie E Kelley, CD, Editor

E&OE



WELCOME BACK TO THE WORLD

FOCUS: LATE 2022 / 2023 / 2024: *EARLYBIRD SAVINGS* :

***NEW RIVER, OCEAN, & EXPEDITION 5* CRUISETOUR ITINERARIES:**

MISSISSIPPI RIVER/ NEW ORLEANS/MEMPHIS; GREAT LAKES; ICELAND; W & E EUROPE; EGYPT/JORDAN/ISRAEL; PANAMA CANAL/CENTRAL AMERICA; AUSTRALIA/NZ; MEKONG; & EXPEDITIONS TO THE ANTARCTIC/SOUTH AMERICA, GALAPAGOS ISLANDS, & AFRICA!

*** FREE RISK GUARANTEE INCLUDED FOR 2022 RIVER, OCEAN & EXPEDITION CRUISETOURS**

*** FREE AIR INCLUDED ROUNDTRIP MAJOR CAD CITIES FOR A 15 DAY CRUISETOUR, SAILING AMSTERDAM - BUDAPEST, from \$4999 CADpp!**

*** OTHER RIVER CRUISETOUR ITINERARIES Starting At \$2399 CADPP + \$599 Roundtrip Air!**

*** COMBINE A RIVER or OCEAN CRUISE With a LAND PACKAGE, Before or After Your Cruisetour!**

*** NO SERVICE FEES: Free Service By Aji Fliss, TA, to Customize Your Flights & Arrange Your Vacation!**

*** TRAVEL ASSISTANCE With Your Full Vacation Plans, Best Health & Safety Protocol, & Advisories!**

*** FULLY EXPERIENCE LOCAL LIFE: Inspiring Cultures, Historic & Dramatic Settings, & UNESCO Sites!**

*** YOUR RIVER, OCEAN OR EXPEDITION CRUISETOUR INCLUDES: Airfare, Transfers, Hotels, Tours, All Meals, Wine & Beer with Lunch/Dinner, WIFI, Health/Safety, Host Services, & Entertainment!**



*** FOR A PROFESSIONAL FREE CONSULTATION & TO BOOK YOUR VACATION PACKAGE,**

Call: AJI FLISS, ACC, Accredited Cruise Vacation Consultant, Travel Connoisseurs Club, Comox B.C.

Ph #250 898 3358 / afliss@shaw.ca BC Consumer Protection Reg #54575

Call Aji to book: RIVER, BARGE, EXPEDITION & OCEAN CRUISES. COACH TOURS, CYCLING, WALKING, SOLO & THEME TOURS. REUNIONS. GROUPS. INTL FLIGHTS. ALL INCLUSIVE RESORT/FLIGHT PACKAGES WEDDINGS. LONGSTAY, CUSTOM & EXOTIC PACKAGES

"We Look After the Details so YOU Can Enjoy Your Journey of a Lifetime!"



Welcome New Members

We have two new members since our last Newsletter:

Francine Natsal
Michael Spooner

Please tell your eligible friends to come to our lunch and discover what the **National Association of Federal Retirees (NAFR)** has to offer.



Robert Hutton
Frances Genoe
June Waite
Ken MacDonald
Anthony Kyle Jones
Don Hilchey
Grace McPhail
Daniel Ian MacKenzie



**EVERY ONE
REMEMBER JUNE 7th**

North Island – John Finn Branch
40th Anniversary Luncheon & Recruitment Meeting

June's Luncheon meeting will be very special this year as our Branch is celebrating its **40th year** with the *National Association of Federal Retirees, (NAFR)*. We would like to use this celebratory event to help recruit new members. If you know someone who is a serving or a retired member of the federal public service, armed forces, RCMP, federal judiciary, their spouse or survivor, bring them along.

The Luncheon will take place at the
Florence Filberg Convention Centre
in the big hall.

411 Anderton Ave, Courtenay, BC V9N 6C6.

Tuesday, 7th, June 2022

Meet & Greet: 11:00 a.m.

Buffet Luncheon: 12:00 p.m.

Business Meeting: 1:00 p.m.

Guest Speaker: Jean-Guy Soulière, National President

HOT AND COLD BUFFET INCLUDES:

Rolls & Butter

Baron of Beef lightly seasoned & slow grilled
alongside mushroom and onion & beef gravy

Mashed Potatoes

Seasonal Medley of Vegetables

a Vegetarian option (please specify if you want this option)

Two Salads

Coffee & Tea

Dessert

Luncheon Cost - \$10.00 per person

****A special door prize this year is a \$250**

Chemainus Theatre

Gift Certificate

Additional Draws - 50/50 Draw, 40 gift draws

You Must RSVP to Attend:

- Call Lena Jenkins at 250-897-0038; or
- Lorene Hill at 778-992-1925; or

send an e-mail to info@NIJF.ca with the names of those attending, indicating if anyone requires the Vegetarian option

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM OUR NATIONAL OFFICE (NO)

“Branches must still ask for proof of vaccination for all in-person events (even when the province no longer requires it”

Masks and Hand Sanitizer will be available at the door for our members and guests



***REMEMBER OUR BIG
CELEBRATION ON JUNE 7th,
THIS IS OUR FIRST
FACE TO FACE
MEETING SINCE
COVID STARTED, SO
COME OUT AND ENJOY***