

STAYING IN TOUCH



Newsletter No. 95 September 2022

Canada Post Publications Mail Agreement No. 40033460

Hello everyone. I hope you are all enjoying the summer weather that finally came although the last week of July was a bit toasty that is for sure.

Thank you to everyone who came to our June 40th Anniversary celebration and recruitment lunch. I hope you all had a good time and enjoyed seeing each other face to face for the first time in over two years. Congratulations to all the prize winners. I want to thank Lorene and Cecile once again for all their hard work in organizing this event., purchasing and wrapping the prizes and being there to greet people. Kudos to Cherie and Warren for managing the 50/50 draw, Steve for signing up new or renewed members and Bill and Gordon for greeting people and helping them check out the photo albums. Last but not least, thanks to our friend and former treasurer, Serge for, once again, taking charge of the \$\$\$\$\$. Couldn't have done it without you. Our next meeting will be in September. I hope we have as good a turnout as we did in June. Check all the information you will need to attend this meeting further along in this newsletter

At the end of June I attended the Annual Meeting of Members (AMM) in Ottawa. I had a couple of travel related hick ups, late flight, no luggage on arrival, but everything went smoothly after the meeting started. Advocacy was the main topic on the agenda and luckily, Warren Kelley, the branch Advocacy Director was able to accompany me to the AMM and attend the special sessions that were specific to that topic while I attended sessions on branch responsibilities and how the pandemic has impacted branch operations and membership. A highlight of the meeting was the election of a new President. Jean-Guy Soulière had served six years as President and that is the maximum allowed under the by-laws of the Association. We hated to say good bye to Jean-Guy and he received many accolades and gifts. Roy Goodall was elected President. Roy resides in Calgary and is a long standing member who has served as Vice-President. Randy Wilson, one of BC's representatives on the National Board of Directors, resigned leaving an opening for a new rep. Michael Jolicoeur, President of the Victoria branch, was elected to the National Board. You might have had a chance to meet Michael at our June meeting as he and his wife attended as our guests. Brian Strongman, who also attended our June event, will represent BC branches for one more year and then his term will be up.

At the AMM we learned that a Branch Core Functions Survey will be forthcoming from National Office. This will give branches a chance to provide feedback on their current operations and broaden the Associations understanding of the world in which we are currently operating. The results will give guidance to future programs, funding structures and other important issues that branches face.

After leaving the AMM I travelled to Jasper, Alta to meet with family for a short holiday and then back to Comox for the rest of July. The summer is passing very quickly so I'd better get busy and enjoy it.

Bye for now and hopefully I'll see you in September.

Norma Dean – President



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 |
| Secretary | Cecile Turnbull | 250-338-1857 | cecile.turnbull@shaw.ca |
| Treasurer | | | |
| Membership | Steve Bunyan | 250-703-3558 | sgbunyan@shaw.ca |
| Newsletter Editor | Cherie Kelley | 236-255-2327 | wckelley27@gmail.com |
| Health Benefits Officer | Gordon Richardson | 250-339-5446 | gordon.donlie@gmail.com |
| Programs | Lorene Hill | 778-992-1925 | jilohill@hotmail.com |
| Welfare Telephone Co-Ordinator | Lena Jenkins | 250-897-0038 | clle_jenk@shaw.ca |
| Communications Acting Treasurer | Bill Turnbull | 250-338-1857 | bc.turnbull@shaw.ca |

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.

Publisher

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

MAILING ADDRESS: NAFR North Island-John Finn Branch, P.O. Box 1420, Comox, BC V9M 7Z9

President: Norma Dean Phone (250) 890-1218 E-mail: n-ad-2@hotmail.com

Editor: Cherie Kelley Phone (236) 255-2327 Email: wckelley27@gmail.com

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

ARE YOU SMARTER THAN A FIFTH GRADER

1. What was the first day of the 20th century?
2. If you cut a quarter into thirds, how many pieces would you have?
3. What number is the Roman numeral XVI?
4. Moving air is called, wind, tide, hurricane?
5. In the sentence "Sally is a very good drummer," what part of speech is the word "very"?
6. please remember to (pear) (pair) (pare) the carrots before you slice them.



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!"



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

ANSWERS - ARE YOUR SMARTER THAN A FIFTH GRADER

1. January 1st, 1901
2. 3
3. 16
4. Wind
5. Adverb
6. Pare

NOTE TO ALL MEMBERS:

Please advise the Membership Director, *Steve Bunyan*, of any changes to your personal information, such as:

- Address;
- Phone Number;
- Home address; and
- Email address.

The *Membership Director*, will make all required changes on all relevant data bases.

Welcome New Members

Vicki & Darell Bedard

James & Yvonne Campbell

Chris Cottle

Wayne Garton

William Graves

Wiesia Kujawa

Nigel Pollard

Rose Venedam

Suzanne Vosberg

MEDOC ELIGIBILITY

I was hoping to have clarification on the subject of MEDOC eligibility for this Newsletter, but have not been successful. National Office has often stated that a dual membership is required for a spouse to be eligible for MEDOC coverage. However there is no mention of this requirement in the MEDOC Travel Insurance Policy. According to Johnson Inc a spouse may be covered, without membership, if a NAFR member includes her/him in a Family Plan. I hope to have more information before the September General Meeting.

LONG TERM CARE INSURANCE

Long Term Care Insurance (LTCI) is another insurance that was offered by Johnson Inc. Johnson is no longer selling this LTCI plan, but is administering those plans that were sold and Sun Life is handling claims. Johnson Inc has not sent any updates to policy holders for many years. If members wish to inquire about the status of their policy, with help from Bill Turnbull and National Office, the telephone sequence to reach the Johnson Inc office for LTCI information is:-

Toll free number: 1-800-461-4155

Press 1 for English

Press 4 for Other

Press 2 for System

Press 1 for Health

This sequence will make contact with a human who will be able to give you updated information.

HAVE YOUR POLICY NUMBER READY

Gordon Richardson, Health Benefits Officer.



James F. "STOCKY" Edwards

Ellen Ouellette

Jim Wilson



FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

I learned at our June 2022, luncheon celebration for our 40th anniversary that our branch ***North Island John Finn, British Columbia Branch #06***, is one of only three branches across Canada to be named after a member.

With having approximately 2,000 members within our branch it is only a few volunteers that keep keep our branch open and moving forward.

I learned at the Annual Members' Meeting (AMM) in Ottawa, June 2022, that some branches are truly struggling to stay open because they have no volunteers stepping forward. Their branches have had only a few members volunteer and they are burned out after years of supporting their branch.

Your members listed below have given years and years of volunteer service to our Branch:

President - Norma Dean

- Telephone Co-ordinator 2010 - 2018
- Vice President 2018 - 2020
- President 2020 - present

Vice President - Warren Kelley

- Director 2018
- Vice President 2020 - present

Acting Treasurer - Bill Turnbull

- Health Benefits Officer 2007 - 2013
- President 2013 - 2020
- Development of Website and Communications 2017 - present
- Acting Treasurer March 2022 - present (our previous treasurer, Serge Gosselin, served 16 yrs).

Secretary - Cecile Turnbull

- Telephone Co-ordinator 2006 -2010
- Vice President 2009 - 2010
- President -2010 - 2012
- Regional Services Officer 2012
- Programs Director 2015
- Health Benefits Officer 2019
- Programs Director 2019 - 2021
- Secretary 2018 - present

Membership Director - Steve Bunyan

- Benefits Officer 1997 - 2002
- Membership Director 2002 - present
- Newsletter mailing Since forever

Telephone Coordinator - Lena Jenkins

- 2022 - present
- Front desk luncheons

Welfare Director - Lena Jenkins

- April 2021 - present

Health Benefits officer - Gordon Richardson

- March 2020 - present

Programs Director - Lorene Hill

- 2021- present
- Lorene is new to the area and joined our Branch upon moving to the Valley and has been on the Board from nearly day one.

Newsletter Editor - Cherie Kelley

- Director at large
- Telephone Co-ordination 2018 - 2021
- Editor June 2021 - present
- 50/50 draw (luncheons)

As you can see our volunteers have given years of service to ensure our Branch continues. We need members to step forward to make ensure our Branch will continue. As our name suggests we are retired and we all want to enjoy our branch activities and friends. If you want to help the Board then please consider volunteering your time. As you can see from the information about our executive members they have given freely of their time and effort on your behalf for years.

Cherie E Kelley, CD
Editor

E&OE



NORTH ISLAND - JOHN FINN

North Island – John Finn Branch
National Association of Federal Retirees
Wednesday, September 14th, 2022
Recruitment Luncheon Meeting

Hi folks – We are encouraging members to bring an eligible friend or family member who hasn't joined the Association yet so they can learn more about us and what we do for our members. More members provide us with additional voting rights at Annual Members Meetings and a stronger voice within the organization overall, with greater influence regarding our pensions and benefits. Successful referrals will earn members a \$5 Tim Horton's gift card as well as an entry in the 2022 Mega Recruitment Drive. Visit federalretirees.ca/mrd as of September 1st for full details.

At the Best Western Westerly Hotel

Wednesday, September 14th, 2022

11:00 am – Meet & Greet

12:00 pm – **Lunch** - Soup/Salad - Build you own Sandwich Buffet

Cost - \$11.00 per plate

1:00 pm – Short Business Meeting from your Executive

Guest Speakers – Jason Probyn & Lawyer, Shane Landreville

Speaking about – “Your Life, Your Legacy”

All members welcome. Bring a new recruit for our branch.

Must RSVP before September 9th to

Telephone Director – Lena Jenkins @ 250-897-0038

or Programs Director – Lorene Hill @ 778-992-1925

To reserve your seat for this event.

Our Branch - Celebrating 40 years

Please note: For this luncheon and some future luncheons, we will be having lighter style meals because we feel that it is important to keep our lunch costs down so members can continue to enjoy quality social time together. **In December** we will be having our usual Christmas Luncheon Meeting, again with the recruitment option. The cost of that meal will be more in-line with what we have paid in the past. **Tickets for December will be on sale at the September meeting for \$25.00 per person.**



HOPE EVERYONE IS HAVING A WONDERFUL SUMMER

AND

LOOKING FORWARD TO AUTUMN