

Fall &
Holiday
Edition

2022
3rd Edition

The Good Life

Newsletter of the Southwestern Ontario Chapter of The CBC Pensioners National Association

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



“The teacher
whos indeed
wise does
not bid you
to enter the
house of
their wisdom
but rather
leads you to
the
threshold of
your mind.”

Kahlil Gibran

National (highlights) - A word from the PNA President

Dear members of the PNA Southwestern Ontario Chapter, I am delighted to have been invited to take part in your Christmas celebration on December 3rd! It will be a great honour and pleasure to get to meet the members of one of the most active Chapters of our Ontario Region under festive circumstances.

We just concluded the first day of our October 3-4 Board of Directors Meeting in Ottawa. We will share more information in the next issue of CONTACT, but here are some of the topics on the agenda:

- reports on the first year of operations of the Standing Committees on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion and on Recruitment;
- adoption of a draft Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Guide full of practical advice to help us hold truly welcoming events and meetings and encourage more members to get involved in our organization;
- creation of a new category of membership and adoption of a National Policy on Associate members;
- report from our communications Coordinator on the PNA communications across the country and discussion of some of her recommendations;
- potential creation of a new region;
- discussion about extending the Observers Pilot Program that we tried at last year's triennial Convention to the National Board meetings;
- and finally, the topic that is on every member's mind: an update on the arbitration of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) that exists since 2009 and rules, among other things, the sharing of the Pension Plan surplus.

As you know, last year the Pension Plan registered a surplus that forced the CBC to take a contribution holiday valued at approximately \$40M. The Corporation now maintains that the MOA is no longer valid, and it refuses that pensioners and employees get their share of the surplus, as stipulated by the Agreement. The arbitration hearings are continuing, and we may expect a decision next spring! In the meantime, severe inflation eats away at our purchasing power...

I will end this on a somewhat positive note: according to its second-quarter report, the Pension Plan may be heading toward another surplus at the end of 2022! If this trend is confirmed by the actuarial valuation of results as of December 31st, and if the arbitration rules in our favour that the MOA is still valid, we may expect some money coming our way some time next year! Doesn't hope spring eternal?

President



Alain Pineau

VP-Anglophone



David Jeffrey

VP-Francophone



Donald Langis

Treasurer



Réjean Labrie

W.S.P.



Regional (highlights) – President Gerald Head Steps Down

Hello to all. This is not a farewell note but a notice that my lifestyle is changing. On Friday August 26th I experienced a T.I.A. (mini stroke). I spent the next 12 hours on a bed in the hallway of Hotel Dieu Hospital trying to get some sleep while 22 other patients were in the same situation- waiting to get into E.R. I do want to express my appreciation for the Paramedics in our city. They are the most caring and helpful people that you will ever meet. On Saturday morning I was finally moved into E.R. and examined by the doctor. After physical tests and examinations were complete, he sent me for a CT scan. The result came back in my favour, no blockages, and no brain bleed. At 1:30 p.m. after having been in the hospital for 17 hours I was sent home and arrangements were made to see a Neurologist the following Thursday. Two Neurologists examined me and came to the same conclusion. This was a warning. My father died of a massive stroke after seeing his beloved Montreal Canadiens beat the Detroit Red Wings. In all honesty the Doctor made it very clear that I had 5 strikes against me and that it is not a matter of “if” another one will occur but “when”. Based on this discussion I came to the conclusion that I needed to quit driving for Enterprise and remove myself from the Presidency of the Ontario Region of the CBC Pensioners’ National Association.

I have had several medical appointments in the 4 weeks since the incident. I have worn a heart monitor for 15 days and will now have a follow up meeting with the Neurologist. He will inform me at that session if he wants me to have an MRI and if there will be any restrictions on what I can do.

Through all of this I have had a great deal of time to reflect on my past. What have I done with my life. It is amazing what memories surface after a major health scare!

On April 5, 1965, I began working at CKLW. I replaced Marsh Gray in the mailroom where I got to see how radio and television work. My plan was to become an announcer. I had enrolled in an announcing course made available by CJSP Leamington. I quickly learned that this was not for me. Six months later I became a film editor preparing movies, syndicated shows, and commercials for airing. 10 years later, after thoroughly enjoying what I did, I was asked by Fred Stecher to move into the news-editing department. For the first 3 months I worked 7 days a week because there were no other editors until Darian Bernard was hired. The following January, a staff of editors was hired and we moved from the basement onto the first floor behind the switchboard/lobby. When Betacams became the in-thing, and film disappeared I spent a year upstairs scheduling the studio crews. This was followed by a year of going through the film archives and cataloging what was there. At this point I became an archivist and developed a computer program for keeping track of the news footage. That is the position that I retired from.

During my time at CKLW I got involved on the NABET executive and became Treasurer. This was followed a few years later by being elected local President. During that one-year term, Don Merrifield and I went to Atlanta Georgia for the NABET convention. The Canadian delegation made a motion to leave the American union and form a Canadian version. The convention voted it down. Surprise, the next morning they voted to kick us out. And then the Canadian version of NABET was born. It was also the year that CBC took over the ownership of CKLW after 5 years of a partnership with CFTO (CTV) Toronto. After one week of negotiations with upper management of the CBC we reached a takeover agreement that covered all staff. I then had to leave NABET because my job classification fell under the jurisdiction of CUPE.

That is my history but more important is what I did as a fellow employee. During my working career, I was involved with helping others. I seemed to be the one that people came to talk with. I was a part of the employees committee; spent 15 years with EAP both locally and nationally; co-chaired the local committee that oversaw the return of the Windsor Evening News in 1994. My entire life has been spent helping others. It was only natural that when I retired I would continue serving my fellow retirees first as the second President of the Southwest Ontario Chapter after Al Clark. This leads me to becoming treasurer of the Ontario Region, which leads me to becoming President.

I have tried to do my best for the membership. I have always put the membership’s needs first. There are many people I worked with over the years that deserve a lot of credit for what has been accomplished. Thank you to all of you.

Am I finished. NO! My involvement may change. It may become more one-on-one but it will not stop. Thank you for your support and all the trust that you have put in me.

“It is unwise to be too sure of one’s own wisdom. It is healthy to be reminded that the strongest might weaken and the wisest might err.”

Mahatma Gandhi

Respectfully, Gerry Head, Past-President Ontario Region CBC Pensioners National Association

Local – Southwestern Ontario (SWO)

Every moment is precious, even the bad ones. And typically, the horrible moments are the ones you'll laugh at down the road.



OUR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY IS BACK, BIGGER & BETTER

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3

It is on and we are back! The SWO Chapter is known for putting together a great party and this year is no exception. Our annual Christmas party will be held once again at the Giovanni Caboto Club (2175 Parent Ave.). Doors and cash bar open at 4:30pm and dinner will be served at approximately 6:00pm. Santa came through big this year and will be delivering us a great choice of door prizes and we were also able to put together a **SURPRISE RAFFLE!**

Note: RSVP is requested by Monday, November 28, 2022

So please mark your calendar and reserve early! Why wait, contact us now!



To confirm your attendance: please contact any of your Board members listed above!

Our Christmas Menu:

Antipasto Italiano & Bruschetta, Penne with Meat or Blush Sauce, Roast Beef with gravy, Breaded Pollock, Roasted Potatoes, Mixed Vegetables, Tossed Salad, Bread Rolls, Italian Pastry, Coffee/Tea & 1 Litre Bottle of Wine per Table of 8

We will also provide **FREE: Any special meals that have dietary restrictions! Just let us know when you confirm!**

***REMINDER: IT IS FREE FOR OUR CHAPTER MEMBERS AND THEIR GUEST* - non-members \$25/person**

Guest Speakers: Alain Pineau (CBCPNA-President) and Dan Oldfield (Rep:Consultative Committee on Staff Benefits)

Gino
President



Sandy
Vice-President



Jackie
Treasurer



Gerry
Director



Manny
Director



Visit our Facebook site (copy and paste the link) to view many of our past activity photos.
https://www.facebook.com/SWOChapterCBCPensioners/?ref=aymt_homepage_panel

SWO CHAPTER ELECTIONS

This year also marks the end of the three (3) year term, which your board has served, and an election is required to be called. All members of your board have agreed to stand for another term.

Although they are standing, we all encourage anyone interested in any of the positions to submit their name.

If you are interested in assisting your Chapter but your time is very limited, let us know what area you may be interested in. There are many areas within our Chapter that could use your skills!

All nominations must be submitted to Gabe Menard (Chair, Elections Committee) no later than Friday, November 4, 2022.

Gabe can be contacted by:

Email: menardgabe@gmail.com

or

Call: (519) 978-2340

AVAILABLE POSITIONS:

President
Vice-President
Treasurer
Director (1)
Director (2)

INCUMBENTS (STANDING):

Gino Piazza
Sandy Tymczak
Jackie Kervoelen-Cheslea
Gerry Goulet
Manny Pacheco

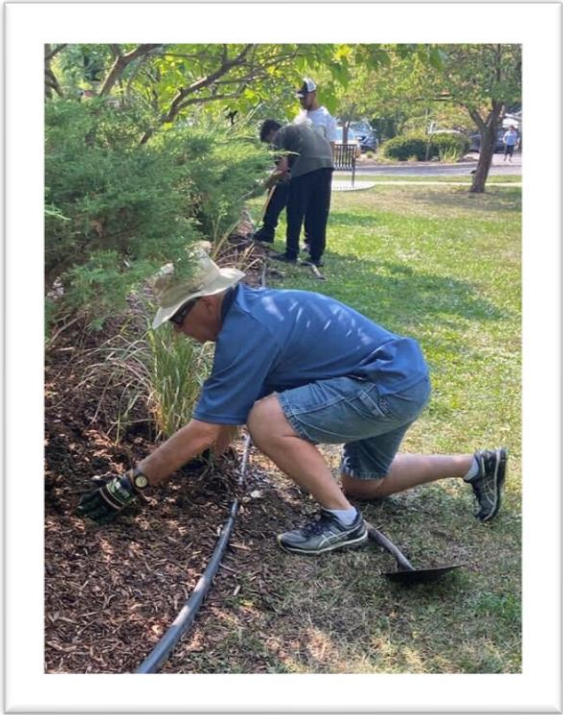
As mentioned, if your interest in assisting our Chapter in another area, please contact any of your current Board members.

Thank you.

'THE CONTINUING SAGA OF: HERE IS WHAT I HAVE BEEN UP TO'

Bruce Taylor (CBET Station Manager)– Over the Last 20 Years

I can't believe that it has been over 20 years since I retired from CBC. There are so many memories from my CBC life. And I am truly blessed that I have been able to make so many new memories in retirement.



I joined the Rotary Club of Windsor-St. Clair just after I retired and quickly found that you can be as busy as you want to be with all the opportunities to help. I like our club because we do both local and international projects. It is amazing how a small amount of money and working with other Rotarians can make a huge difference helping people who have so very little.

A number of years ago, I got involved with a grassroots addiction/recovery counselling agency called Crossroads : Centre for Personal Empowerment. We kept seeing so many marginalized people looking for help with their recovery. It was impossible to stretch the Crossroads' resources to accommodate them. So, we registered a charity and in January 2018, GR8 Day – Crossroads Addiction Recovery Support started providing funding for addictions counselling and cognitive behavioural therapy to marginalized people looking to regain control of their lives. The need is huge and thanks to some generous donors we are able to provide some help.

In 2006, we went to Casa Grande, Arizona for a month and really liked it. Before the month was up, we purchased a small Park Model mobile home. We thought we would try the snowbird life for five years. Fifteen years later, after the impact of Covid, we decided that it was time, and we sold our little place last December. I really miss my winter hobby of silversmithing. I never thought making silver jewelry could be so satisfying.



The last twenty years have gone by quickly. I feel so fortunate that Paulette and I are well, and we get to hug our two beautiful teenaged grandkids. Stay safe, healthy, and happy. B.

Liz Pettapiece-Phillips (Director, Infrastructure Support, Media Operations & Technology)



After 36 years at CBC Toronto, my immediate retirement goals were to move and live full-time in the tomato capital (of the world 😊) Leamington and to continue teaching part-time in St. Clair College's Media Convergence program. I planned to join a local choir and a ladies' golf league to facilitate meeting people in the community. I was going to continue travelling (a favourite pastime) and one 'big' trip was going to be to Bora Bora. My retirement also coincided with another life passage -- welcoming our first grandchild.

Fortunately, I managed to achieve all of those goals with the exception of Bora Bora. Bags were packed and the trip was set for Spring, 2020. Well, needless to

say, that didn't happen.

Now four and a half years post retirement, I'm still teaching. I've made friends through singing and golf. And, thankfully, I have resumed travelling. I also produce an arts show for Cogeco YourTV and sit on the board of directors of the Windsor International Film Festival. My schedule is full and so is our family; with our 3 daughters and sons-in-law, we've welcomed another 5 grandchildren.



My husband of 40 years, a Windsor native, is still working -- building a bridge. Without a doubt, life post-CBC in Essex County has been enriching for both of us. We both feel so fortunate to have developed relationships here and are looking forward to what's next on the horizon.

As reprinted from Livewire September, 2022 Edition

2022 Ontario Region Elections and AGM Oct. 12, 2022 at 11am How to Vote

The CBC PNA Ontario Region Annual General Meeting and Triennial Election will take place on Oct. 12 from 11 am until 12:30 pm.

It will be virtual, held on Zoom. You'll need a computer or tablet equipped with a camera, or a smart phone, all loaded with the free ZOOM app.

Register to attend by sending an email to ontario@cbcpensioners.ca. All participants must register in advance to gain access to the Zoom meeting. Online members will receive a Zoom link via E-mail beforehand. Online voters will be able to cast ballots on ZOOM for President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. Toronto members only will also be able to vote on ZOOM for the four Toronto Director positions. If you have only a conventional telephone, you can cast your votes before Oct. 10 by calling the Ontario Region Electoral Officer Leone Earls at 416-463-0314.

Ontario Region bylaws permit nominations from the floor and those names will be added as necessary. Each candidate may submit their campaign message to the PNA website for members to see. Go to www.cbcpensioners.ca and find these messages under Ontario Region. Your participation is important so please attend. If you cannot make it, give your proxy to a member who will be attending.

All completed proxy forms must be submitted by their recipients to ontario@cbcpensioners.ca no later than October 10 – 2 days ahead of the AGM.

PROXY FORM FOR ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

The Ontario Region of the CBC PNA is holding its Annual General Meeting and triennial elections in Toronto on Wednesday, October 12, 2022, at 11 am.

Members of the Association who are unable to attend the Annual General Meeting may appoint a fellow member who will be attending the meeting as proxy to vote on his/her behalf.

I, _____, do hereby give permission for

(Print your name)

_____ to hold my proxy and vote on my behalf in all matters arising at the Annual General Meeting to be held on October 12, 2022.

(Your signature)

(Date)

After filling in this form, print it, scan it or photograph it and E-mail it to

(E-mail address of your proxy holder)

Or print form, fill it out and mail it to me via Canada Post at

(Postal address of your proxy holder)

Proxy holder must forward the completed form to Electoral Officer Leone Earls (learls@rogers.com) by Oct. 10, 2022