

BRANCH REPORT

NB65 | Edmonton

President's message

Well hello to all! I hope you like the new layout of these reports! This is new to me and my first attempt at this template so be patient as I am on a learning curve.

I hope you have enjoyed your summer, as fall is soon to be upon us. I must admit, I am writing this at the end of June to meet the publication deadline, but I have lots to share from our annual meeting in Ottawa and the upcoming election.

Annual Members Meeting

Lynn Chatterton, treasurer, and I had a great week at our annual meeting. Over 3 days a lot of very good material was shared and given. I have 3 things that were of interest to us. The first were the priorities the Association has set as discussion items over the election. Universal pharmacare, a national seniors strategy, continued protection of our benefits and lastly to help and serve our veterans better.

As the Association is not partisan, who you vote for is your decision, we just want to make sure you are aware of what is important and could affect us as seniors. I hope everyone of you will exercise your right to vote. It's a privilege that is denied to many. We are very lucky to be here in Canada.

The second item that there will be an increase to our dues starting in January 2020. This rate increase is to be reviewed by the national board every year, and the increase is based on the indexing rate applied to our pensions. A single membership will be \$51.36, and a double will be \$66.60. If you calculate it out the increase is 6 cents a month for a single and 12 cents for a double membership. Not the end of the world!

The third piece is the most important. We adopted a new strategic plan that will cover us from July 2019 to June 2024. It was very dear to Jean-Guy Soulière, our national president, as it focuses on his piece Moving Forward, that he shared with you in the spring of 2018, when he was here. He referred to it as our insurance plan to protect our pensions and benefits. The plan was unanimously accepted by all the voting delegates.



There are 3 elements to this plan:

1. We will advocate in the best interest of our members and seek to be recognized as a respected national voice supporting secure, healthy and dignified retirement for federal retirees and all Canadians.
2. We will promote membership retention and growth.
3. We will pursue organizational excellence at all levels of the Association.

Sorry if that was a tad dry to read but I had to copy it from materials I brought back from Ottawa. As you can see, we will have our work cut out for us as a board in the next few years. I hope that we are performing in this manner now and that we can only get better.

At the annual members meeting we have a president's forum, where we discuss our branches, concerns and ways to improve what we do for you as members. We had a great discussion about the above plan and what all levels of the organization can do. On a more personal note, I have been asked to co-chair the presidents forum next year in Ottawa. It was a great privilege to be asked and look forward to working with the other presidents across this great land. The topic for review has yet to be determined, but I will keep you posted.

You and Your Survivors workshop

A big heartfelt thank you goes out to Lynn Chatterton and Barry Murray. Lynn organized three *You and Your Survivor* workshops, with a beautiful lunch provided. Barry did the presentations and it was very informative. He is a great storyteller, and everything was so relevant to this topic. I was at the last presentation, and it floored me of all the little things I had not thought of.

Lynn sent out at the end all the documents needed to complete the workbook. A lot of work and effort on both volunteers. I do believe there is a waiting list and maybe sometime in the fall we may be able to finish off the list for those who were not able to attend. Again, thanks for all the work, time and effort that both of you gave. It is appreciated!

Fall Dinner

On Sept 26, 2019 our fall dinner will be a hip of beef at the Assumption Center, 721 Chapel Street West Saint John. Dinner is \$20 person. Cheques can be made out to and sent to the National Association of Federal Retirees, PO Box 935, Saint John, N.B. E2L 4E3, no later than Sept. 20. Dinner will be at 4 p.m., as you had voted on this at the annual meeting in April. For more information on this dinner, please contact Martha Peters at 506-648-9535, Lorraine Scott at 506-849-2430 or fsna65@gmail.com.

Our guest speaker will be Matt Graham, a financial planner with Dominion Securities. He will be discussing something that I find rather disturbing, reverse mortgages and its implications on those that apply for one. Matt has a working knowledge of these and has a wealth of knowledge to pass on to you regarding this topic. He is not to be missed.

Fall Dinner details

Date and time: Sept 26, 2019, 4 p.m.

Location: Assumption Center, 721 Chapel Street West, Saint John N. B.

Cost: \$20 per person

RSVP: Martha Peters by phone at 506-648-9535 or by email at fsna65@gmail.com
by September 20

Guest Speaker: Matt Graham BBA, PCA and Financial Advisor, Dominion Securities

Board Members

Lorraine Scott, president
506-847-2439
mlscott55@gmail.com or
fsna65@gmail.com

Harold McInnis, vice president

Lynn Chatterton, treasurer

Catherine O’Leary, membership

Fran Hickmott, secretary

Peggy McLean, director

Marianne Haines, director



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