

BRANCH REPORT

NB65 | Fundy Shores

Today is Little Christmas, as I write this report. The Christmas decorations are all gone and so has another year! Well, well we have survived yet another year with no meetings or dinners. I was hoping that we would be able to come together, but as it looks it may be 2023! It had better happen as its our 60th Anniversary and I would like to celebrate it. At this point there is nothing planned, but I hope by the fall we will have some great news to share. Now having said that, it all depends on our not so nice friend Mr. C. and where we are health wise.

As a board the past year we were not overly active. We had 3 zoom meetings and one in person meeting in the fall. Had I known the paperwork involved with that in person meeting I would have opted for another zoom meeting. But it was very nice to be together and catch up with everyone, even if we were 6 feet part! That meeting did come away with a must do this year.

Our Branch bylaws need of an updated. Since the last review much has changed in our operation, so Donna Bovolaneas, our treasurer and yours truly will review them. Any adjustments will have to be presented to the board and then passed at our annual members meeting this coming spring. From there they are approved by the National Board of Directors.

Our annual members meeting date has yet to be decided on. I am hoping it will be in April and probably via a zoom meeting. Anyone else out there just about zoomed out like me? Guess it showing we are not in tune with new way to do business and getting old!

I have represented the branch on several occasions this past year. In September, all presidents, across the country met and voted on several issues regarding national affairs. The national bylaws were tweaked to stay current and a new national reserve was established. This reserve was the brainchild of Richard Cheverie and me, as co-chairs of the president's forum. The Branch Infrastructure Reserve. The intent of this national reserve is to help other branches, that may not have the resources to carry out all that is required of them, due to limited funds. Branches from across Canada can contribute any excess funds they have to this fund to help those that are not so fortunate. We are still working at the national level on the terms of reference, so branches may apply for these funds. A committee, with members from the National Board of Directors and other presidents will be set up to review all applications. Basically, it is branches helping branches. We have to make sure we follow all the rules for a not-for-profit organization.



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On the local front I have a wish list for 2022.

- 1) I would love to host a luncheon or dinner, in the St George or St Stephen area in the late summer or fall. I feel that more outreach in the former branch would be good and perhaps get more members to join or join our board. Again, this will only happen if we can meet safely, and we become open for business. I have a few places that were suggested and plan to check them out some time this spring. Stay tuned, you never know!
- 2) Organize our 60th Anniversary Dinner! Got an idea, want to help? I would love to hear from you. I am open to suggestions. Email me or call me. My info is at the bottom of this report.
- 3) 2022 is the last year that this elected board will be operational. We continued in these rolls so that there would be consistency during the pandemic. Our terms will have ended and most of us will not reoffer. In April 2023 a new board has to be found and in place to move forward with the branch duties. I will be around for a year or so as an adviser only. The president's job is not hard and depending on what you take on can be very rewarding. As a board member, you have lots of resources to help you from the past board members, who will gladly tutor you, to the wonderful and very helpful staff in Ottawa in the national office. All the bases are covered. You also get to meet and make new friends from right across the country. That will be that part I will miss most. I have found this most rewarding.

When the presidents meet again in June, and they are hoping it will be in person in Ottawa, our National President, Jean-Guy Souliere, will be retiring from the association. He visited the branch in 2018. He has served the association for 30 years in many capacities. We wish him well in what ever he decides to take on. He will be missed that is for sure.

I know that you are reading this in March. My hope is that you have all had your vaccinations and booster shots and remain healthy and safe as we move forward. Omicron will be long gone or on the next to no case list. I live in hope!

I wish you all the best in 2022

Lorraine Scott

President

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