

PENSIONER NEWSLETTER

A PUBLICATION OF THE NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR
PUBLIC SERVICE PENSIONERS' ASSOCIATION

FALL 2002

RETIREMENT: A NEW BEGINNING

MANDATE STATEMENT

The Newfoundland & Labrador Public Service Pensioners' Association exists to promote and advance the interests of its members by providing a medium for collaborative action on any matter affecting a pensioner's well-being.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President-----Bill Shallow
Vice President--- Barbara Hopkins
Treasurer----- Eric Hodder
Secretary ----- Catherine Fagan
Past-President---Eric Salter

Directors:

John Bambrick George Campbell
Ray Hawco Ross King
Anne Miller Jean Ann Rose
Ern Shute
Cecil Thomas (Central Branch)

Administrative Assistant:

Maureen Hogan

Editor: Barbara Hopkins

Layout & Design: Maureen Hogan

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Bill Shallow

It's hard to believe, but the issue of a Voice & This year, the AGM will be part of a full day
Vote for pensioners on the Joint Trusteeship for Conference, entitled *Retirement: a New*
the Pension Plan has still not been resolved. *Beginning*. In addition to the usual reports,
We're told that the Minister has made a decision there will be workshop sessions and
and is talking to the Unions, but we have yet to opportunities for interaction around topics of
be informed, one way or the other. We have real interest to pensioners. We encourage all
to achieving a reasonable level of credibility. Members, especially those outside St. John's,
to Member support for our efforts made a big former colleagues. We also urge you to bring
difference. So my message to all members is: your spouse or a friend. The more the merrier!
Be prepared for a call for action. We may need Retirement may be the end of our career in the
your all out support for the final push. If anyone Public Service, but it can be the beginning of
thinks we are just going to fade away, they have new opportunities for personal and family
another think coming. fulfilment.

My second message is about the Annual General Thank you for your support in the challenges
Meeting on 8 October. We usually get a good we have faced together over the past year. The
turnout at the AGM, but this year, let's make it a AGM and Conference is the opportunity to
really big show to demonstrate that we support renew our commitment to the challenges that
each other and are prepared to work together. lie ahead.

INDEXING: A REALITY AT LAST

In the Fall of this year, pensioners and survivors who are 65 years of age and older will receive an increase to their pension. The amount of increase will be 1.2 % of your current pension. This increase is based on 60% of the change in the cost of living (CPI) up to a maximum of 2%. For 2001, the change in the national CPI was 2.6%. Therefore, the increase for pensioners effective October 1, 2002 will be 1.2%, that is the maximum increase payable under the formula. You can be assured that your Association will continue to work on this issue.

BARBECUE - A GREAT SUCCESS!!



Our Barbecue and Dance was held on June 7th at the Elks Club with ninety people in attendance. Lots of food and prizes along with good music contributed to the success of the evening. Everybody had a wonderful time and we're hoping to continue with this event on an annual basis. We would like to thank everyone who attended, especially

Catherine Fagan and her committee, for making the evening a great success.



**PENSIONER
NEWSLETTER
FALL 2002**

*The PENSIONER
NEWSLETTER
provides Public Service
Pensioners with
current information
relating to pension
issues, insurance
benefits and the
ongoing activities of
the current Board.*

**For more information,
or to give your
comments please
contact:**

The Newfoundland
& Labrador Public
Service Pensioners'
Association

446 Newfoundland Dr.
St. John's, NF
A1A 4G7
Phone & Fax:
(709)754-5730
1 (800) 563-4188
e-mail
pensioners@npspa.ca
website
www.npspa.ca

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

During the past year the Constitution Committee has reviewed the Constitution and are recommending the changes outlined below.

Original:

Article VII Section 4:

The Board shall, at its first meeting following the Annual General Meeting each year, elect from their number a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer together with the immediate Past President to constitute the Executive Committee referred to in Article VIII of this Constitution. This meeting shall be convened immediately following the Annual General Meeting by the outgoing President or, in his/her absence, by the most senior ranking officer of the previous Executive Committee.

Proposed change:

The Board shall, at its first meeting following the Annual General Meeting each year, elect from their number a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer together with the immediate Past President to constitute the Executive Committee referred to in Article VIII of this Constitution. This meeting shall be convened **within 10 days** following the Annual General Meeting by the outgoing President or, in his/her absence, by the most senior ranking officer of the previous Executive Committee.

Original:

Article VIII Section 6

If any member of the Board, without due cause, fails to attend three consecutive meetings of the Board or fails to perform any of the duties assigned to him/her as a member of the Board, this person's position may be declared vacant by the Board.

Proposed change:

If any member of the Board, without due cause, fails to attend three consecutive meetings of the Board or fails to perform any of the duties assigned to him/her as a member of the Board, this person's position **shall** be declared vacant by the Board.

Original:

Article XII Section 7

The Board shall appoint members of the Executive Committee as signing officers.

Proposed change:

The Board shall appoint members of the Executive Committee and the **Administrative Assistant** as signing officers.

Original:

ARTICLE VII - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

8. The President, or in his/her absence, the Vice-President shall preside at every meeting of the Association, except in the absence of the President and the Vice-President, or upon their refusal or failure to act, the meeting shall elect a Chairperson.

Proposed change:

8. The President, or in his/her absence, the Vice-President shall **normally** preside at every meeting of the Association **if required and with approval of the President.**

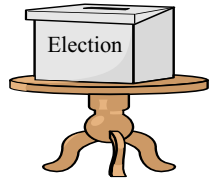
FEDERATION OF PENSIONER ASSOCIATIONS *by Bill Shallow*

Over recent months, representatives of our Association have been meeting with reps of other pensioner associations in the Province, including university, federal, private and other provincial government retiree groups. We are finding that, while we have special concerns about our particular Public Service Pension Plan, most of our challenges are common to all pensioners and pension groups.

Out of these meetings has come a plan to form the Newfoundland & Labrador Federation of Pensioner Associations. This new Federation would provide a forum through which pension groups can communicate with each other and work together. A Steering Committee has been established, chaired by Bob Noseworthy, of the Aliant Pensioners Association. It is hoped that there will be a Founding Meeting of the Federation before the end of the year.

This could be a very positive development, which could enhance the public visibility and credibility of pensioners and their concerns. Together we can make a difference!

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS



To meet the challenges under the mandate of the Association we need strong committed leadership at the Board, Executive and Committee levels. Five (5) positions are available. The Nominating Committee invites you to submit nominations for election to the Board of Directors at the upcoming Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, October 8, 2002.

The Committee nominates the following candidates interested in a seat on the Board of Directors:

- **Ray Hawco** and **Eric Hodder** are current Board members who have completed their two year term and are running again.
- **Margaret Adey** started work in the Public Service in 1970. Retired in 2000 from Dept. of Health and Community Services
- **Barbara Coffin** started work with the Public Service in 1963. Retired in 2000 from the Dept. of Health and Community Services. Barbara served on Board Pension Action Committee for the past year.
- **Gerry Conran** started with the Public Service in 1961. Retired in 1996 from Works, Services and Transportation. Served on the Board for two terms, three years as Treasurer
- **Walter C. Milley** started work with the Dept. of Finance in 1954. Worked with Dept. of Works, Services and Transportation and Dept. of Health. Retired with the Dept. of Provincial Affairs in 1998.

NOTE: If you have someone in mind, nominations can also be made from the floor.

If you are interested in serving as a Board Member, please contact Maureen at the Association Office by telephoning (709) 754-5730, 1-800-563-4188 or E-mail: pensioners@npspa.ca

GENERAL MEETINGS

In June, two General Meetings were held, in St. John's and Carbonear. The purpose of the meetings was to update members on happenings in the pension field and to give members the opportunity to have their say.

The Meeting in St. John's was held in the afternoon of 11 June at the Elks Club. While it was not well attended the Board was able to meet and interact with members we might not see otherwise, and was, therefore, a successful venture.

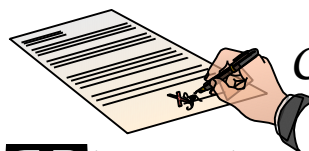
The meeting in Carbonear took place in the evening of 12 June at the Legion. It was attended by more than 30 members from around the region. There was a great exchange of opinions and concerns. The overwhelming reaction was that this was a very worthwhile effort, and that it should be the first of many such meetings, especially outside St. John's.

Further meetings will be considered for next year. If you think a meeting in your area would be a good idea, please let us know.

2002 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 2002 Annual General Meeting and Conference will be held on Tuesday, 8 October, 2002, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30p.m. at the Airport Plaza Hotel, St. John's.

To determine numbers please indicate if you plan to attend by calling Maureen at (709) 754-730 or 1(800) 563-4188 or e-mail us at pensioners@npspa.ca



CENTRAL BRANCH NEWS

by Cecil Thomas

The Central Branch has been very active this summer establishing contact with members of the Association in the central area of the Province. The purpose is to meet with members face to face to discuss important issues and to inform them of planned upcoming meetings.

On June 28, 2002 I visited the Gander Bay Loop. On July 22nd I visited Badger, South Brook, Springdale, King's Point, Rattling Brook and Baie Verte. In August I visited Botwood and Point Leamington and plan to visit Lewisporte and Bay d'Espoir.

I feel this exercise was very worthwhile and I hope for a good turnout at the upcoming Annual General Meeting in late September.

RETIREMENT : A NEW BEGINNING



12TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & CONFERENCE NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR PUBLIC SERVICE PENSIONERS' ASSOCIATION



You are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting and participate in the business of the Association. It is your Association and this is your chance to be better informed about what's been happening and help set directions for the future.

WORKSHOPS

GETTING THE MOST FROM YOUR HEALTH INSURANCE

Presenter: Tony Lannon, *Tony Lannon is Director of the Insurance Division, Dept. of Finance, Gov't NF & Lab.*

TAPPING INTO YOUR STRENGTHS FOR FUN AND PROFIT

Presenter: Gary Ryan, *Gary Ryan is Director of YMCA/YWCA Enterprise Centre.*

MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR BEST YEARS: RECREATION IN RETIREMENT

Presenter: Kimberley Conran, *Kimberley Conran holds a degree in Therapeutic Recreation and has 12 years experience as a Recreational Specialist.*

INCREASING YOUR RATE OF RETURN AND REDUCING INCOME TAX

Presenter: Brian Reynolds, *Brian Reynolds is a Certified Financial Planner with First Fundy Financial.*

INTEGRATION OF ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE WITH CONVENTIONAL MEDICINE

Presenter: Jeff Blackwood, *Jeff Blackwood is founder of Cancer Coalition for Alternative Medicine C-CAM. He is also the publisher of HOPE Magazine.*

WHAT TO SEE IN TOURING OUR PROVINCE

Presenter: TBA



Special Prize

A member still in attendance at the end of the day is eligible for a draw for a grand prize.

All Welcome

This AGM and Conference will be an entertaining and informative event. Come and bring your spouse and friends

**Airport Plaza Hotel
Tuesday, 8 October, 2002
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.**

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & CONFERENCE

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

MORNING

8:30 - 9:00

Registration

9:00 - 10:00

Welcome & Introductions

Greetings from Provincial Government
President's Report on behalf of the Board of Directors
Report of the Nominations Committee
Keynote Speaker: Dr. Bill Eaton, Family Physician



10:00 - 10:15

Refreshment Break

10:15 - 11:30

Workshops (choose one)

Getting the Most From Your Health Insurance
Putting Your Experience and Expertise to Work for Fun and Profit
What to See in Touring Our Province

AFTERNOON

11:45 - 1:00

Lunch

Presentation of Honours
Special Speaker: Mr. George Jerrett, Association Member
Election of Board of Directors

1:15 - 2:30

Workshops (choose one)

Making the Most of Your Best Years: Recreation in Retirement
Integration of Alternative Medicine with Conventional Medicine
Increasing Your Rate of Return and Reducing Income Tax

2:45 - 4:00

General Session

Committee Reports
2001 Finance and Auditors Report
Central Branch Report
Discussion of issues
Board of Directors Election Results
Special Door Prize Draw
Adjournment of 2002 Annual General Meeting



To determine numbers please indicate if you plan to attend by calling Maureen at (709) 754-730 or 1(800) 563-4188 or e-mail us at pensioners@npspa.ca

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT

The current practice of this Association is for the Membership to elect the Board of Directors at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). In turn, the Board of Directors elects the President and other Executive Officers at a meeting shortly after the AGM. It has been suggested that it would be a better arrangement if the President were elected directly by the members attending the AGM. For your consideration some pros and cons are listed below. You may think of others. Please be prepared to discuss this issue at the AGM, 8 October 2002.

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT BY BOARD MEMBERS

Election of President by Board of Directors has been our practice in the past and has worked well. Why change it?

A President elected at the AGM might come to the job without sufficient background and realization of the work required.

Once elected to the Board, a Director knowing what is entailed and knowing the level of Board support is more likely to consider taking on the position of President.

Getting nominations for the Board is difficult enough. It would be much more difficult to recruit candidates for President.

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT AT AGM

The President is the CEO of the Association. It might be more democratic to be elected by the general membership through the forum of the AGM rather than by the twelve Directors.

The candidates for President would be known to the membership prior to the AGM through the Newsletter.

The members at the AGM would know who the President is before leaving the meeting rather than having to wait for a later Board Meeting and newsletter.

A candidate willing to run for President at the outset is more likely to take the job seriously when elected.



WHERE ARE THEY NOW? *by Barbara Hopkins*

We are pleased to feature Bert Price in this series. Bert served as President of the NPSPA from 1991 to 1995 and continues to maintain an active interest in the Association. Bert retired in 1991 from the Department of Education having spent 40 years with the Public Service.

Bert has been active with many volunteer groups, particularly with his Church. He was on the Board of Directors of Ayreso Co-op, Provincial X-ray Society and served as a National Director. His dulcet tones rang out over VOWR for many years. Bert's volunteer work has been curtailed in recent years because he and his wife, Lorraine, are the primary care-givers for Bert's mother.

Bert particularly enjoys reading, woodworking and fishing. He is also a great family man. He and Lorraine have five children and eight grandchildren. In July the family assembled for their annual weekend get-together at Bellevue Beach. One can just imagine the fun of boil ups, barbeques and playing games. Even the caplin obliged!

Bert has written his memoirs "Growing up in the 30's in an Newfoundland Outport". I understand that the manuscript is beautifully illustrated with pencilled drawings which Bert did himself. The volume contains anecdotes and a glossary of old Newfoundland terms. This wonderful legacy was prepared for his grandchildren. Sounds as if Bert could have a second career!

Despite his busy life Bert still finds time to help the Association. He supervised our two telephone campaigns: a straw poll to get the members views on Joint Trusteeship and secondly, to encourage people to come to the Rally held at the Confederation Building one stormy day in April. This was a huge task and Bert made many of the calls himself. He is very encouraging to the Board of Directors regarding their efforts and is always available for advice when asked.

We wish Bert and Lorraine, his wife of 43 years, the best of health and happiness.

The NEWSLETTER welcomes queries and/or submissions to the Section WHERE ARE THEY NOW? If you would like to see someone featured please call Maureen at (709) 754-5730 or 1(800)563-4188



CHRISTMAS DINNER AND DANCE

The Association has held a barbecue and dance in the Spring for the last three years. Our members have had such a great time that, by popular demand, we've arranged for another social event.

A Christmas dinner and dance will be held on **Friday, November 29, 2002** at the Knights of Columbus, St. Clare Avenue, St. John's.

Cash Bar at 6:00 p.m. with dinner to follow at 7:00 p.m. A hot sit-down dinner with all the trimmings followed by an evening of dancing will be a great way to kick off the yuletide season.

Come out and join us for a fun filled evening. There will be prizes drawn for throughout the evening and maybe even a visit from Santa. The cost is \$30 double or \$15 single.

To arrange for tickets (to be purchased in advance) please call Maureen no later than November 25th at (709) 754-5730 or 1(800) 563-4188.

Notices Published in Church Bulletin

Don't let worry kill you, let the church help.

Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our church and community.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

The ladies of the church have cast off clothing of every kind and they may be seen in the church basement Friday.

A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.

This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs. Lewis to come forward and lay an egg on the altar.

Tonight's sermon-'What is hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It is a good chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Don't worry so much about tomorrow that you forget to live today."

unknown author

© 2000 Randy Glasbergen. www.glasbergen.com

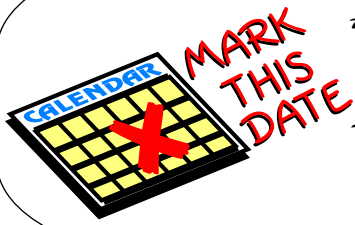


"With your investments, you should enjoy a lifetime of financial security...providing you start drinking, smoking, and eating more fatty foods."

YOUR OPINION



YOUR OPINION We invite members, and others, to submit their opinions on topics of interest to pensioners, in the form of letters, articles or comments. Submissions should include the author's full name and contact information, for verification. The Editor will reserve the right to print, based on space, timing and good taste. Major changes in text will not be made without the approval of the author. It will be clearly stated that the opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Association. This is your opportunity to comment on the work of the Association and to offer alternate views for debate. Send us **YOUR OPINION** now.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & CONFERENCE

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2002
8:30 A.M.
AIRPORT PLAZA HOTEL

HOME HEATING OIL DISCOUNT

ULTRAMAR is offering our members a **3 cents per litre** discount off the market price on home heating oil.



This discount cannot be used in conjunction with other discounts that consumers may be receiving. As well, this discount is offered in regions of Newfoundland where ULTRAMAR has **company operated** fuel delivery **only**: St. John's and Metro, Mount Pearl, Avalon Peninsula communities, Grand Falls, Hr. Breton Area, Twillingate/Fogo/Lewisporte Area and Corner Brook. Members of the Association who do not reside in the mentioned areas could contact the closest ULTRAMAR distributor and ask for a similar discount.

If you wish to take advantage of this offer or for more information please call Maureen at (709) 754-5730 or 1 (800) 563-4188 or E-mail us at pensioners@npspa.ca

MANDATE STATEMENT.....1-

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.....1-

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.....1-

INDEXING.....1-

CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES.....2-

PENSIONER ASSOCIATIONS.....2-

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS.....2-

GENERAL MEETINGS.....2-

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.....4-

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?.....6-

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT.....6-

CHRISTMAS DINNER & DANCE.....7-

YOUR OPINION.....7-

THIS ISSUE...

