



Branch BC 04
Monthly News Update
March 2020

Hello, fellow BC04 Branch Members;

NOTICE—ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING—FRASER VALLEY WEST BRANCH

March 12th, 2020

Newlands Golf & Country Club, 21025 48th Avenue, Langley, BC

Doors open at 11 a.m. Meeting starts at 11:30. Buffet luncheon follows at 12:30 .

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend. The business of the meeting will include

- ◇ Branch report for 2019
- ◇ Motion to approve the 2019 financial reports and the budget for 2020.
- ◇ Motions to manage branch “reserve” funds
- ◇ Election of officers and directors for 2020.

Please note that all positions on the branch board are open for election and nominations are being accepted by Ian Blake at iansblake1@gmail.com . Nominations will also be accepted from the floor at the meeting on March 12th.

Buffet cost/person: \$20 payable at the door (cash or cheque, please).

Pre-registrations required by February 26th 2020. (The caterers need the numbers 2 weeks in advance.)

To register, please contact Katherine Kettler: kettlerk@gmail.com or 778 995-6136

Hearing for Health

Twenty-five BC 04 members attended the presentation by “preferred partner” **Hearing Life** at the Timms Centre in Langley on February 6th, finding the answers to questions like “*Why are restaurants so loud these days?*” and “*Why has my spouse taken up mumbling?*” It was the Thursday before a full moon so Mitchell (from the Hearing Life office in Langley) had to deal with a technical glitch with the internet connection, but he overcame that to deliver an entertaining and informative presentation. He reminded us that Helen Keller said, “*Blindness cuts us off from things, but deafness cuts us off from people.*”

The presentation was followed by lunch (supplied by Hearing Life) and screenings for those interested in determining if they might be a candidate for a more indepth test. Kudos to Ilene Fika for organizing and to volunteers (Karin, Ed, Sharon and others) for helping with set-up and cleanup!

(To respond to one question for which we didn’t have the answer at the tips of our fingers: the Public Service Health Care Plan’s extended health benefit covers \$1000 minus any hearing aids expenses claimed in the previous five years.)

MEDOC / Johnson Insurance—Cloverdale Rec Centre, Feb 13th

This event went without a hitch, and even the weather cooperated. Approximately 46 interested members attended and reviewed some key information regarding MEDOC travel and Johnson home insurance. Mark Costello brought us up to date on the new improved benefits regarding MEDOC. He also allayed many fears regarding booking cruises. Best bet is to: research the destinations and whether or not Canada has issued any travel warnings before you put your money down. You can also call Medoc's toll free number 1-844-896-6977 to discuss any concerns.

Mark also gave an overview of some of the benefits of insuring your home with Johnson, including a 5% discount with your Federal Retirees membership. Thanks to Sharon Riches for organizing, and to her volunteers for the setup and tear down.

Upcoming Events...

March 19th 2020 "Let's do Lunch" with Charles Louth

Location: Dublin Crossing Irish Pub on Fraser Highway, Surrey

Time: Noon Please pre-register with Charles at: kabot21@gmail.com

April 15th 2020 "You and Your Survivors" Workshop *Taking care of those you love*—Details to follow

Next Meet & Chat: 2 pm – 3:30 pm, Thursday, March 6th, then, April 2nd.

Come & join us in the meeting room at Ricky's Restaurant on King George Blvd, near 22nd Ave, in South Surrey. Coffee or Tea is on us. *Let's chat retirement.*

A "member of the board"? You?

Why not? If you have enthusiasm and a sense of humour, you pretty much qualify! Time commitments are negotiable, and there is training and lots of support for newbies.

If you want to chat about it before you toss your toque in the ring... contact any current member of the board or Ian Blake at iansblake1@gmail.com.

How to contact your Branch

President	Bernd Hirsekorn	604 531-0997	bh45jh@shaw.ca
Vice President & Branch Advocacy	Ian Spence	604 753-7845	spence.ian@telus.net
Treasurer	Thelma Graham	604 309-2538	graham_tm@msn.com
Secretary	Ilene Fika		nafrsecretary@gmail.com
Director Health & Benefits (HBO)	call Thelma (or Rocky if Thelma is away)		
Director Membership Administration	Steve Sawchuk	604 574-2939	s.sawchuk@shaw.ca
Director Communications	Stuart Wilson	604 542-1560	s.k.wilson@shaw.ca
Director Membership Marketing	Joy Hennen	604 856-0310	joyJ@shaw.ca
Director Volunteer Engagement	Katherine Kettler	778 995-6136	kettlerk@gmail.com
Director	Sharon Riches	604 946-2434	slriches@me.com
Director	Glen (Rocky) Rockwell		grockwell@shaw.ca

Branch News

For Branch News and Events, check out our website www.nafrfraservalleywest.ca

Branch

News Updates - monthly announcements and reminders are sent to all members if we have your e-mail address.

Changed your E-mail address, your Home address? Phone number(s)? Please advise **Steve**. (You should also update your profile on www.federalretirees.ca: click on the Login tab to setup and update your profile... or just call Steve!)

In Memoriam

Federal Retirees' national magazine, SAGE, has an "In Memoriam" section to honour recently deceased members by listing their name and Branch. To have the name of your loved one included in the "In Memoriam" section, please contact **Steve Sawchuk** in writing (by mail or email). Please note that SAGE is published quarterly and branch submissions are required several weeks in advance. If you would like to post a memory piece or photo on the Branch web-site, please contact **Ian Spence**.

Let's stay in touch.

Come on out and join us.

Bernd Hirsekorn, BC04 Branch President