

 <p>National Association of Federal Retirees</p> <p>Association nationale des retraités fédéraux</p> <p>WINNIPEG & DISTRICT</p>	<p>National Association of Federal Retirees Winnipeg & District Branch National Website: www.federalretirees.ca Branch Website: www.federalretirees.ca/en/Branches/Manitoba/Winnipeg-and-District Branch E-mail: nafrwpg@mymts.net Branch Mailing Address: 526-3336 Portage Avenue Winnipeg, MB R3K 2H9 Phone: 204-989-2061</p>
<p align="center">GENERAL MEETING: Lunch: Noon - Business Meeting 1:00 p.m. Tuesday, November 20, 2018 Army, Navy, & Air Force Veterans Branch 283, 3584 Portage Ave, Winnipeg, Manitoba</p>	

<p><u>MINUTES</u></p> <p>Present: Ceci O’Flaherty, Barb Higham, Tom Higham, Lionel Guerard, Nicky Compton, Lucy Cummings, Pam Proctor, Dorothy Watermulder, Gerry Jennings, Paula Nygaard Absent: Connie Kehler Attendees: 196</p> <p>Meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m.</p>
<p>1. Approval of Agenda: Suggestions for talks, presentations (Gerald Machnee) and CPP meeting this morning (Jocelyne Poirier) were added to the agenda under New Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Motion to approve agenda as amended by Lionel Guerard and 2nd by Pat Jarrett.</i> <i>Carried</i>
<p>2. Introduction of “first-time attendees”:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Six first time attendees were identified from the floor. • A moment of silence was held for those no longer with us.
<p>2. Review of Minutes from the September 25 General Meeting: Charles Cameron brought attention to item 4: NAFR did not initiate the benefit of waived baggage fees with specific airlines, this has been in place for four or five years. NAFR was successful in allowing members to use the membership card as identification for military service.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Motion to approve minutes as amended by Lucy Cummings, 2nd by Cynthia Foreman.</i> <i>Carried</i>
<p>President’s Report – Ceci O’Flaherty</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Happy to announce that Connie Kehler has agreed to join the Board of Directors until the AGM in April to take over the role of Website Administrator and has now started a new FaceBook page.

- Please search out our FaceBook page and like it to receive notices. It's call National Association of Federal Retirees Winnipeg and District Branch.
- We will be updating the website regularly so visit often.
- What we've done since the last meeting:

REGIONAL LEARNING CONFERENCE

- October 15-17, the Winnipeg and District Branch hosted the executive members from Eastern Manitoba, Thunder Bay, Central and Western Manitoba.
- Had a presentation from Jean-Guy Souliere, our National President – very informative, always good to hear information on National initiatives. He discussed where he sees the Association in 5 years, 10 years, national challenges as well as advocacy work they are undertaking.
- Had a one day training session on social media. Hoping to use this as a way to get our messages out more quickly and will increase our Association recognition and perhaps increase our membership.
- We hosted a recognition dinner where we honoured the Past Presidents from our region, specifically, Peter Baumgartner (Eastern Manitoba); Terry Gunnlaugson (Western Manitoba) and Pat Jarrett (Winnipeg & District). Unfortunately, Pat was unable to attend the dinner. Pat, please accept this small token of appreciation from your colleagues in the Region to recognize you for your exemplary leadership not only in the Branch, the Region but from a National level as well. (Pat thanked Ceci and acknowledge the help of volunteers and the Board of Directors support.)

SECOND CAREER ASSISTANCE NETWORK

- One of our board members participated in a Second Career Assistance Network (SCAN) to do a presentation on our Association and strengthen ties with current military. It was very well received and hopefully will transfer into increased membership.

REMEMBRANCE DAY ACTIVITIES

- Two of our board members attended the wreath laying ceremony at ANAVETS on November 11, 2018. We also placed ads in community newspapers to show our appreciation and say thank you for the huge sacrifice the military men, women and their families have given.

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS COMMITTEE

- October speaker event had 71 participants
- Next event scheduled for May – in early planning stages
- Potential speakers/topics for May include Medical assistance in dying presented by the Regional Director of Ethics Services at WRHA and Brian McMillan who will present on housing options and associated services. One other speaker/topic will be identified by the committee at their next meeting.

DATE OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING IN APRIL

- Has been confirmed for Monday, April 15, 2019. A newsletter will be sent out early in the new year with more details. We are looking at options for venues – central location, parking, accessible – stay tuned.
- Elections to the Board of Directors take place at this meeting. We will have several positions come vacant. Please consider putting your name forward.

We encourage you to consider volunteering, it is not an onerous or big time-commitment challenge.

- Gilbert Laberge wondered how many general meetings take place every year. There is one annual meeting that must take place in April, and two general meetings per year, one in September, one in November. Charles Cameron asked why this agenda reads that it is an annual meeting when it is November. The agenda will be amended to reflect the correct meeting.

RECRUITMENT PROGRAM

- If a current member recruits a new member, they are entitled to a \$25 gift card of your choice. Please ask the new recruit to send an email to the NAFR Winnipeg general email stating who recruited them and we will be happy to send you your gift card.

Finance Report – Pam Proctor

- The financial reports were distributed at the meeting. We are currently under budget and in good financial shape. We are now receiving our membership dues from National Office via direct deposit.
- Gilbert Laberge wanted to know why our savings account is so high? We have a GIC investment which has not yet been renewed. This will be discussed at the next Board of Directors meeting.
- Nationally, there are 180,000 members. Winnipeg currently has approximately 6,200. Our financial situation is an anomaly as a lot of branches are struggling.

District Director Prairies/NWT – Cynthia Foreman

- There are a lot of branches that are struggling not only with finances but with finding volunteers. Winnipeg is one of three branches that are able to provide lunch at their meetings. National Office is looking at ways to help support these branches.
- Strategic Plan – Moving Forward. Started at the AMM in June 2017 and has been mushrooming since. We are getting to where we want it to be. A draft plan will be discussed at the December National Board of Directors meeting and will be ready for a vote at the June 2019 AMM. Take a look at the NAFR website to view the plan and send an email to National Office with any suggestions.
- Public Service Health Care Plan (PSHCP) appeal: Had a hearing in September, heard by three judges that were highly engaged so feel it was a good hearing. Response should be out in early January. This will be emailed to the members.
- PharmaCare: Currently is being worked on to see what it would look like, what would members like to see. We are working to protect PSHCP if necessary if PharmaCare comes in. Take a look at the website for more information and provide comments if you would like.
- Budgets: 2019 operating budgets will be approved at the December National Board of Directors meeting.
- The Branch Services Coordinator resigned in June and we are happy to report that Paula Nygaard was successful as the new Branch Services Coordinator for Manitoba.
- Questions: Who does SAGE report to? Gerald Machnee sent a response to a fearmongering article in SAGE and did not receive a reply. Cynthia will look into it.

- Will they be increasing the fees for the Dental Plan like they did with PSHCP?
There is currently no talk of raising the rates for the Dental Plan. We are one of the few Pensioner Dental Plans.

- Please take the time to check out the NAFR website, there is lots of good information there.

Branch Services Coordinator:

- Nothing to report as Paula has recently taken on the position.

Advocacy Program Officer:

- Currently meeting with as many MPs as possible before the next federal election. Met with three this month. Attended and presented at the recent federal pre-budget meeting held in Winnipeg in October.
- Current priority issues: Withdrawal of Bill C-27 which intends to move our pension from a defined benefit plan to a defined contribution plan; a Senior Strategy; Phoenix pay system issues.
- Postcards have been printed showing our support of the three issues. They were distributed to members for signatures and collected. These will be mailed to the MPs.

Committee Reports:

- Reports were provided to members prior to the meeting.

Questions:

- Gilbert Laberge suggested we gift some of our money to those branches who are struggling as a Christmas gesture. Ceci advised that we regularly help the smaller branches in our region by providing funds to attend the Regional Learning Conference; purchase of a laptop for the Portage branch, etc. We are currently spending more money than we are taking in and would prefer to spend our members' money on our members.

New Business:

- Gerald Machnee will give his topic for the Speakers' Series in writing to Nicky. We recently did a survey for suggested topics, received about 75 and we are working through them.
- Jocelyne Poirier discussed a meeting that was taking place the morning of November 20 regarding investments of the CPP funds. Leadnow is a group that is looking into CPP investments that may include private prison corporations which were involved in recent immigration atrocities. This group feels CPP should not be investing our funds to support these types of groups. If you want more information check out the leadnow.ca website. We will provide this information to National Office who may have more ability to advocate at a National level.

Collette Travel is presenting tour information tomorrow, November 21. If you would like information please pick up a brochure.

Motion to Adjourn the Meeting by Lionel Guerard, 2nd by Dorothy Watermulder. Carried

Adjournment 2:00 p.m.

SIGNATURES:

Donna Dobson, Secretary

Date

Ceci O'Flaherty, President

Date

<p>2019 Schedule of Meetings</p>

<p>Annual General Meeting: Monday, April 15, 2019</p>
--