

# BRANCH REPORT

ON55 | York Branch

## CONTACT US

For Branch specific matters please contact a member of the Board. Names and numbers are on the next page.

## BRANCH EMAIL

federalretirees.york@gmail.com

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Annual Members Meeting

April 21, 2020

10:15 Coffee

10:30 Annual Meeting

11:30 Johnson Insurance  
Changing health insurance  
rules and Medoc

### York Branch Board Meeting

April 07, 2020

May 05, 2020 (videoconference)

June 02, 2020

*Members welcome. For  
information contact  
Tom Nichols 905-505-2079*

## President's message

Greetings! Due to the lead time required to get Sage published, I am drafting this on a sunny but very windy day in January.

The primary goal of this note is to invite you to York Branch's Annual Members Meeting on Tuesday April 21 2020 at the Richvale Community Centre in Richmond Hill. Please save the date and plan to attend. This is an important business meeting with the presentation of the 2019 finances and the 2020 and 2021 budgets. There are also elections of the Branch Directors and a separate election for the Branch President. We have a good slate of Directors but welcome those interested to join us. For more information, please contact Ken Ackles, Chair of the Nominating Committee.

Our Branch membership has previously defined some reserve funds and the Board would like to discuss and ask for your approval in broadening the definition of two of them. First is the Defence of Benefits fund which is to support initiatives to promote or protect significant pension or health benefits. We propose to broaden the definition to also include advocating for issues of importance to Federal Retirees.

The second proposal is to broaden the definition and rename the Facility Reserve Fund to the Operating Reserve Fund We have been very fortunate to have access at no cost to the Community Room at the York Regional Police building for Board meetings. From time to time, the police require the room and we need to meet elsewhere. The reserve fund is used when required and it is topped up as required with any year end surplus funds. Additionally, when a new President is elected, we would like them to accompany the outgoing President to the National Meeting in Ottawa as an observer. As a new President takes office every few years, we propose using this reserve fund for this expense rather than trying to show an expense in the annual budget. Your input is important.

PARTNER BANNER





# National Association of Federal Retirees 2020 York Branch Board

**President:** Tom Nichols  
905-505-2079

**Vice President:** Ken Ackles  
905-474-1172

**Secretary:** Ed Millar  
905-833-5883

**Treasurer:** Fred Conway  
905-669-4489

**Membership:** Vasdev Sawhney  
905-303-3733

**Event Coordinator:** Sharon Paris  
905-836-1065

**Director at Large:** Linda Laffree  
416-225-9066

**Director at Large:** Marie MacPhee  
905-841-9244

**Director at Large:** Joe Vettese  
905-884-1933

**Director at Large:** Frank Froude  
905-775-7346

**Director at Large:** Sharon Carson  
905-836-3738

*Future Director: You*



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We had planned to have a representative from Johnson Insurance at the Fall 2019 meeting. Unfortunately, they were unable to attend. We have booked them again for the meeting in April. It is important to ensure that you have adequate insurance when travelling as OHIP – the Ontario Health Insurance Plan no longer covers expenses incurred outside of Canada.

If you were able to attend the 2019 Annual Meeting, you would have heard from Hearing Life, a Federal Retirees’ Partner. We heard that one of every two seniors has some hearing loss. Well, I know I have been asking my wife to repeat things regularly and when I couldn’t properly hear conversations amongst friends in the living room, I finally decided to get my hearing tested. Around. No surprise, I had some hearing loss documented. I picked up some hearing aids and it is amazing the sounds I now hear. I used to have the volume of the TV at 15 or higher whereas 7 is adequate now. Now I hear some things like the shower dripping that are annoying, but I find myself much more involved in conversations around me.

After the federal election, the Minister for Seniors, Deb Schulte, representative for King Vaughan was appointed. Our Branch will be working with the National Office team to advocate for our Association’s interests and the benefit of Canadian Seniors.

Hope you have a good Spring. I look forward to seeing you at the meeting on April 21<sup>st</sup>.

Annual Members Meeting  
April 21, 2020  
10:30-12:30  
Hot lunch following the meeting  
Richvale Community Centre  
106 Avenue Road,  
Richmond Hill Ontario  
rsvp to Sharon Paris

**Tom Nichols**  
*Branch President*  
905-505-2079

