**2019 Annual Members Meeting - April 30, 2019 – For Website**

* Meeting was opened at 11.15 am with a Meet and Greet
* Total Attendance was 54 including 2 guests from Hearing Life
* A video presentation was made by member Ted Ryczko on the 100th anniversary of the First World War with the theme “The Maple Leaf Forever”.
* A delicious lunch was served by the Banquet Centre.
* A presentation was made by Jill Mills and Rob Black from our national affiliated partner Hearing Life.

**Call to Order for our annual members meeting**

Copies of 2018 minutes were provided on the tables. Moved by Walter Raniowski and seconded by Joan Rockburne that the minutes be accepted. Approved.

**President’s Report – 2018**

* 2018 was a memorable year for the Branch as we celebrated our 50th anniversary since receiving our charter.
* The occasion was especially memorable as Jean-Guy Souliere, President of the Association was able to attend to help us celebrate. His speech “Moving Forward” outlining future goals of the Association was very informative. In addition, on behalf of the Branch he recognized our dedicated Volunteers who received certificates and gifts.
* In June, I attended the Annual Members Meeting in Gatineau, this was an intense 3- day meeting which was very informative.
* In 2017, the Branch participated in the Veteran’s town hall meetings that took place across Canada. This initiative was very successful in bringing to the attention of Veteran Affairs and The Veteran’s Ombudsman the obstacles that our Veterans encounter when returning to civilian life. The final report can be found on the Federal Retirees website. You have to login under your membership number to access this document.
* The Branch participated in the annual Older Adult+ fair at the Wellness Centre in May 2018. Note: this year’s fair will be held on May 30, 2019.
* In November, we partnered with the Legion Branch #99, to commemorate Remembrance Day. The Branch contributed $500.00 to assist with these activities. Joan Rockburne and I participated in this event. In addition, our member Ted Ryczko provided a video presentation that he produced on the 100th anniversary of the First World War. This was an opportunity for the Association to raise its profile in the community. With approval of Branch Membership, it is the intention of this Branch to continue this partnership with Legion in commemorating Remembrance Day, subject to the availability of funds.
* National office is leading a national advocacy campaign related to the upcoming Federal election. This Branch is planning to arrange a” Meet the Candidates” session at the Legion in September.

**Membership 2018**

* The Branch ended the year 2018 with 942 members. The total double memberships were 295 and the total single memberships were 351. The total active membership is 646, with 525 on DDS and the remaining 121 paying by credit card or cheque. Per the approved 2017 to 2019 Strategic Plan, membership fees in 2019 increased by 2.5%: $65.16 for double and $50.28 for single.
* In memoriam our sincere sympathies to the families, friends and loved ones of the members and partner members who passed away in 2018: Sandra Boileau-Clark, Kenneth Boose, Glen Brousseau, Christina Brown, Lois Chaplin, Major D’Arcy Henry (ret’d), Dorothy Heisler, Mildred Hope, JRM Hunter, John Lawrie, John (Jack) Lye, Joseph Mantin, James McMain, James Melady, Frank Morrell, Sterling O’Donnell, Margaret Parry,

Richard Prindle, Robert Rose, Arthur Ross, Elsie Lorraine Ruttan, Gayle Saczkowski, Douglas Sadler, Joan Smith, Evelyn Mary Stein, Stuart Taylor, Alexander (Sandy) Tosh, Peter Tuttelberg, Marilyn Vance, Peter Vanderwerff, Major Herbert Yeager (ret’d).

**Treasurer’s Report**

* Our former Treasurer Bill Anderson graciously volunteered to assist with financial documentation this past year on a part-time basis. However, he has now officially resigned.
* Due to the 50th anniversary celebration, our expenses were higher than normal. However, we remain solvent.
* Our annual revenues have not increased due to the lack of a major recruitment campaign. The Branch plans to place advertisement in some of the local papers this year.
* Quinte Branch financial documents for 2018 were reviewed by member Barry Birkett in March of 2019. It was determined that all financial documentation is in order and the finances were managed according to guidelines set out by National Office and that as of Dec. 2018, the financial position of Quinte Branch is healthy.
* **Review/Audited Statements for the year 2018 showing a loss of $2219.96 were presented. Motion to approve financial statements for 2018: Moved by Dianne Raniowski, seconded by George Pearce. Approved.**
* **Motion on Reserves: To reduce reserved equity- Defence of Benefits from $10,000 to $5000.00. Motion by Walter Raniowski, seconded by Barry Burkitt. Approved.**
* **Motion that the $5000 being returned to national headquarters be applied to the Branch Support Fund: Motion by Pat Russell, seconded by Barry Burkitt. Approved.**
* **Motion to reduce reserved equity (other) to zero and set up a reserve equity-(training) in the amount of $1000.00. Motion by Bill Kean, seconded by Connie Truaisch. Approved.**
* **Motion to approve Board spending authority for Reserves- $1500 for Computer and Office equipment: Motion by Walter Raniowski, seconded by Paul Truaisch. Approved**. Note, this can be reserved for 3 years.
* Thank you to Barry Birkett our Internal Reviewer, for reviewing our finances this year. Note, Barry has agreed to volunteer this service again for 2019.

**Elections**

* No nominations have been received for appointment to the Board, I am unable to stand for another year as I have exceeded the terms stated in our By-Laws. The following members of the Board will be:

Joan Rockburne – President

Kathy Nisbet, Vice-President

Pat Russell-Treasurer

Sharon Brohm-Secretary

Diane Raniowski – Membership/Social

Nancy Landry – Director

* However, on this Board we all work as a Team.
* **Motion to accept this board for 2019-2020: Motion by Barry Burkitt, seconded by Debbie Butler. Approved.**
* I am seeking approval from the membership to appoint a nominating committee for the coming year. This committee will be headed by two members of the Board, yet to be determined. **Approved.**
* It has been my pleasure to have served as your President for the past four years. I have definitely learned a lot. Thank you to the Members and Volunteers who have supported me. I could not have done it without you.

**Social Report**

* In addition to our 50th anniversary, we had our Annual Christmas dinner which has now been changed to being held in the afternoon. Attendance improved which I believe was due to the time change.
* Organizing these events is labour intensive for the entire Board, despite advertising the events through various methods, the attendance has been disappointing especially for the Annual Meeting. If you have any suggestions as to how we can engage our membership, please call or email the Board.
* Members have expressed concerns about the cost of tickets for the Christmas dinner. Included in the handouts was a summary of the costs for Christmas and the amount of the Branch’s subsidy which amounted to $17.54 per person. It is the goal of this Board to provide members with a wonderful venue and dinner.
* It was suggested that we exclude entertainment and just play Christmas music as a cost saving measure.
* **Motion that the entertainment at the Christmas dinner be excluded for 2019: Moved by Carrol Martin, seconded by Dianne Raniowski. Approved.**
* I would like to thank all the members who consistently attend our events.

**Financial Report**

* **The reports for 2018 and budget forecast for 2019 were reviewed and are attached.** (Please contact the office.)

**Share the Wealth/Door Prizes**

* Share the wealth draws were won by Jane Whyte and Sharon Brohm, with the balance to go to the Gleaners Food Bank. Door prizes were won by Nancy Landry and Julie Mundle.

**Meeting Adjourned.**

**Signed: Pat Russell, President**

**Sharon Brohm, Secretary**