

CALGARY & DISTRICT BRANCH REPORT

President:
Pat Henderson

Vice-President/Treasurer:
Guy Lallier

Membership:
Jennifer Johnson

Secretary:
Gabrielle Simpson

Volunteer Coordinator:
Sally Manchurek

Directors:
Heather Thompson
Gerry Thompson
Anne Prusakowski
Ron Beirnes
Roloïn Vetsch
Alton Whelan

Health Benefits Officer:
Steve Harbicht

Past President:
Rob Pollard

Auditor:
Pat Grant

President's Report – Fall 2019



It is a privilege to be elected to serve as the Calgary & District AB16 Branch President for 2019 to 2021. I will do my best to represent all members.

I would like to welcome to the Board of Directors, Jennifer Johnson who is assuming the role of Membership Director, and Roloïn Vetsch, Director at large. They have already been very active in developing and delivering new member recruitment activities. They

are a welcome addition to our group.

I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge and thank Rob Pollard, Past President for his leadership, hard work and efforts to support the Board of Directors and all of the members. We also say farewell to Willma Haney and Marlene LaMontagne.

I recently attended the 2019 Annual Members Meeting in Gatineau with 3 Board Members. It was a very successful meeting and a lot of work was accomplished.

Jean-Guy Soulière was acclaimed as the Association's President for a further three-year term and we all wish him well in his role.

There were 7 proposals put forward this year, and all were passed – 5 of them with 100% approval!

The delegates approved the Association's Strategic Plan and it gives the organization a clear direction for the coming years. The Calgary Board of Directors will be working on a Branch Operational Plan in line with the Strategic Plan. I would encourage all members to look at this document on the

National website (<https://www.federalretirees.ca/>) or the Calgary & District Branch website (<http://nafrcgy.ca>).

A fee increase for the next three years was approved at the AMM – in essence fees will increase based on the Consumer Price Index from the previous year. I believe this is a fair and transparent formula and fee increases are not significant. For example, for 2020 the membership fee for single membership will increase **annually** from \$50.28 to \$51.36 (\$1.08), and a double membership from \$65.16 to \$66.60 (\$1.44).

Everyone is aware that there will be a Federal Election on Monday, October 21, 2019. Both the National Office and the Branch have been busy developing Advocacy plans to make candidates aware of the issues that are important to our members and all Canadian seniors.

NAFR is a non-partisan organization. We encourage everyone to get out and vote. Seniors and retirees represent a significant portion of the voting population and it is important to exercise your right to determine who is elected.

We are looking for volunteers to help us in our Advocacy efforts by participating in open houses, all candidate's forum, etc. If you are interested in volunteering please do not hesitate to call the office at (403) 265-0773 or by email at fsnacalg@telusplanet.net.

Members will be happy to know that Johnson Insurance (Medoc) is not raising their rates for the upcoming insurance year (September 1, 2019 to August 31, 2020) and they have upgraded some benefits.

I look forward to an interesting but busy year ahead.

If you have any questions, or wish to become more involved with the Calgary & District Branch, we would love to hear from you.

Respectfully,

Pat Henderson



Please include your License Plate number when registering for the Luncheons

2020 Luncheon Dates – mark your calendars!!

- Friday, February 21st
- Friday, April 17th
- Friday, September 25th
- Friday, November 13th

(\$15 per person for members and \$20 for non members)

November 15, 2019 Quarterly Luncheon and Business Meeting

A short business meeting will commence at 10:30 AM with recognition of our Veterans and Volunteers; a guest speaker will present to us from 11:00 AM to 12:00 Noon at which time lunch will be served.

Speaker: Dianne Cooper – Ponte, Calgary Seniors' Society

TAKE CARE, BE AWARE! A Conversation about Fraud Prevention and Financial Abuse.

The focus of the program is to educate seniors about the realities of fraud and financial abuse, and what steps they can take to protect themselves. Calgary Seniors is a non-profit organization that provides a variety of innovative and much needed programs and services to seniors throughout the city with the goals to end senior isolation and help them remain safe and independent in their homes as long as possible.

Menu:

Buttermilk scones with butter

Roasted Butternut Squash and Apple Soup /Crème Fraiche/ Toasted Almonds

Turkey Roulade/Sage Stuffing/Thyme Mashed Potatoes/Pan Gravy/Roasted

Carrots/Cranberry sauce

Lemon Meringue Pie

Freshly Brewed Coffee/Tea

Cash Bar Service will be available 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM

****Please remember our Veterans; food donations will be very much appreciated.**

Calls for Nominations & Volunteers

We are seeking volunteers to assist with Membership Recruitment, Advocacy, Luncheon organization and Guest Speakers and to work in the office, which is open Monday to Friday 10:00am to noon. Duties include processing receipts for payment of membership fees, providing contact information for pensions and benefits, referrals to the HBO and following up on general membership inquiries. Call 403-265-0773 or send an email to fsnocal@telus.net.- if you are interested in any of these volunteer opportunities.

Okotoks Coffee Session:

September 19, 2019

Topic: Reverse Home Mortgages and How to Manage Your Money During Retirement

*****NOTE: doors open at 9:15AM, presentation is from 9:30AM-11:30AM**

Speakers & Topic: Faisal Karmali, First Vice President, Portfolio Manager, Investment Advisor at Popowich Karmali Advisory Group and Alim Charania, accredited Mortgage Professional with AC Lending Group will discuss reverse mortgages – what they are, how they work, the benefits and drawbacks of using them and how they can fit into your overall financial picture. Faisal will also discuss in general terms some key issues to consider in managing your money during retirement. Everyone in attendance will receive a free copy of Faisal's latest book.

Please contact Michelle Luchia at 403-938-7397 or Elida Raynor at 403-995-1786 for information.

NAFR Members Information

Please check out our National Association of Federal Retirees websites:

National: <https://www.federalretirees.ca/>

Calgary & District Branch: <http://nafrcgyc.ca/>

Please contact our office if you have any inquiries or questions. The volunteer working that day will be happy to help you. Our office is located in room 302, third floor at the Kerby Centre, 1133, 7th Ave., Calgary, Alberta, T2P 1B2. Please phone during our business hours, Monday to Friday 10 am to noon at 403-265-0773 or email fsnacal@telus.net. Please note that our office is closed on all holidays. (During July and August, the office will be closed, a volunteer will check our voice mail for messages during that time frame).