

**NAFR York Branch Meeting****09:30 – 11:00 AM November 7, 2023****Video Meeting (Zoom)**

**Present:** Fred Conway, President; Tom Nichols, Past President; John Macphee, Treasurer; Marie Macphee, Events; Frank Froude, Web Editor; Linda Laffree, Membership; Vasdev Sawhney, Sharon Paris, Joe Vettese, Directors-at-Large; Ed Millar, Recording Secretary.

**Regrets:** Nil

1. **Review and Approval of the Agenda:** Under 5 Reports add (f) Equipment Storage, (g) add Meeting Dates 2024 (h) AGM, (i) Mailing Address. Approval moved by Marie, seconded by Tom.
2. **Approval of the Minutes of Oct. 3, 2023.** Item 4(a) spelling of Belairdirect. 4b(ii) change no to not. Approval moved by John, seconded by Joe.
3. **Business Arising from the Minutes:** Nil
4. **FMM Recap:** The Board had a number of issues with the complexity of the setup although Tom felt the setup went smoother than previous attempts. Having Brian Turner as an IT person helped a great deal. Members in the room had a much greater view than those on zoom. Comments by those on zoom not directed to a specific person for reply. Size of room needs to be more in line with the number of in person attendees. Fred to send a thank you email to member Bundy who provided a 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary cake.

**5. Reports:****(a) President:**

**District Meeting Report:** Fred reviewed his notes pointing out hi lite including the ongoing discussion on weighted and non-weighted voting. Should a Branch with 200 members have the same voting weight as a 1000 member Branch. President Goodall has stated that unweighted voting is undemocratic. National Office has stated that Branch Assets are not covered by insurance so Branches need to determine their own coverage. Bilingualism for National Office officials still an issue. A national ad strategy not supported. PSHCP and Canada Life still on the front burner. Fred would like to see a way of getting the Branch Insert out on a more timely basis.

**(b) Treasurer:** Treasurers responsibility now transferred to John Mcphee.

All of the signatories except Tom were able to meet at the bank and complete the necessary paperwork. Tom worked out an arrangement with a local branch in Allison. Mcphee home is the address of the bank account. John working on becoming failure with the NAFR accounting software. Expense claims for the period July to December should be forwarded to John for processing.

Tom reported the National Office had recalculated the amount of surplus funds York Branch is required to submit. An additional \$353.21 was requested. Tom moved, seconded by Linda that John submit a cheque for \$353.21 to go toward the Defense of Benefits Reserve.

**(c) Membership:** Linda spoke to her report circulated prior to the meeting noting the current 975 members is down slightly from the previous 978. Seven joined since the last report, there are five unpaid active members, and one DDS unpaid of two months or more. Two members are deceased and there are twenty-six lost contacts.

**(d) Website Editor:** Frank noted the website is up to date. Marie will upload meeting dates when finalized.

**(e) Advocacy:** A replacement volunteer for advocacy is required.

**(f) Equipment Storage:** A number of sites were identified where storage is available for rent. Costs range from \$1K/year to \$11K/year. Tom noted the equipment should be monitored between uses to ensure batteries and updates are current and are maintained and ready for the next event. A November date to be arranged for a committee to look at meeting and storage locations.

**(g) Meeting Dates for 2024:** Fred created a list of dates for 2024 and will forward to the Board by email. Members should identify any dates which create a conflict.

**(h) AGM:** Tom offered a financial advisor speaking on wealth transfer as a suggestion for a speaker. The Richmond Hill Legion will be investigated as a possible location for the AGM.

**(i) Mailing Address:** The Branch currently uses the National Office as its mailing address. A local virtual mail box which would open and scan mail could be arranged for about \$220.00/year. Further investigation to be arranged.

- 6. New Business:**
  - (a) Recruitment and Retention:** Nil.
  - (b) Trends and Concerns Review:** Nil.
- 7. Next Board Meeting: 09:30 AM Wednesday January 10, 2024 (Virtual)**
- 8. Adjournment:** Moved by Frank seconded by John.