

**Minutes – Executive Committee Meeting
Duncan and District Branch – National Association of Federal Retirees
Held at Crofton Senior Centre
On Thursday 1st August 2024**

Present: Drew Bodaly, Bronwen Cossey, George Cossey, Rick Devlieger, Dee Dohm, Kathy Pringle, Greg Taylor.

Absent: Karin Laurie

Meeting was called to order by Rick Devlieger at 2:15 pm.

1. Previous Minutes:

M/S/C (Bronwen/Kathy) that the minutes of 7th March 2024 be accepted as distributed.

2. Reports

2.1 Treasurer's Report:

Current bank balance is \$5,347.50.

Bronwen advised that we received \$1,939.09 in April and \$1,798.53 last week for fees from National Office.

The only outstanding amounts at present are fees that Bronwen has paid for the website amounting to \$30.09.

M/S/C (Bronwen/Paul) that the report be accepted as presented.

3. Committee Reports

3.1 Membership report from George:

The branch membership is now 899.

3.2 Advocacy report from Greg:

Greg participated in a Zoom meeting on 27th June with other BC advocacy reps with Amy Baldry at NO with respect to the BC Election to be held on 19th October. Amy will be providing a package of election materials and he hopes that there will be a provincial town hall. There are 2 + ridings in our area which have different boundaries to the federal ones. NO will provide letters for candidates and Bronwen advised that she has copies of letters used in previous elections.

3.3 Member Services:

No reports but it was noted that there do not seem to be many more issues with PSHCP by Canada Life by members and we hope the transition for the PSDP in November will cause less problems.

3.4 Program Coordinator:

Drew has all the arrangements for the picnic in hand and has a direct contact with the SSI Museum. Once numbers are confirmed on 9th August, Drew will order food. Dee and Bronwen will collect money from participants.

3.5 Communication/Website/Sage:

Rick is working on transferring information from the current local branch website to the one held on the national website. Bronwen will update information she has for the picnic and the executive.

Old Business:

4.1 District Meeting – 6 to 8 May 2024 in Abbotsford

Rick attended as BSC, and Paul, George and Bronwen attended as branch representatives. The biggest agenda item was a review of the Strategic Plan and the consensus was that it should be kept simple and direct and several items were discussed and alternate wording was suggested. Also, there was a discussion on recruitment of members and finding members to serve as volunteers for branches. Interesting speakers were from Hearing Life, Johnson (now owned by Belair Direct), the BC Legion and the Alzheimer's Society.

4.2 AMM – June 2024

Rick attend AMM which was shortened to 2 days this year and discussed the items discussed and the resolutions passed (mostly housekeeping). There was more discussion on the Strategic Plan which was sent back to the National Board to be finalized. Another item discussed was restructuring of the association. It was reported that the association received \$285,000 from Sage and other entities from advertising and \$1.7 million from Preferred partners.

4.3 Seniors Aging Well Expo:

This was held in June 2024 but the Branch was unable to participate as there were no Executive members available.

New Business:

5.1 Labour Day Picnic in Ladysmith – Monday 2nd September 2024

Rick and Greg will attend this again as it is a useful networking opportunity which we attend along with the Nanaimo branch. Bronwen and George will check the branch supplies to see if anything is needed.

5.2 Location of December meeting – 5th December 2024

We did have plans for our December meeting to be held at the Ramada but there is a possibility that this location may not be available due to current renovations. Kathy will contact Cat at the Ramada to check the availability. Several other places were suggested and, if necessary, we will find an alternate location. Several suggestions were made for speakers and/or entertainment. Rick will contact Dan Levitt, the new BC Senior Advocate to see if he is available and/or interested.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 3:15 pm.

Next meeting: 21st November at 2 pm – Crofton Senior Centre