

Minutes - Executive Committee Meeting
Duncan and District Branch - National Association of Federal Retirees
Held at Crofton Seniors Centre
On Thursday July 3rd 2025

Present: Paul Chmielewski, Bronwen Cossey, George Cossey, Rick Devlieger, Dee Dohm, Patricia Flannagan, Karin Laurie, Kathy Pringle, Greg Taylor.

Meeting was called to order by Rick at 2:07pm

1. Previous Minutes

M/S/C(Kathy/Bronwen) that the minutes be accepted as distributed.

2. Reports

2.1 Treasurer's report

Current balance is \$5,217.11. Bronwen stated that the last transfer of funds from National Office was \$1,852.54 and she was expecting approximately the same amount later this month.

M/S/C Dee/Kathy that the report be accepted as presented

3. Committee Reports

3.1 Membership report from George

Branch membership is currently 862 members down from his last report of 869.

3.2 Advocacy Report from Greg

Greg reported that our advocacy initiatives are being coordinated with Nanaimo & Victoria Branches where our branch boundaries and electoral riding boundaries overlap. For example, Nanaimo has taken the lead with regard to the Nanaimo-Ladysmith federal riding and Duncan has taken the lead for two ridings which overlap with Victoria. Following the Provincial election, the newly elected MLAs were sent a congratulatory letter with a request for local NAFR representatives to meet to review our concerns firsthand. So far Greg and Rick have met with Dana Lajeunesse and received a good response from the MLA and his staff. Meetings with the other new MLAs will continue to be pursued.

Similarly, the new federal MPs have received letters with the intention of meeting with them asap.

3.3 Member Services

VI: No report

SSI: No report

3.4 Program Coordinator

Plans are on track for the picnic to be held at Transfer Beach in the Kinsmen Shelter. Menu will consist of sandwiches, wraps, veggie tray, fruit tray, pickles, cheese and crackers, dessert and bottled water.

4. Communication/Website/Sage

Rick said he made the submission to the Sage magazine. Website to be updated
Bronwen will remove any outdated information from the Branch email.

5. Old Business

5.1 District Conference

Rick said this was a successful meeting.

Tuesday afternoon started with a presentation on "Why I Volunteer" after the normal Opening remarks by our National President.

Wednesday was a training day:

The morning was a very good presentation/discussion on Advocacy.

The afternoon consisted of CRM training, unfortunately without the financial part.

National office realizes this is an issue and will address it after the new website is online.

The dinner speaker was an excellent talk on keeping seniors active in their communities.

(Along with a little ukulele music)

Thursday consisted of a town hall with the President and CEO and a President's meeting where there was a discussion on restructuring. The upshot of this is that it is too early in the process to even decide which options are being looked at as they are still gathering information.

5.2 Seniors Expo

We had 53 people stop by our table and request information on our organization. We felt there was an increase in the number of presenters this year.

5.3 AMM

The Special Committee on Association Structure (SCAS) reported on progress and are still gathering information.

The Strategic Plan was finalized and is approved.

Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC) is going to update their digital services so that Retirees will have the same access as current employees do, to their pension information.

The CEO presented a preview on the new Association website which may be ready as early as September, if everything goes well.

A resolution to change how the branch unallocated reserve is calculated was passed.

A resolution for the Association to de-register as a lobbyist organization in Alberta was defeated.

Due to unanticipated circumstances, the election of a National President is postponed to November and the national Vice-President will continue act as President in the meantime.

6. New Business

6.1 Labour Day Picnic will be attended by Rick and Greg who will coordinate with Mid-Island and Pacific Rim Branch (Nanaimo). Bronwen and George will order swag for the event.

6.2 SSI member would like to have a coffee meeting. Patricia will try to organize a meeting and invite their MP, Elizabeth May.

7. Other Business

Greg mentioned the possibility to enhance the working executive. Perhaps we can encourage members to volunteer for special projects.

Rick adjourned the meeting at 3:40pm

Next meeting 2pm November 27th - Crofton Seniors Centre