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**BC 15 General Meeting and Recruitment Event Minutes**

**Jun 23rd, 2025**

**Elder Citizens Recreation Assn Prince George BC**

**1692 – 10th Avenue**

**Lunch at 12:45 pm - Meeting 1:00 pm**

**President:** Diane Froelich **Vice President:** Deb Nilsen

**Treasurer:** Kim Usipuik **Secretary:** Deb Tomlinson

**Webmaster:** Cameron Sutherland **Director at Large:** Ana Evasin

**Meeting called to order by:** Diane Froelich **Time: 1:01 pm**

**Quorum: Yes**

There were 24 members and 2 guests attending in house. Our Zoom attendees were Steve Sawchuk, BSC Fraser Valley West and Rick Roberts, (our Zoom host) BSC, BC Coastal Islands Region.

Round table introductions were done.

**AGENDA**

**Additions:** There were no additions to the Agenda.

**Motion to accept:** Marian Muir

**Seconded:** Gary Godwin

**PREVIOUS GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

**Sep 23rd, 2024**

**Errors or omissions:** There were no errors or omissions noted.

**Motion to accept:** Jim Verth

**Seconded:** Ben Wiebe

**OFFICER REPORTS**

**PRESIDENT**

-Diane introduced the directors as of the March 17, 2025 AGM: President: Diane Froelich; Vice President: Deb Nilsen; Treasurer: Kim Usipuik; Secretary: Deb Tomlinson; Director at Large (Webmaster): Cameron Sutherland; Director at Large: Ana Evasin.

Lorraine D’Auray has resigned from the board.

-Jun 3rd, 2025, Diane participated in a zoom “Meet the Candidates” meeting with National office.

-Diane noted that retirement seminars are available on the National website.

**AMM:**

-The 2025 NAFR AMM took place Jun 17th and 18th at the Hilton Lac-Leamy in Gatineau, Quebec.

Diane attended as the Branch president, and Deb Nilsen attended as a candidate for the National board of directors.

**Items noted from the AMM:**

-National office and branches should work on strengthening our relationships with our MP’s.

-Johnson travel Insurance is rebranding to belairdirect travel insurance. The website will not change for Johnson Insurance. For travel insurance visit <https://www.johnson.ca/belairdirect>.

-Our membership is still increasing, and our retention rate is at 93% which is very good.

-Our advocacy this year included the provincial and federal elections. National office is calling for a full “Minister of Seniors,” as opposed to a “Secretary of State,” which was what was determined in this spring federal election. Advocacy is a key reason that attracts people to membership in the Association.

-Anthony Pizzino, CEO, spoke on the power of pensions. Members should search out the site for “Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives” and read the document “power of pension.”

-The PDSP transitioned to Canada Life in Nov 2024. It was noted that this transition went more seamlessly that the PSHCP.

-National office is presently redeveloping its website.

-Over the last year National office has hired consultants to conduct on-line surveys on reasons for joining NAFR or for governance issues, and the National restructuring committee will be reviewing these. As a member you may have completed one of these surveys. Diane noted that our Branch is unique as NAFR has few small branches.

-Roy Goodall has vacated his role as president and chair of the National board, and the Association’s vice president Helene Nadeau has assumed the role. An election for this position will take place in November of this year. The nomination period has been extended until September.

-The Branch Presidents report will be made available on our website.

**District Information:**

May 13th – 15th, 2025 was the District Conference in Abbotsford. This was attended by Diane, Kim and Ana.

-Various topics were discussed at the conference, which included presentations from some preferred partners and CRM which is the computer platform used by NAFR. Roy Goodall spoke about the structure of the organization.

**Sage Report:**

-Sage reports are submitted quarterly.

**Minimum Branch Remittance Pilot Project:**

-In September our Branch intends to apply for top up funding through the MBRPP. This is funding that does not have to be used for a specific purpose, but is intended to help smaller branches with additional funds.

**National Public Service Week (NPSW)**

-NPSW was Jun 15th to Jun 21st, 2025 and our Branch took the opportunity again to recognize and honor our federal employees.

-DebT reported that an electronic message which was “Past and Present-your service matters” along with the NPSW poster, (prepared by National Office), was emailed to 13 federal offices in Prince George and to 19 our of town venues which included federal offices, RCMP and Royal Canadian Legions.

-During that week, DebT and Ana, stopped in at the federal offices in Prince George and dropped off information on our Association along with “Merci” chocolates. In our information package we had the NPSW poster, 2 copies of the Sage magazine, our “History at a Glance” poster, as well as the “Join today” and “Preferred Partners” pamphlets. We also dropped into the 2 local MP offices in Prince George with information on our Association and chocolates.

**VICE PRESIDENT**

No report. Unable to attend.

**TREASURER REPORT**

-The financial statements were included in the hand-out package.

For the period ending Jun 15, 2025, our branch financial statements are as follows:

* Branch revenues totaled $930.50; expenses $1,430.13; for net earnings of $-499.63.
* Branch net assets total $5,006.75 with a corresponding total equity of the same amount.

-We note that meeting expenses for ECRA have been paid for the year.

-The present balance in the branch chequing account is $5,138.26

**DIRECTOR REPORTS**

**WEB REPORT**

-Nothing to report.

**SENIORS LIAISON REPORT**

Ana and Marilyn Hinton (our seniors liaison) attended the Jun 19th, 2025 AGM of the Prince George Council of Seniors (PGCOS).

Info noted from meeting:

-The PGCOS has an Endowment fund of $209,000 for emergency funding.

-Elections were held and 4 person were elected to board, however, the PGCOS was looking for 5.

-An inhouse bookkeeper has been hired.

-The PGCOS applied for the New Horizon grant funding but were not successful.

-The waitlist for the Meals on Wheels program has been eliminated which is good news.

-There are 64 seniors on the waitlist for housekeeping. An additional housekeeper has been hired and the PGCOS is looking for volunteers.

-If services are needed from the PGCOS it is best to call and make an appointment at 250-564-5888.

**MEMBER REPORT**

Barry Clark is our member to see about local honey. Barry is now retired but was with the RCMP for 38 years. Barry has been beekeeping for 20 years. He teaches beekeeping and sells honey only by word of mouth. He has downsized to about 25 hives that he looks after now.

Barry gave us the following tips: honey can be stored on the counter, but make sure the lid is on. It is okay if the honey crystallizes. If you are allergic to pollen you should buy pasteurized honey.

Barry may have honey available again in August.

Contact info for Barry:

250-967-4141 Landline

250-301-6266 Cell

Email: barrydouglasclark@gmail.com

**OLD BUSINESS**

Deb Nilsen, our branch vice president, had been nominated for the National board of directors, and went through the process and attended the AMM in Quebec, however, was not elected to the National board at this time. We hope that if nominated again, DebN will be willing to go through the process as we feel she would provide strong representation for the smaller branches.

**NEW BUSINESS**

-Nothing to report.

**Next Meeting Date: Sept 22nd, 2025**

**MEETING ADJOURNED: 1:44 p.m.**

**Branch email:** [princegeorgebranch@federalretirees.ca](mailto:princegeorgebranch@federalretirees.ca)

**Branch website:** [federalretirees.ca/princegeorge](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Felink.clickdimensions.com%2Fc%2F7%%2Fffh4OHzdpMhzaD7l_8HDbg&data=05%7C01%7C%7Cfb9fc88ba3dc43a6f4d108da43199678%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637896074438372544%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=b7THZ0aNm8j9oKg%2FNCWfgFNKRiNgAhgaW85pl0YmNNg%3D&reserved=0)