



National Association
of Federal Retirees Association nationale
des retraités fédéraux
FRASER VALLEY WEST

Branch BC 04
Monthly News Update
December 2019

Hello, fellow BC04 Branch Members;

Santa says "Stay calm! RSVP Today!"

The annual Branch Meeting and Christmas Buffet is just around the corner. Mark your calendars and contact Katherine Kettler today to reserve!

December 5th - General Meeting & Christmas Buffet

Location: Newlands Golf & Country Club, Langley, BC

Doors open at 11 am, **GM starts at 11:30 am**, Xmas Buffet luncheon follows

Buffet Cost: \$30/person.

RSVP by November 22nd to Katherine at kettlerk@gmail.com or cell at 778 995 6136.

Reservations are required for catering.

Savage Chickens

by Doug Savage



Christmas Helpers wanted!

We are looking for a few friendly people to assist at the event: to greet members and guests, collect payment, or assist with the door prize draws! Look to your inner elf and contact **Katherine** if you can help!

FOOD BANK DONATIONS

We will have a hamper at the door to collect donations for the Langley Food Bank.
Unwrapped non-perishable items gratefully received!



What's Next?

With the dust from the 2019 Federal Election beginning to settle, board members from the Western BC branches (Fraser Valley West, Central Fraser Valley, Chilliwack, Vancouver and Prince George) met on November 6th, with senior volunteers for BC/Yukon to share successes and "learning opportunities" from our advocacy work over the last several months.

District Directors, Brian Strongman and Randy Wilson said that BC/Yukon's advocacy campaign was the best in the country and Advocacy Program Officer, Leslie Gaudette, had the numbers to show that all 15 branches in BC made strong contributions to the effort to make sure federal politicians heard and understood our priorities.

The next task is to establish contact with all Members of Parliament, congratulate them on their success, and start building good working relationships. Then we hope to revive plans for a Lower Mainland townhall forum on Pharmacare, in time to influence the next federal budget...stay tuned! (P.S. Many thanks to Ian Blake, Branch Services Co-Ordinator, for organizing the meeting!)

Yes, Virginia (Virgil?) There are volunteer opportunities with Federal Retirees!

Is 2020 your year to get on board? We would like to add "bench strength" and backup to the branch board of directors, particularly in the areas of event planning, IT/communications and bookkeeping/finance!

Yes, that could be more fun than it sounds! Make it your New Year's resolution to find out!

BC 04 predictions for 2020...

We predict (with some confidence) that the pension indexation rate of 2% will be applied as of January 1st.

We are also predicting that the New Year will bring many engaging events for Branch members and volunteers, including...

January 2nd—Meet & Chat 2-3:30 p.m.

Ricky's Country Restaurant, 2160 King George Blvd, Surrey. Coffee or tea is on us! *Let's chat retirement.*

February 6th—Lunch & Learn— 11 a.m. presentation by HearingLife. Location ... still working on that!

But to register your interest, please RSVP Ilene at nafrsecretary@gmail.com

or (604) 372-1109

March 12th- Branch Annual Members' Meeting (AGM)

Newlands Golf and Country Club, 21025 48 Avenue. Langley, BC

GM starts at 11:30 am. Buffet luncheon follows **Buffet Cost:** \$20/person.

RSVP Katherine at kettlerk@gmail.com or (778) 995-6136

March 19th—Let's Do Lunch—with Charles Louth

12:00 noon. At the Dublin Crossing Irish Pub, 18789 Fraser Highway, Surrey

RSVP Charles at kabot21@gmail.com or (778) 235-7040



How to contact your Branch

President
Vice President & Branch Advocacy
Treasurer
Secretary
Director Health & Benefits (HBO)
Director Membership Administration
Director Communications
Director Membership Marketing
Director Volunteer Engagement
Director
Director
Director

Bernd Hirsekorn 604 531-0997
Ian Spence 604 753-7845
Thelma Graham 604 309-2538
Ilene Fika
(call **Thelma**)
Steve Sawchuk 604 574-2939
Stuart Wilson 604 542-1560
Joy Hennen 604 856-0310
Katherine Kettler 778 995-6136
Sharon Riches 604 946-2434
Frank Mahendra
Glen (**Rocky**) Rockwell

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Branch News:

For Branch News and Events, check out our website www.nafrfraservalleywest.ca

Branch News Updates - monthly announcements and reminders are sent to all members if we have your e-mail address.

Changed your E-mail address, your Home address? Phone number(s)?

Please advise **Steve** at 604 574-2939 or s.sawchuk@shaw.ca

(You should also update your profile on www.federalretirees.ca: click on the Login tab to setup and update your profile... or just call Steve!)

National News: Read **SAGE** magazine; and visit www.federalretirees.ca for current info on Advocacy, Pensions and Benefits and retirement living .



Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas
and a joyous and health-filled New Year!

Bernd Hirsekorn
BC04 Branch Pres.