

National Association of Federal Retirees – AB17 – Edmonton Branch

General Membership Meeting - September 6, 2017

Royal Canadian Legion, Kingsway Branch – 14339 -50th Street, Edmonton, Alberta

Present: 116 Members including Board Members: Brian Emdin, Dave Riffel, Ross Gillespie, Lillian June, Clay Kolstad, Delbert Dahl, Heather-Anne Elliott-Martin, Mahir Mansi and Judy Tracz. Also in attendance were the following guests: Asma Qadri and assistant Lisa from Drive Happiness Seniors Association, Lina Marrazzo, Lawyer, representing the Edmonton Community Legal Centre and Laura Slywka who provided CART (Communications Access/Realtime Translation) for deaf/hard of hearing members.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Ross Gillespie at 12:10pm.

Opening Remarks: Ross Gillespie welcomed everyone and acknowledged the presence of National Life Member Doreen Morton and Branch Life Member Lillian June. He then asked for a moment of silence to honour deceased members. Ross said Grace, after which lunch was served.

Approval of Agenda: Ross asked for additions/amendments to the Agenda. There were none. Motion for approval by Clay Kolstad, seconded by Delbert Dahl and unanimously approved.

Approval of Previous Minutes: Ross then asked if there were any errors or omissions in the Minutes from May 3, 2017 General Membership meeting. There were none. Approval of the published Minutes was moved by Dave Riffel, seconded by Mahir Mansi and unanimously approved.

President's Report: Copies of Ross' President's Report were on the tables for all members in attendance. This Report covered information from May to December 2017.

Guest Speakers:

Asma Qadri and assistant Lisa gave a slide presentation for an alternative driving programme called Drive Happiness. If rides are requested by seniors 65 and over, they are assessed for need. Rides could be requested for many reasons, e.g. appointments, visits, shopping, etc. Rides are charged at \$8.00 for 90 minute time spans. Volunteer drivers are vetted before being allowed to take part in the programme and anyone wanting to take part in the programme, either as a client or volunteer driver, was encouraged to contact the company. Handouts were available.

Lina Marrazzo, lawyer: affiliated with the Edmonton Community Legal Centre, gave a slide presentation regarding Personal Directives, Enduring Powers of Attorney and Wills. Ms Marrazzo took questions from the members and had handouts available.

Prize Draws: Two Canada 150 coins were available as door prizes. They were won by Jackie Blevins and Clara Jo Naidoo. The 50/50 split was won by Colleen Gillespie and Valerie Symborski.

Closing: Before closing the meeting, President Gillespie noted that information was being transferred from the old website (www.nafredm.ca) to the new www.federalretirees.ca National website. The new website link will access the Edmonton Branch by following the prompts on the screen. He also asked for comments regarding the luncheon presentation as it was served to each table rather than buffet style.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be a luncheon meeting December 6, 2017 at 11 a.m.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.