



National Association  
of Federal Retirees      Association nationale  
des retraités fédéraux

WINNIPEG & DISTRICT

## Newsletter - Winter 2017- early 2018

### President's Message

Ceci O'Flaherty

It's hard to believe that we are now in the year 2018. I hope everyone had a happy, healthy and festive holiday season and that 2018 is a great year for everyone.

As we leave 2017 and move into 2018, our thoughts turn to planning and preparing for the year ahead. With this in mind, this newsletter is primarily focused on preparation for the Winnipeg and District Branch Annual General Meeting which is scheduled on April 11, 2018 as well as some very important national issues which affect all of us. Let's start this with the National Announcements.

### 2018 Fees Change Reminder

The new fee structure comes into effect on January 1st . As of that date, membership rates will be \$48.96 or \$4.08 per month for a Single membership and \$63.60 or \$5.30 per month for a Double membership.

### National Board of Directors

There are four three-year positions that will come up for election at the June 2018 Annual Meeting of Members: Vice-president and directors from Prairie & NWT, Ontario, and Ottawa districts. Nominations for all these positions will close March 18, 2018.

If you are interested in joining the National Association of Federal Retirees' Board of Directors and lending your voice to speak for security of retirement for our members and all Canadians, or if you would like more information, please contact the Nominating Committee by email at [elections@federalretirees.ca](mailto:elections@federalretirees.ca).

### Bill C-27

While Bill C-27 has become a hot topic in the media over recent weeks, there has been no movement in Parliament for more than a year. In the spirit of the holiday season, Federal Retirees are encouraging those who wrote to Parliamentarians about Bill C-27 in 2017 to do so again – this time to Finance Minister Bill Morneau. We hope that you will join us in wishing Bill Morneau a happy holiday season,

and asking him to grant our holiday wish – to finally withdraw Bill C-27.

<https://www.federalretirees.ca/en/Advocacy/Honour-Your-Promise>

## Branch Updates

### MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT – FREE GIFT CARDS

One of our strategic commitments is to focus on membership recruitment. With this in mind, the Board passed a motion at the October meeting to provide a \$25.00 gift card to any member who recruits an eligible member between December 1, 2017 and March 31, 2018 to join our organization. Here's how it works.

1. You must be a current (paid) member of the Winnipeg and District Branch;
2. You recruit a new member who joins (single or double membership) and pays NAFR membership;
3. New member must email Branch [nafrwpg@mymts.net](mailto:nafrwpg@mymts.net) and provide your name as recruiter;
4. At the end of each month we will send out gift cards – 1 gift card for **each** new membership (double membership counts as 1 recruitment)

### Membership Report - Dorothy Watermulder

As of December 31, 2017, we have a total of 6149 memberships compared to 6077 total in the previous newsletter. Since September 26, 2017, we have 96 new memberships - 16 Single memberships and 40 Double memberships. Three bereavement cards were sent.

\*Reminder - e-mail is the least expensive option for communicating with our members.

### Advocacy Program Officer (APO) – Manitoba

At the General Meeting in November 2017, Cynthia Foreman, District Director, Prairies and NWT announced that Gerry Jennings was the successful candidate and was appointed to the position of Advocacy Program Officer Manitoba for a two year period ending October 21, 2019. Gerry has agreed to remain on the Winnipeg and District Branch Board of Directors. Congratulations Gerry. We look forward to working with you in your new role.

### Nominations and Elections – Annual General Meeting

This year we will be holding elections for several positions on the Winnipeg and District Branch Board of Directors. Pat Jarrett as Past President, will take on the role of Chair of the Nominating Committee. In this role she may select other Branch members to serve on the Committee. This Committee will assist with the nomination and election of eligible Branch members to available positions on the Branch Board. The Nomination form, which is attached at the end of this newsletter, must be completed along

with the candidate's short resume. This, along with a list of all eligible candidates will be presented to the members at the Branch AGM.

**President** – current President was appointed by the Board of Directors in June 2017 to fill the position vacated by Cynthia Foreman. This appointment was until our April 2018 AGM. As indicated at the September General Meeting, I will be putting my name forward for the position of President.

Responsibilities – Taking the lead role in the branch; chairing the Annual General Meeting and other General Meetings; lead the Branch Board of Directors in developing strategic and operational plans in support of the Association; promote Advocacy in support of Association objectives; and liaise between the Branch and National Office initiatives.

**First Vice-President** – currently vacant with the appointment of Ceci O’Flaherty to the position of President on an interim basis (see above).

Responsibilities – duties as assigned by the President such as taking the lead role in a committee, carries out the role and responsibilities of the President in the event of permanent absence or incapacity or unwillingness of the President. Management and leadership experience an asset.

**Directors at Large** – Five positions - terms ending in April 2018.

Responsibilities - the duties of these positions vary depending on the need of the Branch, and the interests and expertise of the individual Directors. Ideally, board members will have some management or administrative skills, effective communication skills, strong interpersonal skills and enjoy working on a team. All must be able to use e-mail and be familiar with the internet, knowledge of Excel an asset. In addition, in terms of the needs of the Branch we are seeking persons willing to assist in the following capacities: Assistant to the Treasurer, which would require some bookkeeping/accounting background; someone who will assist with the branch website; and, someone with good negotiations skills who is comfortable in approaching potential local preferred partners.

The Branch is committed to succession planning for key positions as well as mentoring for new roles including learning opportunities and an orientation session will be provided to our new board members.

## **MOTIONS AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)**

There will be motion(s) put forward at the AGM to amend the Branch By-laws as follows:

### **PART V – BRANCH BOARD**

**CHANGE:** 5.1.1 **Composition**

**From:** The Branch board of Directors shall consist of the President, the First and Second Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership, Health & Benefits Officer and 4 to 7 Directors at Large.

**To:** The Branch Board of Directors shall consist of the President, the First-Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership, and 4 to 7 Directors at Large.

**Reason:** The Second Vice President and Health & Benefits Officer responsibilities can be divided up among the existing members of the Board.

### **5.3 Duties and Responsibilities of Board Officers and Directors at Large**

**Change:** 5.3.3

**From:** The Vice Presidents shall have such duties and responsibilities as the President may from time to time delegate or as the Branch may prescribe. In the absence of the President, all rights vested in the President shall be vested in the First Vice President, or in his/her absence the Second Vice President.

**To:** The Vice Presidents shall have such duties and responsibilities as the President may from time to time delegate or as the Branch may prescribe. In the absence of the President, all rights vested in the President shall be vested in the First Vice President.

**Reason:** Remove reference to Second Vice President as the position no longer will exist.

**Change:** 5.3.2

**From:** The Treasurer shall supervise the financial affairs of the Branch; keep and maintain financial records in accordance with normal accounting practices; have care of all funds and securities and deposit all monies and cheques received in a financial institution designated by the Branch board. The Treasurer shall prepare, or cause to be prepared, the annual Branch budget and forecast for approval of the Branch board and present them and the audited financial statement at the Branch AGM and forward a copy of the audited statement with other documentation to national office as required by the national policy, no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> of May following the fiscal year end.

**To:** The Treasurer shall supervise the financial affairs of the Branch; keep and maintain financial records; have care of all funds and securities and deposit all monies and cheques received in a financial institution designated by the Branch board. The Treasurer shall prepare, or cause to be prepared, the annual Branch budget and forecast for approval of the Branch board and present them and the reviewed financial statement at the Branch AGM and forward a copy of the reviewed statement with other documentation to national office as required by the national policy, no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> of May following the fiscal year end.

**Reason:** CRM requires a strict set of protocols so stating “in accordance with normal accounting practices” is not necessary. Also based on motions passed at the AGM in 2017, financial records will be reviewed and not audited.

**Change** 5.3.7

**From:** The Health and Benefits Officer will promote the general welfare of Branch members, providing health and benefit information to members. He/she will liaise and assist in the development of health related mutually useful programs and activities with other organizations. He/she shall perform other duties as may be prescribed by the Branch board.

**To:** Delete

**Reason:** Health and Benefits Officer position will no longer exist.

**Change:** 6.4 Election and Term of Office

**From:** All members of the Branch board shall be elected at the Branch AGM, for a term of two (2) years with half the Branch board being elected each year. The terms of office commence immediately following adjournment of the AGM.

**To:** All members of the Branch Board shall be elected at the Branch AGM, for a term of three (3) years. The terms of office commence immediately following adjournment of the AGM.

**Reason:** Removal of requirement for half the board to be elected every year as continuity will be served with terms being extended from 2 to 3 years.

## **PART VII – REMOVAL AND SUSPENSION OF DIRECTORS**

**Change:** 7.1

**From:** Members cease to be members of the Board of Directors:

- a) When a written resignation is received by the Board, or at the time specified in such resignation.
- b) By reason of death
- c) A director also ceases to hold office if they become ineligible per the Act, the national By-laws or these by-laws.
- d) The director has missed three consecutive regularly scheduled Branch board meetings.

- To:** 7.1 Members cease to be members of the Board of Directors:
- a) When a written resignation is received by the Board, or at the time specified in such resignation.
  - b) By reason of death
  - c) They become ineligible per the Act, the national By-laws or these by-laws.
  - d) The director has missed three consecutive regularly scheduled Branch board meetings.
- Reason:** Delete first part of section of c) as it was unnecessary – general housekeeping change

**Winnipeg & District Branch  
National Association of Federal Retirees  
Annual General Meeting  
Nomination Form**

Nominee - (name & membership No. )

\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Position(s) for which Nominee is to be considered**

\_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_ accept the nomination for the above

(PLEASE PRINT)

Position(s) dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 201\_\_.

Signature of Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominators:

Moved by: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name

Signature

Seconded by: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name

Signature

Nominees must be a member in good standing of the National Association of Federal Retirees, Winnipeg & District Branch and submit the following information with the Nomination Form:

- A brief personal Resume describing your professional skills, experiences, hobbies and other volunteer experience