CANADIAN PACIFIC PENSIONER'S ASSOCIATION (MANITOBA BRANCH)



Winter 2023-1 Editor — Lou Guay

Hello fellow CP Pensioners, spouses and survivors:

Hope everyone is doing as well as can be expected while another Manitoba winter grinds it's way to spring! Please stay safe, and take appropriate precautions, because COVID, the flu and RVS are all very active, and hard at work this season.

- 1) Executive updates:
 - **Membership** Lorraine Wilkie has stepped down and will be relocating to Alberta a bit later this year. Thanks Lorraine for a job well done. Replacing Lorraine are Jim and Karen Merrifield. See page 3.
 - **President** After nearly 20 years in this role, Paul Zeglinski has stepped down. Thank you Paul for your leadership, dedication and long service. Replacing Paul is Doug Belcher. See page 4.
 - See page 4 for executive positions that *still need to be filled*!
- 2) Effective January 01, 2023, the National Council of Canadian Pacific Pensioner Associations has a new executive. Details on page 5
- 3) Monthly luncheon meetings have resumed. Still every 2nd Thursday of the month, September to May. Members and invited guests are encouraged to come out for great food, and a chance to visit with fellow pensioners. Details on page 5
- 4) A great time was had at our annual Christmas luncheon, held on December 8th, with 46 members and guests attending. The silent auction drew lots of interest (thank you Ron Hinkle for arranging the great prizes) and the 50/50 draw was well subscribed largest payout ever. A special thank you to the cooks and staff of the Belgium Club for the wonderful meal, and excellent service.

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- 5) Details about the 2023 COLA increase can be found on page 5.
- 6) CP In Memoriam Manitoba Residents July to December 2022 page 3
- 7) **Important changes** to dues and contact information page 6

Our next meeting is Thursday, Feb. 09 - details on page 2.

IN MEMORIAM



Dince our last Newsletter, Father Time has taken his toll. Please take a few minutes out from your day to remember old friends and former workmates.

If you know of any members who are ill or have passed away, please call Lou Guay @ 204-275-0630 and let him know.

August 13, 2022 - Doreen Parker, 94, Spouse of John (Jack) September 10, 2022 - John (Jack) Parker, 96, Carman September 25, 2022 - Horst Richter, 88, Laborer December 25, 2022 - Alan McCormick, 67, Conductor

NOT A MEMBER BUT SOME MAY RECALL WORKING WITH DECEMBER 12, 2022 - DWIGHT MURCHISON, 74

THE COMPANY WIDE IN MEMORIAUM IS FOUND ON LINE AT HTTPS://CP-PENSIONERS.COM/NEWS-EVENTS/ (ABOUT HALF-WAY DOWN THE PAGE) PUBLISHED TWICE A YEAR

CP Pensioners Manitoba Branch November luncheon meeting

The next will be on Thursday, Feb 09, 2023 at the Belgian Club - 407 Provencher Blvd. Doors open at 11:30, meal served at 12:30 (earlier if everyone is there) Cost: 15.00 (fifteen) dollars per person Members and invited guests. If you are want to attend, please contact Ron Hinkle, by phone at 204-667-3520 or by e-mail at hinkleronald224@gmail.com. no later than Friday, Feb 3rd . *No walk-ins please*.

Finding out about upcoming events, changes and cancellations

 1) Any member who uses email, and have not already done so, is encouraged to send an mail to WpgCPRPensioners@mail.com.
 Please show your name and the words "add to mailing list" on the subject line. Emails about upcoming events, changes and cancellations will be sent to everyone who enrolls.

We now have a <u>Facebook page - Manitoba CP Pensioners</u> - a bulletin board providing information about upcoming events, changes and cancellations. Should be open (visible/readable) by anyone with a Facebook account.

3)

Due to timing, new events, cancellations and changes may not be in the newsletter.

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Message from our new Membership Co-Chairs

Dear Fellow Pensioners / Survivors

We would like to introduce ourselves. We are Jim and Karen Merrifield. We have taken over as Membership Chairmen from Lorraine Wilkie. We want to thank Lorraine for her assistance with the transition, and wish her all the best in the future.

We start off the first quarter reminding members 2023 dues should be submitted as soon as possible. If you are unsure about your dues, please do not hesitate to contract Karen and she will be happy to let you know where you stand. Her phone number is 204 226-1711

Thank you Jim & Karen

Reminder - Help Still Wanted

Thank you to Doug Belcher for assuming the President's role. Thank you to Jim & Karen Merrifield for assuming the Membership role. Executive positions still vacant: Recording Secretary - Betty Ashton has stepped down. Corresponding Secretary - Ron Hinkle is stepping down.

Cheer Chair - vacant. Arrange to send condolence cards as required, contact known sick members.

50/50 draw chair - conduct the 50/50 draw at meetings

Vice President - chairs meetings in the event the President is unable to attend.

Please consider stepping forward and lending a hand. Having a full executive, with new members, helps make a smoother and better run association.

Contact Doug Belcher at 204 334 2108 or Ron at 204 667 3520 or Lou at 204 275 0630

if you might be interested in taking on one of these roles:

Doug Belcher - New Manitoba Branch President

Doug started his career with CPR in 1961 as a relief messenger in Saskatoon, was laid, off a bit later, then rehired in Winnipeg in 1965 as a porter. In 1966 he moved over to the running trades, took early retirement in 1993 after many years as a Conductor, officially retiring in 1998.

National Council of Canadian Pacific Pensioner Associations New Executive effective Jan 01 2023

President:	Jarnail (John) Taggar - Calgary ,Ab			
1st Vice President:	Tom Sonier London, On			
2nd Vice President:	Bill Magone - Windsor, On			
3rd Vice President:	Lou Guay - Winnipeg Mb			
Secretary:	R.J. Cameron - Revelstoke BC			
Treasurer:	Arthur Wieckowski - Calgary Ab			
Immediate Past Pres.	Surinder Rehill - Calgary, Ab			

On the lighter side - George Burns on getting older

"You can't help getting older, but you don't have to get old."

"I'm very pleased to be here. Let's face it, at my age I'm very pleased to be anywhere."

"By the time you're 80 years old you've learned everything. You only have to remember it."

2023 COLA increase

To qualify a Retiree must have been retired for at least 5 years and be of age 65 as of December 31, 2022. Indexing is on the first \$ 1,500.00 of your pension. The maximum increase would therefore be \$ 1,500.00 X 2.40% = \$ 36.00 per month, starting with your January 2023 payment.

The calculation for the Annual Consumer Price Index (CPI) effective January 1,2023. as per Article 16.03(2) of the Pension Rules: .

Article 16.03(a) (i) shows the CPI for October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022 to be 1,786.1 divided by 1,679.8 equals 1.06328 minus 1 is 6.300% (Rounded) 50 % of change to CPI 6.3000% minus 50.00% equals 3.15%
Article 16.03(a) (ii) is 3.00% maximum
Article 16.03 (a) (iii) is the change from previous year 1,679.8 divided by 1,640.3 equals 1.02408 divided by 1equals 2.40% (rounded) 100% of Change in CPI (previous year) 2.4000% divided by 100.00% equals 2.40%

The Lesser of (i), (ii), and (iii) equals 2.40% and that is what you get on the first \$ 1,500.00 of your pension cheque effective January 1, 2023.

All members of the Health Spending Account (HSA) should be changed to Sun life as of January 1, 2021 as per the letters you all received in November 2020. Please follow the letter as to what to do. If you are experiencing any problems, please let me know.

Blue Cross rates for Part II have been mailed to you from Blue Cross hopefully you will receive it soon, advising of the new rates for 2023. They are really pushing for all to get the Generic Drug whenever possible, which is cheaper. When you receive your letter from Blue Cross of the rate changes for the retiree's you will have the option of withdrawing from it if you wish. It will be your choice. If you have any questions please call me.

In closing I would like to wish everyone a very MERRY CHRISTMAS for 2022 and a HAPPY and HEALTHY 2023.

Yours sincerely Robert J. Cameron. Pensioner Representative CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY PENSION COMMITTEE P.O.BOX 885 Revelstoke B.C. V0E 2S0 E-mail: rjc48@telus.net Tel: 250-837-4248 Fax: 250-837-4220

REMINDER:

We meet 9 times a year (September to May inclusive) on the 2nd Thursday of the month at the Belgian Club - 407 Provencher Blvd. Members and invited guests only. If you are want to attend, please contact Ron Hinkle no later than the Friday before Phone 204-667-3520 or by e-mail at hinkleronald224@gmail.com. *No walk-ins please*.

WRAP-UP

If you have any questions relative to our Association, or are encountering problems pertaining to pensions, Blue Cross Coverage, etc., which may be affecting you as a pensioner or survivor, please contact one of the under-signed. If we cannot answer your query, we can possibly direct you to someone who can assist you.

Doug Blecher, President, CPPA (Manitoba Branch) 1312 - 1275 Leila Ave Winnipeg, MB. R2P 1J6 Phone 204-334-2108 Email: dbellch@shaw.ca

Ron Hinkle, Corresponding Secretary 415-919 St. Anne's Rd. Winnipeg, MB R2N 4K8 Phone 204-667-3520 email: hinkleronald224@gmail.com

Bob Cameron, Pensioner Representative P.O. Box 250, Revelstoke, B.C. V0E 2S0 Phone 1-250-837-4248

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Are your membership dues up-to-date? If not, or if you have misplaced your card, or if you are not sure, please call **Karen Merifield**, our Membership Co-chair, at **204-226-1711**, who can let you know where you stand. There has been no change in membership fees -

For either pensioner and spouse, or pensioner only. - \$10.00 per year For surviving spouse only - \$5.00 per year

<u>Reminder: our membership year runs January 01 to December 31</u>

Canadian Pacific Pensioners' Association Application Form

 Name:
 ______Spouse's Name:

Address:

Postal Code:_____Telephone # _____Pension Payroll # _____

Former Trade/Occupation _____ Renewal _____ New _____

PLEASE MAKE CHEQUE PAYABLE TO C.P. PENSIONERS' ASSOCIATION and forward to (NEW CONTACT INFORMATION)



Jim Merrifield Membership Chairperson 403 - 703 Riverwood Ave Winnipeg, MB, R3T 1V6 Phone Karen at 204-226-1711 email: kuhiogirl55@gmail.com