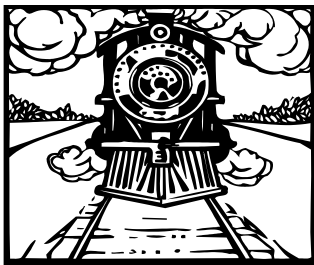


CANADIAN PACIFIC PENSIONER'S ASSOCIATION (MANITOBA BRANCH)



Winter 2024-1
Editor — Lou Guay

Greetings fellow CP Pensioners

Hoping everyone is coping well with another Manitoba winter. To be honest, after being spoiled for most of November, December and early January with un-seasonally warm temperatures, returning to normal highs and lows is a challenge. We can take some comfort in the fact it's January, and not August!

In this issue:

Reminder: **start time** for our monthly luncheon meetings has been **changed to 12:00 (noon) - still 2nd Thursday of the month**

After many years of service, Ron Hinkle has stepped down as contact person for the luncheon meetings. Thank you Ron for your dedication and commitment.

Temporary contact for lunch: Lou Guay 204 275 0630
email: WpgCPRPensioners@mail.com
See page 2 for luncheon meeting details.

Email from Robert Cameron, Pensioner Representative -
detailing the 2024 COLA increase, increase, how it was calculated, and who it applies to, and other items of interest. Please read. See pages 4 and 5

2024 Membership Dues - it's that time of year again. Please submit your dues as soon as possible. Membership information and renewal form on page 6.

Email Addresses - if you have not already done, please include your email address with your 2024 membership renewal.
You send your email address to us - See page 2

Help Wanted See page 5

Thoughts on December 31, 2023 a message from Doug Belcher, Branch President.
See page 3



IN MEMORIAM

Since 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 contact Lou Guay @ 204-275-0630 and let him know.

JANUARY 02, 2024 PETER BRUCE WOOD, 75, LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEER, SURVIVED BY LOUAINÉ
JANUARY 08, 2024 QUERINO D'OTTAVIO, 84, CRANE OPERATOR, SURVIVED BY MARIA

NOT A MEMBER, BUT SOME MAY REMEMBER

DECEMBER 05, 2023 JENNIE DUPLAK, 88, WIDOW OF BROWNIE (BROWNSLAW) LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEER

THE COMPANY WIDE IN MEMORIAUM IS FOUND ON LINE AT
[HTTPS://CP-PENSIONERS.COM/NEWS-EVENTS/](https://cp-pensioners.com/news-events/)
(ABOUT HALF-WAY DOWN THE PAGE) PUBLISHED TWICE A YEAR

CP Pensioners Manitoba Branch luncheon meeting

The next will be on Thursday, February 08, 2024 at the
Belgian Club - 407 Provencher Blvd.

Doors open at 11:30, meal served at **12:00** (NEW STARTING TIME)
(earlier if everyone is there)

Cost: 15.00 (fifteen) dollars per person
Members and invited guests.

If you are want to attend, please contact Lou Guay by phone at 204-275-0630
or by e-mail WpgCPRPensioners@mail.com
no later than **noon Friday Feb 02**

No walk-ins please.

For current information about upcoming events, changes and cancellations

- Members who have provided their email addresses will be sent an email.
If you have not already done so, send an e-mail to

WpgCPRPensioners@mail.com.

Please show FULL name and the words "add to mailing list" on the subject line.

- Check our Facebook page - **Manitoba CP Pensioners**

Greetings fellow CPR pensioners,

As 2023 is fast expiring and 2024 is starting, I am thinking back to events in my life that centered on the best career I have ever had - a conductor working in Manitoba and eastern Saskatchewan for the Canadian Pacific Railway.

There are so many people that I worked with and for over the years and as a human I am aware of how events of 30 and 40 years ago are clear in my mind, yet I tend to forget more recent events that happened within the, lets say. 10 years. The railway culture has certainly changed, the largest in my opinion was the introduction of the new CROR (Canadian Rail Operating Rules) that replaced the UCOR(Uniform code of Operating Rules).

Aside from that the railway carries on and I find the best part of the job was the relationship that developed between employees. For example I recall one trip I made to Minnedosa when I was a junior brakeman that I was forced to operate the locomotive when the engineer could not stay awake. At Gladstone I slowed the train down then accelerated so quickly that I shook up the conductor, and he let us know it on the radio! We successfully completed the trip without any further problems. The conductor tore a strip off the engineer. I never did tell anyone what happened as we stayed on the track and all went well

There are so many events that happened over the years, and I don't want to bore anyone with additional tales, so will leave it at that. I am looking forward to 2024 and will be attempting, along with Jim, Karen, Peter, Ron ,Lou and any volunteers that may come forward, to expand our membership and keep our organization alive.

All the best to everyone in 2024! Doug Belcher

Email Addresses - details

Email provides another means of passing on important news, reminders and event changes/cancellations. We anticipate sending out no more than 10 to 12 emails a year.

Your email address will be kept within, and only used by, Manitoba Branch. We will not share it with other Manitoba Branch members, or outside parties!

FYI: moving forward, we are considering using MailChimp, a mass email utility. It offers a cleaner message format, better protects the privacy of email addresses, and meets the spam protection requirements of email providers like MTS, Shaw, etc.

Using it will eliminate delivery failures due to internet provider spam filters deciding the branch email address (the from party) is a spam source!

**CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY PENSION COMMITTEE
PENSION REPRESENTATIVE – ROBERT J.CAMERON**

P.O.BOX 885 Revelstoke B.C. V0E 2S0

E-mail: rjc48@telus.net Tel : 250-837-4248 Cell : 250-837-1083

November 13, 2023

To ALL CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY PENSIONERS ASSOCIATIONS AND THE EXECUTIVE OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CANADIAN PACIFIC PENSIONERS ASSOCIATIONS AND OTHER PENSIONERS.

Greetings to all

This is in reference to the amount of indexing for the year 2024, as of January 1, 2024. The indexing is based on 50% of the 12 month average October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023. **The average is 4.70% and one half equals 2.35%**

To qualify a Retiree must have been retired for at least 5 years and be of age 65 as of December 31, 2023. Indexing is on the first \$ 1,500.00 of your pension. The maximum increase would therefore be \$ 1,500.00 X 2.35% = \$ 35.25 per month, starting with your January 2024 payment.

The calculation for the Annual Consumer Price Index (CPI) effective January 1, 2024 in Article 16.03(2) of the Pension Rules.

Article 16.03(a) **(i)** shows the CPI for October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023 to be 1,870 divided by 1,786.1 equals 1.04725 minus 1 is 4.700% (Rounded) 50 % of change to CPI 4.700% minus 50.00% equals 2.35%

Article 16.03(a) **(ii)** is 3.00% maximum

Article 16.03 (a) **(iii)** is the change from previous year 1,786.1 divided by 1,679.8 equals 1.06328 divided by 1 equals 6.300% (rounded) 100% of Change in CPI (previous year) 6.3000% divided by 100.00% equals 6.30%

The Lesser of (i), (ii), and (iii) equals 2.35% and that is what you get on the first \$ 1,500.00 of your cheque.

In the last year and a half, I have been trying to get the last paragraph of the Article 16.03 deleted and the vote was 4 to 4. When there is a tie the chairman gets a second vote, therefore. it was 5 to 4 against the motion and at a cost of over 25 Million to the fund it was not allowed due to the fiduciary position of the committee.

(continued on page 4)

PENSION REPRESENTATIVE letter - continued....

The pension fund is sitting solvent at 135% plus as of September 30, 2023 and continues to grow and is at 12.444 Billion.

Blue Cross rates for 2024 should be sent to you in the next few months

All members of the Health Spending Account (HSA) should be changed to Sun Life now

If anyone has any questions please contact me and I will try and get your answers if possible as soon as I can

In closing I would like to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy 2024.

Yours sincerely
Robert J. Cameron
Pensioner Representative

On the lighter side: I've reached the age where my train of thought often leaves the station without me.

Help Wanted — UPDATE

Corresponding Secretary - Ron Hinkle is stepping down.

Social Facilitator - due to the passing of Terry Machalek.
Research and propose possible activities for the membership.

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

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

Luncheon Contact Person - Ron Hinkle has stepped down.

Please consider stepping forward and lending a hand. Having a full executive, with new faces, will make us a stronger and more active association. For information, please contact

Doug Belcher at 204 334 2108 or Lou Guay at 204 275 0630

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 Belcher, 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 Merrifield**, 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

Reminder: our membership year runs January 01 to December 31

Canadian Pacific Pensioners' Association Application Form

Name: _____ Spouse's Name: _____

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____ Telephone # _____ Mobile: _____

Email _____ Pension Payroll # _____

Former Trade/Occupation _____ Renewal _____ New _____

PLEASE MAKE CHEQUE PAYABLE TO C.P. PENSIONERS' ASSOCIATION
and forward to



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