

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting  
Duncan & District Branch, National Association of Federal Retirees  
Held at Ramada, Duncan  
On Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2024

Call to order: President Rick Devlieger called the meeting to order at 11:03 am.

Welcome:

Rick welcomed all and acknowledged a first-time attendee.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 7<sup>th</sup> December 2023 were distributed to those in attendance.

**M/S/C (Bronwen Cossey/Karin Laurie) that the minutes be accepted as distributed.**

**Reports**

President's Report:

Rick spoke about several subjects:

Canada Life progress and a PSHCP brief submitted by Association member Pamela White to the parliamentary standing committee looking at the PSHCP found at the following link:

<https://www.ourcommons.ca/Content/Committee/441/OGGO/Brief/BR12792314/br-external/WhitePamela-e.pdf>

Pensioners Dental Plan which is moving from Sun Life to Canada Life on 1<sup>st</sup> November;

The new Canadian Dental Plan and the eligibility requirements;

The Association's Draft Strategic Plan which is renewed and updated every 3 to 5 years;

The plans for the provincial election to be held on or before 21<sup>st</sup> October 2024;

The federal election due to be held on or before 20<sup>th</sup> October 2025; and

Golden – a video on Ageism.

Treasurer's Report:

Bronwen advised that the current bank balance for the branch is \$4,722.81.

Documents were provided to the members on each table.

The reviewed financial statements for the year 2023 showing Loss of \$570.60 were presented.

**M/S/C (Bronwen Cossey/Kathy Pringle) that the financial statements be accepted as presented.**

Also, Bronwen presented the 2024 budget based on 2023 expenses and the Reserves Template for 2023 and explained that as we have no excess funds, we do not have any funds to reserve.

**M/S/C (Bronwen Cossey/John Flannagan) that the Budget for 2024 and the Reserve Template for 2023 and be accepted as presented.**

Programme Report

Kathy noted that plans for a picnic were in progress

Membership Report from George Cossey:

As of today, the Branch has 925 members. In January, we had 929 and in February 924 members.

George noted the importance of knowing when one of our members passes away. The member survey we did in October last year did result in some changes in member data and several letters were returned by Canada Post and, although we are still receiving monthly fee payments vis DDS from some of these members, we do not know their current contact information.

Advocacy Report from Greg Taylor

Greg reported on contacts he has had with other branches on the island, specifically a Zoom meeting with Victoria and an upcoming Zoom meeting with Nanaimo in April.

He is hoping that there will be a meeting for all VI branches to discuss similar issues for the upcoming provincial election. He hopes to receive policy issues from NO in the summer and thinks this will be good practice for the federal election due in 2025.

Greg will be organizing the sending of letters to all candidates in our area outlining the Association's priorities, especially healthcare in BC and Canada..

Greg will be asking for volunteers to assist with advocacy for the upcoming provincial election.

He confirmed that the Labour Day picnic which we attend in Ladysmith with the Nanaimo branch is an excellent opportunity to see local MLAs.

### **Old Business:**

None

### **New Business**

#### Ageism:

There is an excellent video on Ageism which was prepared by Telus and presented to the AMM last year. The link to the video was shown on the agenda.

#### Picnic/Summer Event:

Planning is in process and Drew Bodaly will be making arrangements for this to be held on Salt Spring Island on either 8<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup> August. Details and invitations will be forthcoming.

#### BC District Meeting:

This will be held in Abbotsford from 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> May and Rick and three members of the Executive will attend on behalf of the branch. There will be presentations on governance in the Association, recruitment, the importance of advocacy and the Condominium Home Owners Association of BC will be discussing the recent changes by the provincial government.

#### Annual Meeting of Members:

This will be held in Gatineau from 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> June and Rick will be attending as the BSC which leaves another spot open for someone else to represent the branch.

#### Recognition Awards:

Rick presented certificates and pins to members of the Executive for their volunteer service of 5, 10 or 15 years to the branch.

#### Installation of the Branch Executive:

No new members volunteered to serve on the Executive. Frank Statham installed the following Executive members:

President	Rick Devlieger
Vice-President	Kathy Pringle
Secretary-Treasurer	Bronwen Cossey
Membership	George Cossey
Advocacy	Greg Taylor
Communications	Paul Chmielewski
Health Benefits Officer (VI)	Karin Laurie
Health Benefits Officer (SSI)	Drew Bodaly (in absence)
Programme	Dee Dohm

#### Reviewer for 2024 financial statements:

Lawrence Hogge was accepted as our reviewer for 2024.

No Other Business was brought forward.

There were 42 members in attendance for the meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:40 am by Bronwen Cossey and Shirley Chmielewski.

Originals to be signed by:

---

Bronwen Cossey  
Secretary-Treasurer

Rick Devlieger  
President

Next Meeting: Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 11 am – Ramada Hotel

Speaker – Firesmart

We enjoyed a very informative presentation about wildfires in BC and especially those on Vancouver Island. This included ways to protect your home by being mindful of articles and landscaping close to buildings, the impact of climate changes and drought conditions.