

**Branch Board Meeting Minutes**  
**ZOOM Videoconference**  
**April 6, 2021**

Branch web site <https://www.federalretirees.ca/Bluewater>

Note: decision and action items are in ***bold italic***

**Present -**

President - Chris Hawksworth  
Advocacy Chair - Gloria Cayea  
Treasurer - Diane Kerr  
Director of Membership - Bill Mason  
Outreach Coordinator - Pat Mason  
Recruitment and Engagement Director - Shawn  
Barker  
IT and Web Site Coordinator - Doug Kerr  
Member at Large - Murray Lester  
Secretary - Robert Jackson

**Regrets -**

Member at Large - Georgina MacIssac  
Member at Large - Diana Wright

**President Chris Hawksworth** opened the meeting at 1:00 pm.

***The minutes of the previous meeting (March 2021 Board Meeting) were approved by a show of hands.***

**Diane** gave the Treasurer's update. Diane advised the Branch's GIC maturity date is this July. The Board must decide whether to cash it out, purchase a new GIC or pursue other avenues such as a money market fund. ***Diane will check with National Office to see what, if any, investment options may be available to***

*Final pending approval at next Board Meeting*

**the Branch. Meantime Board members are asked to consider their preferred option for discussion at the May Board meeting.**

**Bill** provided the membership update, noting the Branch currently has of 516 members. **Bill will be following up with four members whose dues are outstanding, and with National Office respecting members who have relocated to the Bluewater Branch's area.**

**Gloria** updated the advocacy initiative, noting over the next two days she will be speaking with MPP Bob Bailey and MPs Marilyn Gladu and Benn Lobb. **Gloria will update National Office's Nancy Gleason as appropriate.**

The meeting then moved on to new business.

**Chris and Doug will set up a test of the AGM's joint Zoom chairing on Friday. Chris** noted the quorum for this AGM has been adjusted downward because of the pandemic.

National has stated: "*Quorum: The branch quorum can be lowered if branches are concerned that they will not be able to meet it because their AGM is virtual this year. It still needs to be advertised in the notice of meeting. Branches are also asked to inform the national office (Lionel Raymond and C.C. Joane Miron) of their quorum. Branches may decide to reduce the quorum otherwise provided in the branch bylaws to a number no less than the greater of the following:*

- o 50% plus one of the branch's current quorum (as of Dec.2020)*
- o Two times the number of members on the branch's board of directors plus one."*

Regrets from Ted Young and Linda MacDonald, Ontario Directors attending. Bruce Challis will be our guest speaker and **Chris will summarize the advocacy update from National Office** (provided by Linda MacDonald)

**Pat** stated 8 letters from our AGM mail-out have been returned and to date efforts to contact these people have been unsuccessful.

**Doug will update the Branch volunteer listing after the AGM.**

**Chris tabled a motion naming Shawn Barker the Branch's Recruitment and Engagement Director. Seconded by Diane and the carried by a show of hands.**

**Shawn** provided an update on his work to date. **Doug will meet with Shawn virtually to provide some guidance on using NAFR's database.**

**Gloria** suggested the Board send a letter of appreciation to Ted Young expressing our appreciation. **Chris undertook to do this.**

**Doug** noted there was a significant uptick in our website views during February. Possible reasons include email blasts from National and our own AGM notification.

Pat requested additional stamps and envelopes for the next mail-out. **Pat is to purchase the necessary supplies and pass the receipt to the Treasurer for reimbursement.**

The Branch requested 50 paper copies of the booklet "You and Your Survivor". **Bill is to check the Branch postal box for delivery.** The document is also available as a PDF on the national website.

The next Board meeting will be held May 3, 2021 at 1300 hrs (1 pm).

Chris adjourned the meeting at 1345 hrs.