

# **CALGARY & DISTRICT BRANCH REPORT**

**President:**  
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Heather Thompson  
Anne Prusakowski

**Health Benefits Officer:**  
Steve Harbicht

**Auditor:**  
Pat Grant

## **Winter 2016/17**

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING and LUNCHEON – Friday April 7, 2017**

**Please arrive at 10:00 am to be seated.**

**Election of Board of Directors and tabling of Annual Financial reports.**

#### **Speakers:**

Following the brief business meeting we will hear from three very interesting speakers: **Roy Goodall**, Vice President of the National Association of Federal Retirees and **David Riffel**, Branch Services Officer for Alberta/NWT will update us on the latest news from the National, District and Provincial levels.

**Dr. Robert J. McKinnon**, CD. PHD, a member of our Branch, will be providing some information regarding the Calgary 55+ Games Association and their upcoming summer games. This organization has been around since the Calgary Winter Olympics. With nearly 1,000 members, their aim is to make members fit – physically, mentally, and emotionally. Perhaps some of us will be motivated to join after hearing this presentation!!!

#### **Meal:**

- Buttermilk scones with butter
- Forest Mushroom soup
- Shepard's Pie
- Plate of homemade dessert tarts and squares
- Freshly brewed coffee and tea

**Remember to reserve a seat by calling the office at 403-265-0773 two to three weeks before the function. We have to pay for the number of meals ordered once we have committed to that number, therefore, if you cannot attend the luncheon, it is very important to please phone the office and cancel five days before the luncheon.**

**\*\*Please remember our Veterans; food donations will be very much appreciated.**

## **Canada 150 Celebrations**

The Calgary and District Branch is celebrating this milestone by reducing Luncheon Fees for 2017 to \$15 from \$25.

## **GENERAL MEETING and LUNCHEON - Friday September 22, 2017**

**Please arrive at 10:00 am to be seated.**

Short business meeting followed by a guest speaker - a representative from MEDOC (our emergency medical travel insurance) who will review the coverage offered by the plan and address any questions or concerns raised by the members.

### **Meal:**

- Warm garlic bread
- Wedge salad
- Pasta Dish
- Plate of homemade dessert tarts and squares
- Freshly brewed coffee and tea

**Remember to reserve a seat by calling the office at 403-265-0773 two to three weeks before the function. We have to pay for the number of meals ordered once we have committed to that number, therefore, if you cannot attend the luncheon, it is very important to please phone the office and cancel five days before the luncheon.**

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## **Pension Indexing Rate for 2017**

At the end of each year, the Treasury Board provides the Association with information on the pension indexing increase that is effective on January 1. The pension indexation rate effective January 1, 2017, is 1.3%.

## Liberals won't tax health and dental benefits, says Justin Trudeau

[http://globalnews.ca/news/3220630/health-dental-benefits-tax-justin-trudeau-liberals/?utm\\_source=Action+Updates&utm\\_campaign=844e1c6b67-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2017\\_02\\_01\\_VictoryNoTaxOnBenefits&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_59605796e2-844e1c6b67-34627853](http://globalnews.ca/news/3220630/health-dental-benefits-tax-justin-trudeau-liberals/?utm_source=Action+Updates&utm_campaign=844e1c6b67-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2017_02_01_VictoryNoTaxOnBenefits&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_59605796e2-844e1c6b67-34627853)

Prime Minister [Justin Trudeau](#) said Wednesday that he will not enact a tax on health and dental benefits. "We are committed to protecting the middle class from increased taxes and that is why we will not be raising [those] taxes," he said during question period

When asked whether Canadians could expect to see that measure in the upcoming budget, Finance Minister Bill Morneau said that the middle class's wellbeing and prosperity is top of mind for the government

"People rely on these [benefits] for prescriptions and much-needed health programs," Conservative Leader Ambrose said earlier this week. "This would leave millions of people potentially without insurance and vulnerable. Trudeau had avoided answering the question directly, saying only the 2017 budget will focus on helping families, and waiting until Wednesday to rule out the option. His denial Wednesday was met with applause after Ambrose said his decision was "good news" for the middle class.

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## Sun Life claims department: Change of address

In 2010, Sun Life's health claims processing departments were consolidated to their Montreal office. To provide faster and more efficient service, Sun Life's Ottawa PO Box will be **closed as of March 31, 2017**. Effective immediately, please mail your completed forms to the address below:

**Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada**  
**PO Box 6192 Stn CV**  
**Montreal QC H3C 4R2**

The address can also be found on printable claim forms by visiting [www.sunlife.ca/pshcp](http://www.sunlife.ca/pshcp). **After March 31, 2017, any claims sent to addresses other than the one listed above will be returned to you.**

## CAF Pension Update

Pension Administration for the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) is moving to the Government of Canada Pension Centre on January 3, 2017, for retired CAF members and their survivors/child(ren). [Learn all about it.](#)

## NAFR Members Information

Please check out our National Association of Federal Employees websites:

National: <https://www.federalretirees.ca/>

Calgary & District Branch: <http://nafrcgyc.ca/>

Please contact our office if you have any inquiries or questions. The volunteer working that day will be happy to help you. Our office is located in room 302, third floor at the Kerby Centre, 1133, 7<sup>th</sup> Ave., Calgary, Alberta, T2P 1B2. Please phone during our business hours, Monday to Friday 10 am to noon at 403-265-0773 or email [fsnacal@telus.net](mailto:fsnacal@telus.net). Please note that our office is closed on all holidays. (During July and August the office will be closed, a volunteer will check our voice mail for messages during that time frame).

## Volunteer Profile:

Jane Rizzoli



Jane is a native Calgarian, her Great Grandfather immigrated to Calgary in 1909 from Lesmahagow, Scotland. In her early career, Jane worked for Triad Oil, Ashland Oil and Union Oil for about 8 years, had two children and then worked for The Calgary Board of Education for 25 years. Her late husband worked for the Federal Government for 40 years first for The Ministry of Transport and with Parks Canada for the remainder of his career.

Jane says it is lovely and rewarding to stay in touch with her colleagues and her husband's colleagues. She enjoys getting out and meeting people and has volunteered at many places. Jane started volunteering for The National Association of Federal Retirees (NAFR) in the Fall of 2016. She has enjoyed working with this group of volunteers and has enjoyed getting to know what this Group has to offer and all the hard work and dedication that is put into taking care of retirees.

As mentioned above Jane has two children, a son and daughter and has been lucky enough to enjoy two gorgeous grandsons.