

BRANCH REPORT

ON36 | Bluewater

CONTACT US

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MEMBERSHIP

The National Association of Federal Retirees, or commonly Federal Retirees, is the largest national advocacy organization representing active and retired members of the federal public service, Canadian Armed Forces, Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) and retired federally appointed judges, as well as their partners and survivors. We believe every Canadian, today and in the future, should benefit from better retirement income security and a strong, sustainable health care system. With your support, we can make retirement better for all Canadians.

President's Message

Good day to Bluewater Branch members,

I truly hope this edition of SAGE finds you all well and safe. Certainly these have been difficult times and I hope they are now behind us.

I know that everyone is looking forward to meeting face to face again, to either enjoy a meal or just chat.

This year at our 2022 AGM, the Branch is looking for new volunteers in certain positions on the Board. This will include someone stepping up as President. I have enjoyed my three years on the Board in this position; however other commitments will take priority for me, thus the need for a new volunteer.

I encourage all members to think about volunteering in 2022.

Stay safe and healthy in 2022.

Sincerely,

Christopher Hawksworth

Branch President

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Bluewater Branch Executive requests nominations for the following Executive position which is up for renewal at the next AGM.

- President.

For more information contact Christopher Hawksworth.

PARTNER BANNER



Treasurer's Report

My Quote for this issue: "Happiness so often grows from a kindness someone shows".

I am writing this at the very beginning of 2022. As I reflect on 2021 I feel fortunate that we were able to see family and friends even in small, safe settings. I'm really hoping for a new and improved 2022!

Our 2020 Year End Financials were well received at the National Office. They appreciated our including our 2019 Finances at our 2020 Annual General Meeting that we held by Zoom. We did not have a 2019 Annual General Meeting because of Covid. Overall they gave us a "Wonderful Job" comment. The Branches finances are in great shape since Covid restricted our usual events. The Board will be looking at sending excess funds to National Office to keep the Branch in the "Not for Profit" designation.

Hopefully we will be able to return to In Person meetings in 2022. It is so much easier to keep in touch with our members when we can get together to share a meal and converse with each other.

Diane Kerr

Treasurer

Recruitment and Engagement Report

As the newest Board member of the Bluewater Branch, I would like to take the opportunity to introduce myself.

My name is Shawn Barker and I was born and raised in Sarnia. After University, I became an Elementary School Teacher in Manitoba for five years before changing careers and joining the RCMP. I had a 31 year career, working across Canada and overseas before retiring in Sarnia.

I joined the Branch early in 2020 and was appointed to my position by the Board at our latest AGM last spring. Unfortunately the same time I joined we were, and still are, in the midst of a global pandemic, which has made face-to-face meetings/activities impossible. I am optimistic normalcy is around the corner, where public engagement can re-occur sometime in 2022.

My primary role as the Volunteer Recruitment and Engagement Director is to ensure that the Board has appropriate volunteer resources to maintain effective operations. This has not been an issue for the past 2 years or so, but hopefully Branch activities can return and flourish in 2022. This is where you, the membership, come in. Most of you have built up certain skills, competencies, and knowledge during your working pre-retirement years and participating in Board activities would be an ideal place to share that experience you gained. Whether it is communications, public speaking, organizing, coordinating, or just helping out, we would love to hear from you. Or if you have any ideas you want to bounce off the Board, feel free to contact me or any other Board member listed at the end of this insert.

Stay safe and hoping to hear from you in the near future.

Shawn Barker

Volunteer Recruitment and Engagement Director.

Web Site and Information Technology Report

Please take a look at our National and Branch Websites. They are full of great information.

- National Site: www.federalretirees.ca
- Branch Site: www.federalretirees.ca/bluewater

Information available on our Branch Web site includes:

- Contact information for our Branch Executive and Board
- Listings for upcoming Branch Events
- Current Sage Branch Inserts (available weeks prior to publishing), as well as past Branch Inserts.

Stay safe during these stressful pandemic times and hopefully we'll all be able to gather with friends and family for a Merry Christmas and wonderful New Year.

Doug Kerr

IT and Web Site Coordinator

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Our Branch membership is still around 500 members. Once again, I ask that if you know of any Federal retiree or potential retiree please let them know about our Association. Or have them contact any member of the Branch executive for further information

2022 membership renewal for DDS (Direct Deduction from Source) members will remain at a monthly payment of \$4.28 for Single and \$5.55 for double. For those that pay annually it will be \$51.36 for singles, and \$ 60.60 for double memberships.

GOOD NEWS for 2022.

1 Pension indexation rate for 2022, is 2.4%

2 On Dec 16th, the Treasury Board launched a general compensation claims process for Phoenix-related damages for retirees and former employees.

Please visit "Federalretirees.ca" for more information.

I hope you and your family stay safe and healthy! Hopefully we can look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our upcoming meetings in the spring 2022!!

Bill Mason

Membership Chairperson

In Memoriam Notices

- Earnie MacDougall

UPCOMING EVENTS

All Membership Meetings and Luncheons are on hold due to COVID-19 pandemic.

Plans for our 2022 AGM will be released when available.

Executive, (Elected)

President - Chris Hawksworth, 519-330-1492 | chawksworthnafr@gmail.com

Vice-President – Gloria Cayea, 519-869-6326

Treasurer - Diane Kerr, 519-869-8824

Director of Membership - Bill Mason, 519-869-8872 | fsna.bluewater@gmail.com

Board Members, (appointed by the Board)

Past President -

Volunteer Recruitment and Engagement Director - Shawn Barker, 519- 331-7126

Program Coordinator - Gloria Cayea, 519-869-6326

Advocacy - Gloria Cayea, 519-869-6326

Outreach Coordinator - Pat Mason, 519-869-8872

IT and Web Site Coordinator - Doug Kerr, 519-869-8824 | nafr.bluewater.kerr@cogeco.ca

Secretary - Bob Jackson, 519-383-6568

Member at Large - Murray Lester, 519-481-0385

Member at Large - Georgina Maclsaac

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