

# 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

Having attended the just-completed Annual Meeting of Members (AMM), I thought it would be a good time to introduce myself to the members of the Bluewater Branch of the National Association of Federal Retirees.

My name is Lawrie Lachapelle. I was elected to the position of President at the Branch Annual General Meeting in April of this year. I retired in 2011 after 37 years of service with the Coast Guard, and Transport Canada in the field of airport management. I joined the Association in 2019, but have held no Volunteer positions in the Bluewater Branch until my election as President.

Assuming the role of President with so little background in the Association has been daunting. I have had to learn about the Association Strategic Plan, Core Functions, By-Laws, and issues facing the Bluewater Branch. This has been made easier by the experienced and knowledgeable members of our Board, whose advice and assistance has been invaluable.

What have I learned?

- The importance of membership in influencing issues of importance to the Association.
- The importance of good leadership in representing the Association and its objectives.
- The importance of VOLUNTEERS in leading the Branch. .

The Board has recognized the need to keep members informed and engaged as we move forward this year. Your contributions as members – participation, volunteering and ideas – are needed and welcomed.

Lawrie Lachapelle

*Branch President*

PARTNER BANNER



## Treasurer's Report

My Quote for this issue: "Kind people are my Kind of people".

I'm back! I am your treasurer for another year. But, our Branch is looking for a new Treasurer. To learn what is involved in this position someone could "shadow" me until our next AGM in April 2023. I have held this position since 2016. Interested? Call me! Special thanks to Bill Steyn for giving it a try.

Our finances are in great shape and we are keeping within our voted on Budget. Covid meant we had a couple of years with no in person events. Now we are able to get together again. Come join us!

I hope everyone had a great summer and enjoyed all our area offered.

Diane Kerr

*Treasurer*

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Let's take a moment to remember the 25 + Bluewater Branch members who have passed away in the past few years. Many due to the Covid. Our Branch membership is still over 500 members. Once again I ask that if you know of any Federal retiree or potential retiree please let them know about our Association. There are good suggestions on recruitment on the last page of the summer 2022 Sage magazine! Or have them contact any member of the Branch executive for further information. Phone numbers and e mail addresses for the executive can be found on the last page of this insert. More information can also be found on the National Association web site as well.

Now that the Covid 19 pandemic is in the rear view mirror, and hopefully it stays there, the Bluewater Branch Board is planning on having 2 "in person" general meetings this fall. One in the Grand Bend area on Sept 21. Details are still in the planning stage. Our Christmas meeting will be on November 30 at Branch 62, Sarnia Legion.

Please feel free to contact me with any membership concerns or information as necessary.

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 this fall.

Bill Mason

*Membership Chairperson*

## Web Site and Information Technology Report

If you have not provided your email address to NAFR please do. It will enable your Branch and/or the Association to contact you quickly and efficiently.

**NAFR will always respect your privacy; we never rent, sell or share your information with any other organization. Period.**

Your Communication Preferences can easily be configured to receive only the emails you desire. These can be set by “Logging In” to “My Account” on the National or Branch web sites. I and National Office would be glad to help with this if you like.

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

- National Site: [www.federalretirees.ca](http://www.federalretirees.ca)
- Branch Site: [www.federalretirees.ca/bluewater](http://www.federalretirees.ca/bluewater)

Doug Kerr

*IT and Web Site Coordinator*

## Outreach Coordinator

As Outreach Coordinator, my goal is to make sure every Bluewater Branch member is informed about General Meetings, and any Social events. If any member or you know of a member who is not getting contacted, please feel free to contact myself, Pat Mason at 519-869-8872.

Pat Mason

*Outreach Coordinator*

## In Memoriam Notices

- Robert B. Stennett
- Robert Grass
- Joan Muir
- Gord Webb
- Charles Bourgeois

**UPCOMING EVENTS****Luncheon and Recruitment Event**

Tentatively scheduled for September 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Christmas Luncheon and Recruitment Event**

Scheduled for November 30<sup>th</sup>.

Check [www.federalretirees.ca/bluewater](http://www.federalretirees.ca/bluewater), emails and snail mail from your Branch for updates.

Here's hoping COVID will not get in the way of either of these.

**Executive, (Elected)**

**President** – Lawrie Lachapelle, | [bluewaterbranch@federalretirees.ca](mailto:bluewaterbranch@federalretirees.ca)

**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](mailto:fsna.bluewater@gmail.com)

**Board Members, (appointed by the Board)**

**Past president** - Chris Hawksworth,

**Secretary** - Bob Jackson, 519-383-6568

**Volunteer recruitment and engagement director** - To be determined

**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

**Member at large** - Murray Lester, 519-402-0954

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