

BRANCH REPORT

NL87 | Avalon-Burin Peninsula Branch

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MEMBERSHIP

The National Association of Federal Retirees, or commonly **Federal Retirees**, is the largest 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

To: All members Avalon - Burin Branch NL87

The Board of Directors and I feel it is timely to provide you with a further COVID-19 update.

Due to COVID-19 concerns and to protect the health of our members, all Avalon-Burin Branch in-person meetings and social events planned for 2020 have been cancelled. This applies to all Branches across Canada and the National Office as well. Our Branch Annual Members Meeting (AMM) for 2020 has also been cancelled. The 2021 AMM will deal with outstanding issues from 2020.

As a result of fewer meetings and social activities, we anticipate a significant surplus in our Branch operating funds for the 2020 fiscal year.

Many of you subscribe to MEDOC travel insurance. Johnson Insurance has extended MEDOC Policies free of charge until December 31, 2020. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your MEDOC coverage, you can contact a Johnson Representative at 1-866-606-3362.

The National AMM for 2020 will be held virtually this year using ZOOM technology on Dec 2, 2020. I will be participating in this meeting. The availability of ZOOM Technology has allowed our Branch Board of Directors and the National Board of Directors to continue meeting as scheduled. As a result of this technology, it has been possible to carry on some of the normal business of our Organization. At the National level, considerable Advocacy work has been done through virtual contact with MP's and Ministers on behalf of our members.

Although COVID-19 has restricted many of our normal business



BOARD AND VOLUNTEER LISTINGS

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John Baker	Burin Peninsula
Trudy Power	RCMP
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John Powell	Canadian Forces
Richard Sparkes	Director at Large

activities, our Organization continues to be strong and optimistic and to look for new ways of doing things in our current environment. In the post COVID-19 world, it is possible that we will see increased pressures come to bear on our Pension and Health Benefits. Thus, the need for us to be strong going forward has never been more important than now.

So far this year, our Branch has experienced a decline in our membership numbers. Perhaps with all that is going on around us, some of you may have forgotten to renew your membership. If our Organization is to continue to be a strong advocate for the protection of your Pension and Health Benefits, it is important that we continue to grow our membership. Please check to ensure that your membership has not expired.

I know that many of us miss our in-person meetings and social events and the opportunity to meet and chat with friends and former colleagues. We look forward to doing so once again as soon as we are past this crisis.

Meanwhile, stay safe and healthy.



Walter Combden
Branch President

