

## BC09 BOD MEETING MINUTES

March 5, 2024

We acknowledge that this meeting is taking place on the Traditional Lands of the Lekwungen-speaking Peoples, the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations.

**Location:** Royal Canadian Legion Branch 292, Time: 9:36 a.m.  
411 Gorge Road East, Victoria, B.C.

**In Attendance:** James Dallimore, Patricia Francis, Jennifer Furry, Anne Jolicoeur, Elizabeth (Libby) MacRae, Shirley Roberts, David Stinson. Gordon Usipiuk, J. Ray Webber

**Quorum:** Yes

**Guests:** Bennie Wong, Erika Kanczula

**Approval of Agenda:** Agenda was approved after an error in the date for the District Conference in Abbotsford was changed to the correct date which is May 6 - 8th, 2024.

**M/ Libby S/ David Carried**

Approval of Minutes: February 6, 2024, meeting

**M/ Libby S/ Jim Carried**

### 1. REPORTS

#### A. PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Libby

An RFP concerning the need for an analysis of the current Association structure and research on alternative structures was to be released in February. The board appointed five of six district representatives to the special committee on Association structure Feb. 13; report to the board expected before a presentation at the 2025 AMM.

The first draft of a new Strategic plan was approved by the board and will be circulated to branches for comments by end of the month. The plan will be discussed by branches during their respective district meetings.

A benchmarking study is being conducted of the PDSP dental services vs new government of Canada dental plan which was recently announced.

We were reminded by NO about Reach 338. A federal election is expected in or before October, 2025, and we need to meet as many MPs as possible this year.

HearingLife, one of our Association's Preferred Partner, would like to engage with Federal Retirees at local event opportunities and have various educational topics for presentation.

NO has advised that all unsolicited survey requests by third-parties will be declined as such requests can be resource intensive for NO and not directly contribute to the Association's core mandate.

Sage would like to interview any of our members who are over 100 years old. The contact information is contained in the request.

There is a virtual pre-retirement course scheduled for B.C. April 8-11, 2024.

**B. TREASURER'S REPORT:** Anne

At the end of December, 2023, the Branch had total equity (net assets) of \$152,907.97. \$94,500.00 of the total equity has been allocated to Reserved Equity and the remaining left as Unreserved Equity of \$58,407.97. Excess Surplus Funds will be confirmed by National Office after their review of the Branch Annual Report and the decision will need to be made regarding the allocation of the excess to national reserves. The pros and cons of EFT were discussed. Two approval signatures for expenses and invoices will be required by the Board, one of which will be the Treasurer, except when the expenses are those of the Treasurer.

**C. ADVOCACY:** Gordon/Libby

Gordon and Libby attended a zoom meeting on Feb. 12, 2024, with APO, Renate Sutherland, Rick and Greg (Duncan) and agreed upon a plan for the next year. Victoria branch will send letters to three MPs and will meet with at least one or two MPs, probably Elizabeth May and Laurel Collins. A meeting probably will not be arranged with Randall Garrison as he is not currently planning to run again. Duncan branch will be the lead for Alistair MacGregor and will copy Victoria branch on correspondence and meeting invitations.

There was also a meeting on February 27 (slides and recording available) to discuss the upcoming October 2024 BC election at which branches could provide details of their advocacy plans. There was a proposal to host an in-person provincial townhall which could be viewed from other branch locations. It was mentioned that our branch has responsibility for 8 of the 9 electoral districts on Southern Vancouver Island; the ninth shared with Duncan. There was agreement on the local issues: Access to primary care and long-term care, access to home care and wait times. NO will provide election materials in September. Discussion ensued regarding how we would present our concerns to our MLAs. This is to be discussed further.

**D. HEALTH BENEFITS:** Shirley/David

Some of our members who are permanently living outside the Province are having difficulties as some claims have not received any action for more than six months.

**E. MEMBERSHIP:** Ray

Nothing to report at this time.

**F. RECRUITMENT:** All

Nothing to report at this time.

**G. SPEAKERS PROGRAM:** Patricia

Joan Wallace will be our speaker at the AGM, but Patricia has not booked anything after that. Gordon mentioned he had been in contact with HearingLife who offered to attend and speak at a meeting. He confirmed with Patricia that the October meeting would be a good time to schedule them; he will pursue and advise Patricia when confirmed.

**H. PREFERRED PARTNER PROGRAM:** Gordon

Nothing to report at this time.

**I. WEBSITE:** Anne

Nothing to report at this time.

## 2. OLD BUSINESS

### A. Summer Sage – Libby

Libby will prepare an update. We have been doing 4 two-page inserts for Sage (rather than 2 four-page inserts) and it was agreed that we would continue with the 4 two-page inserts (we pay for two inserts). Gordon is working on updating our preferred partners and perhaps they could be included in the report.

### B. AGM – Libby

Libby once again welcomed Benny and Erika to our meeting and noted that Erika has offered to put forward her name as a Treasurer. Anne will make the change on the agenda and post on the website.

The list of duties carried out by each Director was prepared and distributed by Anne and it was decided that after the AGM we would go through the list of duties, make sure we have captured all of them, and ensure we are comfortable with assigned responsibilities or make changes as needed.

Anne and Patricia have gift cards and will bring them to the AGM.

Maxine Clark who reviewed the 2023 financial statements indicated that she is willing to do the same for 2024.

### C. District Conference – Libby

Libby has confirmed that our delegation will be arriving on the Sunday. Libby, Patricia and Benny will be attending.

### D. AMM June 18-20, 2024, at the Hilton Lac Leamy Hotel in Gatineau – Libby

Unfortunately, there is no option to attend virtually. Libby and Jennifer are planning to attend.

## 3. NEW BUSINESS

### A. September General Meeting

Meeting is scheduled for September 10, 2024.

### B. Provincial Election Planning - Libby

As discussed earlier.

### C. Board organization and assigned tasks - Libby

As discussed earlier.

## 4. ROUNDTABLE:

- Paul Seguna would be interested in taking a group around the CFB Esquimalt Naval Museum at Naden.
- Shirley mentioned that we once had 50/50 draws at our meetings and feels that not holding them may be one of the reasons our attendance has fallen.
- It was confirmed that our membership dues are not eligible to be claimed as a deduction on income tax.

**UPCOMING BOD MEETINGS:** April 2, and June 4.

**NEXT GENERAL MEETING:** March 12, 2024

**ADJOURNMENT:** At 11:07 am                      M/ Libby                      S/ Jennifer                      Carried