

Winnipeg and District branch, MB31

Fall 2024 Newsletter

President's message

Welcome to the Winnipeg and District Branch. I am honored to be the president of this dynamic branch. Our branch is the largest in Manitoba with over 6000 members. Many of our members reside in Winnipeg with the remaining spread over a very large geographic area which goes as far north as Churchill, Manitoba.

Our branch places a high priority on keeping our members informed. To this end, we have two general meetings per year in April and November and we endeavor to have a minimum of one or two speaker series sessions per year. We also produce a branch newsletter in the spring and fall each year. Our website is updated regularly and includes a lot of information such as dates and times of meetings, offerings by preferred partners, and special activities and events that are geared to the interests of our membership

Following our branch AGM in April 2024, we had a very successful Speakers Series in October 2024 and our in-person meeting was held in November 2024. We have some new volunteers to be part of our branch board members. Here they are, as per elected in April 2024:

Lionel Guerard – President
Paula Nygaard – Vice-President
Don MacKay – Secretary
Eveline Beriault – Treasurer
Eldren Thuen – Membership
Glen Armstrong - Manitoba and Winnipeg APO
Louise Jutras -- Media
Ceci O'Flaherty - Past President

We are looking for volunteers who are interested in occupying a temporary position and/or chairing a committee to better provide activities and information to our Branch members. Please contact us with your suggestions to help our Branch.

Happy Holidays everyone. We hope that you all have a wonderful year and that you are ready for the cold season ahead and the many holidays' celebrations with family members and friends.

Branch Elections – April 2025

At the AGM in April 2025, we will be holding elections to fill the following positions:

Director of Communication

Responsible for the contents, preparation, and sending of the e-blast messages, newsletters, notices of special meetings and events to the National Office for distribution to all of our Branch members.

Director of Education

Responsible of the planning of the “Speakers Series”; the documentation preparation of the Board members’ Orientation and Training session scheduled in the spring of every year; the searching for future speakers to our general meetings; and the arranging for space and refreshments (including luncheons).

Director of Media

Responsible for the maintaining our social media presence, posting information on our branch website (meeting minutes, upcoming events, etc...); preparing and presentation slides shows to our meetings; and working with other organizations to offer to our members various events and/or goods at a discounted rate.

Director of Material

Transportation and setup of audio/visual equipment including projectors, screens, microphones, banners and any other equipment or materials to conduct meetings, learning events, public relation events or any other board endorsed activities.

If you are interested in any of those four Board member positions, please feel free to contact us for more information. In the meantime, if you would like to be involved in any of our Branch activities or to chair a given committee, you are invited to join us during one of our Board meetings as a guest.

Annual General Meeting – April 9, 2025

Our next annual general meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 9, 2025. You will receive an emailed e-blast to provide you with the details of this meeting. A reminder will also be emailed to you later.

The location will be the Masonic memorial Centre (420 Corydon Avenue). The doors will open at 11:30am and the buffet-type meal will be served at 12:00pm followed by the meeting at 1pm.

Members must register by email for this event at winnipeg@federalretirees.ca

You can invite one guest (eligible to become a member) to attend this meeting; this invitation is offered to future members of our Branch. Only the registered members will be able to vote in the Elections portion of this meeting.

Golf Tournament

We would like to invite you to visit our Branch webpages where pictures of the previous two golf tournaments (2023 & 2024) have been posted for your viewing. We could also offer copies of the pictures upon request. Visit our branch website under “Branch Activities and Events”.

For 2025, our Winnipeg & District Golf Tournament will return to the “Scotswood Golf” on Wednesday August 13, 2025. Mark your calendar and reserve a place for your team registration.

Special Event: Town Hall for the Expected Federal Election

In anticipation of a Federal Election in 2025, our Branch is planning a Town Hall to give you an opportunity to meet candidates and to ask some questions.

Once we know more about dates and locations, we will contact you and inform you of such a meeting so get ready with your concerns and questions which you can provide them to us, in advance, at: winnipeg@federalretirees.ca

Advocacy in Winnipeg & District Branch

We are looking for volunteers to continue our work.

The Winnipeg & District Branch of NAFR represents more than 6,000 active and retired members of the federal public service, Canadian Armed Forces, Royal Canadian Mounted Police and retired federally appointed judges, their partners and survivors. Our association has a proud history of advocacy on behalf of our members and Winnipeg & District Branch will continue this tradition of strong, smart advocacy campaigns to protect our members’ earned pensions and benefits.

Federal Retirees has four Advocacy priorities, and we need to continue to work with Members of Parliament, Members of the Legislative Assembly in Manitoba and Municipal Elected Officials to promote those priorities:

- Retirement income security
- National seniors’ strategy
- Veteran well-being
- Pharmacare

If you have an interest in meeting with our elected officials and you would like to be part of the Advocacy Team, please contact Glenn Armstrong at garmstrong@federalretirees.ca or leave a message at 204-989-2061.

Future Branch Events & Meetings

#	Meeting/Event	Date	Attendance
1	Board of Directors Meeting	Wednesday December 11, 2024	BOD members
2	Board of Directors Meeting	Wednesday January 15, 2025	BOD members
3	Speakers Series	Wednesday February 19, 2025	Members
4	Board of Directors Meeting	Wednesday March 15, 2025	BOD members
5	Annual General Meeting	Wednesday April 9, 2025	Members
6	Board's Orientation/Training	Wednesday-Friday April 23-25, 2025	BOD members
7	Golf Tournament	Wednesday August 13, 2025	Members + guests

Local Preferred Partners

We are looking for your assistance to identify and contact some organizations to obtain discounted rates to our NAFR members in Manitoba.

Other Manitoba branches were successful in identifying some organizations that offered either a service, an event, or a good at reduced costs to our NAFR members in Manitoba. We would like to invite you to visit our website for more information

Contact Us

By mail (post office box)

NAFR Winnipeg & District Branch
Box #526 - 3336 Portage Ave.
Winnipeg MB R3K 2H9

By phone (Winnipeg area)

(1-) 204-989-2061 (voice messenger only)

By e-mail

*new email (effective April 3, 2024): winnipeg@federalretirees.ca

Our Branch webpages:

<https://www.federalretirees.ca/en/branches/manitoba/winnipeg-district-branch>