



National Association of Federal Retirees  
North Island – John Finn Branch (BC06)  
Executive Meeting  
06 October 2015 - Comox Legion

Bill called the meeting to order at 1300 hours.

**Present:**

Bill Turnbull - President	Deb Yelf - Welfare
Kathi Brown - Vice President	Kevin Weighill - Newsletter
Cecile Turnbull – Programs	Clint Halfkenny – HBO
Edith Kelly – Secretary	Marjorie Arnold – Director

**Absent:**

Serge Gosselin - Treasurer	Steve Bunyan - Membership
Dale Dean – History	Norma Dean – Telephone Coordinator

**Agenda:** M/S the amended meeting agenda. Carried.

**Minutes:** From 1 Sep 2015, under Telephone Report: Add Kathi Brown’s name as she also offered to make calls. Moved, seconded and approved as amended.

**Committee Reports:**

**Treasurer:** Serge was absent; however he left his report as of 30 September 2015. The branch savings and cash accounts totalled \$48,034.23. Income for the period 01 January to 30 September 2015 was \$20,631.86 and expenses were \$15,444.98, resulting in a surplus of \$5,186.88. Not all the members who said they were coming to the 9 September General Meeting luncheon showed up. It is well advertised that one must pay for the meal if one does not show up or let Norma know in advance. Bill will send a letter to the members who were no-shows at the last luncheon.

**Membership:** Bill checked the CRM which showed a slight membership increase to 2218 members from 2177. He believes this is the result of a recruiting drive mailing to Canadian Forces members. Mailouts to the RCMP will be next and to the Public Service at some future time.

**Newsletter:** Kevin advised that the deadline for the next newsletter is November 4<sup>th</sup>. Aji Fliss has taken out a full page ad for \$100. Inputs for the Sage magazine should be passed to Kevin by early December.

**Benefits:** Clint reports he has not received a phone call in three months. He continues to receive almost daily e-mails from National Office.

**Programs:** Cecile reported that only 76 Christmas luncheon tickets have been sold to date. Kevin will print the Christmas luncheon info in the next newsletter. We might also have to make a few phone calls.

**Communications:** Our website fsnavin.ca has been replaced by nijf.ca. We used to have 2 GB of storage @ \$14.00, we now have 10 GB for just over \$7.00. The old domain name is valid until the end of the year and ‘Go Daddy’ will automatically redirect to the new site. Bill will contact the website developer to get the ‘unsubscribe’ link working again.

Sitecore. The National site must be having some problems because it hasn’t yet gone online. It is there and you can get into it if you know how but it hasn’t replaced fsna.com. It will be [www.federalretirees.ca](http://www.federalretirees.ca) when it goes online.

**Welfare:** Deb reported we have lost seven members since June.

**Telephone:** Absent.

**History:** Absent.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Name Tags:** Bill passed out the new Executive name tags. There was a discussion about offering the members a chance to purchase their own name tags at a cost of around \$6.00 for a pin back or \$8.00 for a magnetic back. It will added to the next General meeting agenda.

**Volunteer Pins:** Bill still has a few of the general volunteer pins. He has ordered some more for the telephoners, but has not received them yet.

**Remembrance Day Wreaths:** Marjorie will order a wreath for Comox, Edith will order wreaths for Courtenay and Cumberland and Kevin will order a wreath for Campbell River. They should be marked "National Association of Federal Retirees" and can be pre-laid.

**December General Meeting:**

- Cecile will purchase the gifts. Kevin and Deb will help wrap them.
- Marjorie will sell the 50/50 tickets.
- Edith will give out tickets to anyone who brings a donation for the Food Bank.
- Steve will be Santa.
- Serge will be asked to pick up totes from the Food Bank for the food donations.

There will be a reminder in the newsletter that anyone making a cash donation to the Food Bank should put it in an envelope showing their name and address. Any amount over \$20.00 is eligible for a tax receipt.

**Guest Speakers.** A member of the Courtenay Fire Dept will make a presentation at the March meeting. Isobel McKenzie, BC Seniors Advocate (or someone from her office) will be invited to the June meeting. In September Aji Fliss will speak about her travel packages and Deb Dewar from Packables will give a presentation on how to pack small.

**Election 2015.** Bill wrote to eight candidates, four in each riding. He received replies from both Liberal candidates and met with them, an automated response was received from Gord Johns with no follow up, and nothing was heard from Rachel Blaney. Bill received a personal call from John Duncan and met with him, Kevin O'Toole and Laura Smith. Bill will e-mail any further information to the members.

**Membership Fees 2016.** The membership fees are going up approximately 4%. The increase was approved at the AMM in June. A single member will now pay \$39.84 and a double membership will be \$51.72.

**Teleconference.** There was a two hour conference call between two National directors, Al Heinrich and Brian Strongman, and all the Branch Presidents on 21 Sep 2015. Discussions included whether or not professional lobbyists should be hired rather than relying on National staff (several of whom are registered lobbyists). The new Chair would like more feedback from the Presidents and they, in turn, would like better reports on what happens at NBOD meetings. It would seem that the Presidents aren't too happy about the money being spent on the volunteer recognition program as they feel the branches already look after that. It was also felt we have spent too much money on the legal challenge to back out now. The effectiveness of Sage magazine was also discussed.

**Announcements:** None.

**Next Executive Meeting – 3 November 2015**

**Adjournment.** The meeting adjourn at 1410 hours.

*Edith Kelly, Secretary*

*Bill Turnbull, President*