

FEDERAL SUPERANNUATES NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

GENERAL MEETING - NORTH ISLAND BRANCH

September 16, 1998 - Coast Westerly Hotel

The meeting was called to order by the President, Al Dawber. He spoke to us about the Convention. The new President is Rex Guy from Halifax and Claude Edwards would be the Past President so long as Mr. Guy is in the chair. He named several others of the National Executive and told us that it had been a very well organized Convention, busy but not frantic. He also said that the revised PSHCP booklets would not be available now until the new year. The person who was doing it has accepted a new position and someone else will have to finish the job.

Medoc now has over 11,000 policy holders and Johnson's will be asking us to complete a survey with regard to the home and automobile insurance they are preparing to offer. They are also looking into a volunteer Group Life Insurance.

Al asked for approval of the minutes as presented. A question came from the floor regarding the 'surplus' in the Pension fund. Al said that the FSNA is trying to get a dental plan or better pension and spousal plans to try to recover some of the surplus. Another question was asked about the possibility of transferring some of the surplus in the Pension Funds to the Health Fund. This had been considered but was deemed unfair in that a lot of people receiving from the Health Fund were not contributing to the Pension Fund. It was moved by Bryan and seconded by Ralph that the minutes be approved. Carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a. Treasurer: Tom Dandeno reported as follows:

Balance as at December 31, 1997	\$ 7335.02
Revenue	6396.79
Expenditures	<u>5809.77</u>
<u>Balance as at September 15, 1998</u>	<u>\$ 7922.04</u>

The "On Guard" expenses for June have not been billed and should be about \$200.00. The funds advanced to the Convention delegates for out of pocket expenses to obtain low rate air fares and to prepay Ottawa expenses will, in large part, be repaid. A new delegate expense plan adopted by National Office since 1995 will pay 95% of the transportation amount and subsidize other expenses. Tom expects a repayment of about \$1,000.00.

He also told us that the branch pays the postage for the "On Guard" which is about \$1,000.00 per year. There is no charge for inclusion of the insert but by the time we get it, the information is out of date. We have been considering producing our own newsletter of about 8 pages, possibly twice a year, and mailing it directly to the membership. We would not get special Postal rates because of the variation in the Postal Codes.

He said that approximately 4,000 pension checks are mailed to the Comox Valley each month and asked everyone to recruit as many as possible. Numbers mean a lot when it comes to dealing with the Government. Every two years, an enclosure with information about FSNA and a membership application form are sent to pensioners. Those who are having their dues deducted at source will not receive the enclosure but all other pensioners will. We now have a membership of over 100,000 and the fact that the Senior's Benefit Plan has been cancelled is in large part due to pressure from FSNA.

b. Media: Ron Mitchell said that the newsletter is quite possible and the main thing would be to have content relevant to the membership. He is getting copies of newsletters from other groups and has asked

for input from the membership so that we would have an idea what should be included.

c. Welfare: Velda reported that she had sent out two sympathy cards. One of them was to Claude Edwards, whose wife died September 29.

d. Programs: Ann welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked if the food provided met with our approval. The applause indicated that it did.

She also said that the Telephone Committee was made up of 20 regulars and 5 spares. She has found that she needs a few more spares to fill in for those who are absent. She asked that anyone who wished to volunteer see her after the meeting.

e. Membership: Membership as at September 15, 1998 was:

Members	541	Spouses/Partners	285	Total	826
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All members are either paid up or are paying through pension deductions.

Tom told us of some of the problems the PSHCP has to contend with. When Sun took over from Mutual, Sun started getting a lot of complaints. An investigation took place and it was found that Mutual was paying for things that were not claimable. Also, there is no Government funding formula in place. The Plan never knows what the allotment will be. We are trying to do something about that.

Tom was also on the Finance Committee and told us there was no increase in the budget. The dues payment to the National Office from the Branches is a set amount and has not changed but the Public Works Department, which handles the dues deducted at source, has equipment which cannot handle a large variety of DDS payments so they have standardized at \$30.00 for singles and \$40.00 for spousal. As we don't need extra money, he is proposing that those members who pay locally and who pay before December 31, 1998 be given the 1999 Membership at the old rate. Any changes to the Dues Deducted at Source amounts will be made automatically. Tom moved that the dues set at the National Convention be accepted as proposed. Ron Mitchell seconded. Carried.

The Branch should receive two copies of the written record of the Convention and they will be available for those who wish to read them.

A suggestion was made that we should offer subsidies for first year memberships. Al said that would be considered.

Our guest speaker was Dennis McMahon, Comox Valley Community Health Council. He told us of the aims and mandate to improve the health of the people in the community. There are two committees:

1. Health Planning Group - which studies the resources required
2. Capital Planning Advisory Committee.

He said the Valley requires an Orthopedic Surgeon and a Gynecologist and efforts are being made cover these. It was a very informative presentation and enjoyed by all.

Al said the deadline for inclusion in the insert is October 29, 1998, The winners of the draws were:

Madeline Blythe	Janice Hamilton	Joy Barker	John Davis
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John spoke to us regarding the SCAN program and stressed that membership numbers are very important in pressuring the Government for pension protection, spousal benefits, etc.

Al warned us about a new "servicing" telephone scam and reminded us that the next meeting will be held on December 2, 1998.

Ann Hallam moved the meeting be adjourned.

DML