

# FSNA Quarterly Newsletter

## Nanaimo & Area Branch

October 2011

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**Pres. Rene Marchand addresses the September 22, 2011 meeting at the Tigh-Na-Mara Resort in Parksville.**

**Next Meeting - Nanaimo**

**Date / Time: November 25, 2011 at 11:00 AM, doors open at 10:00 AM**

**Location:** Coast Bastion Inn, 11 Bastion St., Nanaimo, B.C.

**Directions:** The Coast Bastion Hotel is located on the corner of Front Street and Bastion Street in Nanaimo. There is a two level parking garage adjacent to the hotel with access off of Front Street. Access to the Ballroom is easiest from the elevator closest to Front Street. This elevator can be accessed from both parking floors.

**Meeting / Lunch:** The meeting will be held in the Ballroom, doors will open at 10:00 AM. Coffee will be available at 10:00. There will be a short business meeting followed by a presentation concluding at about 12:15. A buffet lunch will be served at 12:30. The lunch will be a full Turkey Dinner. Cost, including gratuities and tax, will be \$18.00 per person payable at the door on arrival.

**Guest Speaker: TBA**

**Reservations / Cancellations:** Your local FSNA volunteer will phone you to ask whether you plan to attend the lunch. If you confirm your attendance, please be aware of our cancellation policy. The Branch is required to pay for all meals ordered on your behalf; therefore, if you subsequently are unable to attend, you must cancel your reservation to avoid being charged for the meal. To cancel or add a person, please call **Susanne Body at 250-729-9588**. The last date for cancellation to avoid billing is **Thursday, November 17**.



**Don't Forget to Wear Your Name Tag!**



## **FSNA Nanaimo & Area Branch General Meeting - 22 September, 2011**



President Rene Marchand called the meeting to order at 11:00 AM. There were 182 members in attendance. New members and those attending for the first time, were asked to stand and give their names.

Minutes of the General Meeting held 16 June 2011 at The Bayside Hotel, Parksville, BC were circulated. Moved for acceptance: Bob Hoogerbrug Seconded: Bob Willis Carried.

### **Programs - Al Tully**

Al gave a "big" thanks to the reception ladies. He reported that the November General Meeting has been moved from The Grand to the Coast Bastion and will take place on November 25, 2011 - this is a **Friday** not Thursday. The Grand does not have enough space to accommodate our Christmas GM.



**Al Tully reported from his seat as he had a leg injury.**

The AGM will be held at The Grand - March 22, 2012. The Volunteer Lunch was slated for the 256 Legion but as of 28 September, this luncheon is now moved to the Cavallotti Lodge on East Wellington Road. The meal will still be prepared by the Good Cooking Guys. Report moved for acceptance by Bob Willis Seconded by: Ken Jones Carried.

### **Health & Benefits**

Rick Neugebauer has resigned his membership in the FSNA. He will be sorely missed.

### **Newsletter** - Ian Williams

The Newsletter is now posted at: [www.fsna-nanaimo.org](http://www.fsna-nanaimo.org). If you have suggestions for content or improvements to the newsletter please email Ian Williams.

### **Hospital Visits** - Harold Goodman



Nil report for Parksville/Qualicum.

Harold also announced that name tags are available for \$8.00/each. He requires payment in advance. He noted that he has trouble tracking down some

members that order name tags. Florence Milburn not present at GM.

### **Telephone/Records** - Leroy Wood

Leroy explained the set up of the Telephone/Records section. There is 1 Director, 7-8 Phone Captains and 68 -70 Phoners. At this time 7 Phoners have resigned so replacement volunteers are needed. Specifically 2 for Parksville, 2 for Nanaimo and some for backup.



Report moved for acceptance by Al Tully, seconded by Duncan Dunsmore. Carried.

### **Volunteers Needed**

Rene reported that he is still looking for a Vice-President, a Health and Benefits Director and an Assistant Health and Benefits Director as well as Phoners. Anyone interested please complete the Volunteer sheets on the tables or see any member of the Executive.

### **Marriage after 60**

Those interested in pursuing this issue contact Sharon Whalen at 250-758-7012.

### **Tri-Regional Conference** -

President Rene, Bob Hoogerbrug and Ian Williams attended this in Victoria, B.C.



**BC Tri-Regional Conference 2011 - September 12<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup>, 2011**  
**“(Constantly) Improving Communications”**



Presidents from the 15 BC Branches, Provincial Advocacy Officers, Territory Advocacy Officer, RSOs and ND



**John Finn**, National Director, BC welcomed delegates and noted that this meeting involved a number of “firsts”:

- the first meeting of the three regions in BC concurrent with a meeting of the National Board of Directors;
- the first such regional meeting to feature presentations by several staff members of the National office; and
- the first time a representative of FSNA members in the Yukon has been in attendance: Joanne Oberg, the new Territorial Advocacy Officer for the Yukon.

**John Finn**

John encouraged delegates to participate; the success of this meeting and the feedback from delegates will determine the frequency and format of future meetings.

**Vera Yuzyk** – Advocacy Strategies – Communicating with Your MP

Vera spoke about the rate of Branch participation in FSNA’s advocacy strategy dur-

ing the May 2011 federal election. BC’s performance was “best” overall:

- 86% of Branches (13/15) participated by sending letters and meeting face-to-face with candidates;
- **Contacts were made in 34 of BC’s 37 federal ridings;**
- Of 370 total letters/emails sent nationally, BC sent 118;
- Of 66 meetings held nationally, BC was responsible for 26.

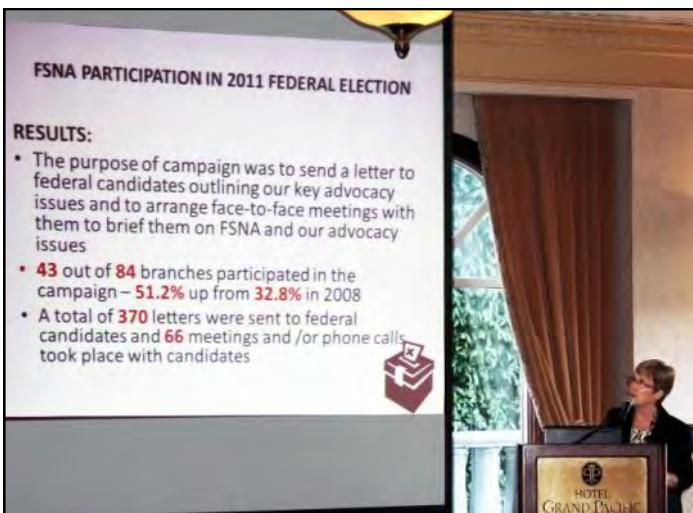
Nationally, the Branch participation rate was just over 50%, an improvement, but it still leaves a long way to go. Impediments to participation: some felt the time frame of the election was too short to get letters out and organize meetings; some Branch presidents were away and had not delegated responsibility; some were simply uncomfortable participating in the political process.

Vera emphasized the importance of following up on the election results by establishing a relationship with the MP and taking the time to provide information on FSNA issues to all parties.

**Deborah Krause** spoke about the Impacts of the Canada Not-for-Profit Act on FSNA By-laws.



The Act was proclaimed in 2009 and is expected to come into force later this year with the regulations. The general thrust of the legislation is to put not-for-



profit organizations on a corporate governance basis similar to that for 'for-profits'. She summarized some of the special challenges for large organizations like FSNA with 175,000 members.

Because of time constraints, Deborah was able to highlight only a few of the potential issues and challenges. As FSNA's Governance Officer, Deborah will be on the team – a new national by-laws review committee has just been struck – working to ensure FSNA is ready for the new Act and the opportunities, as well as the challenges, it presents.

**Debbie Bernhardt** – Q&A/dialogue – Improving communications between National Office and Branches regarding financial reporting requirements



Debbie is FSNA's "Director, Corporate Services" although at the moment, "Corporate Services" consists of Debbie and one other staff member.

The financial reporting system is working well: 100% of Branches are compliant so far this year in filing their annual reports.

Q: Given that Branches submit their financial statements to National Office, why is there uncertainty about how much money is held by the Branches on a national basis?

A: National Office does track Branch reserves, but most Branch financial statements have not been formally audited, so while it is possible to give an aggregate \$\$\$ figure with some degree of confidence, there is not 100% certainty.

**Bob Brunet** – Q&A/dialogue - Improving communications between National Office and Branches regarding services to branches



Bob is Director, Member & Branch Services. He and his team are responsible for a

range of services, from managing the web-based membership system (WMS), to publishing On Guard and the Bulletins to Branches, maintaining and updating the Administrative Guidelines, managing the contracts with the affinity programs, maintaining FSNA forms and resources, etc.

**Sylvia Ceacero** and **Hélian Lizotte** - Q&A/dialogue - with the National President and the Executive Director



Sylvia and Helian fielded questions from the delegates regarding;

- **The development of 'media lines' to help Branches respond to items in the local press that misrepresent federal superannuates as 'fat cats with gold-plated pensions'**

- Replacing National office support staff for HBO

- Having someone at National office who can get through to the Pension office when individual files are caught in limbo

- National Office unilaterally declaring an incompletely adopted or revised resolution as **"completed"** without advising branches accordingly.

Helian took the opportunity to speak briefly about vision and priorities, the need and the challenges for FSNA to adapt to the changing demographic. While continuing to serve its current membership, the organization needs also to be looking forward and listening to its prospective clientele.



## Program - China by Bill Trimble

Bill Trimble, a member of our FSNA Branch, presented his perspective on China. He spent 30 years in the Canadian



Army. His educational background is International Relations and he earned a full two-year MBA in Public Policy. Bill spent 2 years in Beijing as Canadian Military Attaché, arriving the month following the Tiananmen Square insurrection. He returned to Canada in 1991, retired in 1992.

Bill returned to China in 1994 in the private sector. He has worked in various and varied sectors in China: satellite telecommunications, Chinese Space program, educational cooperation, commercial photography, and general business consulting.

Bill used cars to explain the Chinese thirst for natural resources. In Beijing, there are 1500 new car registrations per day or 45,000 new cars each month requiring fuel and infrastructure.



**Traffic scene taken from Bill's Apartment**

The size, scale, and sheer volume of large numbers boggles the mind.

**China's population tops 1.3 billion people** (maybe 1.4 by the time the counting is done ... think about it) . **There are 19.6 million** people in Beijing and 23 million in Shanghai with a combined area of 44.3 thousand km<sup>2</sup> . Compare this to Canada with 406 times the area and only 76% of the population.

He pointed out that currently education is **China's biggest problem with 400 million** students guaranteed a free education to grade nine. He noted that the corruption problem is a close second.

Bill talked about the culture, the exploding economic growth, the architecture, both historic and modern as well as the natural beauty of the rural areas.



Corner of Forbidden City    CCTV Tower in Beijing



The great wall of China - photo taken by Bill.

### **Pension Payment Dates**

Old Age Security and Canada Pension Plan payments are automatically deposited into bank accounts in Canada and the United States on the following dates.

2011  
October 27  
November 28  
December 21

# FSNA Nanaimo & Area Board



Left to Right: President Rene, Ian Williams, Penny Kanigan, Al Tully, Susanne Body, Vic Ashdown, Florence Milburn, Bob Hoogerbrug, Charles Scrivener, Bob Willis, Doris Grieves, Leroy Wood, and Ken Jones.

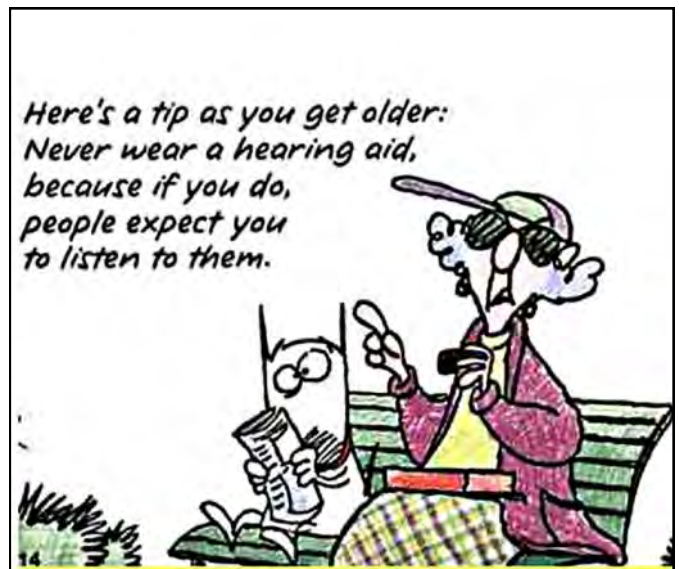
**Financial Report** as of 20 Oct 2011 for FSNA Nanaimo Branch BC05.  
Submitted by Treasurer Ken Jones

Asset		Liability		Equity	
Cash	12,643.13	Current Liabilities	418.76	Reserve Funds	6,852.64
Account Receivable	2,199.10			Retained Earnings	27,343.29
Prepaid Expenses	1,158.09			Current Earnings	2,833.66
GIC Investment	6,581.48			Reserve Funds minus	89.23
Defence of Benefits	3,900.02				
Member Benefit	7,900.60				
Capital Assets Reserve	2,976.70				
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>37,359.12</b>	<b>Total Liability</b>	<b>418.76</b>	<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>36,940.36</b>

## Award Presentation



Bob Hoogerbrug announces the award as Pres. Rene presents the Appreciation certificate to Anne Slykerman for 5 yrs of service.





## **Membership Report -** *Vic Ashdown, Director*



**Vic with membership secretary Doris Grieves**

As of October 20th, 2011, the Nanaimo and Area Branch had 1958 members comprising 1309 retirees and 649 spouses. Of the 1309 retirees, there are 1129 on DDS and 180 pay at Branch. Since the last Report (August 18th), the following changes have taken place:

### **New or Reinstated Members (7)**

Marion Brown  
Arnold & Geraldine Eaton  
Cyril Gallant  
Ted Hix  
James & Goldie Lindenbach

### **Transferred In (6)**

Florence Brown, from SK22 Northwest Saskatchewan  
David Elrick, from MB31 Winnipeg & District  
Laurette Jardine, from BC02 Chilliwack  
Donald Lennox, from BC15 Prince George  
Jo-Anne Tremblay & Jean Taschereau Fournier, from ON43 Ottawa

### **Transferred Out (12)**

Marni & Don Bold, to BC14 Sidney & District  
Howard Griffith, to BC09 Victoria-Fred Whitehouse  
Bruce & Evelyn MacMillan, to BC09 Victoria-Fred Whitehouse  
Bruce & Sandra Madu, to BC12 Kamloops  
Bob & Jeanette Nadeau, to AB19 Red Deer  
Bud Wangler, to BC06 Vancouver Island North  
Ron & Doreen Willson, to AB19 Red Deer

### **Membership Cancellations (4)**

Dan & Carmen Bowhey  
Douglas Cameron  
Rick Neugebauer

### *In Memoriam*

Robert Beaton, survived by wife Polly  
Allan Bunting  
Sylvia Kirkpatrick  
Tom Kubos, survived by wife June

Duncan Mackintosh, survived by wife Judy  
Cliff Shumaker  
Lloyd White

### **2012 Dues (Non-DDS Paid at Branch)**

For those members paying dues at Branch, invoices for 2012 dues will be in the mail to you during the first week of November. Due date is December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011. Members are reminded that this is the only invoice that they will receive. Memberships still unpaid on March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2012 will be cancelled.

Q - Where can men over 60 find younger, sexy women who are interested in them?

A - Try a bookstore - under fiction.

Q - What can a man do while his wife is going through menopause?

A - **Keep busy. If you're handy with tools, you can finish the basement.** When you are done you will have a place to live.

Q - How can you increase the heart rate of your 60+ husband?

A - Tell him your pregnant.

## FSNA Nanaimo Executive, Directors & Volunteers 2011

<b>Class</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Email</b>
<b>Executive</b>			All 250	
Exe	President	Rene Marchand	753-1657	<a href="mailto:bendawn@shaw.net">bendawn@shaw.net</a>
Exe	Vice-President			
Exe	Secretary	Penny Kanigan	760-0929	<a href="mailto:pennykanigan@hotmail.com">pennykanigan@hotmail.com</a>
Exe	Treasurer	Ken Jones	586-5002	<a href="mailto:casper6@shaw.ca">casper6@shaw.ca</a>
Exe	Past President	Bob Hoogerbrug	751-8735	<a href="mailto:r-choog@shaw.ca">r-choog@shaw.ca</a>
<b>Directors</b>				
Director	Membership Director	Vic Ashdown	248-2027	<a href="mailto:ashdown@shaw.ca">ashdown@shaw.ca</a>
Director	Membership Secretary	Doris Grieves	716-1952	<a href="mailto:dgrieves@shaw.ca">dgrieves@shaw.ca</a>
Director	Awards/Speakers/Hist.	Charles Scrivener	758-2240	<a href="mailto:scrivener@shaw.ca">scrivener@shaw.ca</a>
Director	Newsletter Editor	Ian Williams	758-0954	<a href="mailto:williv@telus.net">williv@telus.net</a>
Director	Program Director	Al Tully	740-0306	<a href="mailto:altully@shaw.ca">altully@shaw.ca</a>
Director	Health & Benefits			
Director	Health & Benefits			
Director	Telephone Director	Leroy Wood	758-0078	<a href="mailto:woodsie@shaw.ca">woodsie@shaw.ca</a>
Director	Director Registration	Susanne Body	729-9588	<a href="mailto:sbody@shaw.ca">sbody@shaw.ca</a>
Dir. At Large	Special Projects	Bob Willis	468-0260	<a href="mailto:willisbob@shaw.ca">willisbob@shaw.ca</a>
<b>Coordinators</b>				
Area	Parksville	Harold Goodman	248-3269	
Area	Port Alberni	Marg Pierce	723-9791	
Area	Qualicum Beach	Sherwood Moore	752-1048	
Area	Tofino/Ucluelet	Sandy Henry	726-7086	<a href="mailto:macfunnelcover@telus.net">macfunnelcover@telus.net</a>
Cards	Nanaimo & Area	June Wiebe	756-4873	<a href="mailto:juneldo@shaw.ca">juneldo@shaw.ca</a>
Cards	Parksville/Qualicum	Michelle Ashdown	248-2027	<a href="mailto:ashdown@shaw.ca">ashdown@shaw.ca</a>
Cards	Port Alberni	Marg Pierce	723-9791	
Nominations	Committee Chair			
Com	Special Projects	Jim Gahr	754-0989	<a href="mailto:heidleberghound@shaw.ca">heidleberghound@shaw.ca</a>
Hospital Visits	Nanaimo Area	Florence Milburn	248-4466	
Hospital Visits	Parksville/Qualicum Area	Harold Goodman	248-3269	
Phone Captain	Nanaimo	Anne Elphick	751-2993	<a href="mailto:aelphick@shaw.ca">aelphick@shaw.ca</a>
Phone Captain	Nanaimo	Bertha Nixon	758-0378	
Phone Captain	Nanaimo	Liz Barker	756-9643	<a href="mailto:liznpeterbarker@telus.net">liznpeterbarker@telus.net</a>
Phone Captain	Nanaimo	Marion Rivers	758-9783	<a href="mailto:merivers33@shaw.ca">merivers33@shaw.ca</a>
Phone Captain	Parksville/Qualicum	Barrie Bonfield	954-3780	<a href="mailto:bbonfiel@shaw.ca">bbonfiel@shaw.ca</a>
Phone Captain	Parksville/Qualicum	Michelle Ashdown	248-2027	<a href="mailto:ashdown@shaw.ca">ashdown@shaw.ca</a>
Phone Captain	Port Alberni	Marg Pierce	723-9791	