

FSNA Quarterly Newsletter

Nanaimo & Area Branch

PO Box 485, Lantzville, BC V0R 2H0

Email: pennykanigan@hotmail.com

June 2014

Tel: (250) 468-0260

Website: <http://www.fsna-nanaimo.org>



President Bob addresses members and guests at our Annual General Meeting held March 28, 2014

Next Meeting

Date/Time: Thursday, June 19, 2014 , General Meeting starts 1100 AM.

Location: Bayside Quality Inn, 240 Dogwood St. Parksville

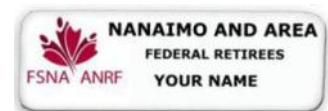
Directions: Dogwood St. is 0.9 km West of the intersection of Alberni Hwy. and W. Island Hwy. Turn right onto Dogwood St. The meeting Room is about halfway between the parking and the main entrance. Look for the FSNA signs to guide you.

Meeting/Lunch: Doors open at 10:00 AM. There will be a short business meeting followed by the presentation concluding at about 12:30. Lunch will be served at 1:00 PM in the restaurant. The lunch will be chicken breast a la Swiss, vegetables, potatoes, dessert, tea or coffee. Cost, including gratuities and tax will be \$20.00 for members, \$22.00 for guests, payable at the door on arrival

Presentation - T.B.A.

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 **new 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, please call **Jim Gahr at 754-0989**. **The last date for cancellation to avoid billing is Sunday, June 15, 2014.**

Don't forget your name tag



FSNA Nanaimo Events 2014

DATE	EVENT	PLACE	VENUE	MEMBER \$	GUEST \$
June 19	General Meeting	Parksville	Bayside	\$20.00	\$22.00
Sept 25	General Meeting	Parksville	Tigh Na Mara	\$22.00	\$24.00
Nov 27	General Meeting	Parksville	Tigh Na Mara	\$23.00	\$25.00

President's Message, May Newsletter 2014:



Pres. Bob Willis

You will recall that in our last Newsletter I reported that our 3rd Vice-President, John Finn, resigned due to ill health. Sadly, John passed away the 26th of April, 2014. I



John Finn

knew John only through FSNA, but I admired the passion and dedication he brought at every moment. The FSNA family has lost a valuable member and a strong advocate.

Preparations are well underway for the FSNA Annual General Meeting (AGM) to be held in Montreal the 25th of June. This will indeed be an historic event, as the term FSNA will most certainly be replaced, and even the corporate logo will undergo change. Future meetings of this nature will be titled Annual Membership Meeting (AMM)

Your Executive and Board of Directors are reviewing the information provided by National Office for the AGM, both by electronic means and hard copy. Resolutions relating to our compliance with the Not-For-Profit Act are very important and have to be scrutinized carefully. As a matter of fact, all facets of the operation of this Association will be discussed/debated, and resolved (hopefully), at the conclusion of the AGM in Montreal.

We will move away from Regional representation to a "District" model, six in total. Each District will have two National Director's and we have just elected Brian Strongman to join Al Heinrich as our National Directors from British Columbia.

Locally, our Branch held a very successful Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon on the 12th of May. It is because of our volunteers that we continue to thrive. You will remember our numerous requests for volunteers to step forward and help us out. I am happy to report we have had some success, but, as identified by the Telephone Director, Barrie Bonfield, we are in need of Phoner volunteers. We have had a good response from members volunteering for committee work, and Rick Roberts has volunteered to be our Program Director.

Please join us at the GM in June in Parksville to meet our newest volunteers.

Respectfully submitted:

Robert (Bob) Willis
President BC05
Nanaimo and Area Branch
Telephone: 250-468-0260
Email: bobwillisbc@shaw.ca



You know you're getting old when...

- An "all-nighter" means not getting up to pee!
- "Getting lucky" means you find your car in the parking lot.
- The candles cost more than the cake.
- My teeth are my own. I have the receipt



Payment Dates for Government Pensions

The following are dates that pension payments are transferred in pensioner's account, via Direct deposit or that regular pension cheques (paper) can be cashed.

May 29	September 29
June 27	October 30
July 30	November 27
August 28	December 30

FSNA - NANAIMO & AREA BRANCH

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date: 27 March 2014

Time: 11:00 AM

Place: The Coast Bastion Hotel, Nanaimo, BC

Attendees: 186

Meeting was called to order by **Bob Willis**, President and Chair. All new members were acknowledged. Bob introduced himself and welcomed the **Provincial Advocacy Officer, Lloyd Pelton**. Happy Birthday wishes to **Fern Watt**.

Minutes of the AGM held March 28, 2013 were circulated. With no errors or omissions noted, a motion to adopt was made by **Charles Scrivener**, seconded by **Juliette Vern**. Carried.

Committee Reports

President's Report

The President's report was contained in the most recent Newsletter. The National AGM will take place in June, in Montreal. There will be an Island President's meeting in April, held in Duncan, where the discussion will centre around Bill C -04 (the Not-for-Profit Act), the new brand and as well as a new logo for FSNA. Today there were two (2) members in attendance from Port Alberni so Bob explained that due to a lukewarm response from the members in that area the Board's plan to hold the April Board meeting there has been cancelled. A thank you to Susanne Body was given, Susanne has resigned from the Registrar position and will be missed.

The Conservative government has decided "not to honor" the promise to us and our share of medications under the Public Service Health Care Plan will now be 50%. The new cost sharing formula will be phased in over four (4) years starting April 01, 2015. Low income pensioners will be excluded. Those retiree's presently receiving GIS will continue to pay 25% of the premiums. Commencing in 2015 members will not be charged the annual deductible (\$100 per family or \$60.00 for single). There are three (3) new benefits effective October 01, 2014:

Laser eye surgery – partial coverage with a lifetime cap of \$1000

CPAP – repairs and replacement parts – up to \$300.00 per year

Psychological services – increased from \$1000 to

\$2000 per year.

Finance - Ken Jones

The financial statements were circulated prior to the start of the meeting. Ken is still in New Zealand at this time. A copy of the Audited Financial Statement and a copy of the proposed 2014 Budget are on the tables. The 2014 Budget has been increased to include expenses for the Communications Director, a new position as well an additional \$100 for the Website/Newsletter.

Motion: It was moved by Bob Hoogerbrug that the Audited Financial Statement be approved as presented. Seconded by Rene Marchand. Carried.

Motion: It was moved by Sharon Whalen that the proposed 2014 Budget be approved as presented. Seconded by Jim Gahr. Carried.

Membership - Vic Ashdown

The membership report was circulated prior to the meeting. A minute of silence was observed in memory of the deceased members. There was a question in regard to Life memberships. A brief explanation was provided. Vic ended his report with a very funny story about an 85 year old.

Awards/Speakers/Historian - Charles Scrivener

The Administrative Procedures Manual for our Branch is available for those wishing a copy at the front table or by email.

Motion: It was moved by Charles Scrivener that the Long Service Awards to be presented to Bob and Cathey Hoogerbrug be approved. Seconded by Ian Williams. Carried.



Pres. Bob presents long term service awards to Bob and Cathey Hoogerbrug

Robert Hoogerbrug has served on the Executive since 2000. He has been the Branch Secretary, Vice-President, President, now Past President. He has also taken on the role of Elections Chairman.

Cathey Hoogerbrug has served as Branch Secretary from 2002 to 2008. She has also administered Branch mailings and distribution of our Newsletter and she continues to assist with Committees, meetings and phoning.

The awards were presented to Bob and Cathey by the Branch President. President Bob also presented 5 year service awards to seven members.

FSNA Service Awards



Front Row: Irene Hinder, June Hansen, Barbara Williams, Cathey Hoogerbrug.

Back Row: Ian Williams, Rene Marchand and Bob Hoogerbrug

Judith Southern, and Beverly McKernan also received 5 year awards but are missing from the picture.

Health & Benefits - **Penny Kanigan**

A number of pamphlets that were available on the front table. That is: When I'm 64 series including: Benefits, Services and Controlling Your Affairs, A Death in Your Family. Also is the Fall Newsletter from Johnson's outlining the complementary relationship between MEDOC and the Public Service Health Care Plan.

Hospital Visits – **Irene McLean**



Irene McLean

Irene has been visiting three (3) members in the hospital over the past 3 months. She feels that the members are appreciative of the visits as they seem well received.

Harold Goodman has received no requests for hospital visits. Harold has only two (2) name tags to distribute. If you want a name tag the cost is \$9.00 up front.

Programs – **Ian Williams**

Ian reminded those present that city parking is free for those that hold a Disability Parking Permit. Note that disabled must pay for parking at VIU, the Ferry terminal, Robbin's Parking Lots and the Hospital.

The next **General Meeting** will be held on the 19th of June 2014 at the Bayside Hotel in Parksville.

Newsletter - **Ian Williams**

Explained what the additional \$100.00 to his budget was for, basically the e-mail list is cleaned of errors prior to each mass mail out of the Newsletter which is four (4) times a year.

Telephone Director – **Barrie Bonfield**

Barrie thanked the phoner's, not just for phoning but for their personal contact with the members. Additional phoner's are needed. This is not an onerous task. It requires 10-12 calls per Phoner four (4) times a year. There are sign-up sheets on the tables.

Barrie acknowledged **Doug Wright's** service. Doug has been a Phoner for 25 years and has done a tremendous job.

Registrar – **Susanne Body**

Susanne said she had enjoyed her job as Registrar, she has talked to lots of interesting people over the years. Susanne wanted to remind members that if something has changed since you initially spoke with your Phoner – for example if for some reason you will be unable to attend the luncheon – call the Registrar not your Phoner or your phone Captain. If you follow this rule, you will not be billed.

All reports were accepted as presented.

Correspondence

The Spring 2014 issue of new On Guard will be out shortly. The new name is now: **SAGE**.

April 7th – **Bob Willis** will be participating in a Webinar with the National Office and the other Presidents.

Unfinished Business

This Branch will be sending two (2) delegates to the National AGM. The President will be one and other is not yet decided.

New Business

The President mentioned that because we had such a great turnout for the General Meetings and the AGM, it is difficult to find venue's that can accommodate our numbers. Feedback received is that the venues are great and the cost of the meal is doable. Any other comments are encouraged and can be e-mailed directly to Bob W.

Lloyd Pelton, PAO – gave a brief presentation of what his role is. He explained that the “Honor Your Promise” campaign was the first major campaign the Advocacy group had undertaken. The Director at the National level is Rosemary Pitfield. Each Region across Canada has a PAO with the exception of BC which works on a Committee



structure. Lloyd said that the PAO position is like that of a watchdog on Provincial issues that affect seniors and FSNA members alike. With this in mind FSNA (BC) has joined with COSCO (which has 107,000 members) and the Legion – these affiliations give us a stronger voice.

A Message from the FSNA President

Dear FSNA Members and Volunteers,

I would like to thank all of you for taking the time to write letters, sign petitions and meet with your member of parliament regarding your concerns about the government's intention to increase your contributions to the Public Service Health Care Plan from 25 percent to 50 percent.

Treasury Board President Tony Clement has confirmed, during a media conference today, that he has approved an agreement for the Public Service Health Care Plan that will see the retiree contribution rate go from 25 percent to 50 percent.

Faced with an ultimatum made by Mr. Clement, “negotiate a deal or the government will legislate to the lowest common denominator,” FSNA was able to achieve some protection for retirees with a four year phase in period of the new 50-50 cost sharing for Public Service Health Care Plan premium costs that will begin in April 2015. And, guarantee that low income pensioners, who receive the guaranteed income supplement (GIS), would be exempt from the increase and would continue to make contributions at the 25-75 ratio. Those who have yet to hit 65 but meet the single or family income thresholds of the GIS will also be exempt from the increase.

FSNA will continue to work on your behalf to ensure that you may have dignity and security in retirement. As an association representing retired public servants, Canadian Forces, RCMP, Federal judges and their survivors, FSNA is very disappointed that the Government of Canada did not listen to the more than 74,000 members who wrote letters to their MPs and Treasury Board President Tony Clement asking the government to honour the promises made to them when they were employees of the Government of Canada.

Gary Oberg

FSNA President

Scam Corner - Charles Scrivener

Some scams seek personal information and eventually money by E-mail or postal mail. Ones like the “Coca Cola” and “Lost Relative Estate” scams offer a reward. You have won a contest or a relative's estate contains a million Pounds or Euros. You just have to provide further information and send a fee or legal retainer. A few months ago, I received an impressive letter from a law firm in Madrid, Spain. They were the executors of the estate of a long lost relative (they knew some personal details). The return address on the letterhead did exist, but when I used Google Earth to observe it, it was an apartment building that did not contain any legal offices. The postal cancellation mark was from Barcelona and not from Madrid, Spain.



FSNA Board—L-R; Ian Williams, Vic Ashdown, Charles Scrivener, Rick Roberts, Bob McDonald, Bob Hoogerbrug, Penny Kanigan, Rene Marchand, Sharon Whalen, Jim Gahr, Fran Graham, Barrie Bonfield and Pres. Bob Willis.

Election of Officers – Bob Hoogerbrug

The following members were elected by acclamation:

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| President | Robert (Bob) Willis |
| Vice-President | Ken Jones |
| Treasurer | Vacant |
| Secretary | Penny Kanigan |
| Director Programs | Vacant |
| Director Membership | Vacant |
| Director Health & Benefits | Sharon Whalen |
| Director Telephone | Barrie Bonfield |
| Director Database | Vic Ashdown |
| Director Communications | Fran Graham |
| Director Registrar | Vacant |
| Director – at - Large | Bob McDonald |
| Director – at - Large | Rick Roberts |
| Director – at – Large | Jim Gahr |

The Oath of Office was administered by Lloyd Pelton, PAO.





Branch Financial Report - May 2014
Ken Jones, Acting Treasurer

Current Assets		Canadian Western Bank Statement 15 April 2014	
Total Cash	\$ 7953.97	Current Balance	\$10619.73
		Outstanding deposit	\$000.00
		Sub Total	\$10619.73
		Minus outstanding cheques	\$ 2665.76
Total Cash	\$7953.97	Total Cash	\$7953.97



Membership Report - Vic Ashdown

As of May 15th, 2014, the Nanaimo and Area Branch had 1973 members comprising 1313 retirees and 660 spouses. Of the 1313 retirees, there are 1158 on DDS and 155 pay at Branch. Since the last Report (February 20th), the following changes have taken place:

New or Reinstated Members (13)

Barbara Bolton
 James & Susan Boutillier
 Linda Ensor, Gabriola
 Kenneth & Cathryn Ferguson
 Grace Karreman & Paul Steele
 Darlynn Knox
 Barbara Looper
 William & Janice Rogers
 Joe Schofield

Transferred In (6)

Frank & Lynne Breese from BCo9 Victoria-Fred Whitehouse
 Richard & Geraldine Gordon from BC10 South Okanagan
 John Mathers from BCo8 Vancouver
 Lloyd Pelton from BCo8 Vancouver

Transferred Out (9)

Al Anderson to BCo4 Fraser Valley West
 Gordon Bell to BCo4 Fraser Valley West

Barbara Campbell to ON43 Ottawa
 Ruthie Clouston to BCo6 Vancouver Island North
 Isabell Ryan to ON44 Peterborough & Area
 Rod & Marianne Sisler to BCo1 Central Fraser Valley
 Ross & Merle Somers to BCo9 Victoria-Fred Whitehouse

Membership Cancellations (13)

Carmela Ariello
 Barb Bell
 Esther Christopher & Lance Nater
 Lyse Godbout
 Peter Haynes
 Joseph & Sandra Lirette
 Bessie McVie
 Gene Phillips
 Marie Rickwood
 John Shelbourn
 Edith (Pat) Tibbo

In Memoriam

John Craig, survived by wife Olive
 Jo-Ann Hillier
 Henry Hollister
 Kornelei (Curly) Kereluk, survived by wife
 Marianne

Bruce Knox, survived by wife Darlynn
 Bill Lane, survived by wife Helen
 Noel Tetrault

FSNA Nanaimo Executive, Directors & Volunteers 2013-2014

Class	Position	Name	Phone	Email
Executive			All 250	
Exe	President	Bob Willis	468-0260	bobwillisbc@shaw.ca
Exe	Vice-President	Ken Jones	586-5002	casper6@shaw.ca
Exe	Secretary	Penny Kanigan	760-0929	pennykanigan@shaw.ca
Exe	Treasurer			
Exe	Past President	Rene Marchand	753-1657	bendawn@islandnet.com
Directors				
Director	Membership			
Director	Membership Database	Vic Ashdown	248-2027	ashdown@shaw.ca
Director	Health & Benefits	Penny Kanigan	760-0929	pennykanigan@shaw.ca
Director	Health & Benefits	Sharon Whalen	758-7012	fsnaswhalen@gmail.com
Director	Program	Rick Roberts	248-7171	rick.roberts@shaw.ca
Director	Newsletter Editor / Web	Ian Williams	758-0954	ianwilliams@fsna-nanaimo.org
Director	Awards/Speakers/Hist.	Charles Scrivener	758-2240	scrivener@shaw.ca
Director	Telephone	Barrie Bonfield	954-3780	bbonfiel@shaw.ca
Director	Registration	Jim Gahr	754-0989	heidleberghound@shaw.ca
Director	Communication	Fran Graham	933-4766	francesgraham@shaw.ca
Director	At Large	Bob McDonald	751-2282	bmbmcdon@telus.net
Director	At Large	Jennifer Turner	740-0233	jturner1@telus.net
Coordinators				
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	macfunnelcover@telus.net
Cards	Nanaimo & Area	June Wiebe	756-4873	juneldo@shaw.ca
Cards	Parksville/Qualicum	Michelle Ashdown	248-2027	ashdown@shaw.ca
Cards	Port Alberni	Marg Pierce	723-9791	
Nominations	Committee Chair	Bob Hoogerbrug	751-8735	r-choog@shaw.ca
Hospital Visit	Nanaimo Area	Irene McLean	245-2181	rim2@shaw.ca
Hospital Visit	Parksville/Qualicum Area	Harold Goodman	248-3269	
Phone Captain	Nanaimo	Anne Elphick	751-2993	aelphick@telus.net
Phone Captain	Nanaimo	Bertha Nixon	758-0378	
Phone Captain	Nanaimo	Barb Williams	758-0954	williv@telus.net
Phone Captain	Nanaimo	Marion Rivers	758-9783	merivers33@shaw.ca
Phone Captain	Parksville/Qualicum	Marjorie Rose	586-7007	marjoriebrose@shaw.ca
Phone Captain	Parksville/Qualicum	Michelle Ashdown	248-2027	ashdown@shaw.ca
Phone Captain	Port Alberni	Marg Pierce	723-9791	