



Canadian Pacific Pensioners

Association of Calgary - Newsletter Spring 2019

President's message

Greetings:

This year has been a cold and snowy time. Some of the lucky ones went South, but now that it's warmer, my wife and I are going south, oh well, poor timing. We are fortunate that our past president hustled up a series of speakers on timely and interesting subjects. Thanks, Surinder. This year we lost one of our executives, Ray Beirnes, who has handled financial reports and Sick and Visiting for several years. We are sorry to see him go (he continues to play pool at the club, and unloads our dishwasher after our lunches). Thanks to Ray. We have 2 new executives. They are Art Wieckowski, who will do Financial Reports and Laurie Rupert who will take on Sick and Visiting. Welcome!!

In this Newsletter there is a list of executives and their functions, including phone numbers, so keep the list and go directly to those you wish to speak to. One who has changed his function is Birinder Madan, who will handle Social, including Lunches, a big job. Thanks, Birinder.

Just a quick reminder – please bring your memberships up to date. See Frank in the office.
Hope to see you all soon.

Ken Brown



Thanks to Pat Brown! Pat has been our Social director and lunch provider/organizer for many years. Pat has decided to retire from this function and turn the duties over to someone else. Pat has always ensured we had a variety of menus, especially for seasonally focused lunches such as St. Patrick's, Stampede, Christmas and many more. In addition to the fine meals, Pat and her crew ensured that our clubhouse was appropriately decorated for each occasion.

Pat – thank you so much for all you have done!

From all of us at the Calgary CP Pensioner Association.

Introducing New Director Arthur Wieckowski - Director Financial Calgary CP Pensioners Association:

I grew up in Vancouver's "East End" and as a kid I played around the CN tracks in the Grandview "cut" between Clark Drive and Commercial Drive. We would always hide in the bushes when the trains came by but we still managed to get caught by the CN Police at least once, our names went into a special little notebook and we got better at evading them! I never thought I would work for a railroad but sure enough in September 1979 I started a Boilermaker Apprenticeship at Ogden Shops. Every day the CP Police would watch me walking out the gate and I felt sure that the CN Police had told them all about the "bad" kid from East Van. I guess I kept my nose clean enough to be set up to journeyman after just 3 years of service and within a couple of weeks I had 2 apprentices of my own. Despite being a "responsible journeyman" I still managed to get my name into a Supervisor's special little notebook for some minor indiscretion. All was forgotten, or maybe the notebook was lost, and I was set up to supervisor in 1987. I worked in various parts of the locomotive department and in 2000 I became the Planner. From 2001 to 2011 I worked in Planning for the French company that CP had running Ogden Shops and a lot of the time it felt like it was merely a different sticker on my hard hat. CP took me back as a Supervisor for the last few months prior to the closure of Ogden in 2012 and then I worked at CP Head Office in Locomotive Maintenance Planning until retirement at the end of December 2017.

On a personal level:

Avid Birder together with my wife Donna since 1994

Published Amateur Nature Photographer

Avid interest in automotive mechanics, 1971 Roadrunner (running, needs paint), 1967 Barracuda (...one of these days!)

Part-time railroad enthusiast

Since our last Newsletter:

In Memory of Departed Members - Jean Robinson, Gunter "Gus" Sturenburg, Michael Bek and Robert Townsend.

Welcome to our New Members - Don Hayes, Harvey Sych, Norman Watkins, Marty Way, Donald Thomas and Les Trathen.

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### **Executive and Committee Chairpersons for 2019:**

Ken Brown - President - 403-225-1252

Dinah Breu -Vice President - 403-256-1684

Birinder Madan - 2nd Vice President - 403-547-8422

Frank Mark - Secretary Treasurer - 403-262-1238 & 403-946-4561

## **Committees - Lead Directors - Sub Directors**

*Property Committee* - Frank Mark - 403-262-1238 & 403-946-4561 + Ken Brown - 403 225-1252

*Sick and Visiting Committee* - Laurie Rupert - 403-255-6426 + Frank Mark - 403-262-1238 & 403-946-4561

*Travel Committee* - Ken Brown - 403-225 1252

*Newsletter Committee* - Bill Benner - 403-271-5343 + Lyle Berge 403-271-3604 + Carolyn McIntosh - 403-270-0581

*Pensions Committee* - Surinder Rehill - 403-280-2976 + Lyle Berge 403-271-3604

*Phone/Email Committee* - Dinah Breu -403-256-1684 + Bill Benner - 403-271-5343 + Lyle Berge - 403-271-3604 + Surinder Rehill - 403-280-2976 + 5

*Social Committee* - Birinder Madan - 403-547-8422

*By-Law Committee* - Bill Benner - 403-271-5343

*Nominating Committee* - Bill Benner - 403-271-5343

*Financial Committee* - Arthur Wieckowski - 403-870-1897 + Frank Mark - 403-262-1238 & 403-946-4561

*Membership Committee* - Frank Mark - 403-262-1238 403-946-4561 + Dinah Breu - 403 256-1684

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## **“LEST WE FORGET” NOVEMBER 11, 2018**

Every year at this time we take time out for those who made the ultimate sacrifice to protect our rights and freedoms. Many of these people, some in their youth, never returned to enjoy the results of their unforgotten heroism.

The Canadian Pacific Railway stands proud today of over 30,000 members that served in 2 World Wars many of whom gave up their lives to serve their country. It was a personal honour for me to work with some of these great people who returned and resumed their duties with C.P. Rail.

This year’s Remembrance Services were held at the Ogden Shops Memorial Site with many veterans, dignitaries, levels of Government, members of the Armed Services, and Cadets in attendance.

We were proud to have the President of our local CP Pensioner’s Association, Surinder Rehill, taking part in the Wreath Laying Ceremony representing all CP Pensioners. C.P. Rail’s Scott Macdonald, Senior Vice President of Operations laid a wreath representing the Company.

After the Memorial Ceremony all were invited to C.P Rail’s Royal Canadian Pavilion for refreshments and a friendly get together. Although the weather was not the best with low temperatures and snow flurries, all hearts and spirits were warmed up in honour of the occasion

By Bill Benner.

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NOVEMBER MEETING AND LUNCH

The regular November meeting of the Calgary C.P. Pensioner's Association was held in our Ogden Club Rooms on November 13, 2018. A regular Board meeting was held preceding our lunch and other club activities. 53 members were in attendance.

President Surinder Rehill reported to the members about various negotiations coming in the new year such as pensioner's wage increases which are still in progress but should be available by January 2019.

Ken Brown reported from the travel committee about upcoming trips and the importance of creating more interest in future trips. We need more members to fill the buses.

We had 2 guest speakers, Peter Finnie and Ayesha Qureshi from C.P. Rail's Social Club. They presented many upcoming functions and events and invited our pensioners to take part in these at greatly discounted rates.

Lunch was served by our excellent kitchen staff and consisted of Ham and Scalloped potatoes. Dessert consisted of apple pie and ice cream. Thanks again to the ladies of the kitchen.

After lunch raffles were held and the winners were;

WINE Eddie Alamag Cathy Cowie

50/ 50 Rashpal Sandhu \$25.00

Trynette Brander \$25.00

Jurgen Lehmann \$25.00

By Bill Benner

DECEMBER MEETING AND LUNCH

"Twas the season to be jolly". and indeed, it was with probably the largest assembly of members that we have seen in a long time with over 60 members attending. The club rooms were decorated in a very festive and cheery decor and the gathering of old workmates made for a warm and happy occasion.

Lunch was served in a Buffet style and most trays and their finger food items seemed to empty quite quickly. The food and variety were well organized and was enjoyed by all the members.

President Surinder Rehill welcomed the members and updated them on the latest pension updates. one of the items being the raise in pensions for 2019 of approximately \$16.00 per month.

Ken Brown reported from the Travel Committee reporting on the past year's events saying that the new travel brochure was not out yet and to wait for further announcements. Ken gave the blessing preceding lunch.

Raffles were held after lunch. Thanks this year to all the wine donators; Vic Renny, Richard Boittiaux, Al Brander, and Laurie Rupert.

WINE WINNERS

Dave Marshal { won twice}
Louise Yarrow “ “
Les Domotar
Jacky Gay (won twice)

50/50 WINNERS

Steve Snoddon \$70.00 (x2)
Jim Mckinnon \$35.00
Roy Lindblad \$35.00

Thanks to all the volunteers who put in all the extra time and work to make a very successful event.

By Bill Benner

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING JANUARY 8, 2019

The Annual General Meeting of the Calgary C.P. Pensioner's Association was held in the Ogden Club Rooms on January 8, 2019. The meeting was well attended with 64 members in attendance.

The minutes of the last A.G.M. were not read in order to save time and this was unanimously agreed to by the members.

The meeting was opened by President Surinder Rehill who welcomed all the members. He asked the members for 1 minute of silence in memory of all deceased members of 2018.

Secretary Treasurer's Report Frank Mark reported revenues of \$4965.00. This included; Raffles \$1238.00, Pool \$508.00, Donations \$180. 00.. This did not include any memberships.

Financial - Ray Beirnes - Ray reported that we had a balance of \$16438.00 which was very good. This also included investments. Although we had other fixed costs such as Insurance, Newsletters and Honorariums, financially we are in very good shape.

Communications Internal - President Surinder Rehill spoke on spousal benefits, Medical expenses and Blue Cross.

Sick and Visiting Ray Beirnes reported that there were very few visitations made last year. People who would like visitations can contact our office and make arrangements.

Travel Ken Brown reported on tours during the past year reminding everyone that we need at least 10 people for local pickups and because of cutoff dates we must move quickly for reservations or lose our spaces.

Social Pat Brown reported on a successful year on the serving of meals and thanked all the kitchen crew who worked so hard in the serving ,preparing and cleaning up . Great job! Pat will be retiring at

the end of June and we will be seeking a replacement to continue her great work. Please let us know if you can help us out.

Newsletter - Bill Benner reported on the cost savings of our recent editions. This was due to a reduction in copies printed, from 200 to 120. Also, a main contribution was our postage being paid by Legacy Credit Union which has saved us over \$200.00 a year. Total cost for 2018 was \$154.04

Pensions - Lyle Berge reported on the COLA pension increase which amounted to \$16.50 per month starting in January 2019. Pension fund looks great with \$12 billion dollars in the fund. There may be small changes because of stock market fluctuations. Lyle talked about Blue Cross Changes, and mentioned Bill C27, which could affect our future pensions. We are all opposed to this bill and details can be accessed through the Internet. Contact your Member of Parliament to protest.

Communications Dinah Breu thanked all the phoners who make the system work well, and encouraged those who are not on our E-mail list to register with us and cut down on our postage expenses.

By-Laws Bill Benner reported that there will be no changes or amendments to the bylaws for 2019

Nominating - Bill Benner reported that three board members had their terms expire. They were Ken Brown, Dinah Breu and Ray Beirnes. Ken Brown and Dinah Breu let their names stand for another 3-year term, but Ray Beirnes retired from the board. Nominations were called from the floor and we were fortunate to obtain 2 new members. The board welcomes Arthur Wieckowski and Laurie Rupert

Auditing - Art Tetz reported that the books were in balance and good order

We had an excellent Speaker, Judith Cobb, a Wellness Coach Natural Nutrition, Clinical Practitioner who spoke on ways to improve your health. We also had another speaker Bob Cameron who is our Pensioner Representative. Bob negotiates with the company on issues pertaining to pensions .

After Lunch Raffles were held and the winners were;

WINE 50/50 DRAW

John Newton	Les Trathen..... \$25.00
Surinder Rehill	Debbie Simmons ...\$25.00
Ken Brown	Bill Benner..... \$25.00
Leo Bitz	

Doug Bush THANKS TO THE DONORS OF WINE . we appreciate your generosity.

By Bill Benner

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Scenes from Ken Brown from our bus trip to Lake Louise, January 29, 2019 – beautiful ice sculptures!





## FEBRUARY MEETING AND LUNCH

The regular February Meeting of the Calgary C.P. Pensioner's Association was held in our Ogden Club rooms on Tuesday February 12, 2019. Although the weather was very wintry and cold with temperatures in the -18C, we had an excellent turnout with 63 members in attendance.

Our theme for the occasion was St. Valentines Day. Thanks to the members who put in the extra time to decorate our club rooms with the appropriate Valentines day decorations and also in their removals and clean up.

The Board was also required to elect new members to the Executive Committee as required every February with the following results [

President .....Ken Brown .....only change  
Vice President ..... Dinah Breu  
2nd Vice President.....Birinder Madan  
SecretaryTreasurer ...Frank Mark

### New Committee Members

Sick and Visiting .... Laurie Rupert  
Financial ..... Arthur Wieckowski  
Social ..... Birinder Madan

We had an excellent speaker..... Mr. Faisel Karmali First V.P. Portfolio Manager Investment Advisor with Popowich Karmali Advisory Group, CIBC Wood Gundy on Understanding the Taxation of Retirement Income. Very Informative.

### RAFFLES

#### WINE DRAW

50/50

Art Tetz  
Les Domotar  
Denis Kopustas  
Sam Cameron

Dennis Kapustas \$35  
Chris Roach \$35  
Art Wieckowski \$35

By Bill Benner





**Beautiful plates donated by the family of Eric Seal – Eric’s father, Charles Seal, and his son, David Seal, all worked for CP. Thank you!**

### **ST. PATRICK’S DAY MEETING AND LUNCH**

It was the luck of the Irish that we had good weather and probably the largest attendance ever for our annual St. Patrick’s Day meeting and lunch with 67 members in attendance.

The Club rooms were decorated with appropriate Irish symbols for the occasion and added to the mood of the event. Thanks to the people who took the time to put in the extra effort to put up and remove these decorations.

Lunch was served with our famous St. Patrick’s Day Irish Stew with a bun and was well received by all our Irish members as well as the rest of us. Desert was served with a muffin with ice cream.

After lunch we had a very informative speaker, Kathy Mendham who represented Proactive Seniors. Kathy spoke on the various options available for retired seniors. These options included staying in your own home, or staying in various retirement facilities with options such as subsidized seniors housing, supported living and private retirement residences. She mentioned the pros and cons of these arrangements so that we could make an informed decision.

| <u>RAFFLES</u> | <u>WINE DRAW</u> | <u>50/50 DRAW</u>     |
|----------------|------------------|-----------------------|
|                | Marty Way        | Louise Yarrow \$25.00 |
|                | Eddie Alamag     | Ramon Lopez \$25.00   |
|                | Sam Cameron      | Doug Noakes \$25.00   |
|                | Louise Yarrow    | Dinah Breu \$25.00    |

by Bill Benner

### ***CONTACTS:***

The CP Pension Services Call Centre is available to answer your pension related questions. Service is available in French and English and the hours of operations are from 8 AM to 1 PM Mountain Standard Time (MST)/Mountain Daylight Standard Time (MDST).

Please review the "How do I" page in the pensioner website for answers to some of our most commonly asked questions.

- Toll Free: 1-888-511-7557
- Calgary Area: (403) 319-3035
- Fax number: (403) 319-3669
- email: [pension@cpr.ca](mailto:pension@cpr.ca)

### ***CONTACTS continued:***

Or by mail at:

Canadian Pacific Pension Services  
7550 Ogden Dale Road S.E.  
Calgary, AB T2C 4X9

CP Headquarters Main Switchboard number (403) 319-7000

Blue Cross

Toll free – 1-888-873-9200. The NCCPPA negotiated an exclusive 10% discount for Blue Cross travel insurance for CP pensioners. Call Blue Cross directly at 1-866-544-7720 to receive the discount.

Claim Secure Inc.

Toll free – 1-888-513-4464

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**\*\*Remember, the dues are now \$15.00 per Year**

Name\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_Province\_\_\_\_\_

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Fax\_\_\_\_\_E-Mail\_\_\_\_\_

YOU MAY REMIT YOUR DUES TO:

FRANK MARK Secretary Treasurer, Canadian Pacific Pensioners Association

Main Floor Building 10. 7550 Ogdendale Road SE. Calgary Alberta T2C 4X9.

Phone Club: 403-262-1238 Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9AM – NOON