

Station Break / Pause-indicatif

CBC Pensioners Association
Maritime Region Newsletter

Association des retraité(e)s de la SRC
Bulletin régional des Maritimes

Fall 2012

PRESIDENT'S BULLETIN



John McKay

The annual Christmas Dinner in Halifax is only days away! December 5th is the date. The dinner is open to all members and their spouses. Non-members are welcome but the fee of \$20.00 will be charged. This event is always a popular one and this year Louise Fredericks, our events planner, has some innovative prizes planned. The dinner is open to **all** Maritime members as long as you

book in advance. Louise Fredericks: (902) 454-4359
E-Mail l.gfred@ns.sympatico.ca

On to other things: October saw the formal goodbye to both Pierre Racicot (National President) and Don Lambton (National Treasurer). There was a small reception held during the fall board meeting in Ottawa. Both Pierre and Don were present with their wives. The new National President, Howard Simpson, expressed the general mood on behalf of all pensioners by noting that it was "a job well done" by both individuals.

During the gathering the regional directors had an opportunity to express their thanks. The gathering concluded, not with a presentation to the two men, but with a small gift to their wives to thank them for "lending" their husbands for such a lengthy period.

Locally, there has been a fair amount of activity. As well, the Chapters in Moncton, Cape Breton and PEI all had social events over the course of spring and summer.

Halifax still has excellent numbers for the monthly luncheons held on the first Wednesday of every month except July and August. These meetings are open to **all** Maritime members. If you happen to be in the Halifax area, please join us for a bowl of soup and a sandwich.

The National Board of Directors will hold the 2013 spring meetings in Moncton on May 28 and 29. The 2013 Annual General Meeting will be on the afternoon of the 28th. The AGM is open to all members and it is hoped that people from Moncton and the rest of New Brunswick as well as Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia will make a point to attend. As the planning proceeds formal notices will be sent to all members.

Finally, Halifax is planning to repeat the Lobster supper of June 2012. It was a gathering that everyone seemed to enjoy. So keep it in mind for your 2013 events.

Have a happy holiday season!

RAPPORT DE PRÉSIDENT RÉGIONAL

Il n'y a plus que quelques jours avant notre dîner de Noël annuel, le 5 décembre prochain. Tous les membres avec leurs époux ou épouses sont invités. Bienvenue aussi aux non membres, au prix participation de 20\$ chacun. Cette fête reste populaire d'année en année et cette fois-ci, l'organisatrice, Louise Fredericks, nous réserve des prix de présence originales. Ce dîner s'ouvre, bien entendu, à **tous** les membres des Maritimes, pourvu qu'on fasse ses réservations d'avance. Louise Fredericks: (902) 454-4359, courriel: l.gfred@ns.sympatico.ca

Par ailleurs: En octobre ont eu lieu les adieux formels du président national sortant, Pierre Racicot et du trésorier national sortant, Don Lambton. Pierre et Don étaient tous deux présents, accompagnés de leurs épouses. Le nouveau président national, Howard Simpson, a fait l'écho des sentiments de tous les retraité-e-s en soulignant l'excellente intendance réalisée par Pierre et Don. Au cours de cette rencontre, les directeurs régionaux aussi ont pu exprimer leur gratitude. La rencontre s'est terminée, non pas avec l'habituelle présentation souvenir aux deux sortants, mais avec l'offre d'un petit cadeau à leurs femmes pour remercier chacune d'avoir « prêté » son mari pendant une si longue période de temps.

À Halifax, il y a eu passablement d'activités. En plus, les sections de Moncton, de l'Île-du-Cap-Breton et de l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard ont tenu chacune des activités sociales au cours du printemps et de l'été.

Halifax continue d'attirer un grand nombre de convives à ses lunchs mensuels servis le premier mercredi de chaque mois, sauf en juillet-août.

En passant, ces repas réunions accueillent **tous** les membres des Maritimes. Si jamais un bon vent vous amène dans la région de Halifax, s'il vous plait, venez partager avec nous un bol de soupe et un sandwich.

Les réunions du bureau de direction national au printemps 2013 auront lieu à Moncton les 28 et 29 mai. L'assemblée générale annuelle (AGA) est prévue pour l'après-midi du 28 mai. L'AGA est ouverte à tous les membres et l'on souhaite que tous ceux et celles de Moncton et d'ailleurs au Nouveau-Brunswick, et les membres aussi de l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard et de la Nouvelle-Écosse profiteront de l'occasion pour y participer. Au fur et à mesure que les choses se précisent, des avis vous seront envoyés.

Enfin, Halifax compte récidiver avec le souper de homard en 2013. C'était une fête qui en 2012 a semblé plaire à tous et il faut l'inscrire bien sûr à votre agenda de 2013.

Joyeuse saison des fêtes à vous!

Tournoi de golf avec Radio-Canada Acadie :

Le dimanche 9 septembre passé réunissait les employés et les retraité-es de Radio-Canada au terrain de golf de Memramcook par une journée froide, venteuse, mais ensoleillée. Nous devons à Robert Poirier, retraité, et Paul Ward, réalisateur (information), d'avoir monté cette sortie. C'est une coutume depuis au moins cinq ans qui attire les vrais amateurs. Ils étaient une quarantaine d'enthousiastes en tout, dont une vingtaine de retraité-es. Et une aubaine à vrai dire : 40\$ par tête, inscription et voiturette comprises, avec départ à midi.

L'équipe gagnante : Terrance LeBlanc, technicien retraité, Jacques Giguère, rédacteur en chef des nouvelles et René Godin, caméraman. Le traditionnel fricot acadien attendait les golfeurs au bout du parcours. Selon Yvonne Cormier, retraitée, c'est surtout une rencontre *le fun* et on s'y amuse immanquablement. Surtout Yvonne qui, pour la deuxième fois en quatre ans, a gagné le grand prix de présence, une station d'accueil Ipod/Iphone Sony (200\$). Les autres chanceux ont emporté des glacières de la Caisse pop, des accessoires de golf, des balles, tout l'attirail du golfeur accro. En plus, Radio-Canada (200\$), les réalisateurs (150\$) et les retraité-e-s (75\$) ont contribué aux frais de cet événement fort sympathique. Rendez-vous l'an prochain!

Golfing with Radio-Canada Acadie

On Sunday September 9th past, Moncton SRC employees and pensioners congregated at the Memramcook golf links on a cool, windy and sun-filled day. It has become a yearly event over the last five years attracting dedicated golfers, around forty of them in all, of whom about twenty are pensioners. At \$40 per head, registration, golf-cart and food all in, it was a bargain, with first teams teeing off at noon. Robert Poirier, pensioner, and Paul Ward, news producer, had joined forces to make this outing possible.

Terrance LeBlanc, technician pensioner, Jacques Giguère, head of news, and René Godin, cameraman, were the top team. A traditional Acadian *fricot* (chicken stew) greeted contestants at the end of their play: according to pensioner Yvonne Cormier, it was, and always has been, great fun. She should know, she won the top door prize for the second time in four years, a \$200 Sony i-Pod/i-Phone dock. Other lucky winners carried off credit-union sponsored ice boxes, golf balls and accessories for true aficionados. Be it said, a pot of money from Radio-Canada Acadie management (\$200), producers (\$150) and pensioners (\$75) turned the day into a cheap treat and good cheer.

La Section MONCTON vous invite à son sixième SOUPER DE NOËL. JEUDI 6 DÉCEMBRE 2012, À PARTIR DE 17H.

La soirée aura lieu au Club de curling Beauséjour, 55 rue Essex, Moncton.

10\$ chacun pour les membres et partenaires. (20\$ chacun pour les non membres.) Bar payant. Prix de présence

17h. Happy hour avec grignotines et un punch

18h.30 Buffet: dinde farcie, jambon garni, légumes variés, salade, café, thé, dessert. Vin à vos frais.

!! S.V.P. RÉSERVER D'ICI LE VENDREDI 30 NOVEMBRE. (Pas plus tard que le lundi 3 décembre. La cuisine a besoin de savoir combien de personnes seront présentes.

Pour réserver, téléphoner à : Yvonne Richard 858 7133 ou

envoyer un courriel à Ronald Cormier, rcormier8563@rogers.com

Au plaisir de vous y retrouver

Your CBC Pensioners' Association (Moncton) takes pleasure in inviting you and your spouse / friend to our sixth annual Christmas Supper. Thursday December 6th, 2012 from 5 p.m. Beauséjour Curling Club, 55 Essex St. in Moncton.

5 p.m. Happy hour with snacks & holiday punch. Alcoholic beverages extra.

6:30 p.m. Traditional buffet supper: stuffed turkey, ham, vegetable medley, salad, buns, tea, coffee, dessert.

Tickets cost \$10 each for members and partners. (\$20 ea. for non-members). There will be good cheer and door prize(s).

RESERVE BY FRIDAY NOV. 30TH OR DECEMBER 3RD AT THE LATEST. The kitchen needs to know how many will attend.

To reserve, telephone : Yvonne Richard 858 7133 or e-mail Ronald Cormier, rcormier8563@rogers.com

Looking forward to seeing you there one and all!

Charlottetown

PEI REPORT

Ian Petrie

On Prince Edward Island it's been the helpful people with the EAP and the staff association that have coordinated opportunities for pensioners. They were offered flu shots, and the chance to learn more about the programs and services under EAP.



Some pensioners have also been involved with the various efforts to support the future of the CBC, whether through the Friends of CBC, re-imagine CBC, or other support groups. The Maritimes in particular has benefited from radio and television programming that private networks wouldn't consider. CBC Charlottetown was fortunate coming out of the latest round of CBC cuts, not losing any positions, and continuing to see investments in new technologies.

There are a number of current employees eligible to retire, so the pensioners association may soon see new members.

Sydney

CAPE BRETON REPORT

Bill Doyle

The Cape Breton Chapter held its fall meeting on November 15. To stimulate interest, this meeting discussed early – but unofficial – information about expected pension indexing and likely changes in the rates for the supplementary health care plan, stressing that the numbers discussed were not official. Later, on Friday, November 16, the CBC confirmed that the annual pension indexation has been calculated and will be 1.95% January 1, 2013.

Several people expressed interest in the progress of the CBCPA's evaluation of the potential of offering a supplementary health plan.

Interestingly, 18 pensioners went to the CBC location to get a flu shot, so the number of CBC pensioners getting the flu shot in Cape Breton exceeded the number of staff.

The new CBC Cape Breton production location – downtown - may not be large enough to accommodate everyone.

We are taking the initiative in trying to arrange an EAP information session for pensioners and staff here.

We are investigating the possibility of a spring lobster boil for the first time. Because our pensioners membership is so small, we are going to ask CBC staff members if they are interested in attending.

We are contacting CBC retirees living in Cape Breton to invite them to join the Cape Breton chapter of the CBCPA.

Our Christmas party takes place from 5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 27, at the Holiday Inn in Sydney.



Cape Breton Christmas Dinner 2011

On June 6, lobster and steak were on the menu as the local launched what is likely to become an annual event. Seventy people turned out to the Fairview Legion to mark the start of summer: no business to discuss, just an opportunity to dig in to some delicious food.

With the arrival of Labour Day, the association resumed its monthly meetings. It seems Halifax has been spending more money than usual due largely to the start of the Newsletter and the lobster dinner. The bank account is still healthy, allowing time to consider other ways to stay on budget.

The local and national associations are pushing forward on at least two fronts:

- Many members in Canada have remarried since their retirement and have discovered to their dismay that their new spouses are not eligible to claim survivor benefits. The association wants to work to change that, but needs to know exactly how many people there are who are affected. Please get in touch. See addresses on page 6.
- The Special Assistance Fund: CBC employees and retirees (and their dependents) are eligible to apply for assistance when they're faced with the burden of paying for expensive but necessary medical help which isn't covered by health insurance. The money comes from surpluses built up in employee-paid insurance programs. It's run by the Consultative Committee on Staff Benefits – a sub-committee considers every request. Some examples of assistance are hearing aids and vision surgery.

Finally, we're now looking forward to the Christmas dinner...less than a month away, on December 5.



SPECIAL REPORTS



End of the Road for Maritime Network Television Production

Marie Thompson

Within three years, the most visible face of the CBC in Halifax will be gone: The iconic white radio building on Sackville St. is part of a development that will see a residential high rise and the expansion of the YMCA. Regional director Andrew Cochrane had planned to move all operations under one roof – the TV building on Bell Road. But CBC president Hubert Lacroix instead ordered Halifax to get out of network production by 2015.

It's tough on staff who must suffer through layoffs. But at a different level, the end to network television production in Halifax is devastating. CBC production crews have created thousands of hours of programs watched by Canadians coast-to-coast, most recently This Hour has 22 Minutes.

Elsewhere in the region, CBC Sydney has moved into leased space in the downtown. RCI's transmitter site in Sackville is closed. The Radio Canada TV mobile, once dedicated for use solely in the Maritimes, is gone. The corporation has stated it wants to get out of owning and operating facilities. So in Halifax the CBC will lease space at the site of the old Bay department store not far from the Armdale Roundabout.

It's too bad about the loss of network TV production: performers, technicians, artists and producers from the Maritimes who moved through the Bell Road studios made an important cultural contribution to Canada. There's no way that can be duplicated from Toronto.



A recent visit to Australia left this former CBC reporter thinking about the similarities between the current CBC and the ABC, Australia's national public broadcaster.

Like the CBC, the ABC provides numerous channels of radio, television, mobile and online programming throughout Australia and overseas. There are five domestic TV channels, including 24-hour television news content on ABC News 24. There are 54 local radio stations, four national radio networks, and Radio Australia, the international service.



The ABC is funded exclusively by the federal government, with a small amount of money raised through sales of programs.



That means a limited budget to be spread ever more thinly among more and more broadcast services to a public that now has, via the Internet and satellite broadcasts, an almost unlimited number of options to listen to or watch. Sound familiar?

There, as here, programming cuts – and staff cuts - are a way of life.

The latest ABC program cuts for 2013 include seven radio programs on plays and books in what a national manager called a break with a very long-standing tradition. The cuts follow a program review. The A\$1-million saved will go to a new audio creativity project.

On the other hand, ABC TV has increased its drama production.

Many news operations, broadcast and print, around the world have shut or reduced foreign news bureaus – the ABC announced cuts this fall.

The Friends of the ABC cite independent opinion polls that show about three-quarters of the population use the ABC each week and more than 80 % say it provides a valuable service. But the Friends also say “the ABC is being starved of funds. The ABC's operational funds (i.e., the funds available to it for programming) have declined by 29.7% in real terms since 1985-86. This decline is out of proportion to any other major area of federal government expenditure.”

Some media commentators complain of a drop in quality of programming. A non-scientific newspaper poll in August found 53% of respondents said “yes, the ABC is trying to do too much with too little.” Sound familiar?

Interestingly, much of the public comment on the ABC is directed as much at management as at the government. The CPSU, a federal public sector union group, has called the latest radio drama cuts an “appalling decision” and asks why management made this decision without knowing what funding levels will be.

Governments of all political stripes have cut ABC funding in the past. ABC chairman Jim Spigelman says the ABC cannot be insulated from federal spending cuts but the failure of the government to support it is the biggest threat to the ABC. Once again, sound familiar?



Joyeux Noël

聖誕節快樂

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Frohe Weihnachten

¡Feliz Navidad

Christmas Dinner / Souper de Noël

See Provincial Reports for more details

Moncton:

Jeudi 6 Décembre 2012, à partir de 17H.
S.V.P. Réserver d'ici le vendredi 30 Novembre
Pour réserver, téléphoner à : Yvonne Richard 858 7133 ou
envoyer un courriel à Ronald Cormier, rcormier8563@rogers.com

Thursday, December 6, from 5 p.m.
Reserve By Friday Nov. 30th Or December 3rd At The Latest.
To reserve, telephone: Yvonne Richard 858 7133 or
e-mail Ronald Cormier: rcormier8563@rogers.com

Sydney:

Tuesday, November 27, 5:30 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., at the Holiday Inn (formerly the Delta)

Halifax:

Wednesday, December 5. Bar opens 11:00 a.m. Dinner at noon.
All members and spouses are invited to the Christmas Dinner at the Fairview branch of the Royal Canadian Legion on Main Street and Hillcrest Avenue. There will be a free drink for all and lots of door prizes. Non-members are also welcome but must pay \$20 for the meal. If you intend to come, please contact Louise Fredericks by November 30 at
Phone: (902) 454-4359
E-Mail: l.gfred@ns.sympatico.ca

Joyeux Noël

Merry Christmas!

REJOINDRE NOTRE RÉGION PAR COURRIER, COURRIEL ET INTERNET

Courrier: Assoc. Retraités SRC (Maritimes), 413 - 50 Barkton Lane, Halifax, NS B3M 4H8
Courriel: cbcpam@gmail.com
Site Internet : Maritimes: <http://www.chebucto.ns.ca/culture/cbcpensioners/>
Page internet: section Moncton : <http://cbcpamc.yolasite.com/>
Page internet: section Charlottetown: <http://cbcpacc.yolasite.com/>
Page internet: section Sydney: <http://cbcpasc.yolasite.com/>
Page internet: section Halifax : <http://cbcpam.yolasite.com/>
Lien Internet (photos) – Maritimes: lien dans <http://www.chebucto.ns.ca/culture/cbcpensioners/>

HOW TO CONNECT WITH OUR REGION BY MAIL, E-MAIL, AND INTERNET

Postal: CBC Pensioners' Assoc. (Maritimes), 413 - 50 Barkton Lane, Halifax, NS B3M 4H8
E-Mail: cbcpam@gmail.com
Internet : Maritimes: <http://www.chebucto.ns.ca/culture/cbcpensioners/>
Website: Moncton Chapter: <http://cbcpamc.yolasite.com/>
Website: Charlottetown Chapter: <http://cbcpacc.yolasite.com/>
Website: Sydney Chapter: <http://cbcpasc.yolasite.com/>
Website: Halifax Chapter: <http://cbcpam.yolasite.com/>
Internet (photos) – Maritimes: link from <http://www.chebucto.ns.ca/culture/cbcpensioners/>

Your CBCPAM Newsletter crew / Votre équipe de rédaction

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| John McKay | Maurice Olsen | Ian Petrie | Marie Thompson | Geoff Turnbull | Mary Wilcox |

This is the second issue of the new CBCPAM regional newsletter. We welcome comments, suggestions for future items, and contributions.
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Voici le deuxième numéro du bulletin régional des Maritimes. Nous aimerions lire vos commentaires, vos suggestions d'articles futurs et vos contributions.
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