

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED UPEI EMPLOYEES

Friday November 24, 2023
Room 105 Health Sciences Building

AGENDA

Call to Order: 2:30 pm

1. Approval of Agenda
 - a. Opening Remarks
2. Student Food Bank Donation Adewale Alaba, student
3. Minutes of 2022 AGM
4. Business Arising
5. Minute of Silence for Deceased Members
6. President's Report Wayne Cutcliffe
7. Treasurer's Report Allan Hughes
8. Pension Report Betty Jeffery
9. Health Trust Report Bea Hartinger
10. CURAC Update/Questions Wayne
Annual Conferences, Committees
11. Nominating Committee Report Bob Mahen
12. Ideas and Activities for 2024

Standing order 3:15 pm

13. "Learn about Free and Discounted fitness and wellness opportunities on campus for UPEI Retirees." **Angela Marchbank**, Fitness and Wellness Coordinator, shows how to register and find information.
14. New Business
15. Adjournment

- ✓ Members are encouraged to bring non-perishable items for the Campus Food Bank.
- ✓ Enjoy a Beverage and Muffins/Cookie

After the AGM, Terry Pratt summarizes the story line for his new novel.

Memberships: Yearly dues may be paid at the Annual Meeting
 \$30.00 per year (December 1 to November 30)

**Minutes of
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Association of Retired UPEI Employees
Friday November 24, 2023
Room 105, Health Sciences Building, UPEI**

Present: Edith Cardy, Wayne Cutcliffe, Doug Dahn, Isabel DeRoche, Cathy Dillon, Louis Doiron, Doreen Foster, Eric Gallant, Don Gillis, Tim Goddard, Frances Gray, Norine Hanus, Terrie Hardwick, Bea Hartinger, Rosemary Herbert, Allan Hughes, Michael Liu, Anne Love, Scott MacDonald Bob Mahen, Virginia McCarville, Marion Morrison, Terry Pratt, Verner Smitheram, Ken Sulston

Regrets: David Cairns, Janice Coffin, Ron Collins, Betty Jeffery, Carol MacDonald, Pam McGuigan

1. **Agenda**

The meeting convened at 2:30 pm with 25 members in attendance. President Wayne Cutcliffe chaired the meeting and welcomed retirees along with inviting two 2023 retirees, Louis Doiron and Terri Hardwick to introduce themselves.

2. **Student Food Bank Donation**

Adewale Alaba, an MBA student who volunteers at the food bank, spoke and accepted the \$500 in grocery gift cards along with food and money donations from members in attendance. Adewale commented that between 80-100 students use the food bank on a weekly basis.

3. **Minutes of 2022 AGM**

The Minutes of the previous year AGM were reviewed and received without amendments. Scott MacDonald moved; Marion Morrison seconded.

4. **Business Arising- NIL**

5. **Minute of Silence for Deceased Members**

A minute of silence was observed remembering these 11 retirees and three UPEI colleagues who are no longer with us.

Campbell, Robert (Bob)	English
Cotton, Judy	Nursing
Grasse, Wendell	AVC Hospital
Kopachevsky, Joseph	Sociology & Anthropology
MacDonald, Grant	Facilities Management
McKenna, David	Facilities Management
Mitton, Katherine	AVC Anatomy & Physiology
Mulligan, Georgina	Assistant Registrar
Orlowski, Patricia	Facilities Management
Pineau, Merrill	Accounting Office
Richardson, Gavin	AVC Health Management

And those who were not retired:

Cheverie, Leo	Library
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Kurial, Richard
Lavoie, Carlo

History
Modern Languages

We observed a **Minute of Silence** for these individuals.

When aware of a colleague's passing, our secretary, Doreen Foster, sends condolences on behalf of the retiree association to the families (usually through the funeral home website).

6. **President's Report**

The President's report was circulated prior to the meeting and is attached as Appendix 1.

7. **Treasurer's Report**

Allan Hughes reported . . .

Previous year balance of \$1,419.97 + Yearly revenues of \$1,900.55 gives

Total Income	\$3,320.52
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Total Expenses	\$1,902.85
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Bank balance on November 10,2023 was \$1,417.67

(Refer to attached Financial Statement, Appendix 2)

Motion to adopt, Allan Hughes, Louis Doiron seconded.

8. **UPEI Pension Report**

Betty Jeffery, retiree appointee on the Board of Trustees, submitted her report on the pension plan:

The 2022 Annual Pension Plan Report which you received in the Spring began with the words "Your UPEI Pension Plan remains in good health." This continues to be the case.

Over 475 retirees benefit from the Jointly Sponsored Pension Plan. The Plan is governed by a Sponsor Board and administered by a Board of Trustees. Each of the Boards has an equal number of members appointed by the UPEI Board of Governors and by the unions. In addition, the Board of Trustees has two retiree members – one appointed by the Board of Governors (position vacant at the moment) and one appointed by the unions (Betty Jeffery).

As a reminder, pension documents and other information is available online at

<https://www.upei.ca/hr/upei-pension-plan>

9. **Supplementary Health Care Trust Report**

With respect to staff, Bea Hartinger answered questions by new retiree Louis Doiron. Edith Cardy added that staff also includes Contract Administrative Staff.
Refer to Appendix 3.

Faculty and Staff have some differences in their health plans. For clarification, retirees can access information on the UPEI Website, under Resources for Retirees.

Go to: www.upei.ca/hr/resources-retirees

Motion to adopt reports received in agenda 8 & agenda 9 by Bea Hartinger, seconded by Allan Hughes.

10. CURAC Update/Questions

In his President's report, Wayne commented on the 2023 CURAC Conference and their AGM held at the University of Saskatchewan. There was limited activity at national as they are recovering from the effects Covid-19 had on organizations.

11. Nominating Committee Report

Past President, Bob Mahen, presented the nominating report.

The positions (2-year term) open for nominations are: Secretary and a maximum of three (3) Directors.

Nominations received prior to this meeting are:

Secretary	Cathy Toombs
Directors:	Ron Collins, Scott MacDonald and Marion Morrison

With no further nominations, these individuals are acclaimed to their respective positions.

Individuals completing the first year of their 2-year terms are: Wayne Cutcliffe, President; Rosemary Herbert, Vice President; Allan Hughes, Treasurer; Doug Dahn, Director; Bea Hartinger, Director and Betty Jeffery, Director.

12. Invited Speaker: **Angela Marchbank, UPEI Fitness and Wellness Coordinator**

Angela spoke about the various programs available to retirees and what is involved in accessing these programs. Retirees can access information about Free Wellness Programs at www.recreation.upei.ca. UPEI wants to recognize retirees as eligible for their programs; they are included under the Community title on the website. Register online, using their UPEI ID card number, or if they have a problem, email Angela at amarchbank@upei.ca or call her at 902-566-0606. The 2024 free sessions are available to October 3, 2024, then will be updated for 2025. See the website for the list of available programs. There are also discounted Fitness programs for retirees. Sports Centre memberships are available to retirees at the same rate as current UPEI Faculty/Staff. Wellness and Fitness programs **do Not** require a Sports Centre membership. Park at MacLaughlin Centre using coins from the front swimming pool desk.

13. Ideas and Activities for 2024

Wayne asked retirees in attendance if they have any ideas for activities for 2024, please email him at upeiRetirees@gmail.com

14. New Business

A coffee Meet and Conversation will be held December 5, 2023 at Smitty's, Wayne will send email. Volunteers are needed to serve for the Student Chili Luncheon on December 12.

15. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:15 by Wayne, seconded by Scott MacDonald.

Appendix 1 President's Report

First, it is my pleasure to introduce your Executive.

Rosemary Herbert (Vice President) Doreen Foster (Secretary), Allan Hughes (Treasurer), Bob Mahen (Past President) and our six (6) Directors; Ron Collins, Doug Dahn, Bea Hartinger, Betty Jeffery, Scott MacDonald and Marion Morrison.

Thank you very much for your advice and service to the retiree association and a special thank you to Doreen Foster who served as Secretary for the past six years.

Planned Activities

Since Covid restrictions were eased this year, we returned to our pre-covid planned activities. Essentially, there are three significant events: namely the AGM in November, a University event in the new year and the "Annual Ferne and Murray Stevenson Spring Social" in June. Upon returning to in-person events, their focus was reworked.

- I. Starting with the AGM, we want to shorten the business agenda by having the various reports circulated in advance which allows time for a speaker.
- II. The University event has an invited speaker, so the question is whether to keep it in February or move it to later in the spring.
- III. In years past, the June social was a BBQ dinner at a golf course allowing retirees to play a round of golf. With diminished interest in golf, for the last two years we elected for a noontime luncheon with an invited speaker(s).

Due to illness, the speaker topic for the AGM was moved to the University event. With the 2023 Canada Games taking over the campus, the traditional February date was moved to spring. The University event included Sam Buchanan, Manager Conferences Services, conducting a tour of the new residence, classrooms and arts centre (Canada Games Legacy); Doug Burton, ITSS staff, discussing UPEI email services for retirees; Megan Gee, Benefits Officer Human Resources, discussing health/travel plans available to retirees.

The "Annual Ferne and Murray Stevenson Spring Social" in June featured the theme, "Retirement: An Active Lifestyle". Betty Jeffery facilitated retired panel members Kimball Blanchard, Rosemary Herbert and Scott MacDonald sharing stories on volunteering, socializing, pursuing their passions, and retaining an active mind/body. Each of these speaker events attracted 40 people.

Our Association is invited to participate during the University's **Pre-Retirement Seminar**, usually in May, but moved to November in 2022. Our session spotlight is on "staying active and encouraging healthy lifestyles"; we are unaware that any Pre-retirement Seminar occurred in 2023.

During the past year we held two (December and April) **Coffee & Conversation** get togethers at Smitty's restaurant. These informal gatherings attract about two dozen people and is an excellent way to catch up with former colleagues. Also, we participate/support "Soup for the Soul"/Chili student luncheons.

Membership: This year, we have 51 members consistent with the pre-Covid years. In 2022, 72 people accepted our offer for a free membership. Virtually all retirees pay their membership fee at one of our events, but there is the opportunity to pay at the Alumni and Development office on University Avenue.

Communication: Our method of communication is email which is coordinated through David Cairns. Thus, we can contact over 200 retirees about our activities. Unfortunately, it cannot be determined how many are read, but we know there are at least 100 read. Megan Gee reported they currently have 409 retirees listed in which 358 live on PEI. We do not keep mailing addresses since abandoning mass postal mailing. A current telephone number is useful if people change emails. Please update us on any changes. You may get in touch with the Executive by emailing upeiretirees@gmail.com.

Each year, we request Human Resources (Megan Gee) to provide the

- I. names of individuals who passed away within the last 12 months and
- II. names of recent retirees (access must be granted by the individual).

Web page: Our web page (projects.upei.ca/retirees) contains information on our activities along with links to resources for retirees. There is a link to the CURAC website (curac.ca) which provides relevant information and periodic bulletins on issues of interest to seniors.

Chaplaincy Centre Student Support: At the AGM last year, the Association donated \$200 (8 @ \$25) grocery gift cards to the Student Food Bank, along with food donations by individuals. The gift cards are given to students as the food bank is closed over the Christmas holidays. This coming year we are increasing our gift card donation.

On February 14, the Association sponsored the ``Soup for the Soul`` student luncheon. We purchased groceries, chopped ingredients, and prepared two kinds of soup, feeding approximately 150 students. The ``Bakers dozen`` retirees shopped and chopped, prepared and served, greeted and smiled, cleaned and washed those tables and dishes. It's a great way to volunteer your time and help with the monthly soup/chili luncheons.

Colleges and Universities Retiree Associations of Canada (CURAC): The **2023 CURAC Conference** was held at the University of Saskatchewan, May 31-June 2, which commemorated the 20th anniversary of CURAC. This was the first face-to-face conference post pandemic-19. The conference theme was ``The New World`` with a focus on higher education and societal changes, research developments and health services with respect to pandemic research.

With a membership in CURAC, I was a voting delegate at their May 31 AGM which enables online participation. Participation is a great way to share ideas, develop contacts and reflect on common issues.

In closing, your opinions and suggestions are most welcome as we strive to deliver useful information and encourage your active retirement.

Appendix 2 Treasurer's Report

Association of Retired UPEI Employees Financial Statement Period ending November 10, 2023

Balance forward November 25, 2022		\$1,419.97
Revenues		
Membership Fees (30 including 10 for 2024)	\$900.00	
Members summer social at UPEI	\$1,000.00	
Interest	<u>\$0.55</u>	
<i>Total Revenues</i>		\$1,900.55
Expenses		
Campus Food Bank	\$200.00	
Soup luncheon for students	\$164.03	
Catering May function	\$186.74	
Name badges	\$45.99	
Peace lily in memory of Clarence Foster	\$70.03	
Catering summer social	\$1,227.31	
Service fees	<u>\$8.75</u>	
<i>Total Expenses</i>		<u>\$1,902.85</u>
Bank Balance November 10, 2023		<u><u>\$1,417.67</u></u>

2022-2023 Supplementary Health Trust Update

Prepared: November 2023

Scope of Trust: Staff Supplementary Health & Dental Plan

The Trustees are:

Employer	Union
Matthew O'Neill (Chair)	Rob Olscamp (Vice Chair) CUPE 501 Rep
Virginia Wickstrom	Lisa Steele, CUPE 1870 Rep
Grace McCourt	Jennifer Knight, CUPE 1870 Rep
Retiree Appointee: Bea Hartinger	
Administrator: Megan Gee	

For the 2022/2023 fiscal:

- May 1, 2022 renewal –
 - o As at July 2021, the Trust has a total of 1852 participants enrolled in the plan.
 - o Health rates increased by 7% and no change was made to the dental insurance rate for the 2022/2023 fiscal.
 - o There was a change to the pooling insurance the Trust has for high-cost claims. The pooling threshold was increased from \$20,000 to \$30,000 which resulted in a decrease from 10.3% to 6.39% in the pooling charge.

Changes to benefits:

- No changes were made to the supplementary health and dental benefits this fiscal.

All Health & Welfare Trusts are required to convert to an Employee Life Health Trust (ELHT) by the end of 2022

- The health trust successfully transitioned to an Employee Life Health Trust (ELHT) and complied with the new CRA tax filing requirements.