



CN RAILVETS OF SOUTHERN ALBERTA E2
June 2024 Volume 14 Issue 2

From the Presidents' Desk: Have we finally landed into the spring/summer season? It's been a bumpy ride with frequent lapses back into winter mode! The saying, "April showers bring May flowers" was more like "April snow brings spring bulbs flowering under the snow" The persistent rains in May have not slowed the blooming of the tulips, daffodils and assorted ground covers but has kept me from performing the never-ending job of weeding. Oh well...must be Springtime in the Rockies 😊. Due to our low attendance numbers for meetings 😞, the Kerby is placing all our meetings and events in the lower-level Games Room adjacent to the Café. With that said, our 2024 Picnic *IN* the Kerby is scheduled for June 10, 2024, at 12:00. Read inside for details. Member Bill Smith becomes a centenarian this June 19th and his family has arranged a get together for those wishing to send wishes or drop by to have a chat. Again, inside for details. This is the last call for the 2024 CNPA Scholarships, see inside for dates and details that *must* be followed. Slather on the sunscreen, put on a hat and don those sunglasses then go outdoors and enjoy the nice weather now because, well, you know where we live, and you know how quickly the weather can change. Stay safe with all you do this summer, and you'll hear from me again in October.

Talk to me! Comments? Complaints? Suggestions? Call or email me. Sincerely, Judy Woods, President E2

UPCOMING EVENTS: Next Meetings:

June 10- Picnic *IN* the Kerby

Sept 9- Regular meeting

Oct 7 – Luncheon meeting

*Please note phone calls will be made on the Sunday prior to the meeting to confirm that specific date, especially during inclement weather.

My Sincerest Apology

Oh my...In the last newsletter, not once but twice, I identified one of the guests at our Christmas party *and* at the 7 Over 70 Gala incorrectly as 'Zela' and it should have been Luzia (Montens). So sorry, my bad, hanging my red face now... J

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All published CNPA newsletters can be read at cnpensioners.org.

**NEWSLETTERS AVAILABLE THE FOLLOWING TIMES:
February, June and October**

HOW DO YOU GET THIS NEWSLETTER?

1. by **Canada Post** (most expensive, our least desirable),
2. by accessing it yourself on **cnpensioners.org**,
3. by receiving it directly in your **email** in-box from our local council (best choice for us). Please advise Brian Woods at 403-280-9107 or woodsbj@nucleus.com if this option works for you.

Any changes to your pension - address, telephone number, power of attorney, death etc. must be called into **Life Works at 1-800-361-0739, toll free**. They can also help with all questions regarding your pension or rail pass.

NEXT MEETING: JUN 10/24 – Picnic *IN* the Kerby

MEETING LOCATION: Games Room downstairs at the Kerby Centre, 1133-7 Avenue SW (403-705-3248)

TIME: 12:00

The Membership of E2 welcomes our New Members

- None so far and that is a bad thing

Happy Birthday wishes to:

- Bill Smith, June 19, 100 years
- Bertha Esplen, July 26, 98 years
- Evelyn Wittchen, July 30, 83 years
- Linda Campion, August 17, 73 years
- Linda Engel, August 24, 84 years
- Emerson 'Red' Robinson, September 23, 91 years
- Terry McDonough, October 4, 97 years
- Madeleine Pelletier, October 11, 83 years
- Les Martin, October 24, 80 years

Anniversary congratulations to:

- Where's my anniversary gift???
- Owen Boyd & Karen Prescott, September 28, 5 years
- Red and Martha Anna Robinson, October 5, 68 years

Obituaries:

- None? This is a good thing, right?

Want to see your name in print? The Company keeps all your details secret so if you want to see your name in print, call to give us those details so that can happen. A pseudonym for any nefarious members could be arranged 😊.

Membership Advantages: The Scholarship Committee will deny any applications sent by non-contributing members children or grandchildren. **Only** contributing members receive the annual CN calendar, delivered to your home – for only \$1/month. Also added is an association with the travel discount company, Colette Travel, plus the opportunity to join the CNPA Blue Cross plan when you initially retire. If you join the Rail Roaders In The Community program, a \$100 bonus donation is available. Be a promoter of the CNPA and encourage any non-members you know to call Brian Woods 403-280-9107 where, for that mere \$1/month (by PRD), they will become members. Also, they'll receive a copy of this wonderful newsletter! **Please Note:** Membership for a Spouse or survivor is **not automatic**, but they are invited to attend meetings (no voting unless in good standing - paying that is) and special events. **Social memberships** are also available (\$10 paid to us annually), this entitles the member to attend all functions of the local, and vote on local, non-CNPA, matters. Matters of the CNPA may only be voted on by the Pensioner or the surviving spouse per the constitution. **New incentive to join** – There is currently an offer of a two-year FREE membership so let's chat up anyone about to retire!

Got a call from an E3 member about his dealing with his insurer on his condo, it turns out his Insurer (a major insurer some of us in the past have dealt with) informs him that his policy also contains building coverage beyond his personal contents, he questioned how the condo owners would be on the hook for the entire building, wouldn't that be part of your condo fees? They informed him that all other insurance firms charge this too, but upon phoning and inquiring with other firms, it turns out that that company was the only one to do so! So needless to say, he went with a more 'competitive insurer', who saved him hundreds of dollars. So again folks, do read through your policy, if you have questions, phone and ask them to explain what you are actually covered for, and maybe a breakdown of the increases on your bill. I recently did this with my homeowner policy, wanting a breakdown of what the 8% increase was due to (my carrier doesn't breakdown the detailed costs, just the summation amount), the response I got from 'an agent' (the guy I dealt with for some time had recently quit, maybe his conscience got the better of him?), was 'the Insurance industry is broken', I think this guy was having a bad day... I'm still not happy with my carrier, but the rates at the other firms I got quotes from were much higher, broken industry indeed... B

URGENT: CNPA Scholarship Program

Program opens – April 15, 2024.

Application deadline – August 15, 2024.

Winners contacted by the end of the first week of September 2024. Sponsor **MUST** be a CNPA *Contributing Member*. Applications will be **accepted by email only** and must include all scanned or electronic supporting documentation as one complete PDF file. Details at cnpensioners.org under Scholarships (CNPA National Scholarship Program). Urge your loved ones to follow the rules and get this done asap.

National Newsletter

As taken from the Vancouver newsletter, "We need interesting articles about you as pensioners, items of interest, your volunteer story, railway history, things pensioners are doing and more for YOUR National Newsletter. You don't need to write the articles...just give us the information and we will produce the results."

This message also applies to us here in E2 so, please call or send any stories etc. to Brian or Judy (see return address on your envelope or email) and we will forward them to National Newsletter editor. I can also assist in the writing of your articles if needed. J



Nice spring day for a drive, summit of the pass south of St. Mary' enroute to Babb, Montana

2024 Picnic *IN* the Kerby

The 2024 edition of the Picnic *IN* the Kerby is slated for June 10, 2024 at 12:00 in the Games Room adjacent to the Café on the lower level. This is a 'friends and family' event and I will need to know how many are attending so the Kerby can set up the room accordingly. As per previous events, we will be ordering from the menu and running a tab to facilitate writing one cheque (less work for the Treasurer this way 😊). If our numbers are higher than we anticipated, there might be a \$5 per guest charge; if the usual number of guests attend, the local will pick-up the tab. Please call us at 403-280-9107 to confirm your attendance before June 8th.

Centenarians

Brian and I have already presented Marguerite Fisk (widow of Brian) with her crystal train and a gift basket on behalf of the Edmonton Council. In April, Russell Wilson's family privately presented him with his crystal train. Later this month, Bill Smith will receive his gifts from the Company (crystal train) and something personal from our local.

Bill Smith, Centenarian

100th birthday celebration on Saturday, June 22, 2024. If you wish to drop by, this is an RSVP in advance situation. Please contact Brian or Judy for details by June 10, 2024. Cards, letters, telephone calls and email wishes are appreciated and can be sent to Bill's family. Contact Brian or Judy for addresses etc. Please allow time for Canada Post to do their thing. There is also a space limitation, 30-35 people at a time, so please take that into consideration.

After 60+ years, CN is moving out of their current Headquarters building in 2026; they have signed a new lease with a brand-new office building just a block away at 600 de la Gauchetière Street West. This new office space provides a blank canvas with an opportunity to create a workspace that truly reflects our values, culture, and the evolving needs of our team and business. This building will continue to provide access to amenities that many have come to appreciate, including a larger gym, daycare facilities with indoor and outdoor spaces, a self-serve bistro and convenient access to transportation. In addition, the new facility has modern features and provides the tools and environment needed to continue to thrive as a team such as an outdoor terrace, modern meeting spaces, a large conference space and wellness rooms. (Wow, I was never offered anything near those creature comforts 😞!)



May drive to Sheep River Falls

Canadian Dental Care Plan

Most, if not all of you, are within the age ranges cited by the Federal government for the stated coverage. The only problem is that not many dental professionals have signed on as providers. Sounds like a lot more political wrangling will be needed before this Plan moves ahead smoothly. Stay tuned for any updates that might come my way. J