

**Canadian National Pensioners Association  
Mountain Region Regional Committee**

**March 9<sup>th</sup> Conference Call**

**Attendees**    **Butch Whiteman** – Chair – (Pension Committee) - Edmonton  
**Al Vodden** – Treasurer – Edmonton Local Rep (National Director)  
**Judy Woods** – Calgary Local Rep  
**Jeff Mohr** – Prince George Local Rep  
**Michael Petrescu** – (Health Care Committee Alt.) Prince George  
**Bill Davidson** – Victoria Rep (Regrets Gordon Wheatley)  
**Dennis Jensen** – (National Director) Kamloops  
**Hubert Plante** – Kamloops Rep (Regrets Myron Wizniak)  
**Jonn Hanlen** – Vice Chair – (National Director) Fraser Valley Rep  
**Len Townsend** – Nanaimo Rep  
**Blake Olson** – Secretary – (Health Care Com./Pension Com. Alt.) Vancouver Rep  
(Absent - Chuck Lewis)

**Quorum**        Butch opened the call and there was a quorum to proceed  
Emailed agenda was as follows:

1. Elections for these positions to take effect **January 1, 2019** except the Regional Alternate position will be effective retroactively to **January 1, 2018**.
  1. Pension Committee Representative (Butch Whiteman)
  2. Pension Committee Alternate (Blake Olson)
  3. Health Care Committee Alternate (Michael Petrescu)
  4. Regional Director (Jonn Hanlen)
  5. Regional Alternate Director (Vacant)
2. Appointment of Regional Council Executive
  1. Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer and Secretary
3. ADM Discussion items & Updates (Blake/Jonn/Al/Dennis)
4. CNPA National Budget Review Committee update
5. Health Care & Scholarship Committee Updates - Blake Olson
6. Review of Costs for Regional Council - (Conference Calls) and options for funding these and any other regional costs
7. Local Council update and issues - if any
8. Other items

**Elections**     Alternate Director – position is vacant and was effective January 1, 2018  
- Blake will send out instructions and electronic election process will be done this spring to be completed by summer.

Other National positions which are effective January 1, 2019, will be put out in the summer, for the usual election process in the fall and appointment November 1, 2018. The positions are for Director (Jonn Hanlen) Pension Cmte. Rep. (Butch Whiteman) Pension Cmte. Rep. (Blake Olson) Health Care Cmte. Alt. (Michael Petrescu)

**Regional Council Elections**    The current Regional Council executive was acclaimed for another term from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019. (Butch Whiteman - Chair, Jonn Hanlen - Vice Chair, Al Vodden - Treasurer, Blake Olson - Secretary)

**Regional  
Budget  
Process**

Butch reviewed the costing for the Regional committee. The committee has been in place since 2015, and has been able to administer all activities electronically, and the only costs over this period have been the Conference calls, which have totalled about \$260 over that period. Butch suggested that we withhold 10% of the Partnership allocation to the locals (\$1 per PRD member so 10% of that amount) prior to it being distributed by the National Treasurer. As there are about 4900 PRD mountain region members this would be approximately \$490 to the Region, to cover expenses related to conference calls.

1. A Motion was unanimously approved to allow the Committee to retain 10% but ONLY in 2018.  
(The National Treasurer advised subsequent to the call that this would be done)
2. A Motion was approved to pay for the Bill for the last conference call in 2017.
3. Any further funding will require another committee approval.
4. Al Vodden – Treasurer will manage the funds on the committees behalf.

There was also brief discussion on the call with respect to the region managing the expenses and finances related to the Partnership agreement (CN 150/Centenarians/Tree Planting Etc.) on behalf of the locals, but there was no agreement on this, so it was dropped.

**ADM and  
National  
Budget  
Review  
Process**

Blake Olson gave an update on the ADM discussion with respect to the concerns over a large declining membership over the next 10 years and the significant impact this could have to our Health Care Plan. By extension, He made additional comments of how this will also impact locals across the country, and our national budget. A small group of National officers did a cursory review of the current budget, and then forecasted the projected loss of membership against the budget. During that review, it was also determined that the REPORTED National Budget projected loss for 2017/2018 of \$8,000 was incorrect, and the loss will be instead close to \$34,000. As a result, if certain budget adjustments/reductions are not made, the National Council will be bankrupt in less than 10 years. The national President is reviewing this with the National Executive.

Butch emphasized the need for locals to continue to recruit local non contributing members to help contributions. There was also discussion on Spousal applications for membership and contributions to the locals and this was encouraged.

Victoria indicated their concern of their declining membership and that they generally only have Spouses as current members. This membership concern was echoed by other locals.

Blake explained our NEW reverse application process we are proposing, **which if approved**, all new CN pensioners would become members on retirement and would need to advise the CNPA if they don't want to participate/contribute. Will advise if this becomes enacted.

Kamloops advised that Kelowna is officially folded into their local and the new joint local will be advertised as Kamloops / Okanogan. The national treasurer will be advised to combine locals and remittances.

**Scholarships** Committee is in Place for 2018, Ted Haupt was no longer able commit, so Tony Duhaime agreed to join Gordon Wheatley, Al Vodden, & Blake Olson.  
ONLINE EMAIL only Applications open on the Website on April 15<sup>th</sup> – please advertise to your locals – thanks for the great help making 2017 a record year.

**Other Comments** **Regional Constitution** - It was mentioned that our Constitution is not signed, although it was approved by the committee in the summer of 2015, there is no signature page. Blake will arrange for a signature page, and get signatures from the current executive (which has been the same since inception of the constitution) and finalize the document and distribute.

**(Jonn Hanlen)** Pamphlets are being sent to all the various locals for their use and distribution. There was a very positive response from some locals on their usefulness. The intent of the pamphlets was for the locals to use with potential retirees, so they understand what the CNPA does for them if they are members. Some other suggestions:

1. Hand out at Safety Days or Union events or retirement parties
2. Provide some to Admin Clerks at some CN departments who assist people with getting their retirement papers going
3. Provide some to local HR reps to give to potential retirements

**(Butch Whiteman)** The Edmonton local will be holding a special meeting in Jasper May 3<sup>rd</sup> for the local pensioners. Butch has invited several people from the CNPA and also CN Pensions, but none have yet confirmed. Blake will attend if there is national funding for his expenses.

**Respectfully Recorded**  
**Blake Olson**  
**Secretary MR Regional Council**