

MAIN LINE NEWSLETTER

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**Mainline is published in January, May, & September
With a circulation of 900**

**Our meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of
April & June, and the 4th Thursday in
September & October of 2024.**

Meetings start at 1 PM

**For meeting information and upcoming events
See Pg 6.**

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CN Pensions and Benefits Administration

1-800-361-0739

Pensioners' Web Portal:
cnbenefits.hroffice.com

It will allow you to access relevant pension information, update your address and banking information.

On your first visit, you will need to register. You will then be able to access the portal using your CN PIN (login ID) and the password you create.

If you require assistance with registering or logging in, please call Pensioners' Help Line 1-800-361-0739.

CNPA National Web Site: www.cn pensioners.org

CNPA English Facebook Pg: www.facebook.com/cn.pensioners.92

CNPA French Facebook Pg: www.facebook.com/cnpa.french.3/

Important

When a pensioner/surviving spouse moves or dies, CN Pension and Benefits Administration needs to be advised immediately by calling: 1-800-361-0739
It is also important you advise your local London Council, Louise Bayer, 519-438-2433 ASAP as well.



CENTENARIANS CELEBRATE THEIR 100TH BIRTHDAYS



I attended Dorothy Blue's 100th birthday on Sunday January 21st in Owen Sound On. Dorothy is the widow of the late Neil Blue, he was a track man out of Owen Sound. He worked for the railway for 35 years before his retirement. Dorothy rode on the last passenger train out of Owen Sound and saw the railway move out of Owen Sound, that once was a busy port.

Dorothy had a large gathering of family that attended her birthday party with one fifth generation granddaughter.

In the photo is Dorothy, daughter Kathleen and son John as I presented Dorothy with her gift.

Ron Hewson
C7 President

Sunday March 2nd/2024
London ON

Mrs. Gloria Smith celebrated her 100th birthday at her home in London. Gloria is the wife of the late Stan Smith former Work Equipment Manager, who retired in London in 1980. Presentation of the centenarian's award was made by CNPA VP Ken Roberts and Secretary Treasure Rick Dixon. Many friends and family members helped celebrate her birthday at her home, with gifts, cards and her 100th birthday cake.



President's Message

This is a special year for the CNPA as we celebrate our 50th Anniversary as a Council. On January 1st 1974, the association was granted a "Federal Charter by the Consumers and Corporate Affairs Canada". Our name was System Council of CN Pensioners Associations Incorporated. On October 16th 1979, the official name was changed to National Council of CN Pensioners Associations Incorporated, and then shortened to CNPA. Local Councils across Canada will be celebrating this special occasion throughout the year. Our Council will be celebrating this occasion on November 14th, at the Christmas Luncheon. We hope that you can come out for some anniversary cake, to help celebrate this special occasion.

As I have mentioned in my last message that our National President Bruce Anderson has focused his term on strengthening and growing the Association. So as your Local President I am asking for your help in growing this association. What can this executive do for our members? At this time we have Spring and Christmas Luncheons planned for this year. Other Locals are having golf tournaments and picnics, there is nothing stopping us from having a summer gathering if members are interested in participating. So if you think you might have an idea for an event, or can help participate with a function this year, let one of our executives know as we are looking for membership involvement!

Do not forget to keep your mail and e-mail address up to date with Louise Bayer at 693 Brant St. London ON N5Y 3M9 or lbayer2022@gmail.com

See you at a meeting,

Ron Hewson

Committee Reports



CN Pension Committee

On March 20th the pension Committee met virtually for a regular meeting. This meeting was on Microsoft teams a program that CN uses for their meetings. CN opened the meeting by announcing all the new members and the ones that they replaced.

The committee reviewed the last four months pension reports and after questions on some of the reports they were passed by the committee.

The committee was given an update by the CN Investment Division (CNID) who manage the pension plan.

The committee was then given an update on the year end report for 2023 and compared it to the 2022 year end financial report. The 2023 report shows the plan has improved financially from 2022 mainly due to higher interest rates.

The plan return has increased by 11.9% in 2023 compared to the 2022 loss of 16.4%, also discussion regarding the different companies that they have invested in for the future of our plan. Along with a prediction that the market will do well in 2023.

Health Care Committee

There has been the long-awaited Pharmacare "deal", which is neither universal nor all inclusive.

It is designed to cover certain diabetes insulin and some medications, some monitoring supplies, and some birth control/contraception.

If the legislation is passed, there may be a positive impact (potential savings between 3-6%) to our plan finances, if some of the costs we currently cover are potentially passed to the government.

The issue of late applications still is a cause of concern for both new pensioners and surviving spouses. The application timelines for both these items are outlined on page 3 of the Health Care Plan Booklet. This is available Online at www.cnpensioners.org.

Ontario Plan membership as of August 2023 was 3,366 with an average claim per retiree of \$93.00.

Tickets available for September 15th/24 game 13:30 Rogers Centre Bluejays vs Cardinals contact Bob Haggart

If you would like tickets please send an email to haggart.robert@gmail.com with the number of seats and the location.

Once I have secured the seats I will advise you and would then need payment preferably via e-transfer to my main email account - rhag@rogers.com. Should e-transfer not be at your disposal we can discuss an alternate method.

100 level outfield: \$76/ticket
100 level corners: \$99/ticket
200 level corners: \$61/ticket
200 level outfield: \$65/ticket
200 level baselines: \$76/ticket
200 level bases: \$81/ticket





The CNPA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM is sponsored by the National Council of CN Pensioners (CNPA).

Its purpose is to financially assist the educational pursuit and career development of families of the CN Pensioners Association Contributing Members.

Subject to annual CNPA approval, the Program provides 25 -\$1,500.00 one-year scholarships for each fall school year.

The scholarships are distributed and available as follows: five \$1,500.00 scholarships in each of the 5 Canadian regions

(Atlantic, Quebec, Ontario, Prairie, and Mountain).

Eligibility

Applications are accepted from children, grandchildren, great grandchildren (includes legally adopted and stepchildren and step grandchildren) of CNPA Contributing Members. Applicants must have a minimum 80% grade average over the most recent 2 full academic school years in order to be considered. Applicants are assessed based on a combination of their marks and several other important weighted factors.

These may include:

community involvement, personal and academic achievements, extracurricular activities, career objectives and other relative information provided by the applicant. The resume and a detailed covering letter can provide a significant amount of this very valuable information used in the evaluation process.

Application forms and information can be found on the CNPA National Web Site:

<https://www.cn pensioners.org/scholarships/scholarships-national>

Applications will once again be accepted by email only and must include all scanned or electronic supporting documentation as one complete PDF file. The application package must be received no later than August 15th, 2024.

- Program Opens - April 15, 2024
- Application Deadline - August 15, 2024
- Winners Contacted - By the end of the first week of September 2024

In addition to the 5 National awards of \$1500.00 each for the Great Lakes Region, **the Ontario Provincial Council (OPC) is offering an additional scholarship of \$1,500.00, available to eligible applicants.**

The OPC scholarship program will follow the same rules, procedures and dates as the National Program and will be awarded to the sixth winning Great Lakes Region scholarship applicant.

The 2024 award winning OPC applicant will be eligible to re-apply for the 2025 National Scholarship and a National winning scholarship applicant may apply for the 2025 OPC program. Unsuccessful qualified applicants may re-apply for either subsequent program.

We Get Mail



From: David Dougherty

I will not be able to attend the April 18 or May 16 meetings as I Volunteer for the VON and on Thursdays I don't finish until 1200. There was talk of doing the meetings in person and also on Zoom .

I was able to take part in the Zoom meetings while we were all fighting Covid-19.

Because I am doing all this Volunteering for the VON one of my CN friends in Belleville told me about The CN program **(CN RAILROADERS IN THE COMMUNITY)** which I had seen in the News Letter but never thought anything about it.

I got signed up before December 31 and put in my hours for the year 2023 and

CN donated \$2,500.00 to the VON . It would be a good idea to mention the program in the meeting just in case there are other railroader that don't realize the program could apply to them for what ever organization they volunteer for.

Thank you

Dave Dougherty

CNPA Council C7 Membership

Meeting & Event Schedule
Meetings start at 1 PM,
Lunch available 11 AM prior to meetings.

June 20th, 2024 Marconi Club
September 26th, 2024 Marconi Club

October 24th, 2024 Marconi Club

Marconi Club 120larke Rd. London ON

Advise Louise Bayer 1 week before meetings
to be able to give the Marconi Club the number
of members expected for lunch

Spring Luncheon May 16th, 2024
12 noon
Richards Memorial Church, London

Notify Louise Bayer by May 5th/24
519-438-2433

E-Mail: lbayer2022@gmail.com

we need to advise of the numbers going to
the luncheon

Spring Luncheon
cost to members is \$10.00 please bring
exact amount.
Church is charging \$25.00 for luncheon.

Christmas Dinner
November 14th, 2024.
12 noon

Richards Memorial Church, London

360 Edgeworth Ave. London ON

Current obituaries



Poley William G	2023-11-17
Williams Ethel	2023-12-11
Fletcher Elsie	2023-12-20
McKinnon James A	2023-12-26
Pash Elizabeth	2024-01-11
Blythe John	2024-01-12
Penny William	2024-01-15
Arnel John	2024-01-17
Ellwood Janet	2024-01-19
Byrne Barbara	2024-01-22
Moore Betty	2024-01-23
Gibson Mary	2024-02-05



For members unable to attend meetings, we will be emailing out the "link" to connect to the meetings. If Louise Bayer doesn't have your Email address, send it in and you will be included on the mail list.

Emails will be sent out 1 week before meetings.

Type in the link on your browser.

Click the join link to join the meeting.

On your web browser, a pop-up window will prompt you to open or download the application.

In the pop-up window, **click Cancel**.

At the bottom of the page, **Click** join from your browser. You will be directed to a new page.

Click Allow - to allow Zoom permission for your use of the microphone and camera.