



September 2026

On Track for the Future

Serving and supporting Members of South Western Ontario

MAINLINE NEWSLETTER

CNPA C7 South Western Ontario

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CN Pensions and Benefits Administration

Help Line: 1-800-361-0739

Pensioners' Web Portal
cnbenefits.hroffice.com

What you can do on the portal:

- Access your pension information
- Update your address
- Update banking details

First-time access:

- Register on your first visit.
- Log in using your CN PIN and the password you create.
- Need help? Call 1-800-361-0739.

When a pensioner or surviving spouse moves or dies, advise CN Pension and Benefits Administration immediately at **1-800-361-0739**.

Also notify **Louise Bayer, Membership:**
519-438-2433 | lbayer2022@gmail.com

CNPA Online

National website:
www.cnpensioners.org

English Facebook page:
facebook.com/cn.pensioners.9/

French Facebook page:
facebook.com/cnpa.french.3

Stay Connected with C7

Would you like to receive the MAINLINE NEWSLETTER electronically?

The electronic edition is delivered directly to your email in full colour and helps reduce printing and mailing costs.

To join the C7 email distribution list, contact Louise Bayer:

519-438-2433
lbayer2022@gmail.com



Message from the President

If you read the National Newsletter, you will see that we are looking for an Executive Secretary. I am pleased to see that we have had a good response to that request. Our council is also looking for Executive Members to keep operating, including Treasurer, Secretary, Membership Chair, President, Vice President and Director. The Treasurer and Secretary positions could also be combined.

With councils such as the Atlantic Region unable to form an executive and having to shut down, I wonder how long our council can continue without more members becoming involved. If councils continue to close, what will happen to our Blue Cross and Pension Committees without Members available to serve on them?

If you are interested, please call me at 519-671-3321 or email hewson@eastlink.ca. I would be glad to explain what we are looking for to help keep our council operating.

Our council covers a very large geographical area, making it almost impossible to hold all meetings in one location. We are willing to meet in other communities with help from a Member in that area. This year we held a breakfast meeting in Sarnia, a luncheon in London, and two other meetings in London. Future meetings could be held in your area if someone is willing to work with us to find a location for a luncheon or meeting.

All Executive meetings are held on Zoom, so you do not need to leave home to participate. You also have the option of attending meetings in your area while still serving on the Executive.

Please keep your mailing and email addresses up to date with CN Pension and Benefits Administration at 1-800-361-0739 and with Louise Bayer, 693 Brant St., London, ON N5Y 3M9, or at lbayer2022@gmail.com.



2026 Scholarships Awarded

1 - Ellie Stevens, Hamilton

sponsored by Grandmother Pauline Schweitzer (C4)

2 - Dominic Beyak, Winnipeg

sponsored by Grandmother Elaine Beyak (C13)

3 - Ashna Nijhawan, Richmond Hill

sponsored by Grandfather Sant Lal Nijhawan (C14)

4 - Carson Vogel, Collingwood

sponsored by Grandfather Thomas Fuchs (C2)

5 - Jennifer Aikenhead, St Catharine's

sponsored by Grandmother Lydia Dunkley (C8)

OPC Scholarship:

Alanna Pullen, Hornepayne

sponsored by Father Harold Pullen (C13)

Pension Committee Update

The Pension Committee meeting was held in Montreal on Tuesday May 26.

We were provided with the fully audited fund report from Mercer and the highlights of that report as of Dec 31, 2025, were:

- Plan currently stands at \$17.8 B
- The Fund earned 6.5% (\$1.1B) in 2025 and paid out \$934 million in pensions
- Going Concern ratio improved from 144% to 146% (continuation of the Plan)
- Solvency ratio improved from 133% to 138% (termination of the Plan)
- Both are solid indicators that the Fund is well funded above any payout requirements
- CPI (inflation) was calculated to be 2% and because the funding level in the Escalation Account exceeds 5% of pensioner liability, the indexation factor for 2027 is set at 60% of CPI, or 1.2%

Minimum monthly increases to pensions remain at \$9.00/month for pensioners and \$4.50/month for surviving spouses.

Maximum monthly increase to pensions will be \$39.00/month beginning January 21, 2027.

The Pension Committee Annual Report will be delivered in July. It will include all the above information as well as some background and information on numbers of employees and pensioners.

Around Our Council

Celebrating Our Members Across South Western Ontario

Claire Bojin Celebrates 100 Years

On April 6th, Claire Bojin celebrated her 100th birthday surrounded by family and friends at the Pioneer Park Christian Reformed Church in Kitchener.

Claire's husband, Donald Bojin, worked in the CN B&B Department and retired in 1975.

Claire and Donald raised their six children in Kitchener. Five of their children were able to attend this special celebration.

Council C7 Vice-President Ken Roberts presented the gift from CN/CNPA.



Centenarian Celebration

On June 21st, June Riehl celebrated her 100th birthday with family and friends at the nursing home in Milverton, ON.

June is the widow of the late Wilfred Riehl, who worked in the stores throughout South Western Ontario before his appointment in Stratford, where they raised their family.

Best wishes and congratulations, June!



Sarnia Breakfast

On June 4th, over 36 members gathered in Sarnia for a delicious, subsidized breakfast.

President Ron Hewson attended and had the opportunity to meet with many members.

CN100 hats were presented to those in attendance.



London Luncheon

On June 18th, 30 members gathered at the Mandarin Restaurant, 387 Wellington Road in London, for our final luncheon before the summer break.

It was an enjoyable opportunity for members to renew friendships, socialize, and spend time together.

Our next meeting is October 18th. Lunch will be provided prior to the meeting.



Victor Finnie Celebrates 100

Victor Finnie celebrated his 100th birthday on August 11th, 2026. On September 4th, C7 President Ron Hewson had the pleasure of making a special presentation to Victor in recognition of this remarkable milestone. The presentation had been postponed due to a delay in receiving Victor's gift from CN.

Victor began his CN career as a car controller in Toronto and later completed his career in Clinton, where he and his family made their home. He retired at the age of 55 and has now enjoyed an impressive 45 years of retirement.



Union Pacific and CN Announce Agreement to Improve North American Rail Connectivity

Agreement expands operating rights in Chicago and creates new Canada-Mexico service opportunities for customers



MONTREAL, July 22, 2026 - CN and Union Pacific announced a binding Memorandum of Understanding intended to strengthen rail service across North America and improve both railroads' ability to serve customers. Union Pacific would gain expanded operating rights over CN's Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railway (EJ&E) corridor through Chicago, while CN would gain new rights over Union Pacific's network between Memphis, Tennessee, and Eagle Pass, Texas, supporting freight movements between Canada and Mexico.



Investing in Homelessness Prevention

CN is committed to supporting non-for-profit organizations that prevent homelessness through early intervention, community action, and sustainable solutions.

Homelessness is rising across North America. CN's focus is on supporting nonprofit organizations whose mission is to reduce the number of people at risk of losing access to safe and permanent shelter in Canada and the U.S., through proven, community-based prevention strategies.

There are two donation cycles each year to ensure fair evaluation and funding of the most impactful projects and organizations across our network.

If your organization helps to prevent homelessness, we invite you to apply in during the next cycle starting July 1. More information can be found on the CNPA web site.



RAIL Safety Week Sept. 21 to 27

Tips to "BE RAIL SMART"

Stop a safe distance from tracks and crossings.
Look both ways to ensure trains are not approaching.
Listen for approaching trains.

How can you help?

Say something! Save the CN Police phone number and call if you witness any unsafe situation near the railroad: 1-800-465-9239. Act as a role model around trains and tracks.

Share rail safety tips with your family, friends, colleagues and community.
If you live in a CN-served community email CN Safety to organize a safety presentation in your local school.

Events, Membership & Obituaries

From the Desk of Louise Bayer

To all members: it is very important that if you move, change your phone number, mailing address, or email address, you let me know so that I can keep our database up to date.

We hope more of you will come out to our meetings and luncheons in 2026 to socialize and provide your input.

All the best for 2026 & 2027

Current Obituaries

Name	Date
Annalee Doreen Jaynes	March 23, 2026
William Rawson	May 6, 2026
Maria Teresa Celletti	May 8, 2026
Dorothy Bach	May 13, 2026
Gloria Smith	May 23, 2026
Joan Hobbs	June 15, 2026
Margaret Elaine Taylor	June 15, 2026
Duarte Almeida	June 16, 2026
Margery A Burgess	June 20, 2026
Pat Wick	June 28, 2026
Patsy Ferguson	July 1, 2026
Pauline Veenkamp	July 5, 2026
George Lawrance	July 29, 2026

Upcoming Events and Meetings

September 10th

Executive Zoom meeting - 1:00 PM.

October 15 - London Meeting

East Lions Community Centre, 1731 Churchill Ave., London, ON. 519-661-2489.

Lunch will be provided starting at 12:00 PM. The meeting will begin at 1:00 PM.

Please let Louise know by October 9th if you will be attending. Preferably by Email.

December 3 - Christmas Dinner

12 noon at Richards Memorial United Church, 360 Edgeworth Ave., London, ON.

Cost per person is \$10.00. Dinner will be served at 12 noon sharp.

Please arrive by 11:30 AM to pay and please let Louise know by Nov.23rd if you will be attending.

December 10

Executive Zoom meeting - 1:00 PM.