



July 2025 Newsletter

CONTACT US

President / Membership Chair	Ron Charles	(905) 884-5268	c14torontocouncil@cnpensioners.org
Secretary	Nancy Zajacz	(905) 836-2266	c14torontosecretary@cnpensioners.org
Vice-President	Wayne MacFarlane	(416) 846-8169	
Treasurer / Past-President	Dave Bradshaw	(905) 763-8754	c14torontotreasurer@cnpensioners.org
Newsletter Editor	Barb Becker-Leonard	(905) 253-9319	
Director at Large	Lou J. Lisi	(647) 284-9646	
Director at Large	Aubrey Gill	(416) 574-3445	
Director at Large	Bob Haggart	(905) 898-4676	

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Your Toronto Council's primary role is to provide information and assistance to its members. We do this by having meetings, issuing newsletters and organizing social activities.

Holding meetings has become a bit of a challenge. Our members are distributed over a large area of the GTA so finding a suitable location is difficult. For many years, we held meetings at the Toronto Convention Centre on Front Street. In 2023 we moved meetings around and held them in Whitby, Brampton and Richmond Hill. In 2024 we changed to using one central location in North York. We reviewed our meeting plans and have decided to go back to a rotation of locations. There will be meetings in Durham, Peel and York Regions this fall. All will be held at a local Royal Canadian Legions and all will start at 12:00 PM and include a light lunch. Members are encouraged to attend the meetings in person, if they are able. We are also providing a "virtual" opportunity to join the meetings by Zoom. Please see our Meetings page in this newsletter for details.

Our newsletters are distributed to members using two methods. One third of them are emailed and two thirds are sent out via Canada Post. The challenge here is the uncertainty of the labour situation at Canada Post. We have distributed questionnaires a couple of times over the years in the newsletter to get your thoughts on meetings and activities. One of the questionnaires asked about your time at CN. The intention is to try to get a better idea of who our members are and what type of work you did. From this we received some great background to the various jobs done at CN to include as articles of interest in our "Working at CN" page of the newsletter.

Responses to the meetings and activities questionnaire provided us with guidance for the types of things we will try to organize. We have continued with bowling, golf tournament, Blue Jays tickets and curling as activities previously enjoyed by members. This year we added lawn bowling. Over the coming winter, we will be discussing plans for 2026. We would welcome your suggestions on something that would be of interest to you. We would also appreciate any assistance in organizing an activity. Please contact one of the Directors if you can help in any way.

Aside from the things the Directors of the Toronto Council do, some of us are also active at the National Council level. Nancy is National Co-chair for Membership, Bob is a National Director, Lou is an Alternate Member of the Pension Committee, and I am National Council Treasurer. Because of our involvement at the National level, we can provide input on the policies and direction of the CNPA. This also gives you an opportunity to express your opinion or concerns directly to someone who can relay it to the National Council for consideration at the highest level.

Quiz Answers: c and b

STAY CONNECTED AND INFORMED

Toronto Council Facebook: **CN Pensioners Association Toronto Council.**

CN Pensioners' Association Website: **<http://www.cn pensioners.org>**

Change of email: notify: **c14torontocouncil@cn pensioners.org**

MEMBER INFORMATION CHANGES

You need to advise **CN Pension & Benefits Administration** of any change of address. The CNPA **cannot** process any requests for address or phone number changes. CN Pensions & Benefits Administration will forward address changes to the CNPA so that any of our mailings will continue to reach you.

You need to advise **CN Pension & Benefits Administration** of any change of banking information. The CNPA **cannot** process any requests for this type of change.

CN Benefits and Administration at 1-800-361-0739 or <http://cnbenefits.hroffice.com>

CNPA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The 2025 Scholarship Program will be open online to applicants effective April 15, 2025. Application Deadline - August 13, 2025. Look for details in the CNPA Website: **[http:// www.cn pensioners.org](http://www.cn pensioners.org)**.

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.

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.

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 13, 2025.

2025 Key Dates

- Application Deadline - August 13, 2025
- Winners Contacted - By the end of the first week of September 2025

SAVE THESE DATES

TORONTO BLUE JAYS GAME

Sunday, September 14 – 1:30 pm – Blue Jays vs Baltimore Orioles

Rogers Centre, One Blue Jays Way, Toronto

The process to obtain tickets for this year's Blue Jays game will be handled in a difference manor.

We have purchased 30 tickets for the Toronto Council. Ticket purchases by paid members will be allotted 2 tickets each at the subsidized rate of \$35.00. If you have received this notice via email or the newsletter, send an email to **C14torontosecretary@cn pensioners.org** to request your tickets.

You will be advised to whom you are to send your payment to, and once payment has been received, the ticket/s will be forwarded to you. All tickets are electronic and must be downloaded onto your phone for entrance into the stadium.

CURLING

Thursday, Date and time to be confirmed

Richmond Hill Curling Club, 121 Elgin Mills Rd. E, Richmond Hill

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Tuesday, November 25 – 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Mandarin Restaurant, 1027 Finch Avenue W., North York

MEETINGS

September 10, 2025 – 12:00 PM

Royal Canadian Legion Branch #606

1555 Bayly Street, Pickering, Ontario

Directions: West of Brock Road, south of the 401.

Zoom Information:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89469978881?pwd=cGnxoOOw6sp4h6Tdb6LQZ6kl9M3IMl.1>

Meeting ID: 894 6997 8881

Passcode: Cochair

October 8, 2025 – 12:00 PM

Royal Canadian Legion Branch #82

35 Front Street, North, Mississauga, Ontario

Directions: North of Lakeshore Road West, East of Mississauga Road.

Zoom Information:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83417517598?pwd=H0WAGRVqNYnBZveH5BzKW4NVBmD5IV.1>

Meeting ID: 834 1751 7598

Passcode: 206467

November 5, 2025 – 12:00 PM

Royal Canadian Legion Branch #375

233 Centre Street, East, Richmond Hill, Ontario

Directions: North of Major MacKenzie Drive, mid way between Bayview Ave and Yonge Street.

Zoom Information:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82186126896?pwd=NfDh5NgB1hXNbAwTIQK9C5fobJ1vDb.1>

Meeting ID: 821 8612 6896

Passcode: 967539

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTENDING BY ZOOM

Joining From Your Computer.

If you received the link by email, click on it and you will be connected to the meeting.

If you **did not** receive the link by email, go to the Zoom homepage, <https://zoom.us>, select “Join” and either “type in” the meeting ID or Zoom invitation link. Then, you will see the screen, Select “Join from Your Browser” to enter your meeting, click on this and you will be connected.

Joining on Your Tablet or Smartphone, you will need to download the app.

To Download Zoom on My iPhone or iPad

Step 1. Visit the Apple App Store and search “Zoom” in the search box. If you have an Android, you’ll want to do the same thing in Google Play.

Step 2. Tap “Get” or “Install” to download the Zoom app to your smartphone. You will need to authorize the download by entering your Apple ID and password (or face recognition).

Step 3. Once it is finished downloading, tap on the Zoom app icon on your phone. It is a little blue square with a white video camera in the centre

Step 4. Next, you’ll be prompted to log in using your email address and password. If you haven’t made an account already, you can tap “Sign Up.”

Once you have Zoom installed, you can join a meeting through the app using the coding shown for each meeting.

PHOTO GALLERY

BOWLING



LAWN BOWLING



GOLF DAY



WORKING AT CN

We've received some great responses to the questionnaire. Some retirees started their careers as far back as the mid 1950's! It is our hope to preserve the memories of their time working at CN with this feature page.

JOBS AND DUTIES

Manager, Community Planning and Development. As you know, the railways have a long history in the development of Canada. As the country's population grows, so does development around rail lines. In the early 1980's, both CN and CP began to lobby municipal governments and the province of Ontario about the need to protect new residential development from the potential for derailments and daily intrusion of noise and vibration. After much lobbying of the Ontario Municipal Board, all municipalities in Ontario are now required to circulate all municipal planning and development applications within 300m of a railway corridor (1000m of a railway yard) to the railways for comment.

Many functions within CN were involved in studies and the development of guidelines to mitigate against disastrous occurrences like the 1979 CP derailment in Mississauga. Initially, CN's reviews were managed by the Industrial Development and the Environment departments but later came under Technical Services and ultimately CN Real Estate.

The reviews included planning justification reports, drainage reports and noise & vibration reports. CN and CP progressively managed to have appropriate wording included in all municipal planning documents and at the provincial level, essentially requiring them to impose the CNCP development guidelines.

In 1983, a CNCP Policy document was produced to deal with situations where a new residential development is proposed to be built adjacent to railway rights-of-way. It prescribed standards and procedures in determining the measures to be incorporated into such developments to mitigate the impact of railway noise and vibration and to minimize the possibility of railway derailment, collision or spillage affecting nearby residents.

In 2013, Guidelines for New Development in Proximity to Railway Operations, was produced as a joint venture by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the Canada Transportation Agency and the railways, CN, CP, GO Transit, VIA and some short lines. These guidelines are intended to be used by municipalities, provincial governments, municipal staff, railway developers and property owners when developing land in proximity to railway operations.

DID YOU KNOW?

In the 1930's Trans Canada Air Lines, now Air Canada, was formed by the Government of Canada as a corporate affiliate of CN and stayed that way until 1977.

CN set up a radio department offering a radio service to passengers on its trains with 11 National Radio Stations from Moncton to Vancouver. This network of stations eventually became the Canadian Radio Broadcasting Commission in 1932 and finally became the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation/Radio Canada in 1936.

QUIZ

Over the years, CN owned a number of hotels. How many?

- a) 6
- b) 10
- c) 18

Lief Erickson and William Carson are the names of?

- a) Surveyors who mapped out train routes for CN.
- b) CN passenger vessels operating between North Sydney NS and Port Aux Basque NFLD.
- c) Former presidents of the Great Northern and Grand Trunk railways which joined to form CN.

Welcome New Members

Joan Armstrong	Richmond Hill
Rini Black	Hampton
Cathy Harris	Toronto
Michael Hull	Brampton
Joan Janeczek	Mississauga
Jim Liadis	Brampton
Oei Yuen Lau	Scarborough
Virginia MacGillivray	Brampton
Liz Marshall	Newmarket
Doug (James) McNutt	Meaford
Leonor Miguel	Toronto
Kirk Nurnberg	Haliburton
Shabnum Shah	Brampton
Kathleen Snell	Sharon
John Stanbury	Etobicoke
Janet Walker	Pickering

Remembering Our Colleagues Who Have Recently Passed

		<u>Passed Away</u>
Jean Culleton	Cambridge	2025 03 28
Filippo Di Bennardo	Woodbridge	2025 03 28
Giovanni Didiano	Mississauga	2025 03 08
Brian Elcombe	Toronto	2025 03 27
Paul Firlotte	Waterloo	2024 12 28
Barry Hogan	Oshawa	2025 05 24
Alexander Hodges	North York	2024 10 01
John Hornsby	Mississauga	2025 04 14
Shirley Ibbotson	Kitchener	2025 03 07
Rodney Johnston	Jordan Station	2025 06 03
Harry Kadohama	Scarborough	2025 04 13
Heinz Kurzmam	St. Catharines	2025 03 09
James Marshall	Kearney	2025 03 06
Samuel Martin	Mississauga	2025 04 15
Jean Moffet	Toronto	2025 04 14
Frank Mohammed	Scarborough	2025 04 12
Gordon Morgan	Beaconsfield	2025 03 17
Errol Rambran	Brampton	2025 06 03
Shirley Regis	Toronto	2025 04 08
Eulogius Sequeira	Brampton	2025 04 03
Syed-Abid Ali Shah	Brampton	2025 04 07
Amar Verma	Brampton	2025 04 28
Art Walker	Pickering	2025 03 10
Peter Williams	Mississauga	2025 05 16
Peggy Yarison	St. Catharines	2025 03 15
Gordon Yeung	Scarborough	2025 03 30