



## The Privatization of CN - 25 years of History

Click on [video](#) to watch a brief synopsis of the privatization of CN last 25 years.

*Congratulations*

....and best wishes to  
**Frank Wrobel**  
who celebrated 25 years  
of retirement as of  
December 2020.

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# CN Pensioners' Association of Manitoba

Meetings are normally held at 1:30 p.m. on the 1st Wednesday of the month except for the months of July, August and December. Please note that all meetings are cancelled until further notice due to Covid. Location of meetings (unless otherwise stated under our Special Events article) is at the Norwood Legion, 134 Marion St., Winnipeg.

[www.cnpensioners.ca](http://www.cnpensioners.ca)  
[www.facebook.com/cnpensionersmanitoba](https://www.facebook.com/cnpensionersmanitoba)



April 2021

## President's View - Ron Davis

### Newsletter Online

For your convenience, the current edition as well as several past editions of the CNPA of Manitoba Newsletter are available on our Newsletter page on our website.

For those members of the CNPA of Manitoba who still receive their newsletter via Canada Post, please consider signing up to receive it electronically. You will not only receive it sooner, but you will also help to keep publishing, printing and postage costs down. All you have to do is visit our website and fill out the online form to receive it electronically and our database will be updated accordingly. Here is the link to the online form: <https://www.cnpensioners.ca/membership>.

When a new edition is available, an announcement is made on our website under Breaking News as well as on our Facebook page. The email with the link to that edition is sent out at the same time. Should you see the announcement but still have not received the new edition in your email inbox, please check your spam or junk folder in case your email security has dropped it there. Should you change your email address, please let us know so we can update our records.

***Please note that this convenience is intended for Manitoba members. Pensioners who belong to other councils are still welcome to visit our newsletter page to view our newsletters.***



## Meet Your Executive – Update

In the December edition, we did a feature introducing you to our 2020-2021 Executive Committee and their roles. In the article, we acknowledged the role that both Linda Schram and Janet Lewis Anderson played in the development and introduction of the Harvey Hosfield and Manitoba Trade Bursary. We would also like to acknowledge and thank Jack Moore, a former member of the Executive, who also played a significant role in the development and roll out of the bursaries! Thank you Jack!

## Important Message:

Regarding the fridge magnets recently mailed out, we would like to remind you that the "Help Line" is to be called only for issues involving Pensions and Benefits. Also, please keep your PIN number confidential in order to prevent it from being used to facilitate acts of fraud.

**Electronic Newsletter Bonus Stories:** look for the "blue link" to view these stories!

## Executive Council 2021

### President

Ron Davis, 204-489 4485

[ronvel@mymts.net](mailto:ronvel@mymts.net)

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### Committee Chairs:

#### Publicity & Editor

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#### Outreach

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#### Webmaster

Janet Lewis Anderson,

204-275-0482

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204-256-8419

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Claudette McCrindle,

204-255-5688

[tc2mccrindle@gmail.com](mailto:tc2mccrindle@gmail.com)

### CNPA National Level

Bruce Anderson - Director

Joanne Gaborieau - Director

Patrick McMullin - Alternate  
Director

Linda Schram - Pension and

Health Committee

Representative

## Membership Report - Joanne Gaborieau

Regular Membership	- 3603
Associate Members	- 15
Age Exempt	- 15 (100 years of age and over)
Total Paid Membership	- 3633

*Welcome to the following New Members. Hope to see you out at the meetings.  
We look forward to your participation in the Association!*

Lindy Anderson	Chris Fournier	Albert Lavallee	Elizabeth Simcoe
Randy Anderson	Tony Giardino	Gary Leonard	Cheryl Simpson
Adelino Antunes	Jacques Guay	Merle Libbrecht	George Smith
Anthony Bacon	Hilda Hay	Maria Evelina	Helga Stanik
Marc Bernier	Kathryn Howe	Machado	Randy Stetson
James Blackadar	Wanda Hyde	Edward Martel	Clifford Strong
Geoff Blunderfield	Sandra Jensen	Virginia Marusyk	Bella Wolk
Darryl DeSerranno	Barbara Ann Kolish	Kelly McKenna	Noella Wychnenko
Robert Domanski	Eveline Kopp	Tom Parker	Randy Zanewich
Jerry Donaldson	Rick Kowaliuk	Alvina Peppard	Anthony Zarecki
Jeanne Drebit	Paul Kresko	Faye Serofin	
Dwight Finlay	Dennis Kuzyk	Richard Short	
Doug Foster	Gilberte Latour		



**We invite spouses to become associate members for all the benefits of the association including the privilege of voting.**

## Benefits of your \$1 Monthly Membership

The Executive Committee of the CNPA of Manitoba is made up of CN Pensioners and spouses who VOLUNTEER their time to serve and enhance your life. Your \$1.00 a month membership fee does not go to CN. We use it for stamps, stationery, phone calls, rental of meetings rooms, door prizes, gifts and cards for our sick or hospitalized members, guest speaker honorariums, our newsletter and a host of other items listed below.

### CNPA of Manitoba Membership Benefits:

- Representative on the Pension and Health Care Committee
- Regional Newsletter 3 times a year
- CN Calendar and People Magazine is mailed to you
- Bursary Program eligibility for children & grandchildren
- Local events, Christmas Luncheon, Annual Picnic and Bocce Ball and Golf tournaments, and more
- Monthly meetings with interesting guest speakers (in normal times)
- Complimentary coffee & donuts at meeting
- **Railroaders in The Community** - Contributing members who volunteer will also receive an incentive bonus for their charity.

We sincerely hope that if you aren't already a member, that you will join us and support us so that we can continue to support you. If you are a CN Pensioner in receipt of a CN Pension, joining is easy. Just [click here](#) to go to our [Membership page](#) and complete the [online form](#). Annual membership fees can be deducted from your pension cheque via Payroll Deduction (PRD). The only exception is for those who join as an Associate Member, is they would still be required to pay by cheque.

We look forward to welcoming you soon!

For more information check out: [Membership - CN Pensioners Association of Manitoba](#)  
And More [Benefits of Membership - CN Pensioners Association of Manitoba](#)

## Special Events - Ernie Yakiwchuk

Our meetings are normally held at 1:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month except for the months of July, August and December. All meetings and events are cancelled until further notice due to Covid. Location of meetings (unless otherwise stated below) is at the Norwood Legion, 134 Marion St.

When meetings resume, all are welcome to arrive after 12:30 p.m. to enjoy a coffee, donuts and a visit.

If you are interested in helping out in any way please contact Ernie at 204-254-1441.



## Guest Speakers for Upcoming Meetings:

Due To COVID-19 all meetings have been **CANCELLED** until further notice.

In the event that restrictions allow us to gather, we will make an announcement either on our webpage, Facebook, or by email. Stay tuned!



Despite Covid and thanks to “ZOOM” your Executive is still hard at work for you by **VIRTUAL MEETINGS**.

**Top photo:** April 6<sup>th</sup> Executive meeting.

**Bottom photo:** February 26<sup>th</sup> Newsletter Editorial Team meeting with our National Council Executive.

Members got together to discuss items of interest that may be used in future newsletter editions. Some of these stories are RRITC volunteer profiles, and short railroad-related stories, featured as a regular article in the regional or national newsletter. If you have something to share, let us know.



Newsletter Editorial Team are Cathy Thomas (Ontario), Tim McCrindle (Winnipeg), Gary Heasman (Saskatoon), Ken Roberts (London), Peter Treloar (Edmonton), Bruce Anderson (Winnipeg), Remi La Haye (Quebec), John Muller (Belleville), Brian Woods (Calgary), Blake Olson (Vancouver), Al Vodden (Edmonton), Joanne Gaborieau (Winnipeg), Bruce Peacock (Moncton) and Alex Hui (Vancouver). Missing Mark Hallman (Toronto).



## Celebrating CN's birthday by volunteering

June 6, 1919 was the actual “birthday” of CN operations. As you are aware, we celebrated 100 years of CN history in 2019 with **CN 100**, the moving celebration. It was a presentation, through a variety of media, of the past, the present and the future of CN. There were plans made to mark that same date in 2020, with smaller regional celebrations, but obviously with the impact of Covid-19 and the required safety protocols, that just wasn't possible, and that has now been extended into 2021 with the same safety issues limiting public gatherings.

Despite this, we would like to commemorate that date, this year, by highlighting any of our members that are involved in a volunteer activity on **June 5 or 6, 2021**. If you perform any volunteer work on that weekend, and are willing to share what it is you did, (a short story and maybe even a photo would be great), send it in to our MB Association newsletter editors (Tim/Claudette McCrindle [tc2mccrindle@gmail.com](mailto:tc2mccrindle@gmail.com)) as soon as possible after that date. We may get it published in the local or national newsletters.

In 2020, there were 42 Manitoba Association CN retirees that participated in the Railroaders in the Community program, and we'd like to hear from you if you do any volunteer work on the **weekend of June 5 & 6, 2021**.

As always, please ensure that all safety protocols are observed if the activity involves outside contact. Safety First.



## Outreach Chair's Report - Rose Chapman 204-832-1105

Mail Outreach info to 186 Windham Rd, Wpg, R3J 3B8 or  
email: [rchapman17@shaw.ca](mailto:rchapman17@shaw.ca)

### Outreach Committee:

George Lintick	204-254-1032	Albert Delbaere	204-256-8419
Linda Ksionzek	204-669-8308	Jack Moore	204-224-1019
Carson Hull	204-269-2692		



Please contact any member on the Outreach Committee with information on pensioners who are hospitalized, or ill at home, and on those who have had or will be celebrating **special birthdays** or **milestone anniversaries**.

**Remember - please keep us informed!**

### **HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:**

Joseph Balbon - 100 on April 1 <sup>st</sup> .	Art Jones - 90 on March 2 <sup>nd</sup> .	Mary Rody - 85 on April 2 <sup>nd</sup> .
Don Bially - 60 on June 4 <sup>th</sup> .	Jean Koralewicz - 90 on July 21 <sup>st</sup> .	Don Smith - 90 on May 17 <sup>th</sup> .
Nestor Bially - 90 on August 3 <sup>rd</sup> .	Audrey Kulbaba - 80 on July 11 <sup>th</sup> .	Ron J. Smith - 85 on May 28 <sup>th</sup> .
Gerry Boonstra - 87 on February 12 <sup>th</sup> .	Denise Larocque - 85 on April 21 <sup>st</sup> .	Mary Smook - 100 on March 6 <sup>th</sup> .
Mary Bretecher - 98 April 3 <sup>rd</sup> .	Walter Lesiuk - 90 on April 10 <sup>th</sup> .	Elizabeth Steffens - 94 on February 20 <sup>th</sup> .
Robert Chapman - 88 on April 13 <sup>th</sup> .	Al Lucas - 85 on January 21 <sup>st</sup> .	Charlotte Tataryn - 71 on June 2 <sup>nd</sup> .
Harry Craig - 85 on June 7 <sup>th</sup> .	Florence Lucko - 70 on June 6 <sup>th</sup> .	Gerrit Vanderklok - 75 on March 22 <sup>nd</sup> .
Robert Crane - 90 on June 30 <sup>th</sup> .	Nell MacAuley - 105 on June 29 <sup>th</sup> .	Les Weir - 90 on August 13 <sup>th</sup> .
Mary Dayholos - 100 on January 1 <sup>st</sup> .	Claude Martin - 70 on May 18 <sup>th</sup> .	Joyce White - 100 on January 14 <sup>th</sup> .
Georgette Fiola - 80 on August 15 <sup>th</sup> .	Tim McCrindle - 65 on June 17 <sup>th</sup> .	Bernie Wielgosh - 90 on April 29 <sup>th</sup> .
Nick Hanuschuk - 85 on August 2 <sup>nd</sup> .	John Mykytyn - 88 on January 20 <sup>th</sup> .	Mary Wildeman - 99 on February 17 <sup>th</sup> .
Ken Hoy - 77 on March 24 <sup>th</sup> .	Tom Nicholl - 90 on July 8 <sup>th</sup> .	Myrtle Wooldridge - 85 on January 21 <sup>st</sup> .
Ken Ivanyshyn - 80 on April 17 <sup>th</sup> .	Harold Prystie - 87 on March 4 <sup>th</sup> .	
Lorna Ivanyshyn - 78 on March 10 <sup>th</sup> .	Linne Prystie - 85 on July 24 <sup>th</sup> .	
Bill Jenken - 70 on April 15 <sup>th</sup> .	Hugh Ritzer - 100 on June 24 <sup>th</sup> .	

### **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY WISHES TO:**

Gerry and Eileen Boonstra - 65 <sup>th</sup> on March 10 <sup>th</sup> .	Jim and Lorraine Miln - 55 <sup>th</sup> on June 15 <sup>th</sup> .
Ed and Stella Bretecher - 50 <sup>th</sup> on July 3 <sup>rd</sup> .	Hugh and Annabel Ritzer - 75 <sup>th</sup> on August 2 <sup>nd</sup> .
Dale and Carol Brown - 60 <sup>th</sup> on June 24 <sup>th</sup> .	Garry and June Ross - 65 <sup>th</sup> on August 15 <sup>th</sup> .
Ken and Elizabeth Carroll - 45 <sup>th</sup> on June 12 <sup>th</sup> .	Mike and Diane Shewchuk - 55 <sup>th</sup> on July 23 <sup>rd</sup> .
Robert and Jean Chapman - 62 <sup>nd</sup> on July 20 <sup>th</sup> .	Calvin and Priscilla Sookermany - 19 <sup>th</sup> on June 8 <sup>th</sup> .
Mike and Lavaughan Dubeck - 60 <sup>th</sup> on April 15 <sup>th</sup> .	Marcel and Noella Vannevel - 55 <sup>th</sup> on May 28 <sup>th</sup> .
Ken and Pat Hoy - 54 <sup>th</sup> on December 31 <sup>st</sup> .	Ernie and Gwen Yakiwchuk - 40 <sup>th</sup> on June 13 <sup>th</sup> .

**LET'S**  
*celebrate*

**Correction to:** December 2020 newsletter – Art Jones was 90 on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, not February 3<sup>rd</sup>.  
April 2020 newsletter – Ann Kwiatek was 75 on October 14<sup>th</sup>, not June 5<sup>th</sup>.



Thanks to all those who have kept us updated on the well-being of our members, and on special birthdays and milestone anniversaries. Birthday and anniversary dates **must** be provided by **you** if you want your information to appear in a newsletter as we have no other way of knowing. Unless otherwise specified, after the first listing only birthdays and anniversaries ending in a 0 or a 5 will be entered, except for Centenarians which are listed yearly. Also, please let us know if your circumstances change and you no longer wish to have milestone dates listed in the newsletter.

*On behalf of all CNPA of Manitoba members, we wish you all the best on these milestones.*

To those previously mentioned on our Sick List, we hope that you are feeling much better, and well on the road to recovery. To those who are currently ill or still experiencing health problems, please know you are in our thoughts. The membership joins us in extending Best Wishes for improved health and a speedy recovery. We have received reports and updates on the following Pensioners since the last newsletter:

### ***Sick list:***

**Eileen Boonstra** is home from hospital recovering from kidney problems.

**Alice Claeys** is still suffering a lot of pain daily due to the boating accident she was in last June.

**Sean Derrig** is recovering from surgery.

**Therese Kilworth** fell last summer, broke 7 ribs and injured her shoulder. She is recuperating at home.

**Adrian Versluis** is undergoing chemo treatments in Thunder Bay for MDS, a type of cancer which affects blood cells in bone marrow.



**Obituaries:** *The following pensioners have passed away since the last report:*  
(\* denotes contributing member of the Manitoba Pensioners' Association).



Evelyn B Aikman*	Donald Gale	Gladys Lowry*	Jean Schinkel*
Maria Anania*	Stanislawa Gawinski	Olga Luby	Nellie Serofin*
Ann Anderson*	Linda Gibson, <i>wife of</i>	Rosalie Lucas, <i>wife of</i>	Thomas (Bud) Serofin*
Marcus Apperloo*	<i>Andy Gibson*</i>	<i>Al Lucas*</i>	Robert Shaver
Bernard W. Baars* <i>of</i>	Beulah Giles*	Steve Luchak*	Rory Simpson*
<i>Worthington Ave.</i>	Kathleen Godey*	José Machado	Zygmunt (Monty) Skwarek*
Terrence Bale*	Douglas Gordon*	Ken MacKenzie*	Florence Small
Douglas Biggs*	Philip Grant*	Charles MacLeod*	Shirley Smallwood*, <i>mother</i>
Walter Bogan*, <i>father of</i>	William Gustin*	Stanislaw Maly	<i>of Lance Smallwood*</i>
<i>Dean Bogan*</i>	Leslie Hay*	Aubrey Marcotte*	Daniel Smith
Roy Brown*	Winnifred Henderson	Mary Marino*	David Stasiuk*
Frances Buxton*	Vaneen Hooey*	Grace McArthur	William Szlauko*
Anne Bzovey*	Fredrick Howe*	Ken McCracken*	Thomas Tanoski*
Anna Cantafio*	Gerry Hunter*	Mary McIvor*	Ron Thomsen*
Kathleen Church*	Anna Huskie	Ruth McKay*	Mytro Tostowaryk
Eliduina Conci	Lorne Hyde*	Helen McLean*	Maria Valente
Robert Conger*	Jean Jones, <i>wife of</i>	Derek McMahon, <i>stepson of</i>	Mary Wilgosh*
Marion E Cox*	<i>Art Jones*</i>	<i>Joanne McMahon*</i>	Norman Wolk*
Helve Dawson*	Walter Kapko	Fred Oshanski*	Walter Wychnenko*
Ray Defosse*	Edmund Kasprick*	Cecile Payette*	William Yaldernick*
Alexander Degroot*	Dennis Kolish*	James Sean Peppard*	Vern Young
Victor Demchenko	Stanley Kopp*	Margaret Peterson, <i>wife of</i>	Anna Zezza
Reginald Dorian*	Catherine Kostuchuk*	<i>Vern Peterson*</i>	
Edward Drebit*	Jean Kresko*	Ruth Pocatello*	
Shirley Duffy*	Peter Kwasny*	Ernest Regan*, <i>brother of</i>	
Giovana Eliass	Robert Larocque* <i>of Park</i>	<i>Maureen Morison*</i>	
Ronald A Feir*	<i>Manor PCH</i>	Simone Rivard, <i>wife of</i>	
Gloria Field	Louis Latour*	<i>Paul Rivard*</i>	
Forrest Finlay*	Sandra Ledoux	Nicklin Roebuck*	
Marie Gagné, <i>wife of</i>	Guy Libbrecht*	William Ross* <i>of Kamloops</i>	
<i>Arthur Gagné*</i>	Martha Lower	Geraldine Rumpel*	



**Correction:** Our apologies to John Warkentin who was listed in error as deceased in the December 2020 newsletter. He is very much alive. Sorry John!

*The CN Pensioners' Association of Manitoba extends our sincere condolences to the family and friends of the deceased.*

## History of The CN Pensioners' Association of Manitoba

On October 17th, 1930, thirty-two retired employees accepted an invitation from Mr. W.R Devenish, General Superintendent of the Canadian National Railways, to attend a luncheon in the Fort Garry Hotel for the purpose of forming a group to promote, maintain, and foster social and fraternal relations; to keep alive the traditions of the Canadian National Railways, and to preserve the loyalty and brotherhood of its employees.

Enthusiasm was high and by December 1st they had chosen honorary officers, elected active officers, approved by-laws, had a meeting room in the Union Station and selected a name – The Canadian National Railways Veterans' Association, Division No. 1 Western Region.

The first President, H. L. Cameron, exemplified the enthusiasm and commitment to this new association – he was actively involved for 14 years as President, Secretary and Grand President of the Western Region Branches. Over the years, many others also gave of their time and talents: Chris Brady, Bert King, Frank Hill, Bill Buchanan, Jack Sanders and Charlie Smith, to name a few. It was recorded that "we have so many good men amongst us, it is hard to find a job for them all."

Although the first woman member, Mrs. Thelma Garvie, did not join until 1970, the "ladies" played an active role in supporting their husband's activities. Cribbage, dart teams, indoor quoits, carpet bowling, lawn bowling and sing-songs were very popular. Monthly whist drives provided much-needed revenue for almost 40 years, and the Five Pin Bowling League, which was formed in 1946, is still active. Picnics to Grand Beach, the annual Christmas Party, and tours of the local breweries were always popular and well attended. Monthly meetings featured movies of the Grey Cup and English Soccer Games, as well as members entertaining with music and story-telling. Shut-ins were never forgotten and fruit baskets were sent twice a year to those unable to attend meetings.

The success of the association was widely known throughout the West and other associations were soon formed in Vancouver, Edmonton and Saskatoon. Together, these associations were able to speak on behalf of their members and pressed for an increase in the pension for retired employees.

In 1995 the U.T.U. Seniors joined with the Association and the name was changed to the CN Pensioners Association of Manitoba.

When the Association was formed in 1930, people had very little money as a result of the Wall Street Crash and the Great Depression. In 1934, 25% of the members had no pension; there was no Unemployment Insurance and the Old Age Pension was only \$20 per month and not available until 70 years of age. Members were from all different areas of the CN workplace...offices, shops, yards and running trades and from many different ethnic and religious backgrounds. Religion and politics were never discussed at meetings and rather than emphasizing their differences, they chose to work together to support each other.

Although the Association has seen many changes throughout the years, that same bond of friendship and fellowship that helped establish the association can still be found today, more than 75 years later. For many years the Manitoba Association was not a member of the National Council. Since we joined the National Council, we have gained considerable knowledge of the concerns of other Associations across Canada and we now at least have local members on the CN Pension Committee. The Pensioners across Canada, of approximately 33,000 persons, is a major group to be recognized and consulted when Pension Plan changes are being considered. Members are kept informed of the health and welfare of fellow members and are also advised of any changes in pensions or benefits which may affect them. Programs and social events provide a warm environment to meet with old friends and make new friends. As of 2020, there are approximately 33,000 pensioners across Canada of which approximately 25,000 are contributing members of the CN Pensioners' Association. Of the 25,000 contributing members, approximately 3,600 are contributing members of the CN Pensioners' Association of Manitoba.

### More interesting reads:

**Check under your mattress** because several paper currencies ([like the 2\\$ bill](#)) will NO LONGER be legal tender! Read all about this by [clicking here](#).





**Joyce White** was born on January 14th, 1921, and grew up on the farm in Glenella, Manitoba. She married John, as they were married for 50 years. John worked at CN rail as an accountant.

Joyce and John also ran the restaurant coffee bar at the Medical Arts Building until the 1970's, when he retired. Together they travelled the world. Joyce loved sewing, cooking, and baking. Joyce did a lot of babysitting for her nieces and nephews.

Joyce and John helped so many people through University, school, and always bringing food to people. Her family wishes her A very Happy 100th Birthday!



**Mary Dayholos** was born on January 1, 1921 and grew up in Kipling, Saskatchewan. Mary met Harry Dayholos in 1958 when he worked on the CN train gang in Kipling fixing tracks. Mary worked as a waitress at the local restaurant where she met Harry. They married on October 22, 1959 and had 3 children, Margaret (Kevin), Julie and Ronald, and four grandchildren, Nicole, Natasha, Hunter and Hailey. Mary was a stay at home mom who loved to garden. In Glenella, Manitoba she had an acre of garden and would sell her vegetables to the local restaurants.

As they moved around because of Harry's job, her gardens got smaller. She also loved flowers and each year would create colorful displays for the neighbors to see. In their last move to Portage La Prairie, Mary's flower garden was acknowledged in the local paper.

Mary also loved curling. When she couldn't curl any more she would watch it on TV and provide commentary on what they should have done. She loved to watch figure skating as well.

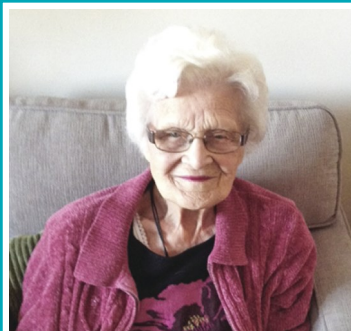
Mary started working after they moved to Portage where she worked at Robin's serving customers again. She loved talking to her regulars. After she retired, they loved going on bus trips and meeting their friends for afternoon coffee at the local Co-op.

Mary was always helping sick/elderly people in the community by bringing them meals or helping with their yard work.

She was really happy to receive a congratulatory message from the Queen and the Governor General of Canada. When asked what her secret to living so long was, she replied "It is hard work and God is good to me".



**Joseph Balbon** celebrated his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on April 1, 2021. He retired from service in April 1982. His residence is in Winnipeg.



**Marie Smook** celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on March 6, 2021. She is one of 12 siblings. She resides in Winnipeg.





2020 was undoubtedly a challenging year on many fronts, and even the **CN Railroaders in the Community** program wasn't immune to the effects of the virus. Traditional opportunities to volunteer weren't always available due to restrictions on gatherings, social distancing requirements and general safety. Nonetheless, our CN retiree volunteers were determined not to let that stop them, and despite all the restrictions and challenges, the 2020 program was a success.

A quick refresher on the program, and how your volunteer efforts result in donations by CN to your selected charities.

You use the online portal at <https://cn.benevity.org> to register on their SPARK website as a volunteer. There is a **Step by Step Guide** to assist in this process on our website at <https://www.cnpensioners.org> under the Community/Volunteers tabs and if you have any difficulties, help is always available by emailing Lorenza at [railroadersinthecommunity@cn.ca](mailto:railroadersinthecommunity@cn.ca)

Once you are registered, you can begin to select your charities and log your volunteer hours. That same **Step by Step Guide** provides instructions and tips on how to manage all this and when all else fails, an email to [railroadersinthecommunity@cn.ca](mailto:railroadersinthecommunity@cn.ca) is available for assistance.

Volunteer hours worked and logged by CN retirees, their spouses or surviving spouses are eligible to be entered into the system. For each hour of volunteer service recorded, CN will donate \$15 to that charitable organization, up to an annual maximum of \$2,250. You can record your hours as you go, and you will receive a confirmation email from Benevity that your submission has been accepted. Once verified, Benevity will electronically process the payment for the charitable organizations the following month. You have the ability to track your volunteer hours and the payments made to your charities under "My Profile" on their website.

There is also a **Bonus Payment of \$100** made by CN at the end of the year for each **Contributing Member, Spouse or Surviving Spouse** that volunteered under this program (one bonus per PIN). It will automatically be paid out to your selected charity, and if you volunteered for more than one charity during the year, CN will contact you in January to determine which of your charities should receive the \$100. So, if you are volunteering under this program, your annual dues of \$12 provide an additional \$100 to your charity.

## Railroaders in the Community Program 2020 Results

### Railroaders in the Community - by the Numbers

Number of Pensioner Volunteers  
in the RRITC Program



266

Total amount donated by CN on  
behalf of Pensioner Volunteers



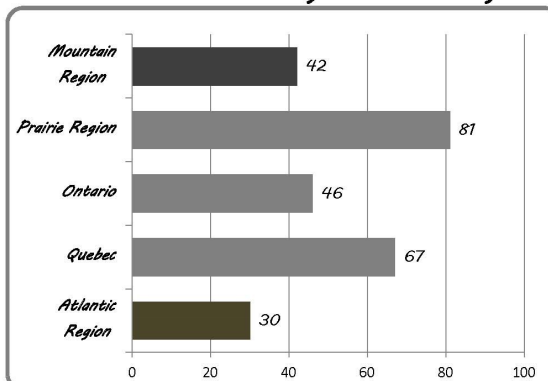
\$367,170.75

Bonus donation made by CN to  
Pensioner Volunteers' Charities because  
they are a CNPA Contributing Member



\$25,500

### Pensioner Volunteers by Province/Region





We would also like to take opportunities to recognize individuals who volunteer their time within this program, and tell a little bit of their story as well as highlight their charity. We are looking for volunteer profiles, including a photo, that can tell that story. We have our first profile, Audrey Hill, presented here and it is also published on the Benevity website to promote our participation within the program.



**Are you a Railroader in the Community?  
Share your story and photos!**

Tell us about your volunteer experience and we'll consider using it for a future publication (with your permission). Drop us a line at [btanderson54@hotmail.com](mailto:btanderson54@hotmail.com) and we'll get back to you.

Photo : Tireless CN Railroader in the Community Audrey Hill shows no signs of slowing down her good work.

**Giving from her heart for 42 years**

When Audrey Hill joined the Daughters of the Nile organization in Winnipeg, MB, 42 years ago little did she know the impact the work would have in her life and on her community many years later.

The fraternal organization for women was formed in 1913 in Seattle Washington by the wives of Shriners. The Canadian chapter is dedicated to the growth of its permanent Convalescent Relief and Convalescent Endowment funds in support of the Shriners Hospitals for Children in Canada.

"The CN Railroaders in the Community program is a wonderful thing and the grants we have received for my volunteer work have contributed to both funds," says Audrey, whose late husband, Douglas Hill, worked as a painter in the Transcona Car Shop in Winnipeg before retiring in 1989. He was also a Masonic and a member of the Khartum Shrine.

Audrey is Chairperson of her Temple's Hospital Request Committee that reviews various needs at Shriners hospitals from bibs and quilts to specialized equipment such as wheelchairs. Over the years they have shipped over 10,000 articles, worth almost \$150,000, and contributed other items worth more than \$50,000. Along with the items, each carton includes a love note to the children.

"I have been touched by the many letters of gratitude from the hospitals over the years," adds Audrey.

"Knowing that some child's life has been made a little happier and a little easier makes me proud of our ladies and happy to think I've been a part of it."

In closing, 2020 was a challenging year, and some of those challenges will continue on into 2021 quite possibly for a good portion of the year. As a group, you are to be congratulated for your efforts in overcoming these challenges in 2020 and providing not only your volunteer time to your selected charities but, through your efforts within the **CN Railroaders in the Community** program, also providing a total of just over \$392,000 to these same charities, at a time that they likely needed it most. So take a minute to soak in the success of 2020, and then let's make 2021 even better.



## ***Congratulations to the following:***

**Lorraine Miln** - applied and received a \$2250 grant for the *Guild of the Victoria General Hospital*.

**Jack and Bev Moore** - applied and received a \$1165 grant for the *Transcona Historical Museum - Save the 2747*

Do you volunteer for a registered charity in your community? Are you wondering why you haven't seen your name mentioned in any articles about your volunteer activities and participation in CN's Railroaders In The Community Program? The reason is because ***CN does not provide us with that information.*** Therefore, in order for you to be acknowledged in our newsletter, please send your information to Tim McCrindle ([tc2mccrindle@gmail.com](mailto:tc2mccrindle@gmail.com)) and tell us about your volunteer activities and charity.



Interested in staying connected with the CNPA or other railway pensioner sites and groups?

Check out the following (note that several of these are not officially connected to nor administered by CN or the CNPA):

### **Websites:**

CN – <https://cn.ca>

CN Pensioners Association – National site <https://www.cnpensioners.org>

CN Pensioners of Manitoba – <https://www.cnpensioners.ca>

CN Pensioners Fraser Valley – <https://cnpafraservalley.wixsite.com/cnpafraservalley>

CN Pensioners Vancouver – <https://cnpavancouver.wixsite.com/members>

CN Pensioners Kamloops/Okanagan – <http://www.cnpa-kamloops.org/>

### **Facebook:**

CN – <https://www.facebook.com/CNrail>

CNPA – National Page English – <https://www.facebook.com/cn.pensioners.92>

CNPA – National Page French – <https://www.facebook.com/cnpa.french.3>

<https://www.facebook.com/Association-des-retrait%C3%A9s-du-CN-conseil-rive-sud-Laurentides-et-Lanaud%C3%A8re-113216972097225>

CNPA – Barrie Council – <https://www.facebook.com/CN-Pensioners-Association-Barrie-Council-158904744776643>

CNPA – Hamilton Council – <https://www.facebook.com/cnpahamilton>

CNPA – Niagara Falls Council – <https://www.facebook.com/cnpa.council>

CNPA of Manitoba – <https://www.facebook.com/cnpensionersmanitoba>

CNPA Vancouver – <https://www.facebook.com/cnpavancouver>

CN Rail Keeping Track (private group; one must request to join) – <https://www.facebook.com/groups/293646437451534>

CN Rail (public group; one must request to join) – <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2263097820>

Want to keep up on news from CN? All you have to do is like and follow their Facebook page (see link above) and / or the newsfeed on their website under their Media / News tab at <https://www.cn.ca/en/media/news/>

Interested in viewing other regional newsletters listed below, go to <https://www.cnpensioners.org>, select English or French/newsletters/council newsletters.

CNPA National  
Atlantic Region  
Quebec Provincial  
Barrie Council

Belleville Council  
London Council  
Sarnia Council  
Toronto Council

Manitoba Council  
Saskatchewan Council  
Calgary  
Edmonton

Fraser Valley South  
Vancouver Council



## ***Pension Report - Linda Schram***

*Pension Committee Representative*

### **Historic Background of the CN Pension Plans**

**Defined Benefit Pension Plan** - A pension plan that defines the pension benefit to be provided based on factors, such as years of plan membership and average earnings, calculated in accordance with the terms of the plan.

**Defined Contribution Plan** - A pension plan that defines the amount of employer and employee contributions (if any) to the pension fund, determined on an individual account basis. The benefit the member will receive on retirement is determined at the date of retirement and is based on accrued contributions and investment income.

#### **CN 1935 Plan:**

- 1935 The company established the CN 1935 Pension Plan which provided a basic pension of \$25.00 per month.
- 1952 January 1, 1952 The Pension Plan was amended to provide for a further alternative contributing form of the defined benefit type based on an employee's final average earnings. The defined benefit was designated as Part 2. The original part of the 1935 plan was designated Part 1.
- 2015 October 31, 2015 The 1935 plan was merged into the CN Pension Plan.

#### **CN 1959 Plan:**

- 1959 January 1, 1959, part 2 of the 1935 plan became the CN 1959 Plan. This is a defined benefit plan. From this date, all employees were required to participate in the CN Plan as a condition of employment.
- 1952-1978 Members of the CN 1935 Plan were permitted to become members of the CN 1959 Pension Plan, subject to appropriate contributions.
- 1998 January 1, 1998 The normal form of survivor benefit was increased from 50% to 55%.

Throughout the years, the CN **1959** Pension Plan was amended on several occasions to modify the benefits and conditions of participation.

The Pension Committee consists of equal representation from CN, unions and pensioners. The pensioners are elected by pensioners in each region for a term of 3 years. The committee meets 4 times per year to oversee changes and authorize pension requests. The CN Investment Division updates us on the financial status of the Pension Trust Fund.

- 2006 January 1, 2006 The CN Pension Plan was modified to account for the establishment of the DC Plan. Subject to certain exceptions, non-unionized active members of the CN Pension Plan were given the option to participate in the CN Pension Plan or in the DC Plan for service from January 1, 2006. Non-unionized employees hired on or after January 1, 2006 participate in the DC Plan.
- 2021 Anyone assuming permanent non-union position must be part of the DC Plan.

**Thank you** to Vern Peterson for requesting an article of how the CN 1959 Pension Plan got started.

Visit our website often at [www.cnpensioners.ca](http://www.cnpensioners.ca) to view our newsletters or our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/cnpensionersmanitoba](https://www.facebook.com/cnpensionersmanitoba) for updates and announcements.



## **The 2021 CNPA Scholarship and Bursary Programs Opened April 15th. All applications must be received by August 15th.**

### **National Council Scholarship Program 2021**

The National Council of the CN Pensioners' Association will again be offering a Scholarship Program to the children, grandchildren and great grandchildren of supporting members. As in the past years, twenty-five \$1,500 scholarships will be awarded – five per each of the five Canadian regions. This year's program opened April 15th.

Deadline for applications for the 2021 program will again be August 15th. For more information, and to download the Application, Terms and Conditions, visit [www.cnpensioners.org](http://www.cnpensioners.org) and then click on the Scholarships tab. Children, grandchildren and great grandchildren of CN Pensioners who are members in good standing and in receipt of a CN Pension are eligible.

### **Harvey Hosfield Bursary Program 2021**

The CN Pensioners' Association of Manitoba is continuing to offer a **Bursary Program** to the children, grandchildren and great grandchildren of members of the CN Pensioners' Association of Manitoba who are members in good standing for at least one year prior to date of bursary application as outlined in the Terms and Conditions of this program. Deadline for applications is August 15th, 2021.

We want to remind all new applicants as well as those who were **NOT** successful recipients in previous years, that as long as your application meets all of the Association's criteria, you can re-apply for the current year. After reviewing the results of last year's program, we are pleased to advise that we have made some enhancements to the program.

Applicants for the Manitoba Bursaries are also eligible to apply for the National Scholarships. This year's program opened April 15th. All applications must be received by August 15th.

To access this year's application, terms and conditions, and completion instructions, please visit the Manitoba website at [www.cnpensioners.ca](http://www.cnpensioners.ca) and click on the Scholarships tab.

### **CNPA of Manitoba Trade Bursary**

CN Pensioners' Association of Manitoba has introduced a Trade Bursary for children, grandchildren and great grandchildren of members of the CN Pensioners' Association who are members in good standing for at least one year prior to date of bursary application as outlined in the Terms and Conditions of this program.

The intent of this bursary is to assist financially in the educational pursuit and career development of families of the contributing members of the CN Pensioners' Association of Manitoba who are going into the Trade industry. Applications must be received by August 15th, 2021.

A link to the Application and Terms and Conditions can be found on the home page of our website at: [www.cnpensioners.ca](http://www.cnpensioners.ca)

### **Johnson Insurance Scholarship**

There are 50 scholarships valued at \$1000.00 each available to students entering post secondary institutions in the fall. Visit: [www.johnson.ca/scholarship](http://www.johnson.ca/scholarship) for eligibility criteria.





## Covid can't keep these Pigs down.

43 years of playing in CN tournaments and now these retirees are taking to the great outdoors to keep their Dreams alive!

The veterans of this group are Dave Shaw and Garnet Dunn that started playing CN Western Canada hockey with the CN Dream in 1977 and 1978 respectively.



Rob Robinson joined the CN Wolves in 1984 that played in the Western Canada Old-timers tournaments. Julian Mrozek was added to the Dreams and Wolves in 1986.

Finally Dale Mastel joined the CN Winnipigs when he arrived from Regina after a transfer. The Wolves were reborn as the CN Winnipigs in 1990 and continue to play in the CN Western Old-timers to this day.

The guys have travelled via trains, planes, automobiles and chartered bus throughout western Canada for tournaments in Vancouver to Thunder Bay including stops in The Pas, Dauphin, Rainy River, Jasper, Edson, Melville and 2 tournaments held in Las Vegas.

The Wolves/Pigs started out as a ragtag group of clerks and rails that became formidable opponents that won several A championships in the last 10 plus years. The team always joked that they are the only team to win all 5 championships from the A to E finals champs.

The Pigs always turned heads with their pink jerseys and surprised some of their younger opponents with their skills on the ice. It was always fun playing against young players that thought they were going to skate circles around these old Pigs.

## Strengthening Canadians' Retirement Security Consultation

We all know that 2020 was a tumultuous year. For many federally regulated companies, like airlines and others, finances were strained. The Federal Government, last spring, provided temporary Pension Plan funding relief to corporations. As reported earlier, for CN and our Pension Plan Fund, the solvency status was affected marginally by the Covid-19 pandemic in the first quarter and then recovered by year end 2020. As we go into a second year of the pandemic and more uncertainty, the Federal Government has asked for input from stakeholders on proposed changes to longer term pension financing, governance, and other areas.

Your CNPA Association had internal discussions on areas of concern to pensioners and other improvement ideas. We will submit our recommendations and understand CN may as well. The Government will consolidate all the various submissions and recommendations and also review expressed concerns and then make policy change proposals later this Spring which will be subject to further review.

We as an association have your best interests in mind and we will press the government to seriously consider our input. Once we have a better idea what options and direction the Government will take, we will provide additional detail.

Some of the areas the government is reviewing are:

- Pension plan governance
- Solvency reserve accounts
- Variable payment life annuities
- Ministerial guidelines on special funding relief

To read the entire Consultation Paper click [here](#).

### 7 new laws and regulations in Canada in 2021

Some big changes have been heading our way this year!

There are a number of new laws and regulations in Canada with major impacts, from plastic bag bans to financial support for parents.

To read more about these changes click [here](#).



## Tick Season is Here - Be Tick Smart!

**What is Lyme Disease?** Lyme Disease and other tick-borne illnesses are infections by disease causing pathogens such as viruses, parasites, and bacteria that are contracted through the bite of an infected **black legged tick (also known as a deer tick)**. Lyme can be transmitted by other ticks as well, although this is less common. In some Provinces other tick-borne illnesses are also reportable such as in Manitoba:

- ◇ Borreliosis (Lyme) - *first reportable 2009*
- ◇ Anaplasmosis – *first reportable 2015*
- ◇ Babesiosis – *first reportable 2015*

### Emerging & Other Tick-borne Infections

- ◇ Borrelia Miyamotoi – this Borrelia strain typically does not produce an EM rash and can be transmitted by larval black-legged ticks which are typically active from late spring through to late summer, peaking in August.
- ◇ Deer Tick Virus (Powassan Virus). Although transmission time is not 100% clear for any tick-borne infection, this virus can be transmitted in a little as 15 minutes after attachment.
- ◇ Other strains of Borrelia

### Prevention:

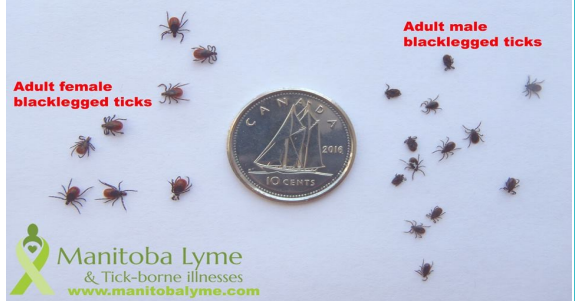
- Walk in the centre of a trail; avoid leaf litter and long grass
- Wear light colored clothing, long pants and tuck them in your socks
- Wear bug repellent containing at least 20% DEET
- Shower or bathe after being outdoors
- Do a proper full body tick check (eg: hair, scalp, ears, armpits, waist, groin, bellybutton, behind the knee)
- Don't forget to check your clothes and your pets for ticks

### How to Remove a Tick:

- Use fine-tipped tweezers to grasp the tick as close to the skin's surface as possible.
- Pull upward with steady, even pressure. Don't twist or jerk the tick; this can cause the mouth-parts to break off and remain in the skin. If this happens, remove the mouth-parts with tweezers.
- After removing the tick, thoroughly clean the bite area and your hands with rubbing alcohol, an iodine scrub, or soap and water.
- Save the tick in a sealed tight container with a damp cotton ball so it can be identified and available for future testing.
- Never crush a tick with your fingers. Disinfect your tweezers!!
- With tick removal the head may get stuck, remove as you would with a splinter or sliver. Remove with a sterilized needle or tweezers. Wet the bite spot first. If the head of the tick remains inside, the salivary glands may still be there so risk of contamination. ***If you can't get it out, go to your doctor or a Walk-in Clinic.***
- Do not use other methods as they might irritate the tick thus increasing the chances that the tick might produce extra saliva and then vomits its stomach into you.

For more information on symptoms, diagnosis and treatment, visit [www.manitobalyme.com](http://www.manitobalyme.com) or [www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/cdc/tickborne](http://www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/cdc/tickborne). Remember that early diagnosis and treatment of Lyme and other vector borne diseases will result in a better outcome.

**Blacklegged ticks collected from Seine River Greenway  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
April 21, 2017**





## CN 2747 Enclosure Project and Capital Campaign



On 19 April 2021, the Transcona Museum (Winnipeg, Man.) launched a \$493,000 capital campaign project for the construction of a protective structure over historic locomotive CN 2747.

CN 2747 is an artifact of significant historical importance not only to the community of Transcona but to Canada. It was the first steam locomotive constructed at the Transcona Shops and the first built in Western Canada in April 1926. After 34 years of service, CN 2747 was retired and placed on permanent outdoor display in 1960. Since taking ownership in 2015, the Transcona Museum has undertaken necessary preservation work to ensure the stability and longevity of the locomotive. This work has totaled over \$63,000 to date.

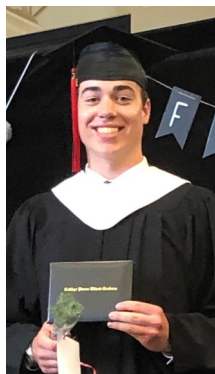
We are excited to be moving forward on the next major step of the project – the construction of a protective enclosure over the engine. This structure will help protect the engine from the elements, increase security around it, and provide more opportunities for the public to see, interact, and appreciate the historical artifact. It is our goal to provide more consistent access and interpretation of the engine, including programming and tours. The chosen conceptual design (see image) best addresses the preservation and display goals of the project.

We are now actively soliciting donations and sponsorships to help us make this project a reality. Your support means that you understand just how valuable preserving CN 2747 is to the community of Transcona, Winnipeg, and Canada. This project would be difficult to achieve without your support. Please visit our website at [www.transconamuseum.mb.ca](http://www.transconamuseum.mb.ca) to donate and learn more about the project.

We hope we have inspired you to “GET ON BOARD” to help support the development of a permanent structure over this important historical asset in the community of Transcona.

Jack Moore  
President - Transcona Museum

### Congratulations to Governor General Award Recipient



Jack Melville, a former student of Collège Pierre-Elliott-Trudeau in Winnipeg, Manitoba, was a recipient of the Governor General's Award this past year. At graduation, Jack along with 163 other high school students had the honour of receiving this distinguished award. Jack worked very hard throughout high school in order to achieve/receive this medal. He maintained the highest average mark in his grade for 3 consecutive years, never letting his grade drop below 90% in any subject.

Jack is in good company as many famous Canadians have received the honour, including Pierre Trudeau, Tommy Douglas, Kim Campbell, and Robert Bourassa. Currently, Jack is enrolled at the University of Manitoba, working towards obtaining a Bachelor of Commerce degree. Jack is the grandson of Jack (John) Melville who worked for 25 years at CN in Winnipeg retiring as a supervisor.



### NATIONAL DAY of MOURNING



This day, held annually on April 28th, was officially recognized by the federal government in 1991, eight years after the day of remembrance was launched by the Canadian Labour Congress.

The Day of Mourning has since spread to about 80 countries around the world.

The April 28th Day of Mourning is a time to remember those who have suffered or died through workplace injury and illness.

Our thoughts are also with their families, friends and colleagues.

**CN PENSIONERS'  
ASSOCIATION OF  
MANITOBA**

10 Greenwich Bay  
Winnipeg, MB  
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We're on the web -  
[www.cnpensioners.ca](http://www.cnpensioners.ca)

We're on Facebook -  
[www.facebook.com/  
cnpensionersmanitoba](http://www.facebook.com/cnpensionersmanitoba)

***Frequently Called Numbers***

**The CN Pension & Benefits Help Line 1-800-361-0739.**

Always have your PIN and date of birth to better identify you when making inquiries.  
If you move, advise the above number.

If you are married at the time of retirement, make sure that CN has your spouse's name on file.

Changing banks, with direct deposit, never close your old account until the cheque shows up in the new account.

Change of Address	1-800-361-0739
Canada Pension & Old Age Security	1-800-277-9914
Canada Custom & Revenue Service	1-800-959-8281
Blue Cross National Claims Direct Plan 93115	1-888-873-9200
Income Tax Preparation & Questions - Jim Miln	204-253-0137
Health Links/Info Santé	204-788-8200
	or 1-888-315-9257
CN Police	1-800-465-9239, #3

**Phone numbers for International Employees:**

U. S. Railroad - Fargo	1-877-772-5772
U.S. Social Security - Grand Forks	1-888-617-0456

For Travel Savings with Collette, visit

<https://www.gocollette.com/en-ca/landing-pages/partners/cnpa>

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