

Heritage Club Bluenose Chapter

Latest News and Updates

Summer Issue
2025

President's Message

HAPPY SUMMER 2025!



Hope this newsletter finds you well & that you are enjoying this beautiful time of year!

EXECUTIVE NEWS:

Geraldine Dowling has offered to take over the position of Secretary for the Club. We are very thankful for her volunteering for this position. Welcome aboard! This leaves one vacancy – that of 2nd VP. Please email us at bluenosehc@gmail.com, if you are interested.

My thanks, as always, to Sharon Simpson - 1st VP and Nancy Hopper – Treasurer for their continued efforts in keeping the club alive. We have not received any interest in either of the positions that are up for renewal this year (deadline July 1/25). The current incumbents (Nancy & Louella) have agreed to continue to fill these roles for the time being. However, we encourage members to get involved. As a result, new ideas would be generated and the Club will continue to exist. Thank you.

Louella AuCoin, President, Bluenose Chapter Heritage Club

Heritage Club Bluenose Chapter CPC Highlights & History

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June 19, 2025

Posted in [News Releases](#) (Canadapost.ca)

Canada Post and its second-largest union reach an agreement

CPAA-represented employees primarily manage post offices in rural Canada

OTTAWA – After 18 months of negotiating, Canada Post and the Canadian Postmasters and Assistants Association (CPAA) have a new collective agreement.

CPAA is Canada Post's second-largest bargaining agent and represents more than 8,500 employees. Employees represented by CPAA are primarily responsible for managing post offices in rural Canada.

The new collective agreement between the two parties addresses issues that are important to employees, while also reflecting the Corporation's current realities. It includes an 11% wage increase over three years, retroactive to January 1, 2024 (6% increase in 2024, 3% increase in 2025 and 2% increase in 2026).

In her final award, the arbitrator for these negotiations cited the recent Industrial Inquiry Commission (IIC) report, which was released on May 15. She noted that the IIC report – including its stark conclusions – had an impact on the negotiations and that even under the challenging circumstances that the report outlined, the parties proved collective bargaining can work.

The new collective agreement between Canada Post and CPAA is effective from January 1, 2024, to December 31, 2026.

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AGM -Heritage Club Calgary May 2025

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HIGHLIGHTS:- (The minutes are now posted on the National site)

- **Financial & Membership**

The National Club is still in a good financial position. However, annual funding and mailing privileges from Canada Post have been cancelled, for the time being. We don't know if this will be a permanent situation. This is due to the labour and financial issues that the Corporation is experiencing. For further info, see next page (last bulleted item).

The National Heritage Club does continue to receive an 'Admin Support monetary allowance', based on quotes and policies from Belair Insurance.

Total Membership is over 19,000 members, spread over 24 Chapters. In 2024, there were 466 new members who enrolled.

Please note: Effective immediately the years of service for eligibility for becoming a Heritage Club member is reduced from 25 years to 20 years service and applies to both fulltime and parttime employees.

- **Scholarships 2024**

3 Scholarships awarded - \$2000 each. This is the eighth year of this program. There were 20 applicants in 2024. The most common reason that applicants are screened out is due to missing documentation. **DEADLINE IS APPROACHING FOR CURRENT YEAR – JUNE 30/2025.**

- **Belair & Medoc Insurance Presentation**

Belair is owned by Intact Insurance. They continue to partner well with the Heritage Club. As of July 1 2025, Medoc Travel Insurance will be rebranded to Belair. It was a great year for growth on home and car policies, whereas travel policies were down slightly. There is a total of about 5700 policies with Heritage Club members.

- **Pension Plan Presentation**

VP Pension Plan & Chief Investment Office, CPC – Michael Butera and Bill Price, Pension Advisory Committee

- \$32 Billion in Assets
- 60 team members on his team in Toronto
- Main mission: To pay pension & get good return on investments
- Plan is in a strong financial position and will be, for at least 20-30 years

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AGM -Heritage Club Calgary (con't)

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- **Hearing Life Presentation**

A short presentation was given on the difficulties we can encounter with hearing, as we age. Hearing Life offer a Baseline test for free, without the need for a doctor referral. An extra 10% savings is offered on 'price match', for a spring and fall promotion. There is also a small promo on Starbucks (\$5 gift card) see hearinglifeadvantage.ca/CPHC. Representatives can attend HC meetings, for a presentation, if requested.

- **Spec Savers** – Not yet available in Nova Scotia

They have 150 locations in four provinces to date. They have optometrists in these locations and OCT scans are included in the base charge. They offer on line booking appointments, call in appointments and walk-ins. One can also try glasses on, on line.

- **General Discussions with All Chapter Presidents & National Executive**

- Relief Funding from National Club - \$1000 dispersed to each chapter
- Cost savings measures:
 - AGM – decision to hold every two years rather than annually
 - Elections for National Executive Positions:
 - Anna Huang First VP (replacing Eldred Holmes)
 - Bob Broomhall – Treasurer (reelected)
 - Marc Jacob -Third VP (reelected)
- Presenting a unified front to CPC – letter to be crafted by the Executive and signed by all Presidents, indicating that all support programs (Santa Letter, CPC Foundation donations, etc) could be suspended by the Heritage Club, because of CPC's decision to suspend our mailing privileges and seed funding.

Heritage Club Bluenose Chapter 2025 Member Benefits

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BENEFITS:

As a paid member you are entitled to the following benefits:

- Special rates for **Johnson's Medoc Travel Insurance** are available to Chapter members in good standing and includes Covid-related coverage. This will change over to **BelAir Travel Insurance** July 1/2025.
- Discounts up to 35% for **home and auto insurance** from **belair direct** Home and Car Insurance.
- Membership at **Good Life Fitness** at approximately 50% off the regular club access rates and Goodlife promotions
- Travel discounts with **Collette Tours**
- **HearingLife** – 10% discount+ any other promos, free tests & custom ear protection.
- **Genumart** discounts
- The knowledge that a portion of your dues support local families and charities in need.
- Special **scholarships** for your children and grandchildren of \$2,000
- **Scholarship** opportunities from BelAir

SCHOLARSHIPS:

Heritage Club

- 3 scholarships valued at \$2000 each
- Application Deadline: June 30/25
- Visit the Heritage Club website OR contact Eldred Holmes at holmese@nl.rogers.com

BelAir Insurance



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- **visit**
<https://www.belairdirect.com/en/scholarship.html>

WELCOME NEW PAID MEMBERS:

To date for 2025, we have 161 paid members! We encourage our members to promote the Heritage Club, so that we can continue to grow.

Welcome to our new paid member:- Victoria Lambourne

CONDOLENCES:

On behalf of the membership, we would like to express our sincere condolences to families and friends of our members who have passed.

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Local News & Member Events

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Luncheon - May 20/25 at Brightwood Golf Club

The following guests were in attendance at the most recent gathering. The President provided highlights of the recent National AGM (see page 3&4). Members participated in a Trivia Game, which generated lots of buzz! A huge thanks to Sharon Simpson for creating and organizing this event! Gift draws (\$25 gift cards, AGM swag and Plant starter kits) were presented to a few lucky winners!.



Left to right: Deanna Vautour, Norm Vautour, Keith Lampier, Ron Miller, Len Bodis, Julie Bodis, Alanna Miller, Lucille Bourque-Lampier



Left to right: Nancy Hopper, Sheila Shaw, John Hopper, Louise Danch, Sharon Simpson, Louella Aucoin



Left to right: Marg MacKinnon, Ralph Meade, Joan Meade, Colleen Lewis, Gary Lewis, Darryl Clark

**STAY TUNED FOR OUR NEXT EVENT –OCT 1 2025!
(likely a Luncheon – South Shore). THANK YOU!**