



Since 1989

Pineridge Chapter – Spring Edition Newsletter – April '26

President's Message

Hello fellow Posties,

Finally made it to Spring, that was a winter for sure!

Those with cabin fever and thinking of travelling this year, should use our discounts with belairdirect travel insurance, formerly called Medoc, which is now associated with belairdirect home & auto Insurance. As well, Spring time is a good time to get ready for a year of fun and activities by checking out your hearing needs with HearingLife, and for your vision with Specsavers, all with our discount programs. As well, GoodLife Fitness is also part of our benefits package.

If you have kids and grandkids, you need to check out our Heritage Club Scholarship Program: a great opportunity for your family! The details are posted on our web site, heritageclub.ca, and the deadline for applications is June 30th, 2026. Also, our affinity partner, belairdirect, has a similar scholarship program that you should check out as well.

As we told you last year, our annual subsidies and mailing privileges with our parent company, Canada Post, were cancelled, due to the financial issues facing the Corporation. But luckily, they did give us a \$25,000 credit in order to resume some of our mailings towards the end of 2025, and for 2026, which was much appreciated.

We look forward to seeing you throughout the year at any of our get togethers. It is always nice to meet up with friends and we thank you for your continued support to our club, as we strive to continue the camaraderie and friendship with all our friends and members.

J.P.

Jean Pierre Leguerrier

President



Our Next Event

Pineridge Chapter is having our next Event on Thursday, June 4th, at the ever popular Mandarin Restaurant, 1725 Kingston Road, Pickering, at 12 noon.

Please register early by calling or texting Pat, at 289-927-1521, and it is strongly recommended that you pay well before the event.

For 2026, we have implemented a new pricing for our lunch events as our annual subsidies from Canada Post have been cancelled. Our current pricing for the lunch event:

\$22 for a Senior Paid Member of the Heritage Club
\$32 for a Non-Senior/Non-Member

Send in your e-payments to: *pineridgechapter14@gmail.com*, or your cheques made out to **Pineridge Heritage Club**, and mailed to: Pat Stephenson, Pineridge Heritage Club, 295 Bluejay Cres., Oshawa ON L1G 6X4. Please indicate "**payment for lunch**" on payment details.

Also, if making an e-payment, please be careful as there are similar names of other organizations using "pine ridge or Pineridge" as a business name on the web.

If you end up cancelling for any reason, we will refund your payment. Please note, for all our events, we recommend you call to register your attendance, it makes our lives so much easier. Also, please do not arrive too early: we need the time to set things up for you!

For this event, part of the donations to the 50/50 draw will be going back to our club, to bolster our finances, and some to a local charitable organization: for this event, the Heart & Stroke Foundation. At our last event, we donated to the Salvation Army Food Banks and the Canadian Cancer Society.



Notice Board

Would you like more events offered? If you have suggestions for new events, please reach out to our VP, Debbie Greenwood, via email (dagreenwood4@gmail.com).

Life Events: Have you had any life events you would like the us to announce? Marriages, births, special anniversaries, special awards, deaths, hospitalizations, etc. Let us know so we can pay tribute.

Helping Others: We continue to collect non-perishable food items for the **Food Banks** at every event, and we thank everyone for their generous donations. In these tough times, they need it!

Soda Can Tabs: donated to a local church in Scarborough. These eventually provide assisted devices for the handicapped. This has been a very popular collecting pastime with our group.

Thank you for all your generous donations and thoughts in the past. 🙌

Colleagues & Friends who have passed: Our Condolences to Family & Friends

Edward Pember. Anne Ballantyne, Postal Coding Dept.

Best of Wishes to our Friend

Bernie Snyder: wishing you a speedy recovery so you can get back to being your amazing self and walking Sally, the dachshund!

Welcome to our new members

Chris Langschmidt, Benny Chan, Gary Phillips

Status of the Chapter

How is our Chapter doing, you may ask? Here is a copy of our Financial Report for 2025, as well as our Report Card evaluation from the National Office.

CHAPTER FINANCIAL REPORT RAPPORT FINANCIER DU CHAPITRE Year Ending December 31, 2025 Exercice se terminant le 31 décembre 2025		
Chapter Name - Number / Nom du chapitre et numéro	PINDERIDGE CHAPTER 14	
Ver. 5		
	Balance forward (January 1st, 2025 / Solde reporté au 1 ^{er} janvier 2025)	\$3,448.28
REVENUE / REVENUS		
	National Office Grant / Subvention du Bureau national	\$1,000.00
	Canada Post Achievement Award / Prix d'excellence de Postes Canada	\$0.00
	Memberships Paid - current Year / Cotisations payées dans l'année courante	\$390.00
	Memberships Paid in advance for 2026 / Cotisations payées à l'avance pour 2026	\$1,720.00
	Future years (Beyond next year - 2027 and forward) / Années post. (après l'année prochaine - 2027 et ultérieures)	\$80.00
	Past Years Memberships paid - Cotisations payées pour années antérieures	\$0.00
	Membership dues / Cotisations des membres	\$2,190.00
	Banquet / Banquet	\$0.00
	Meetings, BBQ, etc. / Réunions, BBQ, etc.	\$3,840.00
	Travel, members / Voyages, membres	\$0.00
	Sports / Activités sportives	\$0.00
	Other / Autres	\$537.42
	POSTAGE REFUND	
	Social Activities / Activités sociales	\$4,377.42
	Raffles/ Sale of Items / Tirages, vente d'articles	\$470.00
	Donations / Dons	\$35.00
	Other / Autres	\$0.00
	Fund raising / Levée de fonds	\$605.00
	Other / Autres (Interest income / Intérêts)	\$0.00
	Miscellaneous / Divers	\$0.00
	Total Revenue / Total des revenus	\$8,072.42
TOTAL EXPENDITURES / DÉPENSES TOTALES		
	Communication / Communications	\$0.00
	Printing costs / Frais d'impression	\$1,897.31
	Office supplies / Fournitures de bureau	\$338.30
	Computer / Ordinateur	\$129.95
	Other / Autres	\$66.96
	NEWSLETTER PREP	
	Chapter Office Expenses / Frais de bureau du chapitre	\$2,432.52
	President / Déplacements du président	\$0.00
	National Annual General Meeting / Assemblée générale annuelle nationale	\$0.00
	Other / Autres	\$0.00
	Travel / Déplacements	\$0.00
	Banquet / Banquet	\$0.00
	Luncheons, BBQ / Dinners, BBQ	\$5,106.13
	Travel, members / Voyages, membres	\$0.00
	Sport activities / Activités sportives	\$0.00
	Volunteer Appreciation / Reconnaissance des bénévoles	\$409.02
	Other / Autres - hospitality/hospitalité	\$50.00
	Council Operating expenses / Dépenses opérationnelles des conseils	\$0.00
	Social activities / Activités sociales	\$5,565.15
	Donations / Dons	\$120.00
	Bank Charges / Frais bancaires	\$76.82
	Other / Autres	\$5.00
	DUES OVERPAYMENT	
	Miscellaneous / Divers	\$201.82
	TOTAL Expenditures / Total des dépenses	\$8,199.49
	Surplus (Deficit) / Excédent (Déficit)	\$127.57
	Closing Balance/Solde de clôture-31 Dec/déc. 2025	\$3,321.21
	Bank Balance/ Solde en banque	\$ 3,321.21
	Chapter Investments not included in operating budget / Placements non inclus dans le budget opérationnel	\$

Chapter 14 – **Pineridge:** Chapter may be struggling. Paid membership at 22% indicates possible poor member interest. Growth is flat at minus 1. Four events with reasonable attendance. Bank balance is okay for now but bears watching. Small deficit this year, and last.

The "L I F E is G O O D" Section

Oxymorons

Why is the third hand on the watch called the second hand?
If a word is misspelled in the dictionary, how would we ever know?
If Webster wrote the first dictionary, where did he find the words?
Why does "slow down" and "slow up" mean the same thing?
Why does "fat chance" and "slim chance" mean the same thing?
Why do "tug" boats push their barges?
Why do we sing "Take me out to the ball game" when we are already there?
Why are they called "stands" when they are made for sitting?
Why is it called "after dark" when it really is "after light"?
Doesn't "expecting the unexpected" make the unexpected expected?
Why are a "wise man" and a "wise guy" opposites?
Why do "overlook" and "oversee" mean opposite things?
Why is "phonetic" not spelled the way it sounds?
If work is so terrific, why do they have to pay you to do it?
If all the world is a stage, where is the audience sitting?
If love is blind, why is lingerie so popular?
Why is bra singular and panties plural?
Why press harder on the buttons of a remote control when we know the batteries are dead?
Why do we put suits in garment bags and garments in a suitcase?
How come abbreviated is such a long word?
Why doesn't glue stick to the inside of the bottle?
Why do they call it a TV set when you only have one?
Christmas - What other time of the year do you sit in front of a dead tree?
Why do we drive on a parkway and park on a driveway?

THE POST HORN



A POSTAL SERVICE STORY

Meet “Pilly”, the Pillar Mail Box!



The eye catching British Pillar Mail Box, affectionately known as “Pilly”, is located in front of the Canadian Forces Postal Unit Headquarters at 8 Wing Trenton.

First off, one must know what to properly call it when referring to it. The correct terminology is “pillar box”. A pillar box is a free-standing letter drop box found in the United Kingdom (UK), its territories and in some Commonwealth countries. In the UK, these boxes were originally erected and maintained by the General Post Office, then the Post Office and later by the Royal Mail. Generally, there is a rich history and story behind them, which is available on the UK’s [Postal Museum](#) web site. But what of the one sitting so proudly in front of the CFPU HQ?

The CFPU HQ pillar box, as you may have expected, originally came from the UK and is a “GR” (denoting the Royal Cypher of King George V) Dual Aperture Box. It was manufactured in the early Twentieth Century by the W.R. Allan and Company Ltd., and was installed outside of 55 Bishopsgate, London in 1912, where it remained until October 23, 1975 when it was relocated to enable renovations.

In 1933, the dual apertures of many pillar boxes were enlarged to allow for the posting of larger letter packets. The purpose of these dual aperture style pillar boxes in the city of London was to

allow for the separation of letter mail to London districts and other Country destinations, and for double bagging when being cleared.



*A variety of Pillar Boxes in storage at the Postal Museum in Debden, UK.
(Source: the UK Postal Museum)*

With these references, one can begin to appreciate not only the majestic style and important function of these necessary postal structures, but also of the history attached to the older ones that are still about.

Now more on the one nicknamed “Pilly”, a name likely long forgotten by the new generation of CAF posties, that proudly watches over the entranceway of the CFPU HQ. Where exactly did it come from?

Well, it seems in the spring of 1977, the national postal system of the UK, known then as simply the “Post Office”, had decided this pillar box should be retired due to its age and the wear and tear it had endured over many years of service. It was placed in storage at London’s main Post Office in the King Edward Building. It would not remain there long.

Subsequently at CFB Trenton, Major H.W. Osbourne, the Commanding Officer of the CF Postal Unit was moving into the last full year of his tenure when he decided that the unit should acquire something unique for its historical collection: a British pillar box. He had an admiration and affection for pillar boxes, therefore his plan was to find one and have it centrally displayed with the many other Postal artifacts that adorned the hallways of his unit. After receiving authorization and funding to purchase one, Major Osbourne contacted the Canadian Defence Liaison Staff in London, to request for acquiring one from the (UK) Post Office.

From Gatwick the pillar box was shipped to CFB Trenton via CFB Lahr, Germany on March 13, 1978, just in time for Major Osbourne to eagerly see it arrive at CFPU before his departure later that summer. The pillar box would find itself mounted outside near the entranceway of the CFPU Headquarters. It quickly became known as “Pilly” amongst CFPU’s personnel who would grow to love and cherish this rich piece of British postal history.

Ref.: Researched & written by CWO (Ret’d) Timothy W. Miller. Abridged by J.P. Leguerrier


Our sponsors & affinity partners: an opportunity for discounts

belairdirect for Home, Auto, and Travel Insurance

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Scholarship Program 2026

OPEN: April 30th, 2026



With a belairdirect scholarship behind you, you have everything in front of you.

This year, belairdirect will award 50 scholarships each valued at \$1,000, to eligible students completing high school in 2026 and starting post-secondary education in Canada in the fall of 2026.

-  **Open:** April 30th, 2026
Deadline: June 30th, 2026
-  To learn more visit belairdirect.com/scholarship
-  Universities Canada Toll Free: **1.844.567.1237**

HearingLife



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[1]The extra 10% will be applied to the remaining balance on hearing aids and accessories after any Government funding and all other discounts (if applicable). Custom earplugs, all noise reduction ratings are provided by the manufacturer unless they are produced and are not directly certified by HearingLife. [2]A non-refundable hearing assessment is provided to adults ages 18 and older directly with us. The results of the assessment will be communicated verbally to you. Depending on the province you're located in, an administrative fee may apply if a copy of an Audiology Report is required. Child hearing tests are conducted at select locations for a fee. Not available for industrial hearing tests. The promotion is valid for select hearing aid models and cannot be combined with more than 1 other promotion or discount or price based on lowest price for device. [3]Financing starts during at 0%. Deposit may be required. Borrower must be age of majority and have a Canadian bank account. Financing is available on select consumer hearing aids and at select HearingLife locations. Some conditions apply, see clinic for details. [4]You are required a lower price on an equivalent hearing aid with the same features, options and services. HearingLife Canada Ltd will match the price. Some conditions apply, see clinic for details. *Prices not available in Quebec.

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SCAN TO SEE WHAT GOODLIFE OFFERS!

SCAN TO BOOK A TOUR AND ONE VISIT TRIAL PASS!

Valid until: August 8, 2026

Save with Specsavers

Welcome to the Canada Post Heritage Club we're proud to partner with this organization to provide affordable, accessible eyecare and eyewear to all its members.

All our locations provide a great range of offers, glasses, and contact lenses, as well as online booking and direct billing.

Plus, as a valued Heritage Club member, you can also get **60% off lens upgrades*** to help you make the perfect glasses.

And don't forget, if you're eligible for provincial health care, your eye exam (including an OCT eye health scan) will be at no cost to you.**

Book an eye exam today at specsavers.ca

*Discount only available for Heritage Club members with proof of valid Heritage Club membership. Cannot be used for friends or family purchases. Offer details are subject to change. Other conditions and exclusions apply, for more details visit www.heritageclub.ca/membership/
**Costs of eye exams provided by independent optometrists are covered by provincial health care for eligible seniors.



Why Join? – The Membership Advantages

- **belairdirect** (formerly Johnson) Home and Car Insurance: discounts of up to 35%.
- **belairdirect** travel insurance (formerly **MEDOC**)
- **belairdirect** scholarships for your children.
- **GoodLife Fitness**: discounts up to 30% off the regular all club access rates.
- **HearingLife**: discounts up to 10% with price matching in effect.
- **Specsavers**: discounts on glasses.
- **Genumark**: access to Corporate branded apparel.
- **Pineridge Chapter** discounts to events and/or luncheons.
- **Heritage Club scholarships** for your kids and grandkids of \$2,000 per school year.

IMPORTANT: In order to benefit from these discounts, you must: Mention your Heritage Club membership number, and you must have paid your membership dues to the Pineridge Chapter for the current year or more, otherwise coverage could be denied or terminated.

Your Committee Members

J.P. Leguerrier, Chapter President, Writer-Editor

Bernie Snyder, 1st Vice-President, jobernsnnyder@gmail.com

Debbie Greenwood, 2nd Vice-President, dagreenwood4@gmail.com

Cheryl Leith, 3rd Vice-President, cherylleith@rogers.com

Patricia Stephenson, Treasurer-Secretary, Membership Dues & Database

p_stephenson2001@yahoo.ca

Lifetime Honorary Member: Margaret Fisher

Volunteer Helpers: G. MacDonald, Jos Snyder, P. Greenwood, Ric Morgan