

Canada Post Heritage Club
Virtual Meeting, February 5, 2021

Meeting called to order by National President J.P. Leguerrier at 11:30 CST.

Thank you to Claude Bruneau, for setting up the Zoom meeting.

J.P. thanked all present for participating in our first attempt at a virtual type of communication.

J.P. introduced our Canada Post rep, Stephanie Laberge, Manager Advisor, Employee Engagement, who in turn introduced Nabil, who will be our Head Office contact.

Nabil to provide J.P. with necessary contact information which will be distributed to all Presidents for future use: Nabil El Madade, cell 343-543-7959,
Nabil.El_madade@canadapost.postescanada.ca

Eldred enquired re the status of cheques sent to Ottawa, for Community Foundation. Many have not been cashed since a year ago. Stephanie to follow up with Courtney Hirota.

First time Presidents/Chapter Contacts participating included: Margaret Mackinnon (Bluenose), Anna Huang (Simcoe), Laurie Reid (Chinook), and Marc Jacob (Kebec).

A self introduction of participating members was started by Eldred Holmes (Terra Nova), and completed by Jim Sharpe (VanIsle).

Missing from the meeting were Harold Onagi (Heartland), Heather Spence (Yellowhead), and Bob Emmons (Bluewater).

Claude talked about the process of developing a new updated web site for heritageclub.ca. "Force Five Media" has been selected, and is starting the process which may take three to four months to complete. Claude will be asking Presidents for their input as the site development proceeds. Site development will cost approximately \$ 20,000.00.

It is also proposed to have a training component on the new site.

Eldred talked about the Scholarship Program which has proved most successful. The deadline of applications for this year is June 30th, 2021. Presidents are asked to advertise the program in their local newsletters.

Eldred thanked the Judges for their fair and unbiased judgement of applicants.

J.P. asked Presidents to provide Gary Fisher, (Yukootok) with their envelope needs for this year, which will be passed on and processed by Fred Danells, Van Fraser. Please forward your needs to Gary by February 28.

J.P. discussed a practice by some chapters of including prepaid Canada Post Heritage Club envelopes to paying members for return of their dues. This practice must stop, as it has not

been authorized by Canada Post, under the already generous mailing privileges we have been granted. In fact, the trend for many members is now paying by e-transfer.

Fred Danells discussed Santa Letters: there were 598 Heritage volunteers this year, answering 178,157 letters nationally; three chapters have not provided any information to date. There were many late letters, many letters with no return address, and we also had a large volume of letters from outside Canada.

Fred to address the issue of no return addresses in next year's publicity campaign.

J.P. advised that he is proposing a call for election of officers for First Vice and Third Vice Presidents, as well as Secretary-Treasurer, on May 1st. The plan is to have Lloyd Rogowski act as electioneer, with a deadline of May 15 for nominations, and the election results out by May 31st. Eldred and Gary volunteered the info that they would re-submit their names for election.

Predicting a date for the Annual General Meeting for this year is problematic. We must await the availability of vaccine nationally, before we make any decision. Marc Jacob is still extending the invitation to Quebec City.

Henry Masek enquired about the possibility of viewing current retirement information for distribution to future retirees, as he has seen some misleading information previously.

Rene Lareau spoke fondly about his past Treasurer, Normand Hurtubise, just recently deceased at 79, who was their Chapter Treasurer for 17 dedicated years. Volunteerism at its' best.

J.P. asked if there are any questions or issues the Presidents want the National Executive to address and bring forward to Canada Post, to do so. The National Executive meets with Canada Post Head Office twice a year to discuss the Program and address any outstanding issues.

J.P. commented that the Club has a very good relationship with their counterparts at Head Office, but as time as gone by, we have lost a lot of momentum in the field. Senior officials who knew about the Heritage Club program and were sympathetic to it have retired over the years, and many chapters in the last few years have been evicted from their work spaces in a CPC facility and forced to carry on the functions of the Heritage Club in their apartments, condos, or houses, making it hard to hold meetings, store equipment, etc.

Margaret enquired about the Railway Mail Car, and the project of collecting stories about the Railway Mail Service. Fred advised the car is on display in Squamish, B.C. and has been restored, with past employee names, proper paint, stories about the car, etc. Fred is also working on a postal museum, and is still collecting postal histories, stories, anecdotes, and artifacts.

Cindy Daoust advised ByTown Chapter is most up to date with e-transfer as a mode of paying dues, and is willing to share a guide she has prepared with the rest of the team.

Meeting adjourned at 13:56 CST.