

Canada Post Heritage Club

Annual General Meeting

May 26-29th, 2017

Day One

Welcome

J.P. Leguerrier welcomed everyone to the Annual General Meeting and thanked Lloyd Rogowski, President of Parkland Chapter, for hosting this year's AGM. J.P. complimented Lloyd's Executive and volunteer's for a great venue and wonderful hospitality. J.P. also welcomed the new presidents in attendance to this year's AGM: Gilles Labine (Ville Marie Chapter), Laird Wilson (Golden Sheaf), Diane Biggs (Humber Chapter) and Marc Jacob (representing Kebec chapter for André Gagnon)

J.P. Leguerrier stated that 2017 is the 150th year of Confederation in Canada. It is also the 150th Anniversary of the Post Office Department becoming a Federal Agency. This year, 2017, is a year of change for the Heritage Club as well:

1. Each Spring, the National Executive travel to Ottawa to meet with the corporation with our questions and concerns from all of you and as well to get direction from Canada Post. This past year, our liaison, Julie Kingsbury left Canada Post. James Innis, director, was on another project. Jannet Nguyen is currently in charge as our liaison. Jannet is new to Canada Post with 6 months employment and when speaking to her, found out she knew little of the Heritage Club. With all of these changes, we had to postpone our spring meeting to June/July. This AGM will be an excellent opportunity to voice any questions, concerns or comments that we can take to Ottawa with us.
2. There is a vacancy at the National President Level as Bob Emmons stepped down from this position. J.P. Leguerrier, on behalf of the National Executive and the Heritage Club thanked Bob Emmons for his 15+ years of dedicated service and for continuing to act as a consultant for the National Executive as the current Past President. As well, Bob Emmons remains as President of the Bluewater Chapter. During his tenure, a voluntary dues was put into place nationally. Bob also has ran and managed the entire national membership database up until last year.
3. There are 4 positions to full this year: National President (1 year term), Secretary/Treasurer (2 year term), 1st Vice President (2 year term), and 3rd Vice President (2 year term).

Associate Members

Harold Onagi explained that spouses of Heritage Club members are eligible to become associate members. This entitles them to receive an Associate membership number and take advantage of the benefits and discounts available to our members. Harold said there has been a demand for extended family to become part of the Heritage Club as well. This will be discussed further on Monday, as this requires a change to the constitution that was submitted earlier this year.

Bob Emmons commented that he would like to see the Associate Membership extended to family and friends.

Harold Onagi feels this takes away from the original purpose of the club which was for long term service and retired employees and their families.

Lise Miville-Dechene stated that she feels the club needs to look at 2017 and what is best for our club now in the present.

Heather Spence wanted to pass along that she was unaware that dues were to be collected by each chapter for their own members and not collected by the Membership Coordinator. Heather thought this would be helpful information for all of the new chapter presidents.

Harold Onagi explained that there is a manual that each chapter should be in possession of that explains all such information for all presidents.

Johnson Insurance - Shawn McCord

Shawn McCord thanked everyone for the invitation to attend the AGM again this year on behalf of Johnson Insurance. Shawn stated that the Canadian dollar is eroding and running at about \$.73 and for the travel insurance industry, this is a tough time, especially January – April each year. For Johnson Insurance, this past year the frequency of claims being made was down and the average cost, however, per claim was up. Shawn was happy to announce that with the Canadian dollar being low and the average cost per claim increasing that there was only a 1.3% increase in Medoc travel insurance this year. Shawn also stated that there has been no regression or enhancements to the plan this past year.

There is a new emergent trend this year – enhanced water coverage. Johnson introduced overland flood coverage. If the client currently had coverage for sewer back up, Johnson automatically put this overland flood coverage in place for up to the limit you are covered for. For those living in flood plains or on banks of a river, there will be no coverage available. This product is new and will continue to evolve over the years. Typically water loss represented 15-20% of claims made. 2 years ago they represented 70% of claims and last year 80%

Shawn was pleased to announce that Johnson Insurance now has an office in Quebec. Shawn McCord thanked the Heritage Club French Chapters for their support and help to make this happen.

Auto Insurance - Shawn listed the benefits of Johnson Auto Insurance:

- Easy payment options
- Accident forgiveness
- Waivered depreciation for first 48 months.
- 24 hour service and adjusters
- Roadside service

Home Insurance - Shawn listed the benefits of Johnson Home Insurance:

- Enhanced water damage coverage
- Air miles
- Easy payment options
- 24 hour service and adjusters
- 5% discount on Medoc travel insurance if you have both Home Insurance and Medoc.
- Home and Car Insurance 10% discount if you have both
- Specialty Alliance Coverage – high value homes, boats, small commercial business, vacancy, identity theft

50+ Assist Benefit – This product is unique to Johnson. It covers nursing benefits at home, housekeeping, and companion services. This is a separate benefit and will cause your home insurance rates to increase.

- Automatic Rider on all group benefits
- Renters coverage
- Seasonal coverage
- Mini/mobile home coverage

Medoc

- Associate Members will be covered
- Automatic coverage if a Canada Post member
- \$12,000 trip cancellation, interruption, delay per person per trip
- 24/7 claim center

- Unlimited number of trips up to 40 days in duration
- Supplemental trip options for trips longer than 40 days. 182 and 212 days
- \$5million per occurrence

Family and Friends Plan – C1 program - Shawn McCord explained the benefits of the Family and Friends Plan that can be offered to our Associate Membership:

- 17day or 35 day plan
- Supplemental trip options available for up to 182 to 212 days
- \$8,000 trip cancellation, interruption, delay
- Higher cost than Medoc travel for full Heritage Club Members however still extremely good and competitive coverage.

Yvon Lemaire asked Shawn about a potential deal with Great Life West that the Corporation is considering to offer new members. C.U.P.E has already moved forward with this, offering underlying coverage from \$100,000 to \$250,000 of out of country coverage. Shawn stressed the importance of contacting Medoc before Great West Life and Medoc will do a “warm transfer” to Great West Life.

Eldred Holmes stated that CUPW is also working on forming a retirement association. He asked Shawn McCord if the Medoc travel plan would be offered to them in addition or instead of the Heritage Club. Shawn said that Johnson has an association and relationship with the Heritage Club only and it will remain this way.

Bob Emmons asked if the Heritage Club constitution changes to include Associate Membership to Family and Friends, would they be offered the same coverage as retired Canada Post employees. Shawn stated that the coverage/discounts would not be the exact same, however would be within a 5% variance.

Nick Ronsky congratulated Shawn McCord on a recent promotion he has recently received within Johnson Insurance. Nick also thanked Shawn for the continued support and relationship that Johnson Insurance has provided to the Canada Post Heritage Club/

Coffee Break

Financial – Nick Ronsky

Nick Ronsky gave a shout out to the wonderful newsletter that the Richelieu Chapter produces as well as the \$6000 donation to the Cancer Society on behalf of the Kebec Chapter.

Travel Expenses AGM

- National will cover all Chapter President's airfare. All spouses airfare is your personal expense.
- \$.50km for those driving their own vehicles as long as it does not exceed the cost of airfare
- Home to Airport transportation
- Airport to Hotel transportation
- Hotel to Airport transportation
- National will cover all meals for both the President and their spouse
- Hotel – Chapter will pay cost of hotel stay
- \$10 incidental for President only per day
- Liquor is not covered. This is your own responsibility

Financial Reports/Income Reports/Expenses

Nick Ronsky stated that currently there are 23, 572 members and 7, 583 members are dues paying members. This generated \$81, 783 in dues last year. The Heritage Club received \$8500 from Canada Post to be divided between the chapters based on their activity reports. Canada Post also provided \$50,000 to the Heritage Club. Claude Bruneau stated that Canada Post also covers the cost of the Chapter newsletters to be mailed at a cost of over \$100,000. There was concern expressed that this coverage may disappear in the future. There was general consensus that the Club needs to continue to try and sell the value of the Heritage Club to Canada Post because those employees that have been the biggest supporters for the Heritage Club have since retired and the new employees in the corporation at Head Office are being hired from off the street and have knowledge of the value the Heritage Club provides to Canada Post.

Pierre Amyot commented that Mr. Chopra has always been a huge supporter of the Canada Post Heritage Club and that perhaps it was time to reintroduce the Heritage Club to Mr. Chopra. Nick Ronsky explained that they did have one meeting with Mr. Chopra when he was first appointed. They reached out and invited him to attend the AGM every year and he has not attended yet. Nick said they will continue to try and develop these relationships

\$44, 480 was given out last year in Seed Money as well as \$500 per month to Holly Perreault for her work as the National Membership Coordinator.

This report was accepted and passed

Nick Ronsky commended the Presidents for all submitting their reports in a timely manner. Nick handed out the Income and Expense Reports and went over these in detail with the Presidents.

Miscellaneous Information

Harold Onagi informed the Presidents that if there is a problem submitting the Statement of Mailing with the old stock of envelopes on hand that they can use Service Ticket - 121297090.

J.P. Leguerrier informed everyone that they have now moved to a new provider for the website as they all agreed the monthly maintenance with Godspeed was too expensive.

Jim Sharpe suggested that the presidents be asked in March how many envelopes are needed for the coming year. Jim feels that this would be more beneficial than asking at the AGM because they can check their current stock in March in their offices. He feels it's difficult to remember at the AGM what they have on hand. Harold Onagi stated the National Executive will take this suggestion under advisement.

J.P. Leguerrier asked the presidents for their input into holding the AGM on weekdays as opposed to weekends. Lea Maynard is the host chapter for the 2018 AGM and has found cheaper rates for weekdays in Toronto versus weekends. Everyone agreed. The tentative date for the 2018 AGM is May 28-31, 2018.

Jean Benjamin stated that she has 900+ members in her chapter. She asked if they could put the newsletter on the website instead of mailing hardcopies. Harold Onagi stated that they could place the newsletter on the website, however there need to be mailed a hardcopy 4 times a year to the membership, once to the entire membership and the other 3 times to dues paying members only. Yvon Lemaire told Jean his chapter sends hardcopies, through email and to the website.

Lunch

Day Two

Seed Money – Nick Ronsky

Nick Ronsky explained a new proposal for the distribution of Seed Money to the chapters. The proposal is \$1 per member and \$4 per every paid member. He also stated that

Those chapters with fewer than 500 members would also get an additional \$1000. It was also stated that if there is no representative at the AGM, then that chapter will not be granted Seed Money.

Jim Sharpe feels that \$1000 for small chapters is not enough money. Seed Money is to be used to grow your membership not for chapter operating costs and that \$1000 is not enough to do this.

Yvon Lemaire thanked the National Executive for this proposal and asked if this proposal was for 2016 or for 2016 going forward. Nick Ronsky stated that there is no way to determine the state of the club going forward and what will be possible in future years, however they would not go below \$4 per paid members.

Hotel Costs

Henri Van Den Brecht stated that his chapter members did not feel that they received the value for paying the hotel costs for the Chapter President to attend the AGM.

Jim Sharpe stated his chapter felt the same way. The cost for the president to attend is approximately 48 dues to cover his hotel costs and members do not feel they should pay for this with the dues. Jim feels that the National Executive has money to cover this cost and that they insist each chapter attend so they should cover this cost.

Bob Emmons said that the Heritage Club has money in the bank because of Nick Ronsky as our Treasurer and thanked him for his service. Bob stated that if the corporation should decide to quit giving the club \$50,000 plus \$8500 and pay for the mailings (\$100,000), that we stand to lose a lot of income in the long run. He feels we should keep the money in the account as a buffer in case such an event.

Doug Anderson stated that it's the Seed Money provided to his chapter that covers the cost of his trip to the AGM each year. This leaves no additional money for growing membership.

J.P. Leguerrier stated that Senior Executives have questioned why Canada Post should pay from their budget for the Heritage Club. This cost could become eliminated.

Yvon Lemaire does not feel that the club should worry about what ifs and makes a motion for the National Executive to pay for hotel costs until such time as Canada Post does not support us as of 2017.

Jim Sharpe said that the chapters have stated what they need to operate and grow and that the National is not listening. We will have \$300,000 in the bank.

Pierre Amyot said that there is a proposal on the floor and it is up to the chapter presidents to decide this not the National Executive. The Motion was voted upon the passed 15-7.

Score Card/Activity Report

Yvon Lemaire said the score card was designed for the Heritage Club to look at what each chapter is doing and review for awards. Currently 25% of the Score Card goes to Canada Post activities. Yvon suggested that they rethink and design the Score Card. He feels that chapter activities should be given more credit than C.P. activities. Yvon also suggested that usage of the website should be added to the Score Card. He asked that the card be reviewed.

Harold Onagi stated that the card was reviewed and changes were made. Nick Ronsky feels there still needs to be changes and amendments to reflect the times we are currently in.

Yvon Lemaire feels that 25% for C.P. activities is too high and 10% to chapter activities is not fair. Communication needs to be higher than 10%.

Bob Emmons made a motion that the National Executive appoint a committee of 3 members to review the Annual Report and come back with their findings. This should not include members of the National Executive. This motion was passed. The Committee will include Henri Van Den Brent, Yvon Lemaire, and Lise Miville-Dechene. The committee will report back September 1st.

Marc Jacob stated that activities such as luncheons, golf tournaments, etc should be considered as social activities. He feels that involvement in the community need to be rated higher that social activities.

Bob Emmons reminded everyone that last year at the AGM, Julie Kingsbury said that Canada Post only looks at the number of paid members of the Score Card. Bob said we need to be involved more with making Canada Post aware of the value that the Heritage Club brings. We need to keep informing them we are available to do whatever they need for us to help with. This is especially important with the current corporate employees being new to Canada Post and hired off the street.

René Lareau asked if there would be an account given of the meeting in June in Ottawa. J.P. Leguerrier said that the minutes for all of the meetings are always posted and he committed to sending emails to everyone to keep them up to date.

All chapter presidents were asked to email the presidents and executives electronic copies of their newsletters.

AGM

2018 – Toronto

2019 – Regina

2020 – Quebec City

2021 – Saskatoon

2022 – New Brunswick

Laird Wilson asked for a budget and list of responsibilities for the host chapters of the AGM. J.P. ensured Laird that Nick Ronsky can send him spread sheets of the last 3 AGMs. Gary Fisher also has created a document of what to do and a timeline to follow.

Harold Onagi told Laird Wilson that the electronic copy of the manual he sent him has that information listed.

Santa Letter Writing Program – Fred Daniels

Fred Daniels reported that the Heritage Club members did an increase of Santa Letters this past year. 254,000 letters were answered by Heritage Club members. There were 18,000 volunteer hours. Fred thanked the National Executive for donating money for the Elf Draw to recognize the volunteers. This gives the volunteers pride and recognition for everyone involved.

Fred said that 1.6 million letters over all were answered by Canada Post. Fred stated that the launching of the Santa Letter Writing Program each year is another great way to get involved and help promote the program. (tree lighting, parades)

Henri Van Den Bremt asked Fred if there was an electronic letter writing program. Fred said there is website that promotes the Santa Letter Writing, has games, puzzles and other activities for the children to take part in. This program generates an electronic reply.

Fred told everyone that Canada Post also promotes through schools, daycares and libraries. As well, there are over 22,000 Canadian teachers that are overseas and many of these teachers take part in the program.

Eldred Holmes asked if there was something that could be done to enforce a stricter timeline date. He said he has schools that will drop off their letters a day before the deadline and it is difficult to fulfill this. Fred said that it is their commitment to answer every letter and that when the deadline is missed that they will send out a late letter. Last year 11,000 late letters were answered by Heritage Club members. They have also implemented advanced deadlines for schools and daycares.

Yvon Lemaire asked Fred if he has heard rumours that other people could be asked to answer Santa Letters. Fred answered that there is one area only where they have a difficult time answering letters and an outside source has been needed.

Lea Maynard said that each year in the Toronto area, she spends at least 3 days a week in the Santa Letter room and would be happy to help ensure that letters are sent to the areas that would like to volunteer their time.

Diane Biggs stated that several volunteers are house bound or require special transportation. Fred said that the program does need to closely monitor the volunteers and the program to make sure follow up is on time. If volunteers are willing to work within the guidelines, Fred said arrangements can be made to see letters are provided.

Laird Wilson asked if they had a say as to who the plant manager makes their contact person. Fred said the coordinator for Laird's area is out of Winnipeg. Fred stated that it is more efficient to know in advance who is willing to volunteer and he can see that 300 letters are sent 3 times a week.

Break

Website – Gail Bourhill

J.P. Leguerrier said that a new provider for the website has been hired and is fixing and updating the site.

Gail Bourhill reported that she checks on the website at least once a month. She keeps records of all the chapters and checks for their input. She also makes sure the presidents name and information is correct for each chapter and that all links are working properly. Gail also stated that she would like to see more chapters take advantage of all the website has to offer.

Gail suggested that the presidents go online and check out some of the chapter pages to see how the website can be done and used to its fullest.

- Richelieu – Great example of what can be done and has a very inviting page that is updated regularly
- Ville Marie – Music, links, in memoriam
- Maissonneuve – picture of the executive, trips, very inviting and up to date
- Laurentide – updated regularly, embedded audio file on their webpage.
- Pineridge – embedded audio file
- Central Yukootok
- Parkland and Trent Severn

Problems with the website that are being fixed

- Changing the picture on the chapter site.
- Upcoming Events Menu
- Looking at changing the picture layout on the home page
- Pictures to the site do not always download properly
- Menu structure under administration site is not always consistent

Gail stated that all tutorials are listed in both text and video under the “About” section of the website. Gail will also add her own tutorials to this section as well.

Marc Jacob asked if it is possible to set up an online secure link for the members to directly pay their dues. Yvon Lemaire said that they would need to check with the new provider and see if this is possible and the cost involved.

Bob Emmons recommended that there be made available money to thank Gail for the work she does to help oversee and run the website on behalf of the club. Gail thanked everyone, however said she does the work because she loves the work and does not want to be paid. J.P. said the National Executive would take all of this under advisement

Henri Van Den Brecht asked if there were any copyright issues and concerns they needed to be aware of when downloading pictures and music to their websites. René Lareau said that you can do a copyright search online before you post anything.

Yvon Lemaire told everyone that the website has a Google Counter on it; however he would like to see there is a Google Counter for each individual as well. René Lareau said that the 3 chapters in Montreal had a luncheon and he surveyed the 157 people who attended if they seen the luncheon advertised on the website and 37% had. He feels this would be very beneficial to see who and how many are using the website.

J.P. Leguerrier thanked Gail for all of her hard work on the website and for her presentation.

Annual Report Brainstorming session

- Communication should be broken down into 2 parts – website and newsletters (4 annually)
- Chapter activities – social events, fundraising events.
- Community activities
- Charitable activities

- Santa Letter Writing
- Financial Audit

Harold Onagi stated that this form was required and created with Canada Post and that it is not up to us to tell Canada Post what we will report but rather see what is required for us to report. Lise Miville-Dechene said that it is 2017 and things need to change. The committee will make proposals and the National Executive can present this to Canada Post on behalf of the Heritage Club.

Miscellaneous

René Lareau passed out a copy of the form his chapter uses to renew the annual dues. This form identifies what benefit each member gets, what discounts are available. René also said that on his website he has a link with all the available discounts for those members 65+ years old.

J.P. Leguerrier said that there is a discount available with Choice Hotels. The Pineridge Chapter has a link on their website. Claude Bureau is also working with TELUS on discounts.

Gilles Labine said his chapter sells advertising on their newsletter to offset the cost of printing.

Lunch

Day Three

Claude Bruneau and J.P. Leguerrier passed around beautiful crystal glasses with the Heritage Club logo etched into them. These will be gifts presented to all out going chapter presidents. If anyone would like to purchase these for their chapter, please contact Claude. The larger the order, the better the cost is for everyone.

Constitutional Changes – Harold Onagi

Harold said that all changes to the constitution needed to be submitted 60 days prior to the AGM.

1. Proposal

Article 2, Section 4

Currently reads:

Auxiliary membership shall be granted to the spouse of any active or deceased Member showing interest in the heritage club on payments of Heritage Club Annual Dues. Each chapter shall have the Right to determine what administration status, rights and privileges it grants to its auxiliary member, except for the position of president or delegate to the

National meeting. Auxiliary members shall not be included in the total Membership for seed money.

Addendum:

Auxiliary membership shall be granted to the extended family members of active members or dues paying spouse deceased Members, showing interest in the heritage club on payments of Heritage Club Annual Dues.

Extended family members shall have the right to participate in all the activities of the chapter and benefits available to auxiliary members.

Rationale:

The proposed change would allow for increased dues paying membership allowing for greater participation in chapter based activities. The change would also allow family members of active members to take advantage of benefits available to active members such as Medoc, Goodlife etc.

Bob Emmons said he would like this addendum to read extended family and friends. This will increase the dues that are received each year as well as the ASA from Johnson Insurance. Harold said that he considered this however the original intent of the club was for long term service employees and retirees to recognize those employees. He said that in the constitution there is a honorary membership available for friends. Harold stated that his thoughts were to preserve the original intent of the club and not the money aspect.

Bob Emmons stated that it is 2017 and things need to change to get more people involved in the club. In the Bluewater chapter there are several friends of our members that support us all year long that would like to become more involved. This will not just generate more income but chapter involvement as well.

Jean Benjamin asked for the term Friends and Family to be clarified. Harold explained that they are encouraging interest of people within our extended family and friends to become involved with the club and receive the same benefits as associate members and pay dues.

Doug Anderson shared his concern that including members of different age groups will change to playing field of the club.

Henri Van Den Bremt asked if it is possible that including this proposal could cut the bottom line of the profit for Good Life and Johnson and possibly change our discounts and deals. Eldred Holmes said that Shawn McCord had earlier stated that friends and family would not receive the same discount because they have not been Canada Post employees.

Harold Onagi said that he has reviewed the Medoc package for Family and Friends and although it is a lower discount, the coverage is considerably better than other companies.

Fred Danells said that he has several friends that are involved in their chapter and when they travel with the Heritage Club, Fred has to recommend other companies to see that they are adequately covered with travel insurance. Fred feels it's time to move into 2017 and make the necessary changes.

Lloyd Rogowski stated his concern that they are actively employed people within Canada Post that would love to become members but do not have 25 years of service. Harold Onagi said that to change this would require a constitutional change and would need to be addressed at the next AGM. J.P. Leguerrier felt that this could be addressed sooner.

The Proposal was voted upon and accepted to include extended family and friends.

2. Proposal;

Article 2, Section 5

Paragraph 2 currently reads:

Active members are those who have paid their voluntary dues to their Chapters. This will make them eligible to receive all communications from their chapter and also be entitled to awards and discounts that may arise.

Proposed change

Active members are those who have paid their annual dues to the Chapter. This will make them eligible to receive all communications from their chapter and also be entitled to awards and discounts that may arise.

Rationale:

The proposed change reflects the fact that Annual Dues are not voluntary as well as make typo corrections.

Voted and Accepted.

3. Proposal

Article 5, Section 1

Currently reads:

The officers of the National Executive shall be elected by and from the approved delegates to the annual meeting. Notwithstanding the above, and subject to the approval of the nominating committee, a delegate will not be restricted from being nominated, if an emergency situation prevents his/her attendance)

Even years, elect President, 2nd Vice-President .Odd year, elect
1st Vice-President, Secretary Treasurer, and 3rd Vice-president.

Proposed change

The officers of the National Executive shall be elected by and from the approved delegates to the annual meeting. The approved delegate is the duly elected president of the chapter.

In the event that the approved delegate is unable to attend an alternate may be appointed to attend on behalf of the approved delegate

Notwithstanding the above, and subject to the approval of the nominating committee, the approved delegate will not be restricted from being nominated, if an emergency situation prevents his/her attendance)

Rationale:

The proposed change identifies who the approved delegate is so that a person representing the chapter on behalf of the Chapter President cannot be nominated for an Executive position.

Voted and Accepted.

Awards – J.P. Leguerrier

J.P. asked if everyone is happy with the current award. He is concerned that the awards are too large and in glass frames. J.P. realizes not everyone has office space to display these and they can also be difficult to transport across the country. He suggested a plaque.

Bob Emmons said he like the idea that Richelieu had to include in their newsletter a picture of the chapter executive taken with the award.

Henri Van Den Bremt recommended a pin or a pendant/flag that could be displayed at chapter events and this would be easy to transport.

Certificates – Claude Bruneau

Claude Bruneau proposed that the certificates be done away with as they are becoming obsolete and that his chapter member do not want them.

Eldred Holmes disagreed and said his chapter members display and are honoured to have a certificate and that they seem to lose the membership card. Gary Fisher and Bob Emmons also disagreed. They both use the certificate and a welcome letter as the first step to introduce themselves to the new member.

Laird Wilson asked why Associate members do not receive a membership certificate. He also asked for an Honorary Life Membership Certificate. J.P. said the certificates original purpose was to recognize the member as an employee of Canada Post. This does not apply to associate members. Harold Onagi read the definition of an honorary member from the constitution and told Laird he could use the certificate for honorary members.

Holly Perreault said that those members, who join just for the discounts, do not care about the certificates. As well the cost to produce these certificates is wasteful if they are just going to be thrown away. Holly proposed that an email attachment be sent with all new applications to the chapter president. If the chapter wishes to use the certificates, they may print them off accordingly. This was voted upon and accepted.

Membership

Holly Perreault proposed that there be an expiry date added to the membership cards. She said that most reward cards and programs to have an annual renewal and expiry date. This would increase membership dues as well as keep our members in better communication with us and increase membership involvement.

Yvon Lemaire shared concern of having to reproduce over 7000 new cards each year. and also how this would affect the agreement with Johnson Insurance and Good Life Fitness. Claude Bruneau proposed a 1 year trial/pilot program with By Town chapter and Pineridge to see if this idea would work. This was accepted by all in attendance. Claude Bruneau also said he would reach out to Shawn McCord and talk to Johnsons to see if this proposal would work.

Diane Biggs recommended a 2 or 3 year option for paying dues.

Holly Perreault shared her concern with the cost associated to laminating membership cards and recommended a higher quality card stock to print the membership cards on instead. This was accepted.

Holly Perreault gave each chapter a handout of the membership data for the past year. There has been a decline in membership and an increase in deaths and unknown addresses as well.

Holly also stated that there has been an increase in actively employed members wanting to join but do not have the 25 years of service yet. As the constitution reads, she has to refuse them membership. Retired employees only need 10 years service and now Associate members need no service at all. Bob Emmons and Henri Van Den Bremt said that this would require a change to the constitution and that it is too late for this year to be passed.

Yvon Lemaire recommended that until the constitution can be changed next AGM, that the employees with less than 25 years of service been granted Associate membership until such time as the constitution is changed. This was agreed upon by all.

AGM 2018 – Lea Maynard

Lea Maynard said that the 2018 AGM will be held May 28-31, 2018 at the Holiday Inn at Yorkdale. She passed out a tourist booklet for all chapters and stated how she is excited to welcome everyone to her area of the country on behalf of Simcoe, Pineridge, and Trent Severn and Humber chapters.

Elections

National President (1year term) – J.P. Leguerrier was nominated and accepted the position.

1st Vice National President (2 year term) – Eldred Holmes was nominated and accepted the position.

3rd Vice National President (2 year term) – Gary Fisher was nominated and Harold Onagi was nominated. A vote was held and Gary Fisher accepted the position.

Secretary/Treasurer (2 year term) – Nick Ronsky was nominated and accepted the position.

New Business

Heather Spence asked if the chapter presidents were to pay for the hotel bill this year and then submit it with their expense forms. Nick confirmed this.

Eldred Holmes asked if Nick Ronsky would like all receipts be send separately when submitting electronic expense forms. Nick confirmed this.

Laird Wilson asked how a chapter can get a phone and answering machine in their office at the Post Office. He was told that he had to go higher than the area manager. J.P. will ask in Ottawa in June. Eldred Holmes said this may be difficult to get as the new phone systems are \$150/\$200 a month.

J.P. Leguerrier said he wanted members to be aware that everyone was mailed a letter from Great West Life with a list of delisted health care providers. He was informed this changes on a regular basis. He recommended this letter be carried with you to help keep you informed.

Marc Jacob said in Quebec there is a discrepancy between the government requirements and Great West Life. J.P. asked Marc to email him this information and he would take his concerns to Ottawa.

J.P. Leguerrier also read the most recent statement online in regards to the pension plan. J.P. just wanted everyone to be aware of the current state of the pension plan. He said that PSAC and other federal syndicates are on top of the issue on our behalf. Jean Benjamin stated that other unions have gone to the targeted pension plan with new employees. It is Jeans understanding that those retirees with 5 years or more cannot be added to this target plan as they have already contributed for years.

Doug Anderson asked if the Heritage Club is incorporated. Nick Ronsky said he would bring this question to Ottawa. Doug also asked what happened to the current Heritage Club manual that several of them had worked on to update. Nick Ronsky said that a lot of hard work went into the manual and they will finalize this year.

Bob Emmons thanked the Heritage for their cooperation over the years in his role as National President. He stated he had always had an amazing executive to work with and he looks forward to his role as Past President and Consultant. He asked the chapters to give the new executive the same support that he received over the years.

Break

Ronald McDonald House Charities

Martin Dugas, CEO of Ronald McDonald House Charities for Northern Alberta. Martin said the mission for Ronald McDonald House Charities is to improve the lives of all families with seriously ill or injured children who are receiving treatment in Northern Alberta. He said it is important to make Health Care accessible to all families and Edmonton is considered a centre of excellence for a great deal of things. Edmonton is the Heart Center for Western Canada, has the largest neonatal unit in Western Canada and has the largest solid organ transplant program in Canada. Ronald McDonald House Charities is considered an essential part of the Canadian Health Care System. They have been identified as a major contributing factor if closing the loop for health care for seriously ill and injured children. They provide support and strength to both the families and hospitals. There 365 house worldwide and 15 in Canada.

In 2010 Alberta introduced a Home for Dinner Program with 40 volunteer groups providing meals for the families. Today there are 915 groups. The house has 34 rooms available and can hold between 75-120 people. The average stay is for 26 days. There is a waiting list of 50 families each night and because of this they have hotel portfolio available to house these families. There is also a Day Pass Programs where any family can use the laundry, showers, classrooms, food, workout rooms. Etc. There is also a shuttle service to the hospital that runs from 7am to 9pm 395 days a year. Last year there were 80,000 + hours of volunteer time provided.

Ronald McDonald House Charities in Alberta has 2 very special rooms:

- Magic Room – This is a toy room where every child can go to pick a toy to keep for birthdays, after they receive medical treatments, when they are leaving or returning.
- Quilt Room – Every child and their siblings get to pick a quilt to keep forever. These are all donated by volunteers.

Several chapters and the National Executive made donations to the Ronald McDonald House Charities.

Meeting adjourned