

**NBSRT - SAINT JOHN BRANCH
ANNUAL MEETING
May 17th, 2012**

The Spring Luncheon and Annual Meeting of NBSRT-SJ were held at the Assumption Centre, Saint John West, at noon. There were 93 registered for lunch. The meeting was chaired by Barry Harbinson. George Little led the singing of "O Canada". Linda Perrin offered Grace. A turkey dinner and pie were served. Thanks were expressed by Gerry Mabey, who also announced that Aquila Tours is looking for guides for cruise ship days. Peter Woytiuk was to bring greetings on behalf of NBTA Branch 20, but he was delayed by car trouble enroute.

** below means See Attached Report as circulated in booklet form.*

*** Memorial Moment:** Linda Andrews read the names of 19 members deceased since our October luncheon, and a moment of silence was observed.

Guest Speaker: Barry Harbinson spoke about the new NBSRT Provincial Pension Committee which he chairs. He noted there is now nearly an equal number of active and retired teachers. In the 1990's the pension plan was only about 75% funded, and a 25-year program was launched to have it be fully funded by 2017; currently it is about 93% funded. He expressed thanks to our predecessors who arranged an excellent defined benefits pension plan and have managed the investments well. The government is beginning to review defined benefit plans and severance packages for its active employees; we need to be vigilant and ready to take political action if necessary to protect the plan, even if we are not directly affected. Barry also noted that there is a proposal to delay OAS to age 67 and yet still integrate CPP and Teachers' Pension at age 65, resulting in two years' double reduction in income for retirees (this applies to those born in the mid-1950's or later).

Prizes: Ann Stone coordinated the draws for a dozen door prizes. Addie Ferguson won \$70 in the 50/50 draw. Barry Harbinson thanked the Social Committee for their work.

*** Reports adopted**

Minutes of October 20th
President's Report
Treasurer's Report
Director's Report
Social Committee
Scholarship Report

Presented by

Robert Taylor
Barry Harbinson
Larry McPhee
Nancy Steele
Sue Smith
Ann Stone

Seconded by

Robert Taylor
Linda Perrin

Wellness Report
Membership Report

Pat Beyea
Lynne White

Comments on these Reports:

- **Directors:** Nancy noted that it is a privilege to serve, and expressed thanks to Linda. She stressed the importance of recruiting members so we have more strength in lobbying re pension, insurance and seniors' issues. She announced that no Branch has volunteered to host Biennial 2013, so it will be a one-day event in Fredericton and will be further reviewed for 2015.
- **Wellness:** Pat Beyea reviewed her report and listed several activities proposed for 2012-13, for which sign-up sheets were available today.
- **Membership:** Lynne published her report in the Spring Newsletter. Nancy Steele noted that membership forms are available at this meeting or on-line.

Budget for 2012-13: moved by Larry McPhee, seconded by George Little, carried. It calls for total revenues of \$6460 and total expenses of \$7200. Larry noted that the excess spending recognizes that we have accumulated a healthy balance and need to begin spending some on member services.

Nominating Committee: Barrie Rigby noted that this is mid-term for Executive positions, but George Little is stepping down from Publicity, Lynne White from Membership, and Mary Ellen Maillet from Phone. Netta Chase has agreed to do Publicity, and feelers are out for the other two positions. Acceptance moved by Barrie and seconded by Larry, carried.

Reflections: Barrie noted that only ten copies of the latest issue were returned "address unknown". He stressed the importance of notifying address changes. He noted that about 150 provincial members receive Reflections on-line; he and the editors would like to see this number increase to save paper and postage.

Adjournment duly moved at 2:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Taylor, Secretary.