



The Peel Halton & Area Branch Report

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fall 2010

I invite all members to attend our 20 Oct Fall Annual General Meeting and hope to meet you personally.

I would like to ask all of you to search for **ONE** friend or colleague with a federal pension, eligible to join FSNA, who is not currently a member and try to recruit them for FSNA. While FSNA has 165,000 members, there are a similar number of federal retirees who are not aware of FSNA or of the advantages available to them on joining. Over the last year, I, personally, have recruited 4 of my C.F. colleagues who were not aware of FSNA and all joined specifically because of the excellent MEDOC travel insurance plan.

Please help today to recruit **ONE** new member for FSNA. We also **urgently** need someone to act as **Treasurer** for the Board. Please contact the undersigned if you can volunteer.

As you may know by now the Government has, without consultation with affected parties, decided to change the PDSP contribution formula.

Your Board members have e-mailed their respective federal members of parliament (*see copy of our letter on page 4*), expressing our concerns. Most of us have already received supporting responses.

We do plan to ask you, in future, to participate in letter writing advocacy campaigns on issues affecting your retirement benefits. For this purpose we have included a contact list of current MPs for ridings in our area.

Sincerely,
Spencer Gludish, President

October 2010 Annual Fall General Branch Meeting

*The Meeting will be held on
Wednesday, October 20, 2010
at the Hansa Haus,
German Canadian Club
6650 Hurontario Street Mississauga*

(Hansa Haus is located 1 Km. north of Hwy 401, on the west side of Hurontario Street)

Registration will open at 9:30 am. The Membership meeting will convene at 10:00 am.

Speaker: PC Jonathan Beckett, CSO/Media Relations Officer, Caledon OPP Detachment

(Constable Beckett will speak on Provincial-wide **Drive Wise** program) The meeting will be followed by a Buffet Lunch that will include a vegetarian menu. The cost of the lunch is partly subsidized by the Branch.

Your cost is \$10.00 per person pre-paid or \$12.00 at the door.

(Non members will be charged \$23.00 per person.)

FSNA Peel-Halton and Area Branch, 1235 Trafalgar Road, Box 84018 Oakville, Ontario L6H 5V7
Branch Telephone number: (905) 599-6151

Branch Officers: President – Spencer Gludish / Vice President – Robert Brown / Treasurer – Linda Smith / Membership – Robert Lane

Website: www.fsnapeelhalton.org General e-mail: info@fsnapeelhalton.org

Members of the Telecom Committee will be contacting you in September to remind you of the date of the fall General Meeting and to request that you submit your payment in advance if you wish to reserve lunch. To register for the lunch, please make your cheque payable to:

FSNA Peel Halton and Area Branch
Mail it to: ***Chris Buklin***
1603-1535 Lakeshore Road E.
Mississauga, Ont. L5E 3E2
For additional information
Tel: 905-271-1234 or
E-mail: cbuklin1234@rogers.com
Please make a note of the date and plan to attend

Branch Telephone Number

If you wish to reach anyone on the board – you can call **905 599-6151**. Please leave a message and your contact information and the appropriate board member will call you back as soon as possible.

To e-Mail a board member just write to:
editor@fsnapeelhalton.org
or to our Branch Secretary at:
secretary@fsnapeelhalton.org

or

Visit our website: **www.fsnapeelhalton.org**

2011 Membership Dues

This is just a friendly reminder that we will be starting to collect membership dues for 2011 starting October 15, 2010. **For those that pay by cheque annually** we ask that you submit your payment no later than December 31, 2010.

Dues are: Single membership \$34.20; Double membership \$44.40; Associate \$15.00.
The membership year is from January 1/11 to December 31/11.

If you are on the automatic, DDS payment system your membership will automatically be renewed.

Member of Federal Parliament (2010) contact information

Canada Post Mail address for all members:
Member of Parliament,
c/o House of Commons, Ottawa,
Ontario, K1A 0A6

Bramalea-Gore-Malton – Malhi, Burax (Hon) – Malhi.G@parl.gc.ca
Brampton West – Kania, Andrew – Kania.A@parl.gc.ca
Brampton – Springdale – Dhalla, Ruby – Dhalla.R@parl.gc.ca
Burlington – Wallace, Mike – Wallace.M@parl.gc.ca
Etobicoke Centre – Wrzesnewksyj, Borys – Wrzesnewksyj.B@parl.gc.ca
Etobicoke North – Duncan, Kirsty – Duncan.K@parl.gc.ca
Etobicoke Lakeshore – Ignatieff, Michael (Hon) – Ignatieff.M@parl.gc.ca
Mississauga East – Cooksville – Guarnieri, Albina (Hon) – Guarnieri.A@parl.gc.ca
Mississauga South – Szabo, Paul – Szabo.P@parl.gc.ca
Mississauga, Brampton South – Bains, Navdeep (Hon) – Bains.N@parl.gc.ca
Mississauga, Erindale – Dechert, Bob – Dechert.B@parl.gc.ca
Mississauga, Streetsville – Crombie, Bonnie – Crombie.B@parl.gc.ca
Oakville – Young, Terrence – Young.T@parl.gc.ca
Halton – Raitt, Lisa (Hon) – Raitt.L@parl.gc.ca

Copy of letter sent to MPs regarding the PDSP contribution increase

Member of Parliament
House of Commons Ottawa
Ontario, K1A 0A6

**Re: Increase in Pensioners' Contributions to the Pensioners'
Dental Services Plan (PDSP)**

I am a resident in your constituency and I am writing to seek your support and help on an issue of grave concern to all retired Federal Public Servants, arising from the lack of consultation and absence of rationale by the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat in regards to the planned increase in monthly contributions to the Pensioners' Dental Services Plan. Our interests are being represented by the **FSNA - The National Association of Federal Retirees**, consequently I had hoped that appropriate discussions would have been taken before the Government changed the basic contribution sharing formula that was agreed to previously.

FSNA is the largest advocacy group in Canada representing the interests of federal retirees: federal public servants, RCMP, Canadian Forces and federally appointed judges. We are a not-for-profit association with 165,000 members in 84 branches across Canada. We advocate for the protection and enhancement of our members' pensions, health and dental benefits and for seniors benefits in general.

On June 1st this year, the Honourable Stockwell Day, President of the Treasury Board of Canada, announced an increase in the pensioners' contributions to the PDSP and in the cost-sharing ratio from 60% (Government) and 40% (pensioners) to 50% – 50%. The increase in monthly contributions is scheduled to come into effect on October 1, 2010 (new contribution taken from the September pension). New monthly contributions for a single pensioner will increase from \$12.50 to \$16.00; for a pensioner and one eligible family member from \$25.50 to \$31.96; and for a pensioner with more than one eligible family member from \$36.20 to \$47.96. Reasons cited in the *PDSP Communiqué* for the increase in contributions and pensioners' cost-sharing are: higher cost of the Plan due to increases in membership, Plan utilization and dental services fees and technologies. No supporting documentation justifying the increase was provided to pensioners who participate in the PDSP.

FSNA's National President and Executive Director were informed by the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat officials of the decision **the day before** the public announcement.

Concerns of FSNA Members:

FSNA members are not happy with the fact that the President of the Treasury Board of Canada announced a decision to increase contributions to the Pensioners' Dental Services Plan without supporting documentation to justify the increase and without prior discussion with FSNA. Members do not have the information necessary to understand the factors that led to the decision and feel out of the loop.

Since PDSP members contribute to the Plan, they think it is critical for the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat who manages the Pensioners' Dental Services Plan, to share relevant information on the Plan with its members so they are better informed. With respect to the recent announced increase in contributions to the Plan, members would like the opportunity to review the supporting documentation that led to the Government's decision.

Desired Action:

FSNA is asking Members of Parliament to support FSNA by writing to the President of the Treasury Board of Canada asking him to stay the increase in contributions to the Pensioners' Dental Services Plan, scheduled for October 1, 2010, until a review of supporting information justifying the need for the increase has been provided to PDSP members and to FSNA, and until a meeting has been arranged between the President of the Treasury Board of Canada and the National President of FSNA to review the need for additional pensioners' contributions.

Sincerely,

(Signature)