

AGM Minutes
Conexus Arts Centre, Regina, SK
May 22, 2019 p.m.

Present:

President: Randy Dove

Voting Delegates

Ghislaine Lepage	Fédération des aînés fransaskois
Raymond Lepage	Fédération des aînés Fransaskois
Marj Thiessen	Lifelong Learning Centre
Brenda Kerr	Lifelong Learning Centre
Kerrie Strathy	Lifelong Learning Centre
Doug Sutherland	National Association of Federal Retirees
Les Lye	National Association of Federal Retirees
Len Meier	National Association of Federal Retirees
Ann Donovan	Saskatchewan Retirees Association
Ken Lozinsky	Saskatchewan Retirees Association
Pat Dean	Saskatchewan Retirees Association
Margaret Gailing	Saskatchewan Senior Fitness Association Inc.
Richard Rosseker	Saskatchewan Union Retirees Federation
Fran Passmore	Saskatchewan Union Retirees Federation
Ron Monk	Saskatchewan Union Retirees Federation
George James	Saskatoon Council on Aging
Sandra Cey	Saskatoon Council on Aging
Doreen Rathgeber	Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan
Adeline Wuschenny	Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan
Mike Kaminski	Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan
Kathleen Spatt	CARP – Regina Chapter
Charles Keple	CARP – Regina Chapter
Kathy Waite	CARP – Regina Chapter
Pat Trask	Saskatchewan Seniors Association Inc.
Elaine Parsons	Moose Jaw & District Seniors Association

Board Members not listed above (Voting)

Robert Wuschenny
Andre Nogue
Brian Harris
Nancy O'Donnell-Monk
Louise Nichol
Sunil Pandila
Wendy Johnson

Staff

Holly Schick
Michel Sorensen
Lynne Couzens
Linda Anderson
Total attendance 42 (including 5 visitors)

1. Call to Order

Randy Dove called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

2. Introduction of SSM Board

3. Adoption of Agenda

Motion: Kerrie Strathy/Nancy O'Donnell-Monk that the agenda be adopted as presented. Carried.

4. **Motion: Andre Nogue/Robert Wuschenny** moved the minutes be adopted as circulated. Carried.

Kerrie Strathy mentioned she attended the AGM in 2018 and her name was not on the list. The reason for this is: only voters names are listed. All others are included in total attendance.

5. President's Remarks – Randy Dove

Word of thanks to departing Board Members, George James and Margaret Gailing, and to Lynne Couzens, who is retiring, for her many years of service.

6. Executive Director's Remarks – Holly Schick

- 3 year Pan Canadian Project has been extended until the end of December 2019. Further information on page 19 of AGM Report Book.

7. Standing Committees

I. Governance – Randy Dove

- New Format of Report – widely liked as it is more graphic and interesting.

II. Communications – Scott Wilson

- Comments on rebranding of SSM. Information located on the back of Annual Report.
- Working on internal communications between staff, board, and member organizations.
- In the future the committee plans to document the communication efforts (reason, effectiveness, look), and make templates in an effort to have a more consistent look for documents etc.
- Also looking at new technologies

III. Finance & Audit– presented by Andre Nogue

Auditors Report uses Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism rather than SSM – this remains our official name.

Motion: Andre Nogue/Wendy Johnson that the Financial Statements and the Auditor's Report be accepted as presented. Carried.

Motion: Andre Nogue/Nancy O'Donnell-Monk that MWC Chartered Professional Accountants be reappointed as auditor for 2019/2020. Carried.

8. Program Committees

I. Age-Friendly Saskatchewan – Robert Wuschenny

- Acknowledged the work of the committee and recognized the committee members present.
- Highlighted provincial recognition for Age-Friendly Communities.
- Signage-request that the Government of Saskatchewan be approached to provide signage for recognized Age-Friendly Communities – (suggestion signage should be on water side as well as land side where it applies).
- Age-Friendly is for all ages, the total community.

II. Research & Issues – Brian Harris

- Seniors strategy should include everyone and ensure that everyone has the opportunity to have a quality life.
- Growing population – want to make government and general population aware of the value of older adults.
- Very good response from the SUMA conventions. Resolution presented at and passed by SUMA Convention in support of Seniors Strategy.
- Thanked committee members.

9. Advisory Committees – Randy Dove

- I. Ageism & Media
- II. Celebrating Seniors
- III. Century Club

10. Other Programs & Events – Randy Dove

I. Conference 2018

Comments on Centre of the Arts Venue

- Accessibility problem with all the stairs.
- Have someone at door to direct people to elevator (unclear where it is when you come in the Jacqui Shumiatcher entrance).
- Superb venue – good food, no pillars, great sound system.
- Sign at main entrance or include info in brochure as to which entrance to use.
- Wondered if better sponsorship and movement to Conexus Arts Centre are related.

II. Creating a Culture of Inclusion

III. Older Adult Abuse

- Fraud & Safety Handbook being used extensively by a variety of organizations and persons.

11. Grants

12. Member Organizations

Motion: Ron Monk/Ken Lozinsky that the Annual Report be accepted as printed. Carried.

13. Nominations – Robert Wuschenny

Nominations Committee Report – Robert Wuschenny

The following nominees were declared by Past President, Robert Wuschenny, to their respective positions by acclamation.

Each nominee had the opportunity to speak for 2 minutes.

Treasurer: André Nogue (elected by acclamation)

Secretary: Brian Harris (elected by acclamation)

Members At Large:

Shan Landry (elected by acclamation) – not in attendance

Pat Dean (elected by acclamation)

Motion: Nancy O'Donnell- Monk/Kathleen Spatt that the Nominations Committee Report be accepted as circulated/presented. Carried

14. Resolutions from SRA

Resolution moved by Brian Harris

Seconded by Ken Lozinsky

BE IT RESOLVED

That the Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism contact the Federal Government to urge changes in Federal legislation immediately to allow retirees who are enrolled in Defined Contribution Pension Plans to have more options for their plans such as Pooled Risk Pensions or Deferred Life Annuities.

Background

- In Saskatchewan, many retirees are enrolled in Direct Contribution (DC) Pension Plans. As it stands now, DC Plans lack one important element as retirement financial vehicles and that is that they do not actually provide pensions to retirees. It is up to the individual retirees to manage a pot of money so that it lasts for the rest of their lives and because many retirees are living longer now, they may outlive that pot of money.

- New decumulation options need to be provided for people retiring with funds in DC plans or other retirement savings. The shift away from Defined Benefit plans on Saskatchewan and across Canada means that many retiring workers are left to design and implement their own retirement financial strategies but many retirees lack the skills to take on this challenge, thus more options are needed.

- In September 2018, a number of prominent organizations in Canada (many of them with a financial focus and including CARP) signed a collective letter to the Canadian Ministers of Finance and Seniors asking that federal tax legislation be changed to enable the development of new "collective longevity risk pooling arrangements" and offering to work with the federal agencies to identify "the specific legislative and regulatory adjustments required to implement the measures proposed". To date, there has not been a response on this matter from the federal government.

- Several decumulation options include: a) Pooled Risk Pensions with a variable payout similar to a targeted benefit plan that retirees could buy into. Such a plan provided by a DC or other group retirement plan sponsor, would provide a monthly income and significantly reduce the risk of outliving one's pension. Monthly payments could be higher than a traditional annuity where the insurer takes all of the risk but for a cost, likely;

b) Deferred Life Annuity which would work like an insurance policy purchased at retirement to provide a guaranteed income after a set age. The pooling of longevity risk would enable the deferred life annuity to be likely offered at a low cost and the certainty of an adequate late life income which would allow the retiree to plan the use of their remaining funds. Unfortunately, federal legislation currently does not allow either option to be available for retirees.

-Considering that October 2019 will witness another Federal election and considering that a senior Cabinet Minister from the current Liberal Government (i.e. Hon. Ralph Goodale) and the Leader of the Federal Opposition (i.e. Andrew Scheer) are both Members of Parliament from Saskatchewan, this would be an opportune time for SSM to:

a) Add their name to the current campaign of letter writing to Federal Ministers and public advocacy regarding the need for changes in Federal legislation to allow pooled risk pensions and deferred life annuities;

b) Contact the Hon. Ralph Goodale and Andrew Scheer, requesting an opportunity to meet with them to obtain their support on this initiative.

Ken Lozinsky spoke to motion

- Legislation passed in April 2019 for deferring income, position of Defined Contribution Pension Plans unclear. Carried.

Resolution from SSAI

Comments – SSAI was sent a letter from SSM declining bringing motion forward at AGM to join the National Pensioners Federation. This motion was brought to SSM Board previously and a decision was made at that time not to support SSM becoming a member. Board not prepared to move forward on this given an action had been made to not join the National Pensioners Federation previously. Reasons for not joining: Didn't make sense for SSM to join an organization that they couldn't participate in – no resources to attend conventions; Different focus because SSM is provincial and National Pensioners Federation is a national organization; Scope of work of National Pensioners Federation that SSM has no opinion on and can't make comments on such as Trade Agreements. SSM will support them when appropriate and wants to be informed as to what they are doing. Some of our organizations are a member and make a contribution to this organization.

Comment on timing of Conference – Coordination between timing of member organizations AGMs and SSM AGM re: resolutions being brought to SSM AGM in a timely manner.

15. Closing Remarks – Randy Dove

Motion: Kerrie Strathy/Nancy O'Donnell-Monk that the meeting be adjourned @ 2:15 p.m. Carried.

Randy Dove, President

Lynne Couzens, Admin Assistant