

## Memorial University of Newfoundland Pensioners Association

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

October 13, 2010, 1:30 p.m.

Lester Farms

### MINUTES

President Evan Simpson called the meeting to order and welcomed the 103 members in attendance.

The agenda was accepted by consensus.

#### 1. Minutes:

Edgar Williams moved that the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on October 15, 2009, be accepted as distributed. This motion was seconded by David Thompson. Carried unanimously.

#### 2. President's Report:

President Evan Simpson reviewed the highlights of a written report which was distributed. In particular, he noted that:

- the University continues to support MUNPA generously through in-kind assistance and access to administrative systems.
- Memorial is working towards a system of electronic notification of pension deposits as a paper-saving initiative. This will be optional for MUNPA members. Those members who opt for electronic notification will no longer receive hard copies of *Your Voice*. We will arrange to email the newsletter to those members.
- The Board has endorsed the University's Family Campaign which will be launched this fall and has allocated the unspent funds from the last fiscal year towards the endowment of a student scholarship.

As this was his last meeting, Evan offered thanks to the members of the Board for support and assistance during his term as President. He then asked for a motion that the President's report be received. It was moved by Richard Neuman, seconded by Richard Ellis, that the President's report be received.

#### 3. Financial Statements and Budget:

The Treasurer, Charlie Gosse, was unable to attend the meeting due to illness. Evan Simpson asked the members to review the financial documents that were distributed and noted that the Association is in a good financial state. He referred to the excess funds for the 2009-2010 fiscal year (\$4512) and noted that this amount would be contributed towards a scholarship. He confirmed that the objective of the Board is to spend most of the income in future years.

The proposed budget for the next fiscal year was reviewed. In the absence of the Treasurer, Evan Simpson asked for a motion. It was moved by David Bryant, and seconded by Noel

Shuell, that the audited financial statements be accepted as presented and that the preliminary budget for 2011-12 be accepted as a guideline for the Board.

Past-President Donald Steele raised questions on the procedure, arguing that according to Robert's Rules of Order, the procedure was not valid. He noted that the AGM provides the only opportunity for members to vote on how membership fees are spent. The Chair ruled that preliminary budgets are simply guidelines, and provide latitude for the Board to exercise discretion in spending.

In the discussion which followed, argument was presented that the unspent funds should be held by the Association in the event of future deficits or should be used to benefit the MUNPA membership, rather than a scholarship fund. Following the discussion, the Chair requested a motion from the floor that the excess funds not be designated as a scholarship. No motion was made. The previous motion, that the audited financial statements be accepted as presented, and that the preliminary budget for the 2011-12 be accepted as a guideline for the Board, was carried by majority vote.

#### **4. Committee Reports:**

Written Committee Reports were reviewed. As there were no questions or further comment on these reports, the Chair asked for a motion to receive the reports. It was moved by Bill Kennedy, seconded by Carolyn Harley, that the Committee reports be received. Carried unanimously.

#### **5. Constitutional Amendments:**

Edgar Williams reviewed the report of the Constitution, Amendments and Bylaw Committee, noting that the proposed constitutional amendments had been extensively debated by the Board. Some of these are proposed in response to issues raised at the last Annual General Meeting. These amendments were presented to the AGM for approval. Ed then moved that the proposed amendments, nos. 1 to 7, as outlined in the report, be accepted. The motion was seconded by Steve Wolinetz. Carried.

Ed referred to the section of the report on Administrative Policies, noting that these policies are intended to provide guidance to the committees and members of the Board. These updated Administrative Policies were presented for information.

#### **6. Members' Forum:**

Evan Simpson asked for comments from the floor. No comments were made or issues raised. Evan noted that members wishing to offer input or suggestions could do so by phoning or emailing the MUNPA office at any time.

Edgar Williams informed the members that he is now a member of the Board of CURAC (College and University Retiree Associations of Canada) and commented on two benefits through this national organization. (1) As of June 2010, MUNPA members can now avail of insurance coverage through Waterloo Insurance at substantial discounts. (2) Members of CURAC can receive a 25% discount on membership in CARP (the Canadian Association of Retired Persons). Information on these benefits will be available on the MUNPA website.

**7. Report of the Nominating Committee and Election of Board of Directors for 2010-2011:**

The Nominating Committee's report was presented by Evan Simpson and a call for further nominations was presented. No other nominations were forthcoming. It was moved by Harold Squires, and seconded by John Royle, that nominations cease. All nominees were declared elected by acclamation:

President: Doreen Whalen  
Past-President: Evan Simpson  
Vice-President: Barbara Cox  
Secretary: Glenys Woodland  
Treasurer: Charles Gosse

Directors: Sharon Buehler, Tom Daniels, Tony Dearness, June Ellis,  
Joanne Myrick-Harris, Dan Stewart, Jack Strawbridge, Ralph  
Tapper, Edgar Williams

The President offered his thanks and recognized the service of Board members who were not returning: Don Steele (Past-President), Bill Marshall, and Sonja Jerkic.

The incoming President, Doreen Whalen, offered thanks to Evan Simpson for his work with MUNPA during the past three years. The Association has seen tremendous growth during this time and has developed a great relationship with Memorial.

**8. Adjournment:**

It was moved by Edgar Williams, seconded by Carolyn Harley, that the meeting be adjourned.

Meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Glenys Woodland, Secretary