

MUNPA Report
Atlantic Regional CURAC/ARUCC Conference
St. Mary's University, Halifax, NS
October 1, 2011

The Memorial University Pensioners Association (MUNPA) was formed in 1985 to represent all retirees from Memorial University. All employees of Memorial University become members of MUNPA upon retirement. There is a nominal voluntary annual membership fee. Currently, there are about 1500 members of which 900 pay the voluntary membership fee.

The Objectives of MUNPA as given in its Constitution are:

1. To foster mutually beneficial relationships between the Association and other elements of the University community including faculty and staff unions, non bargaining groups and administrative bodies;
2. To promote and defend the interests of retirees particularly in (i) the University pension and benefit plans and (ii) access to the University and its facilities;
3. To monitor changes to the pension and benefit plans of the University and of other employee groups in the province and elsewhere;
4. To facilitate interaction with other retiree/seniors organizations;
5. To promote a spirit of unity among the membership by providing opportunities to continue the associations available prior to retirement.

See: http://www.mun.ca/munpa/ConstitutionMUNPAOctober_13-10.pdf

In August, 2010, MUNPA also adopted a set of Administrative Policies which may be found at: http://www.mun.ca/munpa/MUNPAPoliciesAugust_10,_2010.pdf

MUNPA is represented on two Board of Regents Committees, the University Pensions Committee and the University Benefits Committee. The latter Committee is responsible for making recommendations to the Board on any proposed changes to the university benefit plan. In recent years, the input of the sole retiree member of the committee was important in gaining several improvements particularly to the dental component.

MUNPA publishes a monthly back to back single sheet newsletter which is distributed to all members with their monthly pay notice and is available online on the MUNPA web-site <http://www.mun.ca/munpa/>

Included in the ongoing activities of MUNPA is the work of two significant committees: The Service to Members Committee plans and executes various social and educational events. It is also responsible for planning related to the Annual General Meeting now held in June. The Awards Committee is primarily responsible for administering the MUNPA Tribute Awards, given each year to worthy members of MUNPA for their contribution since retirement to the Community including the University.

MUNPA has been an observer to meetings of the Newfoundland and Labrador Public Service Coalition of Retirees. This group holds an annual meeting with sessions of interest to retirees generally and has been attempting to secure improved pensions for its members.

MUNPA has hired a part time office manager who responds to any requests from members either by phone or email and generally helps the Executive Committee as required.

MUNPA President Doreen Whelan has provided a separate report which addresses issues on the relationship between MUNPA and the university.

Edgar Williams
CURAC/ARUCC Board of Directors
MUNPA Board of Directors.