

Meeting of the Seniors' Advisory Council of Nova Scotia Minutes
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Thursday, December 5 2019 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Barrington Tower, Scotia Square, 17th Floor
Halifax, NS

ATTENDANCE:

Present:

Bill Berryman, *Retired Teachers Organization*
Alyson Hillier, *Retired Teachers Organization*
Ernestine Gouthro, *Nova Scotia Government Retired Employees Association*
Alma Johnston-Tynes, *Nova Scotia Federation of Pensioners*
Bernie LaRusic, *Nova Scotia Federation of Pensioners*
Ron Swan, *CARP Nova Scotia Chapter*
Bill VanGorder, *CARP Nova Scotia Chapter*
Carol Rogers, *Community Links*
Merv Shaw, *Senior and Retired Doctors Section of Doctors Nova Scotia*
Margaret Casey, *Senior and Retired Doctors Section of Doctors Nova Scotia*
Phil Bagnell, *Senior and Retired Doctors Section of Doctors Nova Scotia*
Richard Malin, *Royal Canadian Legion, Nova Scotia /Nunavut Command*
Simon d'Entremont, *Department of Seniors*
Faizal Nanji, *Department of Seniors*

Regrets:

Rita Connors, *Royal Canadian Legion/Nunavut Command*
Bernard Conrad, *Nova Scotia Government Retired Employees Association*
Terry Donovan, *Nova Scotia Federation of Pensioners*
Michelle Langille, *National Association of Federal Retirees*
Helen MacDonnell, *Community Links*
Peter Kerr, *National Association of Federal Retirees*
Claude Renaud, *Regroupement des Aînés de la Nouvelle-Ecosse*
Veronique Legault, *Regroupement des Aînés de la Nouvelle-Ecosse*

Diabetics Access Presentation - Dr. Nicholas Giacomattonio, Director of Cardiovascular Prevention and Rehabilitation, Dalhousie University & Jake Reid, National Director, Government Relations Public Affairs and Advocacy, Diabetes Canada

Dr. Nicholas Giacomattonio presented to the group on Diabetes and Cardiovascular Health. He spoke to the different diabetic medications available and how the medications have come a long way. He spoke to the way Diabetic medications interact with heart medications. The pharmacare form to fill out to receive support and access to newer medications was discussed and the difficulty that came along with it. Bill has the presenter's information for the group if needed.

Nova Scotia Seniors Pharmacare – Marina Keeping, Manager, Administration, Pharmacare and Extended Health Benefits, Nova Scotia Department of Health and Wellness

Marina presented to the group. Marty Warren and Emily MacDonald joined her for the presentation/discussion. As of September 30, 2019 there are approximately 134, 000 people enrolled in the program and 2 million in claims. The average claim is for \$38 dollars. There is a late entry penalty.

ACTION: Marina to provide the actuals to Lyndsay

Welcome and Call to Order: Bill B. called the meeting to order.

Additions/Adoption of the Agenda: Moved by Bill VanGorder, seconded by Alma MOTION CARRIED

ACTION: File export/pdf re: Barry Walker presentation that occurred in March – Bill to Send to Lyndsay

Additions/Adoption of the Minutes of October 24, 2019: Moved by Ron, seconded by Merv.

MOTION CARRIED

Action Items – None added

Business Arising from Minutes

Engage NS – Measuring What Matters: Still working on this, will provide information as soon as possible.

Positive Aging Directory: Department of Seniors spoke to this. Faizal reminded the group to send Shalini any updated information they may have for the Positive Aging 2020 book.

Treasurer's Report

N/A

Update from the Department of Seniors

SHIFT 2.0: Simon updated the group on this topic.

Minister of Seniors Resolution October 1, 2019: **ACTION:** Lyndsay will email Alxys for a copy.

Volunteer NS.ca: Bill VanGorder spoke to this. Many have not heard of this service.

ACTION: Simon and Faizal to follow-up with Bill Greenlaw (Communities, Culture & Heritage).

Age-Friendly Recognition Program: Simon updated the group on the planning that is underway. Event to be held in early March.

Silver Economy Summit: Will take place in May 19th and 20th, 2020 at Acadia University. We have partnered with Acadia Entrepreneurship Centre. Department of Seniors will support the group members to attend.

NSHA Mental Health and Addictions Program Website

The survey was sent out. The group was asked to share their thoughts on Bridge the Gap.

ACTION: Council members can contact Celeste about the survey.

Senior's Advisory Council Priorities 2019-20

Moved by Bill VanGorder, seconded by Carol that the 2019-2020 priorities remain the same as 2018-2019 priorities. MOTION CARRIED

ACTION: Change the date on the priorities and keep the document as is. Department of Seniors will pass the document along to the Ministers prior to the meeting.

Canadian Deprescribing Network "Making Meds Safer for Older Adults

Bill B indicated that Alyson was participating in a telephone call follow-up that afternoon with other members who attended the conference on September 27, 2019.

Dalhousie Medical Research Foundation - September 30, 2019

Bill and Margaret spoke to this topic.

Canadian Frailty Network : October 17, 2019

Bill updated the group. Anything frailty related, the group agreed they should be engaged with. Bill is hoping to get Dr. Rockwood to speak to the group in the New Year.

New Business

No new business

Roundtable

CARP, NS Chapter – Bill VG and Ron updated the group.

Retired Teachers Organization – Bill B. updated the group.

Nova Scotia Government Retired Employees Association – Ernestine updated the group.

Royal Canadian Legion, Richard updated the group.

Federation of Senior Citizens and Pensioners – Alma updated the group.

Senior and Retired Doctors Section of Doctor's Nova Scotia –Margaret updated the group.

Community Links – Carol updated the group.

Documentation:

1. Path cleared to universal drug plan
2. Right-to-die law needs urgent rewrite
3. Is IPOR the best investment for N.S.?

Motion to adjourn: Moved by Bernie, seconded by Ernestine MOTION CARRIED

***Future Meetings:** January 23, 2020; February 27, 2020 and March 26, 2020