

# BRANCH REPORT

QC58 | Montreal

## CONTACT US

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Information sessions (In French)

**October 9, 2019**  
**13h – at no cost**

*“Soins de fin de vie” and  
“Que faire lors d’un décès  
d’un proche”*

Hôtel Universelle de Mtl  
(Salle Pierre de Couvertin)  
5000 Sherbrooke east  
Montreal

**RSVP, October the 3<sup>rd</sup>**

### Information sessions (In French)

**October 16, 2019**  
**13h – at no cost**

*“Assurance Voyage” and  
“Prévention des maladies  
en voyage”*

ChâteauRoyal de Laval  
3500 Du Souvenir blvd,  
Laval

**RSVP, October the 10th**

## President’s message

Hello, dear members.

I am writing this a few days after the Annual Meeting of Members held in Gatineau from June the 17th to the 20th. It was attended by the presidents of 79 branches or their representatives, as well as by numerous observers.

There were many talks and presentations, but the most significant items came up in the resolutions. I will discuss several of the most important.

A five-year (2019-2024) strategic plan was approved unanimously. It is available on the Association’s national website at [https://www.federalretirees.ca/sites/default/files/2019-04/draft\\_strategic\\_plan\\_2019-2024.pdf](https://www.federalretirees.ca/sites/default/files/2019-04/draft_strategic_plan_2019-2024.pdf) While the link indicates that the strategic plan is a draft, it has been adopted.

A motion to create a support fund for the branches led to much discussion, not because it lacked merit, but because participants wondered what would be done with amounts that were not spent. It was finally decided to establish a fund of \$80,000 and to maintain that amount each year. If any money is not used, it will be rolled over into the following year and additional money will be allocated to keep the fund at \$80,000. The fund will go for projects which will have to be approved, and the amounts spent will have to be accounted for.

A motion on membership fees was debated at length before finally being approved. Fees will rise at a rate based on the increase in the cost of living. As a result, these will go up by 2.2% in 2020. It is important to note that the same rate will be used for returns to branches. Quebec presidents, myself included, were opposed to this increase without a financial analysis.

A motion on the code of conduct modifying a sentence on illicit substances was also adopted unanimously. The new sentence reads: “Members shall not conduct Association meetings or represent the Association if impaired by any substance.”

**(Following on page 2)**

## President's message (The following)

Finally, a motion modifying regulation 5.5, which deals with our preferred partners, was also adopted unanimously. This was the result of many discussions, especially with the Quebec branches. It will make it easier to designate preferred partners appropriate to the branches. Other, less important, resolutions were also adopted.

James Nicholson, from the Quebec branch, was reappointed without opposition to one of the two Director positions of the District of Quebec. The other position is held by Jacques Lambert from the Montreal branch.

On a personal note, I received the Collaboration Award at the Volunteer Recognition Dinner. Needless to say, I am extremely proud. Speaking of recognition, I would like to acknowledge the work of our employees Danielle, France and Josée, as well as the help provided by volunteers. Let me add that volunteers are always welcome in our committees – recruitment, member retention, communications, translation (English to French), etc. If you'd like to get involved, get in touch with our office.

I believe you have noticed that our four-page insert in SAGE magazine has been greatly improved.

We will be in touch again in the Spring. Until then, I hope to see you at the Christmas dinner. I wish you good health.



Sincerely,

**Daniel Morin**  
*Branch President*

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## Christmas Lunch – Wednesday December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019

You are all invited to a festive lunch to be held on **December 4th, 2019** at noon. We suggest that you arrive close to 11:30 A.M. in order that we can all start at noon. The lunch will take place in the reception hall of Le Rizz, located at 6630 Jarry Street, East, St-Leonard, [www.lerizz.com](http://www.lerizz.com) (Langelier Metro, Bus number 33 heading north, exit at Jarry). A large parking lot is available at the rear.

A confirmation will be sent to you to indicate **your table number**, so if you wish to be seated with family or friends, please give us the full name of those people.

**The price is \$35.00 per person for the members and their spouses who are members. The price for non-members is \$65.00. You can reserve a table for 8 members for \$260.00.**

**We have a maximum number of capacity of 275 people; so first come, first served (See the coupon on page 4)**

**Menu:****Cocktail:** Sparkling wine (no alcohol) with appetizer**Soup:** Vegetables cream                      **Pasta:** Lemon pasta   **Salad:** Fresh garden salad**Main Course:** Pork tenderloin with mustard sauce, roasted potatoes  
with carrot, green beans and cabbage**Dessert:** Baked Alaska   **Beverages:** coffee, tea, water and liquor**Fish dish:** Trout fillet (with coupon)

A bottle of wine will be served by group of four people. White wine will be served by the glass if there is not 4 people who take it. You can get a vegetarian menu by completing the reply coupon below. As usual, we will have door prizes.

Music will be played either for your pleasure or to make you dance.

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## Your Montreal Branch needs members

Our members are elderly: more than 20 % are older than the average life expectancy for those born the same year, that is, older than statistics would indicate. In the short term this means that across Canada, up to 45,000 of our 173,000 members might pass away. Our Association needs new members to assure its continuity.

The usual tools used in our membership drives – letters distributed by the Pension Centre and presentations during pre-retirement courses on the services we offer – were eliminated by our Government. As a result, our Association focused on retaining and adding to its membership in the 2018 strategic plan.

This requires:

1. Understanding the particular characteristics our various member groups (for example, the Canadian Armed Forces);
2. Using alternative ways of making ourselves known (new marketing techniques);
3. Improving our efforts to retain members.

Part of the challenge in attracting members is that it is very hard to separate federal pensioners from all Canadian pensioners. That is why we are asking for your help. If you know of pensioners from the federal public service, the Canadian Armed Forces, the RCMP or federal judges who do not belong to the Association, call us at (514) 381-8824 or email us at [info@anrfmontreal.ca](mailto:info@anrfmontreal.ca) Any suggestion to increase our numbers is welcome.

You can also let your acquaintances know that the main objective of our association is the financial security, the buying power, of our retirement pensions. People think that our pensions have always been indexed. That is not the case.

Indexation was obtained only in 1973, thanks to the efforts of the Association. This year, City of Montreal pensioners received 0% and provincial pensioners 0.6%, while we got a raise of 2.2%. This means more money left in our pockets after we buy our groceries. Do not believe that a future government will not consider taking indexation away. We have to be vigilant. There is strength in numbers.

Micheline Bétournay,  
Secretary of the Board of Directors

## Christmas Lunch – Reply Coupon

Please forward your **coupon** and **your cheque** at the latest **November 23, 2019** to the following address:  
1940 Henri-Bourassa East, Suite 300, Montreal, Quebec H2B 1S1

Name of member: _____		Membership number: _____	
Name of spouse: _____		Member: YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Enclosed my cheque:</b>		35\$ <input type="checkbox"/> (1 member) or 70\$ <input type="checkbox"/> (2 members)	
65\$ <input type="checkbox"/> (1 non member)			
If you prefer a fish meal : 1 person _____ or 2 persons _____			
Please confirm your address: _____			
_____			
_____			
Telephone: _____		E-Mail: _____	
I wish to reserve a table for eight members.		Enclosed 260\$ <input type="checkbox"/>	
Name for contact _____		Tel: _____	
<b>E-Mail</b> _____			
Name of the members	Membership number	Vegetarian meal	
1. _____	_____	_____	
2. _____	_____	_____	
3. _____	_____	_____	
4. _____	_____	_____	
5. _____	_____	_____	
6. _____	_____	_____	
7. _____	_____	_____	
8. _____	_____	_____	