MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-EIGHTH MEETING
OF THE
CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY PENSIONERS' ASSOCIATION
HELD ON
THURSDAY, MAY 10, 2001
IN ROOM DL-200 (SENATE CHAMBERS) LOYOLA CAMPUS

28.1 Call to Order and the President's Remarks

The President, John Hall, called the meeting to order. The President welcomed the new members to the Association as well as visitors. He requested that, if members of the Association had not yet checked in and picked up their special voting card, they do so as soon as possible. For anyone wishing to take out membership in the Association, membership forms would be available at the desk. John Hall also noted the death of several members of the Association since the last meeting.

28.2 Approval of the Agenda

The President reported that there would be a change in the Agenda. As Dr. Graeme Decarie, the Guest Speaker, was to leave early to fulfill his commitment at the radio station, his presentation would be moved to the beginning of the meeting. A motion by Henry Beissel to approve the agenda as amended was seconded by Stan Morris. Motion carried.

28.3 Guest Speaker: Dr. Graeme Decarie, Professor, History Department

Following Geoff Adams' introduction, Dr. Decarie addressed the group on the topic "*Our Country, Province and City – where it is going in the immediate and long term?*"
(A summary of the presentation will be found in the CUPARUC Newsletter Vol.10 No. 3 August 2001)
Following his response to numerous questions, Jack Bordan thanked Dr. Decarie for his presentation.

28.4 Minutes of the Meeting of October 31, 2000

The Minutes of the October 31, 2000 meeting were distributed. Fred Sauer moved the approval of the Minutes, seconded by Kalyan Mukherji. Motion carried.

28.5 Business arising from the Minutes

Business arising from the Minutes appears under "Reports" or elsewhere in the Agenda.

28.6.1 Nominating Committee Report

Geoff Adams, on behalf of the Nominating Committee consisting of himself, Joyce Barclay and Larry Boyle, presented the following report. Two member-at-large positions are to be filled. Suzanne Belson has been appointed as a member at large and Roly Beaudoin has indicated that he will be unable to represent the Association at the Alliance of Quebec

meetings. Since it is felt that our presence with this group is important, Geoff Adams will represent our Association at their future meetings. The President also announced that during the course of the summer Suzanne Belson would work with Audrey Williams and assume some of the secretarial work. At the fall meeting, an official motion will be made to split the position of Secretary-Treasurer. This will require a change in the Constitution together with a thirty-day notice to the membership.
As there were no further Nominations, John Fiset moved that the slate as presented be accepted. Seconded by Bob Pallen. Motion carried.

28.6.2 Programme Committee Report:

Bob Pallen reported that of the three activities planned this year the only ones that received a good response were the Day at the Races and the Annual Luncheon. The Sugaring off Party and the Big Band dance were cancelled because of a lack of response. Bob asked that the membership submit suggestions to him via the CUPA office of any ideas of new extracurricular activities. Duplicate bridge was a suggestion submitted earlier but this would require renting a hall, which might be very costly.
The Annual Luncheon will be held at the SGW campus in the Faculty Lounge on Thursday, December 6, 2001.

28.6.3 Pension and Benefits Committee:

John Hall and Howard Fink jointly presented the following:

A) Pension Committee:

Class Action Suit:
As recently mentioned in the letter sent to all Non-Active members, the motion to permit the class action suit is moving ahead and has been submitted to the Court.
A new actuarial report from the CSN actuary was submitted just prior to the request to proceed with the class action. All other parties, i.e. the University, Faculty and your representatives have asked to review its contents before proceeding.
The University's Actuarial consultant from Mercer will be interrogated by the CSN lawyers.
If this case goes to court, it could drag on for several more years.
The request recently made to all non-active members for additional funding is therefore important, as it is essential that our point of view be heard, as it is different from that of the University and of the Faculty Association. In addition, we must ensure that our pensions are protected from any "out of court settlements" that may be negotiated between the various parties.

Pension Administration:
The meeting that was scheduled for May 9th was cancelled and has been rescheduled for June 13, 2001. At that forthcoming meeting, the preliminary Actuarial evaluation report as of December 31, 2000 will be presented. At that meeting, the basic indexing for 2001 (CPI -2%) should be approved. Additional indexing will depend on the final report of the fund's performance in 2000.

In response to a question from the floor regarding an explanation of this class action suit and what the CSN was trying to accomplish, Howard Fink presented a detailed review of the situation. (The possible scenarios and their effect on the pensions of all non-actives.) In summary there are two suits:

i) The Inter-Council Union has applied for permission to launch a class- action suit on everyone's behalf; we are to show that we are not part of that class action suit

ii) If they win the class action suit then we have to fight the substance of that suit.

B) Benefits Committee

Health Insurance: The sub-committee discussed at length the issue of out of province coverage for longer than the 60 days. A proposal to remedy the situation seems to be at hand. The main committee is considering the sub-committee's recommendation and a solution will be announced hopefully before next fall's exodus of "snowbirds". The recommendation being looked at is 180 days followed by a 30-day stay in Canada prior to an additional 180 days.

The problem of processing claims is slowly being worked out. The Benefits office has been in continuous contact with Clarica and databases are being harmonized to work more smoothly. A question was posed regarding confidentiality and security of the database. It was suggested that RAMQ would be the body with which to discuss this as Clarica feeds off the information from the Regie!

It was noted that claims for prescription drugs are paid on the following basis:

80% (after deductible) on *generic drugs* on the RAMQ formulary

75% of name brand drugs that have a generic equivalent on the RAMQ formulary.

50% of drugs not on the formulary

If anyone has difficulties with their claims, the following people should be contacted:

Benefits Office:

Nicole Desrochers: Nicoled@alcor.concordia.ca Tel: 848-3661

Nicole Freeman: (3 days/week) Nicole@alcor.concordia.ca Tel: 848-3678

If possible please e-mail before calling.

Clarica: (514) 849-6003 or 1-800-463-3572

Assure card: Although a memo was sent from the Benefits office to all those on the RAMQ plan that they should not use the Assure card for purchase of drugs, feedback has been received that the card has been used and refunds have been received! If your druggist asks you for your card, submit it and see if it works. The card does not reduce your purchase cost; it merely registers your claim so that you do not have to make a separate paper claim.

Additional claim forms for medical expenses are available from the Information desks on either campus. In addition, forms maybe downloaded from the Concordia University – Human Resources –Forms Web site.

Once you have made a claim to Clarica they will send you a new form with your payment.

Life Insurance Demutualization: A sub-committee of the Benefits Committee was created last year to look at this issue. An agreement in principle has been reached on the distribution of the funds with the Faculty Association (CUFA) and our Association (CUPA); however, the staff unions have not yet been able to obtain consensus on the issues. As a result, nothing has been resolved at the main committee level and therefore a report on the details is on hold. Suffice it to say the agreement is one that will be tax advantageous to all. The details of the resolution will hopefully be available for the fall meeting if not sooner.

28.6.4 Secretary-Treasurer's Report

Audrey Williams presented the Statement of Income and Expenses for the Interim period June 1, 2000 to March 31, 2001. Total Income for this period was $11443.83 and expenses for the same period were $4287.81 leaving a closing balance as of March 31 of $7156.02. As shown by the report, the expenses for the events held during the past year paid were self-supporting. Postage and printing continue to be the main expenses. The membership was reported to be 420.
Audrey extended a sincere thanks to Lorraine Boyce and Patricia Kierans for their continued assistance throughout the year. In addition, a word of thanks was extended to Bérangère Gaudet for her assistance with French translations throughout the year.

28.7 Annual Fees for 2001-2002

The Secretary-Treasurer presented the following motion:

The Annual dues for 2001-2002 be maintained at $15.00 effective June 1, 2001

Seconded by Dawn Johnson
Motion carried

28.8 Other Business

28.9 Next Meeting:

The fall meeting will be held on the SGW campus on Thursday, October 25, 2001.

28.10 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned on a motion by Carl Goldman and seconded by Stan Morris.