CUPARUC

newsletter of the concordia university pensioners association
bulletin de nouvelles de l'association des retraité(e)s de l'université concordia

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

With Spring upon us, welcome back to all of our members who were fortunate enough to es cape the perils of winter in warmer climes and congratulations to those of us who stayed and suffered through this long, long winter, which seemed to be reluctant to leave us in many parts of the Country.

We are looking forward to a very lively and entertaining Spring Meeting on May 10, 2001 in Room DA 200 (the Russell Breen Senate Chamber) at 10:00 a.m. Our guest speaker will be Dr. Graeme Decarie, of the History Department, who will provide us with his insightful views of where he sees Canada, Québec and Montréal going in the near and long-term future. With all of the recent events (a new Liberal mandate in Ottawa, a new Premier in Québec, and the Montréal "mega-city" coming into force next year) I'm sure that Dr. Decarie's sage and profound deliberations on these subjects will give us much to think about. Also during the meeting the Association's business and current activities will be reported and you will be invited to participate in the discussions.

In the last issue of CUPARUC, I had asked if anyone was interested in volunteering a bit of time to help the Association conduct its business. This request is still valid, since we would appreciate having members provide their diverse talents in a variety of tasks. Don't leave all of the work to those "dedicated few". Become part of the action. If you are interested, you may contact me through the Association's office. Please refer to the back page for all of our communication data.

With respect to membership, while the Association is holding its own in membership levels (its membership consists of about one half of all Concordia retirees), one of our objectives during this mandate is to increase the level of membership in order to be more representative of the entire Concordia retirement population. Therefore if you, as a member of the Association know of a colleague who has not joined why not invite him or her to take advantage of becoming a member. Perhaps you could invite them to attend the Spring Meeting and to see what we're all about.

John Hall

MOT DU PRÉSIDENT

Avec l'arrivée du printemps, je souhaite la bienvenue aux membres qui ont eu le bonheur d'éviter les malheurs de l'hiver dans des endroits plus chauds, ainsi qu'à ceux et à celles qui sont restés sur place et ont survécu à un hiver sans fin, qui a si longtemps refusé de nous quitter.

Nous nous attendons à une assemblée générale animée et divertissante le 10 mai, 2001 dans la salle DA-200 (Russell Breen Senate Chamber) à 10h00. Notre invité est le docteur Graeme Decarie, du département d'histoire, qui nous offrira ses perceptions de l'avenir du Canada, du Québec et de Montréal au court ainsi qu'au long terme. Compte tenu de tous les événements récents (le mandat renouvelé des Libéraux à Ottawa, le nouveau premier ministre du Québec et la création imminente de la "Mégacité") je suis convaincu que des commentaires sur ces événements nous donneront matière à réflexion. Il s'agira également des affaires de l'Association et des activités courantes, et nous vous invitons à participer aux débats.

Dans le dernier numéro du *CUPARUC*, j'avais invité les membres à mettre leurs talents au profit de l'Association, invitation qui vaut toujours. On ne peut pas laisser tout le travail à un petit nombre de personnes dévouées. J'invite ceux et celles qui s'intéressent à y participer à me rejoindre en s'adressant au bureau de l'Association. Vous trouverez à la dernière page du bulletin les renseignements nécessaires.

En ce qui concerne le nombre des membres, alors qu'il est vrai que nous comptons à peu près la moitié de toutes les personnes qui participent au Régime de retraite de l'Université, et que le total demeure constant, un de nos objectifs est d'augmenter ce nombre, afin qu'il représente mieux la totalité des retraité(e)s. Si vous connaissez un collègue qui n'est pas encore membre, nous vous encourageons à l'inviter à donner son adhésion. Vous pourriez peut-être lui proposer d'assister à l'assemblée qui s'en vient au mois de mai, afin qu'il puisse se renseigner sur nos activités.

OF BRICKS, MORTAR AND CONCRETE

or

How Norris came to Drummond and Drummond came to Sherbrooke

by Jim Whitelaw

The other day I walked through what I first knew as the "New Building" then as the "Norris Building", named after the College's second Principal, Ken Norris. Now it is the "new" downtown "Y". I found that the old registrar's and admissions area now houses a pool table. Well, I suppose that dealing with registrars and admissions officers was, for many, a game of sorts. Where Birks Hall used to be there is a fancy basket-ball court. Basket balls now zip through the hoops where, in olden times, students went through the hoops of registration, when they weren't attending the splendid compulsory "pandemic" courses of Harry Hall, Herb Quinn and Rachel Wasserman. Comparing the bright and airy new facilities with the somewhat sombre atmosphere of the old "Y", I went back to the heady days of 1956, when we moved into the first "home for Sir George" from a multiplicity of rented accommodations, including two floors of the "Y", the former Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue on Stanley Street, a hall in the Salvation Army Citadel, a number of neighbouring houses, and class-rooms in the O'Sullivan Busines College. I particularly remember the latter, as there was one area where a large room had been divided into four "class-rooms" separated by clear glass partitions which did not quite meet the outside walls. I remember teaching a class there, and trying not to be distracted by the antics of the three other pedagogues, not to mention the fact that all three could be heard round the unsealed partitions.

Overcome by a wave of nostalgia, I read up a little on the background to the Norris Building, and talked to a few people who "were there". I could not, of course, talk to Doug Clarke, who had been born in a building demolished to make way for the Norris, who had been a member of the first graduating class (1937) of Sir George and who subsequently became its Registrar and Vice-Principal. His unpublished *Decades of Decision*, together with Harry Hall's *The Georgian Spirit* informed me that the idea of a "real building" went back at least to 1942, when the Student Society of the Sir George Williams Business School (not to be confused with the John Molson School of Business!) presented to the Board a fifty-dollar Victory Bond to help form the nucleus of a building fund. Planning started as early as 1945, and there was some debate, given the high cost of land down-town, about moving to the suburbs, but the need for ease of access, especially where substantial numbers of evening students were involved, won out. Input from faculty members was encouraged, while ever-increasing student numbers forced the rental of more and more sites. The story went around at the time that if anyone in the area left their house for too long, they would return to find that the College had moved in. At one point there was some panic that sufficient funds for the planned building would not be obtained, and there was talk of cutting out one wing, which would have deprived the building of Birks Hall, amongst other things. The financial campaign was launched in 1952, as part of the YMCA expansion plan, under the leadership of John B. Frosst. It will be remembered that at that time Sir George was ultimately under the control of the "Y".

The new building was originally designed with thirty-two class-rooms, ten laboratories and three fine arts studios. To reduce moving costs, some faculty members found themselves playing a new rôle, as they moved scientific equipment from the old synagogue to the new building. Jack Bordan recalls that as he and J-P Pétolas, then Physics faculty, were moving a spectrometer, they were stopped by a senior administrator who, having identified the nature of the machine, asked where it had come from and how they had found the money to buy it.

Students and faculty moved into the building in January 1956, but the official opening, attended by a considerable number of dignitaries from government and academic institutions, took place the following April. I recall the official reception reasonably well, considering that some of us had slipped out ahead of time to seek bottled courage. Circulating at the reception, with my eyes focused on the middle distance, I was surprised when a voice from the level of my belt enquired "Professeur de français?" This was the diminutive Monseigneur Parent, then Rector of Laval, who was soon to chair the commission of enquiry that bears his name. I was to be his host. We were not in the group of distinguished guests that so overcrowded the solitary elevator at one point that it stalled between floors and remained stuck there for half an hour. I also recall watching the mesmerized stare of an elderly cleric as he glanced into an art studio and found himself face to face,

so to speak, with what can only be described as a particularly aggressive female nude (painting thereof).

The Norris Building – although it did not acquire the appellation until 1964 – was to meet the needs of the College "for years to come". In fact, it did so for about two years, after which it was "back to the annexes", one of which brought the College one of its rare pieces of publicity when a roving journalist discovered that it was located above a strip-joint. It is, however, quite unsubstantiated that this latter arrangement had anything to do with the creation of the department of Applied Social Science, let alone courses in physical chemistry. By 1960, it had been found necessary to put a sixth floor on the building to house the Library. Since the floors were not up to taking the weight of books, the supports were suspended from the ceiling. Users remained on the floor. In no time at all, planning began for what was to be the Hall Building, and the whole cycle, annexes and all, started up again. The sixth-floor Norris library, which subsequently took over the fifth and the fourth, was seen as a temporary expedient, which lasted for thirty years. J-P Pétolas, who survived all of the above and who ended up in charge of physical plant and planning, has written a piece, which follows this article, and which "tells it like it was". Contacts with other "old soldiers" were not particularly productive, and the hoped-for flood of picturesque anecdotes just did not materialize. I am, however, most grateful to the University Archives, which made their extensive documentation available to me. I should mention that Nancy Marelli, the University Archivist, is completing a lively and most enlightening study of all Concordia buildings, and she kindly made her current draft available to me. Nancy was also successful in persuading the "Y" authorities to install the old chapel, which had at one point also served the College, in the renovated building.

Not long after the opening of the Norris, Sir George's future bride in N.D.G. was worrying about the lack of an adequate science building. Loyola's main buildings had, of course, been in existence for a good number of years, so that a science building would be an addition, unlike the Norris Building which was a "first". Science at Loyola was being taught by a small number of devoted faculty in very sub-standard facilities – laboratories were in the basement of the Administrative Building – and it was agreed that a science building should be put up. Planning started in the late 1950s, and Father Stanley Drummond, a former Biology professor, recalls that although consultation of faculty was limited, he and his colleagues did manage to have flexibility incorporated to look after future needs. He also remembers that a small chapel, subsequently moved elsewhere, was incorporated near the new Senate Chamber. A building campaign was launched, with a target of two million. The Quebec Government contributed half a million and a comparable amount was given by corporations. It is related that on a certain Sunday the appeal was carried forth from every Roman Catholic pulpit in the Montreal area. Supervision of the project was entrusted to the late Father Edward Sherry, whose impressive language expertise, according to Father Drummond, included some down-to-earth elements which made it easy for him to communicate with builders! He also enjoyed donning overalls and getting into the act.

The building was designed by Peter Dickinson, who also designed the down-town CIBC building and Place Ville-Marie. There was at the time considerable controversy and discontent over the design, especially over the windowless rotunda of the auditorium, not to mention the lack of continuity with the style of existing campus buildings, although it appears that the windowless front was so designed deliberately in order that the auditorium inside it could be soundproof. Father Drummond recalls that his own preference was that this site should be used for a library, to match in style the existing chapel, while the Science building could be located on West Broadway, where the Bryan Building was eventually put up. That discontent over aesthetics was all-encompassing is shown by the action of students who "borrowed" a sign from a BA gas station and hung it on the door of the building on the opening day. The building was named after Father Lewis Drummond, who had a distinguished academic and clerical career, spending the last ten years of his active life teaching English. Father Stanley Drummond recalls that expensive renovations were subsequently made to the building to ensure its ability to withstand earth-quakes. Major renovations were carried out when the building was taken over by the Psychology Department, following the post-merger concentration of Science activity on the down-town campus.

So now they're going to build another Science building at Loyola, and an Engineering/Fine Arts building and a Commerce one down town. It was kind of nice being around in 1956 .....

A QUANTUM LEAP

From Synagogue to State-of-the-art

by Jean-Pierre Pétolas

In the early 1950s, "Science" in the Sir George Williams College Faculty of Arts, Science and Com merce was located in the X-Annex, the former Spanish/Portuguese Synagogue on Stanley Street, just across from the rear door of the future Norris Building, although Chemistry remained in the YMCA because two fume hoods were still operational in that building.

In the X-Annex the Physics labs were located in the basement, Biology on the main floor and classrooms on a new floor above. X10 was the Physics freshman lab, X22 a Biology lab and X32 a special classroom. Each door had a small window with the room number painted on it, and ClassroomX32 is still nostalgically remembered as the SEX room (from inside the room X32 lookslike SEX).

Since there were fewer labs than courses given, each lab served multi-purpose functions. For example X11 was used for Heat, Light and Sound on Monday afternoons and evenings, but was transformed on Tuesdays and Thursdays into an Electricity and Magnetism lab. This meant that all the apparatus used in HLS on Mondays had to be dismantled and stored away before E&M could be set-up. There were a lot of activities behind the scenes!

We were young, enthusiastic and gung-ho! Good undergraduate courses were given in these labs and the instruction was of high quality – good enough for the University of London to appoint us as the official lab testers for their international courses. With the passing years we became more sophisticated and, with our perseverance, high- quality instruments were purchased. For example, a spectrometer was purchased from England but this very delicate and elaborate apparatus had to be installed in a permanent location. We found an old cupboard at the end of a corridor, beyond the Biology/ Maths office, and we built a sturdy bench, but the cupboard was too small for the spectrometer, so we dug a hole through a wall and every thing fitted in correctly. It worked fine.

The faculty offices were far below the standard size of today's offices and were shared by two or three faculty members. One was fairly long and narrow and three desks did not quite fit in a row along one wall, the top-side edges of the center desk resting on the top sidesof the first and third desk. This made the center desk about two inches higher than normal. Don Peets, a large and tall man, was assigned to this one, as the extra height did not bother him.The building, especially the basement, was infested with cockroaches. Occasionally, the physicists would pick up a few, place them in an envelope and send them upstairs to Biology with a note asking them to keep their specimens in their own labs. The Biologists got their revenge, of a sort, one day. A large tub overflowed and doused the physicists (not on purpose, we were told). Fortunately, the Governors soon recognized these atrocious conditions and we were advised that a new building with modern labs was to be built.

Our joy soon abated when we learned that the building was to be designed by the YMCA architects in New York City. We felt that these architects could probably design excellent Y buildings, but what about university facilities, especially labs.?

But someonewas looking after us. Bert Sargent, a retired engineer, was appointed Planning Coordinator and came to see us to find out what we wanted. Soon the new building started to take shape. To reduce vertical pedestrian traffic, the regular classrooms were located on the lower floors, Chemistry on the fourth, Biology and Physics on the fifth – then the top floor . A young and energetic Roger Verschingel designed the Chemistry labs and also drew the details of each lab bench. These sketches were so accurate that theArchitects used them to issue shop drawings to the manufacturers. The consultants designed the building so that a sixth floor could be added at a later time. We asked for escalators, but were told they were too expensive. Bert Sargent, however, recognizing the need, reserved corridor space for future installation.

By the time we moved into this new building, the labs and classrooms, though well designed, were too small and too few for the needs of the expanding Sir George. The Library had to remain in the cramped quarters of the YMCA second floor, but connecting doors permitted easy access from one building to the other. Only one elevator was provided and a sign was placed with a warning: "The use of this elevator is reserved for wheel chairs, Faculty and other invalids". The sign was removed shortly afterwards. The second floor, or mezzanine, lodged Alec Sproule's Student Counseling and Guidance offices. At the time, it was the first permanently staffed Student Guidance Department in a Canadian

university. On the ground floor, Birks Hall was the largest room and Doug Clarke was able to design a theatre in it. It had a stage, a properly working curtain, a large proscenium arch and good lighting. A storage and workshop to build scenery was also provided and a large twelve-foot-high door enabled scenery to be moved. Unfortunately, the outside door was only eight-feet high so that the full potential of the theatre was never realized. This was the precursor of the D.B. Clarke Theatre in the Hall Building. The Admin. offices were located on the main floor and Henry Worrell arranged a small and efficient bookstore in this area.

Not a single square foot of space was wasted in the basement. Mag Flynn, Dean of Students, had the student government offices there, including the offices of the *Georgian* newspaper. Jean MacPherson, RN was responsible for the First Aid Station, and remained there long after the Hall Building was opened. She died in February 2001 in her 101st year.

The Norris building was always under alterations and renovations during its entire life-span as a University facility. A year after its opening, it was decided to build the sixth floor, so that the Library could have larger quarters. Though the steel columns of the Norris building were designed to support an extra floor, the floor loading, that is the strength of the floor to support the weight of books, was inadequate. The consulting engineers proposed an original idea: rather than putting the bookshelves on the floor, they were hung from the ceiling. Thus, the roofbeams were designed to support both the roof and the bookshelves.

When the Hall Building was opened in 1966, the Science labs were moved to the new building and the Library was able to expand.....downward! Carefully, stacks were positioned on the fifth and fourth floors making maximum use of the structure of the building. But the Library grew and grew. The Technical Services were the first to be moved to a rented annex so that more reading room could be made available in the Norris. The need for a library building soon became most urgent – so much so that it only took thirty years for it to be built!

A Library on the top floor of a building requires good vertical transportation. It is a high traffic area, and so escalators were installed. They started on the third floor, not the main floor, as it was felt that students – and staff – could walk up two flights of stairs before being too tired! There was also a seventh floor, though many may not remember it, as it was a small penthouse. Murray Honeyman designed a botany lab in that area and horticultural activities flourished in there.

You had to be there!

EXCHANGE-TRADED FUNDS – AN INVESTMENT OPTION

by Larry Boyle

As these words are being put to paper, recommending an investment strategy is akin to arranging deck chairs on the Titanic!

If you think that the time is ripe to get into the market, then Exchange-Traded Funds (EFTs) may be for you. They resemble index mutual funds in that they follow the performance of a specific index. An example would be the Standard and Poor/Toronto Exchange 60 index participation units.

Where they differ from an index mutual fund is in cost. Fees for EFTs range from 0.08 to .17% per annum, which is lower than the 0.3 to 0.9% for index funds, and certainly is far superior to the 2-3% fees charged by most equity mutual funds. ETFs can be traded at market value any time during the daily trading period, whereas, with most other mutual funds, the trade price is the one established at the end of the day. In addition, ETFs have fewer taxable distributions than other fund counterparts.

For the careful investor, who wants some equity in his or her portfolio, but does not wish to purchase individual stocks or have someone manage his or her assets, an ETF may be a good choice. Check with your financial advisor.

BEISSEL REVISITED

Henry Beissel has drawn your editor's attention to a misprint in his poem "Post Mortem", which appeared in our January issue. In the third stanza, "metal" should have read "mettle". It would appear that the error was due to Henry's touching faith in the judgment of his computer programme speller, and your editor has long since learned that one does not lightly question a poet's choice of words. Henry has already committed to paper (confidentially) his speculations on the appropriateness of "metal" to the context in question,

with hypotheses on potential reactions on the part of his late progenitor. He has thus forestalled the possibility that a future literary critic may devote a doctoral dissertation – nay, even an article in a refereed journal, to be used as fodder in a tenure hearing – to an in-depth analysis of the influence of the metallurgical industry on the work of protoneomillenial anglophone Quebec poets.

J.W.

NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS / NOUVELLES DE NOS MEMBRES

Gustave Labbé, ancien professeur du département d'études françaises de l'Université, a fait publier au mois de janvier chez les Éditions Carte Blanche son deuxième recueil de poésies, *Chant des Plénitudes*, qui fait suite à son premier recueil, *Fleurs de Sang*, dont nous avons inclus des extraits dans notre numéro de novembre 1997 (vol. 6, no. 4). Gustave nous confie que dans ce recueil il donne libre cours, dans un style tout à fait facile d'accès, à sa reconnaissance pour les moments de bonheur que nous apportent l'amour, les arts et la nature.

Leah Sherman, who, with Stan Horner, launched the University on its distinguished career in the field of art education, has written a history of the evolution of Fine Arts, both Visual Arts and Performing Arts, in the University, on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the creation of the Faculty of Fine Arts, recently celebrated by an exhibit of the works of twenty-five artists who studied or taught in the Faculty. (*Your Editor, who works on the principle that if you don't blow your own trumpet, perhaps nobody will blow it for you, remembers well the joys and challenges of chairing the Senate committee that recommended the creation of the Faculty).*

We welcome the following, who have become members since the publication of the last issue / *Bienvenue aux personnes suivantes, qui sont devenues membres depuis la parution du dernier numéro:* **Jane Dorrance-Kirkey, Lorna Flanagan, André Jolicoeur, ~~Claude Mazza,~~ ~~Jim Moore~~, ~~Brian Selwood~~, ~~Susan Sullivan~~.**

We regret to announce the death of / *Nous annonçons avec regret le décès de*: **M.A. Malik.**

ON THE CUSSEDNESS OF INANIMATE OBJECTS

by Kurt Jonassohn

Most of us have developed a *modus vivendi* with the objects around us. Depending on our personality and mood, these relations may vary from friendly and co-operative to outright hostile and disruptive. As we get older, it seems as if there are objects that are aware of our declining fitness. Not only do they seem to be aware of it – they also seem to take malicious pleasure in exploiting our weakening defences. How else would you explain the following events?

I have a ceiling lamp with three bulbs. Lately, they have been flickering and even taking turns in going out altogether. So, I did the only thing that seemed appropriate to my non-expertise. After replacing one dubious bulb, I tightened all three of them. It did not improve matters. Since I had exhausted my electrical skills, I called an electrician. When he arrived, I turned on the lights to demonstrate the problem, and they flickered as before. He wordlessly tightened all three bulbs, and that promptly stopped the flicker. He gave me a rather pitying look and departed. I am sure that you will not be surprised to hear that the lamp resumed its flicker the next day.

I also have a computer. It too has been misbehaving. For no obvious reason it will crash, or freeze the screen, or send me an assortment of messages that make no sense at all. For instance, it will tell me to close all other applications when none is open, or it will inform me that this operation requires more memory and asks for an additional zero K of memory. I finally got so frustrated that I started to consider buying a new computer. That seemed a timely idea, because my declining sight would benefit from a larger screen. When I actually got to the point of collecting information on the new models available and started visiting stores to check them out, my old nemesis started to behave flawlessly. After further thought, I decided that the system which I had coveted was costing too much, and so my computer started to complain again. Just so that he would not have an excuse to return to his former bad habits, I have installed a new

operating system. It seems that for the time being I have won this contest. But I shall keep you informed on further developments.

There is no need to add here the minor irritations that you are presumably familiar with – such as the picture on my living-room wall that returns to its slant regardless of how often I straighten it out, or the occasional laundry consignment that returns me an odd number of socks.

Please don't accuse me of becoming paranoid. Even if that were so, it would not prove that they are not after me. No – it is just that my increasing disabilities,. both mental and physical, give more opportunities to the inanimate objects around me.

REPORT ON THE PENSION AND BENEFITS COMMITTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY

Your representatives on the University's Pension and Benefits Committees have been very active with several issues.

With respect to the class action suit, the plaintiff, Richard Bisaillon (represented by the CSN lawyers), has presented to the courts a motion to request a class action suit and the case will proceed. This means that lawyers for the various parties involved – the University, as defendant, CUFA and CUPA (the latter represented by the undersigned), as interveners, are preparing to present their cases. This process will continue for some time to come, as the wheels of justice grind slowly. We will keep you posted as the case continues to unfold. A letter dealing with it is being prepared and will be sent out to all non-active members of the Pension Plan.

On the issue of the Health Insurance Plan with CLARICA, several items are being addressed. Your representatives on the University Benefits Committee have been serving on the Sub-committee for the Health Insurance Plan to revisit, and hopefully revise, out-of-province coverage. Many options were explored, much work done and many lively debates held to find a solution to the problem of the 30-day reinstatement period after the 60-day out-of-province coverage has expired, and to that of providing suitable coverage for trips of longer than 60 days. As of this writing, it appears that a proposal for an appropriate solution will be presented to the University's Benefits Committee and ultimately to the Board for approval. If and when it is approved, implementation will be announced through the appropriate channels. .

Also concerning the Health Insurance Plan, as was mentioned in the January issue of CUPARUC, last November the Benefits Office issued Health Insurance cards from CLARICA, for "pay direct drug & emergency travel" coverage. This card is intended to be used to simplify the process of being reimbursed for prescription drug purchases and to provide assistance for emer-

RAPPORT SUR LE COMITÉ DE RETRAITE ET SUR LE COMITÉ DES AVANTAGES SOCIAUX DE L'UNIVERSITÉ

Vos représentants auprès du Comité de Retraite et du Comité des Avantages sociaux ont dû s'occuper très activement de plusieurs questions.

En ce qui concerne le recours collectif. le demandeur, Richard Bisaillon, représenté par les avocats de la CSN, a fait une demande de recours collectif auprès du judiciaire et l'affaire sera portée devant le tribunal. Cela veut dire que les avocats des intéressés – soit, l'Université en tant que défendeur, l'APUC et l'ARUC (cette dernière représentée par les soussignés) à titre d'intervenants – sont en train de préparer leurs arguments. Ce processus s'évoluera à travers une période de temps considérable, étant donné que la justice suit son cours avec beaucoup de lenteur. Nous vous en tiendrons au courant à la suite des événements. Une lettre portant là-dessus est en voie de préparation et sera expédiée à tous les participants non-actifs.

Pour ce qui est du régime d'assurance-maladie, nous nous adressons à plusieurs questions. Vos représentants auprès du Comité des Avantages sociaux ont participé aux travaux du sous-comité du régime, afin de passer en revue et, espérons-le, de faire modifier la protection hors-province. Plusieurs options ont été explorées, beaucoup d'effort y a été consacré et de nombreux débats animés ont eu lieu dans la recherche d'une solution du problème de la période de réintégration de 30 jours qui doit suivre l'expiration de la protection de 60 jours, ainsi que de celui d'une protection valable pour des séjours de plus de 60 jours. À l'heure actuelle, il semble qu'une proposition en vue d'une solution acceptable sera présentée au Comité pour transmission au Conseil. Si ces mesures sont approuvées, leur implantation sera annoncée en temps et lieu par les responsables.

Toujours au sujet du régime d'assurance-maladie, au mois de novembre dernier le Service des Avantages sociaux a distribué, comme nous l'avons expliqué dans le

gency treatment when travelling outside the home province. For those members in all provinces other than Québec, the card is fulfilling this purpose. For those living in Québec and who are subject to the drug insurance plan of the Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec (RAMQ) (generally those over the age of 65) the documents accompanying the card indicated that the CLARICA system could not reimburse the out-of-pocket expenses for drug purchases covered by the RAMQ plan (i.e. that the card would not work for such purchases). At the time of writing, this situation has not changed.

Another issue that has come to light is the registration of dependants under the Health Insurance Plan. Last year all members of the Plan were asked to complete a form to register the names of their dependants subject to the Plan. This was part of the process of preparation for the new card system. The response was incomplete and it is feared that the dependants of many members are not covered. If you are covered by the CLARICA Health Insurance Plan and have dependants, it might be a good idea to ensure that your dependants are registered. If you have made a recent (i.e. in 2001) claim through CLARICA for a dependant and it has been accepted, then they are covered. As has been the case in recent years, medical expenses for a given year must be submitted before April 1 of the following year. So, if you have medical expenses for 2000 that have not been submitted to CLARICA, you should do so as soon as possible.

John L. Hall and **Howard Fink**, Retirees' Representatives.

dernier numéro du bulletin, des cartes CLARICA pour "paiement direct des médicaments et assistance-voyage d'urgence". Cette carte est destinée à simplifier le processus de remboursement des frais d'ordonnances, ainsi qu'à fournir de l'aide dans des situations d'urgence hors-province. Cette carte fait le nécessaire dans toutes les provinces, à l'exception du Québec. Pour les participant(e)s qui habitent au Québec, et qui participent au RAMQ (ordinairement les membres âgés de 65 ans et plus) les documents qui accompagnaient la carte indiquent que le système CLARICA ne remboursera pas les montants payés pour les ordonnances couvertes par le RAMQ – autrement dit, la carte ne vaut pas pour de tels achats. Au moment d'aller sous presse, cette situation n'a pas changé.

Autre question soulevée se rapporte à l'inscription au régime d'assurance maladie des personnes à charge. L'année dernière, on a demandé à tous les participants et à toutes les participantes au régime d'inscrire sur un formulaire le nom de chaque personne à charge couverte par le régime. Cette action faisait partie de l'implantation du nouveau système à carte. La réponse n'a été que partielle, de sorte que l'on craint que dans nombre de cas ces personnes ne soient pas protégées. On conseille à tous les membres de vérifier l'inscription de leurs personnes à charge. Évidemment, si une demande récente (2001) de remboursement des dépenses d'une personne à charge a été approuvée, aucune action n'est requise. Comme dans les années passées, les demandes de remboursement pour une année donnée doivent être présentées avant le 1er avril de l'année suivante. Si, donc, il vous en reste pour 2000, ne tardez pas à les envoyer à CLARICA.

John L. Hall et **Howard Fink**, représentants des personnes retraitées..

CUPA – 2000-2001

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