

The Link

National Newcomers Clubs Council
www.newcomerscanada.com



Spring 2005

Notes from your Council

I have had a very busy year so far as President of National Newcomers Council of Canada. There has been a surprising amount of correspondence, which is great, because it means that our member clubs are interested in what we do and turn to us for problem solving, advice and information.

I had the pleasure of writing welcome letters to three new member clubs since I took the reins as President. In October a new club in British Columbia, Abby/Mission Newcomers' Club joined National; and Erin, Hillsburgh, Caledon Area Newcomers' Club in Ontario, and St. Albert Newcomers' Club in Alberta both joined in May. These clubs are presided over by Deanna McIntyre of Abbotsford, BC; Joy Griffin of Hillsburgh, ON; and Jo Lewis of St. Alberta, AB. We are happy to have them on board. I'm sure there are other clubs out there that have not yet joined National. If you know of one, we would love to have the opportunity to contact them.

Our focus now is on preparation for the Annual General Meeting in Truro, NS in October. You have all received an invitation and Registration Form from me in the first week of May and now we will wait hopefully for your confirmation that you are planning to join us there.

My term as President will end at the AGM in October. I have enjoyed my contacts with member clubs and will miss hearing from you. I have looked forward to receiving your newsletters each month and learning what is going on in your part of the country. This has been a very satisfying experience.

Bev McCann
President

Treasurer's Report: 6 month interim 2005.

LINK: Financial Report YTD 050524			
		Date	
2004-5 Opening Balance	\$1,691.30		
Debits:			
Executive Expenses: Newsletter, printing, postage, mileage	\$1,146.81		
Total debits:	\$1,146.81		
Deposits:			
Pins	\$ 396.00	17-May-05	
Club Registration 2005-6	\$ 230.00	16-May-05	
Bank interest	\$ 0.24	25-May-05	
Total Credits	\$ 626.24		
Total:	\$1,170.73		

As Registrar-Treasurer, my duties have accelerated markedly of late. I have revised a new registration form with the necessary slight fee increase included and forwarded it to all registered clubs for renewals due by the end of June:

Of note:

- National Newcomers Council of Canada operates on a shoestring: the tiny fee increase was vital for us to meet our financial obligations.
- Some NNCC pins have been sold and more will be ordered for the AGM in Truro.
- Many local club email addresses were out of date and required snailmail. This will be corrected when the 2005-6 register is published.
- New clubs are being created and most are joining National. NNCC needs to identify clubs that are in existence and do not know about our services.
- Membership forms will be forwarded to Linda Waldron for the Register for 2005-6.
- I will assume the Billeting Coordinator duties for the AGM as registrations start coming in.
- Presently, NNCC has just met for the third time since Christmas, working hard to provide the Truro Alumnae Club hosting this year's AGM with our input and support.

Susan Owen
Registrar/Treasurer

This is my final year as Newsletter Editor. I have enjoyed reading all your newsletters gathering tidbits for The Link. I would like to thank all Clubs for their incredible cooperation and I thoroughly enjoyed the many conversations I have had with many of you. I have enjoyed working on Council for the past three years. It has been very enlightening and I have formed great new friendships. I am in awe at the dedication of the Newcomers on Council past and present, who work so diligently to make all Newcomers Clubs grow and run as smoothly as possible. If you have enjoyed an executive position with your club, why not think about joining Council, it is very rewarding.

Linda Waldron,
Newsletter Editor

My role is to take minutes at Executive and Annual Meetings and supplies copies of such to the Executive members and oversee and coordinate any publicity or advertising deemed advisable by the Council. I got involved on the Executive Committee last October 2004. I attended the AGM and was approached by a member. I decided to accept this position for 2 reasons. One, to learn about the National Newcomers Council and what they do for the local clubs. Two, to volunteer as a means to say thank you for all the Club has offered me.

Teresa Trofymowych
Secretary/Publicity

I attended three meetings this year. After each meeting I sent a synopsis of what happened at these meetings via email to the clubs in Ontario and Quebec. I prepared guidelines for Plan of Action for the AGM, a sample of terms of reference for AGM host, a sample budget for the host and sample registration form. These were adapted from suggestions provided by last years host the Kingston Newcomers' Club. The Council discussed and revised these suggestions and forwarded them to this year's host Truro Newcomers' Club. I have answered individual questions. And tried to be helpful to the clubs in Ontario and Quebec.

Jeanne Stoness
Central Liaison Officer

Our website has been up and running now for about two years. I believe we are slowly gaining popularity and widening our base of interest. We would like to feature more clubs from across Canada. If you have pictures of events, or stories about club happenings, we would love to have you share them with other clubs. Please consider the website as a website for your club. If you would like to contact me about events e-mail me at newcomerscanada@hotmail.com.

Louise Coghlin
Website Coordinator

regional news

Eastern Region

I hope everyone had a good winter and now are looking forward to a nice warm (hot) summer.

Judging from all the Atlantic newsletters I have received every club seems to be very busy here.

I'm hoping many of you are planning to attend the "Annual General Meeting" in Truro on October 22, 2005. The Truro Newcomers Alumnae Clubs are busy planning a "super" fun day.

If you haven't been to the Atlantic Provinces yet, why not plan a weeks vacation - there's so much to see and do..... Truro has some wonderful sights..like the tidal bore. There's the Anne Murray Center in Springhill, the Cabot trail in Cape Breton and the beautiful fall leaves will be brilliant.

If you need some more information please contact me at 902 893-2398 and I'll do my best to get information to you.. I look forward to seeing many of you in October.

NS Tourism 1-800-565-0000

PEI Tourism 1-888-734-7529

NB Tourism 1-800-563-6353



Beryl Keilty
Eastern Liaison Officer

Please see the attached registration form for the AGM in Truro, N.S.

Central Region

ERIN, HILLSBURGH, CALEDON AREA NEWCOMERS CLUB



Welcome to the newest Club to join National. Erin, Hillsburgh, Caledon Area Newcomers Club was formed in 2003 and presently has 120 members.

President

Joy Griffin,

Box 323

Hillsburgh, ON NOB 1Z0

519 855-4248

texasbelle@hotmail.com

Membership

Anne Smith

9126 - 24th Sideroad

Hillsburgh, ON NOB 1Z0

519 855-9441

annetrinity@sympatico.ca

OTTAWA

The membership position of the Newcomer's executive is both interesting and informative. When you listen to the voice mail of the Newcomers' number you get the strangest inquiries.

Most are legitimate; some are wrong numbers, while other callers think we will help them find work. There are even some men wanting to view the women at a general meeting in hopes of finding a potential partner and once we heard from a truck driver looking for someone to spend his off-hours with.

Others call to sing the praises of Newcomers. One particular call came from an elderly lady who told me how she had moved to Ottawa over 20 years ago from Scotland. She was shopping with a friend in a small Scottish town looking for some memorable item to take with her on her upcoming move to Ottawa. She commented to her friend that a particular calendar would make a nice memento to take to Canada. A tourist from Canada happened to overhear her and approached her to let her know that she was indeed from Canada, and asked what part of Canada would she be moving to. She replied that she was moving to Ottawa, and the tourist informed her that she was the president of the Newcomer's Club of Ottawa, and would she please give her a call when she arrived in Ottawa. They exchanged information and the rest is history.

After 25 years and a wonderful life in Ottawa, she wanted to tell me what a wonderful club Newcomers is and how lucky she was to have been part of it.

Mary Gibbons, Membership Secretary

Ottawa Newcomers Club.

Guelph Newcomers' Club Mission Statement

To welcome women new to the Guelph area, acquaint them with their new city and promote friendships among members.

When you least expect it, a common thread – golden, at that – begins to weave together the fabric of friendship.

- Mary Kay Shanley

THORNHILL

The Thornhill Club hosted a "Show Us What You Do Night" where members highlighted their hobbies, careers and interests. It was a great success. We held a similar night here in Brockville, but ours was limited to arts and crafts. Ours was a great success too...a great interactive meeting.

Thornhill, a combined Newcomers and Alumni Club have a "Newies" group. They meet for lunch and get to know one another. A great thought for some of the clubs that have amalgamated.

LONDON

Extracted from the London Newsletter aptly named, "Between Friends"...

"Stories are medicine...They have such power; they do not require that we do, be, act anything—we need only listen. The remedies for repair or reclamation of any lost psychic drive are contained in stories."—Clarissa Pinkola Estes, PhD

"We read books to find out who we are. What other people, real or imaginary, do and think and feel is an essential guide to our understanding of what we ourselves may become."—Ursula K. Leguin

"Poetry affords us a respite in which we may gather renewed strength for the old struggle to adapt ourselves to reality."—Robert Haven Schauffler

Marguerite Neimans
Convenor, Book Club

WESTERN REGION



ST. ALBERT, ALBERTA

The St. Albert Newcomers Club started up in 1965. They have 120 members and have joined us this month. Their contact information is as follows:

President

Jo Lewis

P.O. Box 23008, RPO Summit Centre

St. Albert, Alberta T8N 6Z9

780 458-6444

www.stalbertnewcomers.com

Membership

Marilyn Sutherland

Club address: same as for Jo Lewis

MEDICINE HAT, ALBERTA

The Medicine Hat Newcomers are very busy people as subgroups and as a club on the whole. We participate in a variety of activities ie. ladies/men luncheons, dinner club, cards, crafts, golf, scrabble, and bowling to name a few.

In the community, we have served at the Mayor's New Year's Day Levee and for many years have been responsible for the Canada Day Cake decorating contest and serve the said cakes to the participants of Medicine Hat's Canada Day celebrations.

ABBEY-MISSION, B.C.

We welcomed Abbey-Mission Newcomers Club into our National group this year. They had thirteen members at the time of registration and judging by their newsletters, have quite an active group. Best wishes for a successful circle of friends.

NANAIMO, B.C.

Nanaimo Newcomers Club has started an alumni group this year. We wish them much success.

THE NATIONAL NEWCOMERS' COUNCIL OF CANADA 28TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

October 22nd, 2005

Hosted by the Truro Newcomers' Club

at the

Truro Golf Club,
Golf Street, Truro, N.S.
902 895-2183

The Truro Newcomers Club invites all Canadian Newcomer and Alumnae Clubs to the 28th National Annual General Meeting. Please note that pre-registration is required.

Registration 8:30 am
Presidents' Meeting 9:00 am
Annual General Meeting 10:00 am

A continental breakfast will be available starting at 8:30 am.

The AGM is an opportunity for Newcomers from across Canada to gather together to learn from one another and exchange ideas. Please bring extra copies of your newsletters to share.

The Truro Newcomers Club is planning an exciting agenda. Billeting will be available and plans are underway for a pot-luck dinner on Friday evening. In true Nova Scotian style, the gals in Truro are also organized to pick members up at the Halifax Airport.

The cost is \$35.00 per attendee and includes the continental breakfast and a gourmet lunch.

AGM REGISTRATION FORM

National Newcomers' Council of Canada
28th Annual General Meeting
Saturday, October 22nd, 2005
Truro, Nova Scotia

Please complete this form and return with your cheque (payable to "National Newcomers' Council of Canada") before October 1st, 2005 to:

Susan Owen
46 – 6 Wellesley Place
Toronto, ON M4Y 3E1

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email address: _____ Telephone Number: _____

Executive position (if applicable): _____

Name of your club: _____

Cost per delegate (non-refundable): \$35.00 (includes continental breakfast; lunch)
A \$5.00 late fee will be charged for any registration received after October 1st.

If you are attending the meeting with a companion, would they like to attend a brunch/breakfast on Saturday?
No _____ Yes _____ (If yes, please note that each person will be responsible for the cost of their meal)
Please indicate if you will be attending the Friday evening welcome: No _____ Yes _____
Please specify if you have any dietary concerns: _____

Billeting Information

Do you wish to be billeted? (Please circle) Yes No

If yes, will you be carpooling? Yes No

Please list your name and if you are car pooling, the names of the others in your group in order that we can try to place you in the same home or neighbourhood

If you are car pooling, please indicate e-mail address or phone # of a contact person to confirm billeting information and receive directions.

Contact Name _____ E-mail _____ Phone _____

Arrival Time on Friday: _____ Departure Time on Saturday: _____

Smoker: No Yes Pet allergies: No Yes If yes, specify cat; dog, etc.

Are you willing to share a room? No _____ Yes _____

If so, do you wish to share with someone in particular? _____

REMEMBER: Registration for AGM is due before October 1st, 2005

Local accommodation information is available at www.trurons.com

2005 Member Survey

National Newcomers Council of Canada

1. Are your members aware of the National Newcomers Council of Canada?

2. How did your Club hear about NNCC? Does your Club share the NNCC information with your incoming Executive?

3. Has your Club ever contacted NNCC?

4. Did the response service your needs?

5.
 - A) Have you read The Link or visited our web site?

 - B) Is there information that you would like to see included?

 - C) Do you share The Link with your members?

 - D) Are you aware that you can submit articles for inclusion in The Link or on the website?

6. Are you aware of any other Newcomer Clubs in your area that would benefit from becoming a member of National Newcomers Council of Canada?