

# The Link ~ Spring 2010

*Connecting Canada's Newcomers from Coast to Coast*

## *2010 AGM - News from Sarnia, Ontario*

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Kitchener/Waterloo, ON

The 33rd National Newcomers' Council of Canada Annual General Meeting is being held on October 16th, 2009 at the Sarnia Best Western- Guildwood Inn and is being hosted by the Sarnia Newcomers Club. By attending the AGM you will be able to visit beautiful Sarnia. Sarnia is located in Southwestern Ontario.

Discover our exciting corner of the world with the scenic backdrop of Lake Huron and the St. Clair River. Situated in the centre of the Great Lakes region and only 2 1/2 hours from Toronto! Sarnia is a place where you will surely experience all the small town hospitality with the excitement and amenities of a big city.

Occupying a small portion of Lake Huron's southern-most shoreline, Sarnia is strategically placed just east of the Bluewater Bridge, a busy international crossing connecting Sarnia to ports in Michigan and Ontario. So, don't forget to bring your passports and do a little cross border shopping in Port Huron, Michigan, just a hop, skip and jump from Sarnia, if time permits.

Sarnia has always been known for its spectacular beaches, incredible sunsets, unlimited recreation and entertainment, dynamic live theatre, fine dining, unbeatable shopping, unique heritage and cultural attractions, galleries and championship golf courses.



## **NNCC Call for Nominations**

As per the bylaws of the National Newcomers Council of Canada, the current executive are permitted to stay in their positions for a one year term. At the 2010 AGM in Sarnia, a new slate of executives will be elected by the attending membership.

We would like to invite our members from across Canada to consider serving on this wonderful council in any number of ways: as newsletter or web editor; as a regional liaison; as secretary; or as registrar/treasurer. The only restrictions are related to those representatives of certain regions (the representative member should reside in the related region), and the current registrar/treasurer is incumbent president.

It is not a requirement to be able to attend the AGM (although it is a great time to meet and get to know each other a bit) and teleconferencing has replaced face-to-face Executive meetings. Computer access or skill is recommended but not essential unless you are newsletter editor or web editor. If you would like more information about these positions please feel free to contact President Judy Francis (president @nationalnewcomerscouncil.ca).

*The Link is the official newsletter of the National Newcomers' Council of Canada. It is published three times a year and is distributed electronically to all registered Newcomer Clubs across Canada. Please contact the editor regarding deadlines and content republication.*

*NNCC  
2010  
Annual  
General  
Meeting  
Sarnia, ON  
October  
16th, 2010*

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**OCTOBER 16, 2010**

***2010 AGM - News from Sarnia, Ontario***

*Continued from page 1*

A special reception will be held on October 15th to welcome all out-of-town members at the Lawrence House Centre for the Arts. The AGM will be held at the Best Western Guildwood Inn on the waterfront. Rooms have been set aside at a special conference rate. Limited Billeting will be available for those interested.

Our goal and mission of this event is to connect our members from coast to coast in one room. Networking opportunities will be plentiful, starting with the welcome reception on Friday night. This year we will be holding duplicate workshop sessions so that our participants are able to attend more than one session during the day. The very modest registration fee of \$45 covers the reception, breakfast and lunch, and door prizes!

Register by September 1st for an early bird draw for a free registration to the 2011 AGM in Calgary! A registration form is **on page 17**- please be sure to share this with all of your members.

**Please take the time to review the NNCC  
Constitution and Bylaws Proposed  
Amendments on Page 16.**

**These amendments will be voted on at the  
October AGM in Sarnia.**



The purpose of the National Newcomers Council is to act as an advisory body, facilitate the exchange of ideas between clubs, promote and/or publicize new comer organizations....

## Judy Francis ~ President

Spring is a season of transition for many Newcomer/Alumni Clubs across Canada. It's the time when the ski boots, skis, snowshoes, curling brooms and skates are put away for another year and the gardening tools, bicycles, hiking boots, golf clubs and tennis rackets are rounded up in great anticipation of another fun filled spring and summer .

Many clubs are also in the process of electing their new executive for next year and saying farewell and thank you to this year's executives who have made their Newcomer/Alumni experience such a great one. Thousands of wonderful life long friendships have been formed over the years in Newcomer/Alumni Clubs and the key ingredient has always been and will always continue to be "Involvement".

Each club is only as good as it's members, including the National Newcomers Council of Canada, and those who actively get involved on the executive and take part in the activities that are offered, or even better yet, start new activities ensure that their club is healthy. A club that everyone wants to join!

The Newcomer/Alumni experience is such a special one for so many of us and the executive of the NNCC is making every effort to provide support, new ideas and assistance in any way we can.

We are very excited about the introduction of the long awaited and much needed Liability Insurance Program for each club which will come into effect with the May annual registration renewals.

I am truly enjoying my involvement with the executive of the NNCC and would encourage any of you who would like to get involved with next year's executive, to contact me. Each position, even President, is a one year term and we are always looking for new people with fresh new ideas. It's a great way to expand your Newcomer/Alumni experience, make a difference and really become part of our truly Canadian NNCCC.

If your club would like to get involved on the National level, why not host the 2012 AGM! I look forward to hearing from you and can be reached at [president@nationalnewcomerscouncil.ca](mailto:president@nationalnewcomerscouncil.ca).

### Just When You Think You've Heard It All!!

Imagine my surprise when I read the Comox Valley Newsletter, and learned that they have a very interesting Interest Group! Liver Lovers!!

"You either love it or hate it ... there is no in-between!!! For those of you that enjoy liver and good fellowship, we invite Newcomers and/or Alumni and/or Partners to join us at Liver Lovers"

This group meets for lunch and enjoys liver at various restaurants. The January group was 30 strong!!



## Susan Lotherington-Past President

Spring is finally here and with it comes bulb flowers - daffodils, hyacinths, etc. popping out of the earth. Birds are returning in increasing numbers to build their nests and serenade us with their songs. What a wonderful time of year. And within our clubs it is time to elect our new officers and committee chairs. I hope everyone takes a few moments to consider filling these positions. Registration for our 2010 AGM is coming up and it looks like it is going to be a great one so don't wait too long to register.

I look forward to meeting with you in Sarnia this fall.

## Lise Marvel -Alumnae Representative



Well Spring has sprung and winter has not been as harsh as other years. Driving through Kentucky on our way back from Florida was the biggest shock as I looked forward to seeing the wonderful rolling blue green grass hills and saw nothing but yellow grass that we usually see at home at this time of year. I guess the US has inherited a little of what we are use to. Now that the photo contest is over it will be fun to sit back and see who the winner will be. I image some people will start getting ready for planting season, hopefully we will be able to share ideas and bulbs soon.

Enjoy this wonderful Spring season and I will touch base in the next issue of The Link.

## What Does NNCC Do For Your Club?

The *National Newcomers Council of Canada* was formed in 1978 in answer to the growing need of new and existing Newcomer clubs to connect with each other and find general administrative support. The NNCC is not a governing body and cannot set the rules by which each club operates. Each club is self-administered: by-laws are set according to a minimum provincial requirements, and each club can further establish procedures through standing rules. The NNCC provides assistance in the formation of new clubs, and will promote existing clubs through the national website ([www.nationalnewcomerscouncil.ca](http://www.nationalnewcomerscouncil.ca)).

Recently the NNCC established a very low cost/affordable general accident/liability insurance policy for all clubs across Canada. Details have been shared with each club's executive and premium information is on page 14 of this issue of The Link.

The NNCC is unable to provide more than an opinion or general advice on major issues but our coast to coast executive can be called upon to assist if requested at the local level. The NNCC may also be able to provide website space to member groups at a lower cost than other providers. Please let us know if you are interested.

## Suzanne Brett Welsh-Registrar/Treasurer



It has been a busy and exciting six months since I became Registrar-Treasurer of NNCC. With Judy's guidance, we have made some tremendous inroads. I have been proud of our achievements in increasing club awareness, bylaw review and reform, and the establishment of a national club insurance policy. In addition, at the request of a member club, we have also established a Presidents' Blog on the National's website. This blog was created to be an open forum for discourse, Q & A's, and advice; it is off to a slow start but we hope with time and use more presidents will look to the blog as a source of information and support.

We also had to take a hard look at our finances. While making great attempts to minimize costs related to the running of the Council, we are facing real fiscal difficulty, with a net loss of \$1,000 last year. We have a buffer but this won't last if losses like this continue. We try to minimize costs wherever possible and this past year we changed web providers for a savings of \$100. During this review, we could not determine the last time membership fees were raised, which means that it has been at least 10 years. We therefore decided to raise fees by a modest \$10 per club, which will help our financial picture, but won't eliminate the deficit completely. We hope that the new offering of insurance will bring more clubs into the NNCC membership base which will help with revenue. The 2010-2011 membership form and fee schedule has been included in this issue of The Link (page 14) and has also been sent to each President. Renewals are due May 31 in order to process all of the information and is related to the July 1 insurance policy date. Insurance is of course optional, but strongly recommended, and is priced to be very affordable.

I am looking forward to the AGM in Sarnia this October. The Sarnia Newcomers' Club has been hard at work and has some very exciting plans in place. We hope you are able to attend as this is the networking opportunity of the year for Newcomer clubs. The registration form for this event is also in this issue of The Link (page 17).

*Girlfriend:*

*I am only as strong as the chocolate I eat, the hair spray I use and the friends I have. To the cool women that have touched one another's lives. Here's to you!*

## Spring is on it's Way!!

The days are definitely getting longer and the clocks go forward soon. Spring can't be too far away, then – can it? Many of the Newcomer and Alumni Clubs across Canada have very active Garden Clubs and they are gearing up for another season, getting together with their new seed catalogues and descending on garden centers in hot pursuit of the latest gardening delights. If your club doesn't have a Gardening Club, why not start one?

Spring also brings up the dreaded concept of spring cleaning so perhaps a Home Decor Club might make this into a fun activity. Members of Home Decor Clubs meet at each other's homes and offer each other advice and suggestions on paint choices, furniture arranging, window coverings and home accessories. Maybe check out some stores, too, or invite a home decor speaker for some professional advice.

Taking part in the activities provided by your club is the key to meeting other newcomers and making wonderful friends in your new community. Perhaps clubs within our Region could get together and organize some joint ventures, exchange ideas, etc.

Irene Nevill- Western Liaison

### Strengthening Friendships

Take a moment out of every day and give each of your friends a sincere compliment. It takes little time and your friendships will grow stronger.

### Cecilia Gilbert-Member at Large



I am really enjoying this year on the National Executive and actually look forward to our Executive "conference call" meetings (which I had never experienced before).

It is hard to believe that the year is half over already and I look forward to seeing everyone again at the October AGM in Sarnia. Please check out our beautiful friendship pins on the NNCC website and I am waiting to take your order! Happy Spring to everyone.

## National Newcomers Friendship Pin

### DID YOU KNOW?

The NNCC Friendship Pin was a Millennium Project for the National Newcomers Council of Canada. These pins are:

- Manufactured by Bond Boyd, making jewelry for over 60 years; lifetime guarantee.
- Approximately 1.5 inches
- Made of bronze and plated with 25K brushed gold. The pin will not tarnish.
- \$15.00 each including taxes.

Friendship Pins are available at the AGM or by order form.

You can find an order form at [www.nationalnewcomerscouncil.ca](http://www.nationalnewcomerscouncil.ca). Quantities are limited.



### Irene Nevill - Western Liaison

I am originally from England and a relative newcomer to Canada. We moved to Waterloo, Ontario, in 2005. It was there I first discovered Newcomers – and new friends. We then moved to North Vancouver, BC, where I have continued my association with Newcomers. I am an active member of North Vancouver Newcomers/Alumni Club and currently their Newsletter Editor, a role which is great fun and very rewarding. I am looking forward to connecting with you, fellow newcomers in the Western Region.

Please feel free to contact me with any news, suggestions, feedback, or just to say hello.



*Lisa Mina*  
*The Link* Editor

### The Link Connecting Your Club!

Newsletters are the perfect way to connect with everyone in your club. What a great assortment of newsletters we have from across the nation! There are so many talented people in our group. Please take the time to thank your Newsletter Editors, as I am finding first hand at how much time and effort is taken to make sure you each have up to date information sent to you each month.

I look forward to reading about your clubs, so keep the newsletters coming!

Email your club newsletters to [newsletter@nationalnewcomerscouncil.ca](mailto:newsletter@nationalnewcomerscouncil.ca)



### Verna Dennis- Web Editor

Please let me know of any changes to your club info as it appears on our web-site [www.nationalnewcomerscouncil.ca](http://www.nationalnewcomerscouncil.ca) and please, please, please send your club photos to [info@nationalnewcomerscouncil.ca](mailto:info@nationalnewcomerscouncil.ca).

## Celebrating Spring, Celebrating Girlfriends!

**Spring is finally here! Buds are popping from formerly-barren trees. Crocus and daffodils are sending up their green ‘fingers’ to signal the arrive of spring and test the warmth of Spring sunshine.**

**You may have some friendships that have gone dormant. Perhaps the winter was your ‘inside time’ and you hibernated with your family, the Olympics, Biggest Loser or the Bachelor, or just some great books. (Like those we read for Book Club!)**

**Well, Newcomer Friends, I’m here to tell you that Spring has spring – especially when it comes to friendships. Don’t miss a season to celebrate with your friends. Find reasons to get together, get outside (together!) and to enjoy this season of rebirth and rejuvenation with your girlfriends. Because life really is better together with your girlfriends!**

## Calgary Newcomers’ 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and NNCC 34<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting in 2011

The first Newcomers’ Club in Canada was established in 1961 in Calgary by Kay Dant. To celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary the National Newcomers Council of Canada AGM is being held in **Calgary September 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> 2011.**

The Newcomers’ and NuGrads’ Clubs of Calgary are co-hosting the National Newcomers’ AGM to celebrate our “big 5-0” birthday. Yes it sounds far away but planning has begun! We are asking for Newcomers’ Clubs from across Canada to help celebrate by putting together their own time capsule or scrapbook that reflects their organization. We plan to showcase the history and memories of each club at this most fantastic event.

If you are interested in participating in the 50th AGM time capsule event, please contact Suzanne Brett Welsh, Chair of the 2011 Jubilee Organizing Committee through [sbwelsh@ucalgary.ca](mailto:sbwelsh@ucalgary.ca) or phone 403-836-5631.

We are asking for Newcomers’ Clubs from across Canada to help celebrate by putting together their own time capsule or scrapbook that reflects their organization.

## **Why its great to be a Woman!**

- 1. We got off the Titanic first.**
- 2. We can scare male bosses with the mysterious gynecological disorder excuses.**
- 3. Cabs stop for us.**
- 4. We don't look like a frog in a blender when dancing.**
- 5. No fashion faux pas we make, could ever rival the Speedo.**
- 6. We don't have to pass gas to amuse ourselves.**
- 7. If we forget to shave, no one has to know.**
- 8. We can congratulate our teammate without ever touching her rear end.**
- 9. We never have to reach down every so often to make sure our privates are still there.**
- 10. We have the ability to dress ourselves.**
- 11. We can talk to the opposite sex without having to picture them naked.**
- 12. If we marry someone 20 years younger, we are aware that we will look like an idiot.**
- 13. We will never regret piercing our ears.**
- 14. There are times when chocolate really can solve all your problems.**
- 15. We can make comments about how silly men are in their presence because they aren't listening anyway.**



### **CORNWALL NEWCOMMERS – ALUMNAE CHAPTER**

Alumnae Chapter members get together on the last Wednesday of the month at a knitting for charity group and a Pot Luck lunch in a private home. Every body is welcome, even the non knitters. We have even shown one of the members how to knit and crochet. Other non-knitter help us sew up items that we have made or untangle the yarn which was given to us. Some of the project we have worked on so far are:

- Comfort dolls to be used as packing material for medication sent to Africa.
- Finger puppets, hat and comfort dolls for Sister Elaine, a missionary in Haiti
- Hats, scarves and mitts for the Children's Aid, the Baldwin House women shelter, and the SDG Development Services who help under privilege children of the area.
- Teddy bears for tots for the Children's Aid here in Cornwall
- More comfort dolls for our solders in Afghanistan to hand out to children around them. This was a special request and the dolls had to be a specific size so the children could put them in their pockets.
- Premie hats, baby afghans and outfits to Miriam Wheeler, a missionary to Guyana
- Sleeping mats made out of milk bags to be sent to Africa

We have appeared in local newspaper and now that the word is out that we knit for charity, we get special requests. Most of the yarn for these projects is donated by knitting and non-knitting members. Even family members get in on the action by donating yarn or milk bags. It is such a great feeling when we display all the items that we have made through the year and assemble the Christmas baskets to be delivered. It doesn't take much to make a difference and we have fun while doing it!

## News from Across the Nation

- The **London Newcomers** group has a Weekend Women interest group. This group takes in local and surrounding area trips on the weekends. Several other groups have named this Day trippers. This is a great opportunity for newcomers to get to know the city they are new to, and anything of interest 1-2 hours drive away. Another idea taken from this Day Trippers, is to host a mystery trip. Members sign on for a fun day trip, without knowing the destination! Now that's adventurous.
- **From the Newcomers of White Rock/South Surrey**-Taking advantage of the great resources within your group, this Newcomers club is hosting a special evening; **Newcomers Business Development Evening**

"For the April meeting we will be holding a Newcomers Business Development evening. This is an opportunity for members to promote their business or service. etc. Anything that you may be involved with that you think would be of interest or benefit to your fellow members."
- Many clubs gearing up for outdoor activities including walk groups, golf, gardening themed workshops. From the **Winnipeg Newcomers** group, sharing of mature plants with each other and also helping a new member start a garden in their new home. What a fantastic way for a new member to get to know others in the group, and helping to establish a garden at the same time!
- From the **Oakville Newcomers** club; this club has a group called **Bridging the Gap**. This is a club open to final year Newcomers', and first and second year Alumni, with the aim of bridging the gap between leaving Newcomers' and establishing new friends in Alumni.
- **Sarnia Newcomers** is in the process of having business cards printed for all the executive members. These business cards have generic emails (e.g. vicepresident@sarnianewcomers.ca) for all the executive positions, printed on the reverse side and a spot for you to put your name and phone number in. These business cards can be passed out to anyone you encounter on a daily basis who is new to your city. At the end of each executive term, they are passed on to the new executive members.
- **Ottawa Newcomers** are hosting a mixed event. Everyone is encouraged to bring a bottle of wine that reminds you of a moment in your moves or travels that you will never forget and would like to share. Serious, funny or interesting stories all apply! Appetizers could follow your story; eg. Germany story—appetizer could be bite size bratwurst with a mustard dip. Let your imaginations go!

***Give yourself a face lift-----SMILE!!***



### **Summer is on the Way!!**

Many Newcomer groups take a break in the summer months and reconvene in September.

This year consider planning summer activities such as a Canada Day BBQ, golf tournament, pool party etc. Many members still want to do things during the summer months.

What have you done to keep in touch with inquiries from people moving into your city during the summer months? With a new executive coming into place in September, this leaves a gap for new people to contact executive members. This could be a very lonely time for new people as they have to wait until September to meet others. Plan how you are going to let people know who to get in touch with!



Our President Judy Francis volunteering with the Paralympics!

## **RECIPE CORNER**

### **MEDITERRANEAN PIE**

**Donna McGee - West Vancouver Newcomers Club**

- 2 tbsp butter
- 2 sweet red peppers, diced
- 2 small onions, chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 3 pkg. fresh spinach (ea. 9 oz / 255g) chopped in food processor
- 2 pkg. (ea. 14 oz / 397g) frozen puff pastry, thawed
- 12 oz Black Forest Ham, sliced
- 1 lb mozzarella cheese, shredded
- 8 eggs, beaten

**Glaze:**

- 1 egg, beaten

In skillet, melt butter over medium-high heat; Cook red peppers, onions and garlic for about 12 minutes or until all liquid is evaporated. Remove from heat, stir in spinach.

Roll each piece of pastry to 1/8 inch (3mm) thickness; with 1 piece, line 10 inch spring form pan, leaving excess draped over rim.

Spread half of the ham slices in the bottom of the pan, sprinkle on half of the cheese, top with half of the spinach mixture and pour on half of the eggs; repeat layers.

Cover with remaining pastry; trim off excess and pinch pastry layers together around rim. Cut steam vents in top.

Glaze: Brush top with egg. Place pan on rimmed baking sheet; bake in centre of 400 F oven for 15 minutes. Reduce heat to 350 F and bake for 60 minutes or until golden and knife inserted in centre is hot when pulled out. Let cool for 15 minutes. Remove pan side, cut in 10 wedges and serve.

**Makes: 10 servings**

**Tip: When crust reaches desired doneness, you can cover loosely with foil to prevent overbrowning.**

**NATIONAL NEWCOMERS' COUNCIL OF CANADA  
APPLICATION FOR COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP  
NEW OR RENEWAL**

2010 - 2011

Club Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Please check one**
**New** (welcome new friends)       **\*Associate membership** 
**Renewal** (welcome back old friends)       **Updating** of records only 
**PRESIDENT (Contact 1)**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Area Code-Phone No \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**MEMBERSHIP (Contact 2)**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Area Code-Phone No \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**NEWSLETTER (Publications Contact)**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Area Code-Phone No \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Club Website****Club E-Mail Address**

Year Founded \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Members \_\_\_\_\_

**ANNUAL DUES**

Up to 25 members.....\$20.00	126 to 200 members .....\$60.00	<b>Dues Enclosed</b>
26 to 50 members.....\$40.00	201+ members .....\$70.00	\$ _____
51 to 125 members ...\$50.00	Associate members*.....\$ 5.00	<b>Please remit by May 31, 2010</b>

*\*An Associate membership is open to any person whose term with a Newcomer Club has expired and there is no Alumnae group, or to a person who was affiliated with a Newcomers Club and moves to a place where there is no Newcomers Club available.*

**NEW – OPTIONAL INSURANCE OFFERED through the NNCC, underwritten by The Co-Operators.**

Up to 25 members.....\$20.00	126 to 200 members .....\$60.00	<b>Dues Enclosed</b>
26 to 50 members.....\$40.00	201+ members .....\$70.00	\$ _____

NEW – General Liability Insurance Option: \$32 + \$0.25 \* number of members = \_\_\_\_\_

NEW – Blanket Accident Insurance Option: \$0.25 \* number of members = \_\_\_\_\_

NEW – Directors & Officers Insurance Option – please contact Co-Operators Insurance Co directly.

Insurance premium enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**The remittance of the above insurance premium indicates agreement with the policy as written by the Cooperators Insurance Company, with coverage for General Liability and/or Blanket Accident. Policy term is July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Cheques are payable to **National Newcomers Council of Canada**. Mail to National Newcomers Council of Canada: Suzanne Brett Welsh, Registrar/Treasurer, 35 Valley Creek Cres NW, Calgary, AB, T3B 5V2. Phone: 403-836-5631. Email: registrar-treasurer@nationalnewcomerscouncil.ca.  
Please see page 2 for website permission and additional information requests.

**NNCC Application for Membership – page 2 of 2****Insert Club Name:** \_\_\_\_\_*Web-Site Permission*

I grant permission for publication on the National Newcomers' Council of Canada Website, [www.newcomersclubcanada.com](http://www.newcomersclubcanada.com), all the information (except email addresses) contained in this form.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*Note: We will forward the information entered above to our web site coordinator on your behalf.***Please provide contact information for any other Newcomers'/Alumni Club in your area**

Club \_\_\_\_\_ Contact \_\_\_\_\_

If you know of anyone in your Club who would be willing to serve on the National Council, please provide name and contact information below.

\_\_\_\_\_

## **NNCC Constitution and Bylaws Proposed Amendments**

**With every new council, the opportunity comes to make changes and improvements to the existing bylaws. This council sought to do just that and went through the bylaws with a fine tooth comb. Many of these changes are simply grammatical or clarifications, and will not be listed in detail here. What we would like to do is highlight the changes that go beyond grammar or clarity. Due to the scope and language used in bylaws, all we can do here is provide summaries of these larger proposed changes. All proposed changes can be found on the website ([www.nationalnewcomerscouncil.ca](http://www.nationalnewcomerscouncil.ca)).**

- The first change was to the Purpose (**Article II**). The Purpose, while adequate, lacked a fresh perspective. For this reason, we are asking to replace the “**Purpose**” with a “Mission and Vision” statement, more in keeping with what other groups do. The **Vision and Mission** statements provide broader and more inspirational guidelines, which better represent the manner in which the NNCC currently operates and assists Member Clubs.
- Article V details the duties of the Council’s officers. Minor clarifications or shuffling of duties have been made in this article, as a means to better reflect the current reality of how the Council officers assist the Council and Member Clubs.
- **Article VI** contains a major revision to the **Term of Office**. The current bylaws are written in a way which could be interpreted to allow Council members to stay on indefinitely in one position. The majority of the Council officers have voted to change this to a fixed term of 2 years in any one position, with re-election required after the first year. This is a significant change, which we hope will encourage healthy Council turnover, further encouraging participation by more clubs in more regions across Canada. It is also more reflective of our Member Clubs, most of which have an executive position term limit in place. If a Council Officer wishes to serve on Council beyond a two year term, it is hoped that they will consider other Council positions.
- **Article VIII** also contains a major revision to the **Nominations and Elections** process. All future nominations will be made from the floor at the Annual General Meeting. The Chair of the AGM will not present names from the podium, other than Registrar-Treasurer and Past-President. We also clarify that standing Council Officers may be challenged in their re-election bid by nominations from the floor, in which case a secret ballot vote will be taken.
- **Article X** contains a clarification regarding the handling of the Annual General Meeting and refers to a new “terms of reference” document which we are creating to help host clubs in their efforts.
- We suggest subtle but important changes to the annual financial review in Article IX, the timing of executive meetings in Article X, and executive expense claims in Article XI. All of these proposed amendments are available for full review at the website ([www.nationalnewcomerscouncil.ca](http://www.nationalnewcomerscouncil.ca)).

**These amendments will be voted on at the October AGM in Sarnia. Attending member clubs will have one vote on the proposed bylaws. Because of the scope of revisions, the bylaw amendment will require the complete retraction of the existing bylaw document, and the full implementation of the new bylaw document. Please contact Judy Francis, Council President, for more information or clarification of any of the proposed amendments ([president@nationalnewcomerscouncil.ca](mailto:president@nationalnewcomerscouncil.ca)).**



**REGISTRATION FORM**  
**NATIONAL NEWCOMERS' COUNCIL OF CANADA**  
**33<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16<sup>th</sup>, 2010**  
**SARNIA, ONTARIO**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (c): \_\_\_\_\_ (t) \_\_\_\_\_

Name of your Club \_\_\_\_\_

Executive Position (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

**REGISTRATION FEE** - \$45.00 non-refundable (includes Continental Breakfast & Lunch on Saturday). A late fee of \$5.00 will be charged for registration after September 16<sup>th</sup>. Please register early, as tickets are limited. An 'early-bird' prize of a free registration will be drawn at the meeting from all the people who have registered before September 1<sup>st</sup>.

**FRIDAY EVENING GATHERING**, October 15<sup>th</sup> starting at 7:00 p.m. (Meet & Greet)

Hosted by the Sarnia Newcomers AGM Planning Committee to welcome NNCC Executive, out of town delegates and billeting hosts to be held at the **Lawrence House Centre for the Arts**, 127 Christina Street South, Sarnia, Ontario.

Will attend? Yes  No

**SATURDAY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**, October 16<sup>th</sup> 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Best Western Guildwood Inn, 1400 Venetian Boulevard, Sarnia ON, N7T 7W6; Tel 519-337-7577; Fax 519-332-3925

**Luncheon Menu** is a comprehensive buffet, and has been chosen to accommodate any vegetarian requirements.

Any specific dietary concerns? \_\_\_\_\_

**BILLETING**

Do you wish to be billeted? Yes  No

Do you wish to share a room? Yes  No  If yes, with whom \_\_\_\_\_

Arrival date and time: \_\_\_\_\_ Smoker: Yes  No

Allergies: (specify – pet, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

**ARE YOU CARPOOLING?** Yes  No

If so, names of carpooling members: \_\_\_\_\_

Carpool contact person: \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**EMERGENCY CONTACT PERSON:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**HOTEL:** Rooms have been "set aside" in the name of **National Newcomers Council of Canada** at the **Best Western Guildwood Inn** 1400 Venetian Boulevard, Sarnia ON, N7T 7W6 Toll Free: 1-877-871-0423 Tel: 519-337-7577 Fax 519-332-3925. Each room has 2 Queen size beds and cost is **\$99.00** per night. We have a limited number of rooms set aside for Friday October 15 and Saturday October 16; reservations must be made by September 7, 2010.

If you have any questions, please email Suzanne Brett Welsh, Registrar-Treasurer at [registrar-treasurer@nationalnewcomerscouncil.ca](mailto:registrar-treasurer@nationalnewcomerscouncil.ca) or call at 403-836-5631.

Please complete form before September 16<sup>th</sup>, enclose your cheque in the amount of \$45.00 (\$50.00 if after September 16<sup>th</sup>) made payable to National Newcomers' Council of Canada, and mail to:

*Suzanne Brett Welsh*  
 35 Valley Creek Cres NW  
 Calgary, AB T3B 5V2