



THE LINK

National Newcomers' Council of Canada Newsletter

NNCC EXECUTIVE 2006-2007
newcomerscanada@hotmail.com

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Verna Dennis

December 2006
National Newcomer's Council of Canada
2006 Annual General Meeting
Ottawa Ontario
October 13-14, 2006

On behalf of my outgoing board, sincere thanks go to Ruth Campbell and her wonderful crew, Pam LeMoine, Pam Byrtus and Sharon Grant for their heroic efforts in hosting such a splendid and well attended event.

The Friday evening get together was at Ottawa City Hall, no less, and was a lovely, informal way for National to get to know our hosts. The food was lovely and the entertainment absolutely unique!

Saturday's meeting at the hallowed Press Club went off beautifully. The organization was flawless and Paulette Bourré as Master of Ceremonies moved us along briskly and with great humour.

The Executive took the opportunity to extend their friendship to the gathering and to report on their achievements and responsibilities this past year. My sincere thanks go to my wonderful support team, the 2006 National Newcomer's Council of Canada.

Mary Jane Maffini provided insight into the life of an Ottawa area mystery writer, having us all contribute to a hero and plot, perhaps for a future book?!

A band of traveling musicians provided some delightful beauty for our listening pleasure and a memorable anniversary wish for Beryl Keilty.

We finished the full day on a high note, introducing the new board members from Ottawa, Burlington and Kingston as well as those continuing their representation from this year.

An invitation was issued to all to join National at next year's event in London, Ontario on October 12th and 13th.

Yours in friendship,

Susan Owen,
Past President

National Newcomer's Council of Canada.

RESULTS OF ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION AT NATIONAL CONFERENCE

1. One of the objectives of your club is to make sure members feel welcomed. What tactics does your club use to ensure that your members mingle?

- Arrange buddy system to provide a ride to Newcomers for their first outing.
- Have 2 Hospitality Greeters.
- Jot in 2 evening dinner meetings for the year (different people might attend).
- Depending on membership numbers, September's meeting could be a pot-luck at a community center.
- Depending on attendance for the 1st September meeting, assigned seating is the rule.
- Take a number, a symbol, a playing card, etc. to sit at tables.
- Each member on the executive sits at different tables and is vocally identified.
- Newcomers' name tags have a red dot for their 1st year. This is announced to everyone at all monthly meetings. One club also has coloured dots to identify area of city members are in.
- Newcomers are introduced (name and where they are from) and briefly stand. Executive makes the rounds to chat with them during free time.
- Allot time extra $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour before scheduled activity. Purses can be placed on chairs for reserved seating but an open space is provided for standing and mingling.
- Presence of men valid for a few events

- Special coffee hours for new members to explain Newcomers' events.

2. Which activity in your club attracts members and why?

- Fun Lunches = variety of different foods and at times recipes are shared
- Walking Club = outdoor activity
- Out and About = learn about the city
- Stitch and Chat = social time
- Lunch and Dinner Meetings = business , good speakers
- Antiquing = admire and learn about old objects
- Welcome Coffee = people are friendly
- Scrap Booking = no previous experience needed, learn new methods
- Book Club = variety of authors, interesting discussions
- Gallery Tour = new exhibitions
- Bridge or Euchre = social, activates the mind
- Monthly Saturday breakfasts or Monthly lunches = social, try out different venues
- Pot Luck evening = social, themed dinners
- Theatre evening = social, awareness of new productions
- Sports' Gatherings = bowling, golf, badminton, games night; in order to socialize either as couples or as singles
- Games Nights = fun playing variety of games, both couples and singles welcome.
- Monthly Pub Night = time for couples and singles to intermingle before having supper.
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3. Your club promotes itself through numerous venues; discuss these venues.

- Word of mouth
- Business cards
- Prepared pamphlets
- Paper sections of: Penny Savers , Local paper, "What's On . . ." , Magazine promoting the city
- Businesses: City Hall , Welcome Wagon, Real Estate Companies, Grocery Bulletin Boards, Tourist Bureau, Fitness Centers, Condominium Bulletin Boards, etc.
- Local Malls, Libraries, Radio Station, Television Station, Train and Bus Stations
- Web Sites: your city one
- Other suggestions: Wearing badges or t-shirts promoting your club

4. As a non-profit organization we do require certain funds to operate activities. What would you recommend to raise money ?

- 50 - 50 draws
- 25 - 75 draws
- Special activities such as selling tickets for door prizes
- Silent auction
- Donations
- Wear your name tag or you will be fined 25\$

5 a) What is it about the club that has you coming back year after year?

- Friendship
- The people
- Support network
- Various activities; book clubs, dining out, walking group etc...
- Structure to one's life
- Enjoy different venues

- Get to know the city
- Interesting speakers
- Entertainment groups
- Meeting new people
- Meeting other nationalities
- Learning new things
- First contact in a new city
- Enjoying afternoon or evening outings
- New outings: Lobster evening, Wine and Cheese evening etc. . . .
- Comfortable environment

5 b) What do you do to promote your club?

- Tell others about the good things
- Give Website address
- Let neighbours know about us
- Let guest speakers know about us
- Leave Club brochure at different venues
- Use local free advertising
- Hand out Business cards
- Approach city councilors to advise them of the club and inquire if city can do something to promote us
- If someone moving elsewhere, offer them information about contacting club in that area

6. Discuss the pros and cons in starting a REGOGNITION PROGRAM for years of Membership in your city club.

Pros

- Record keeping possible within own club.
- Honor the person for length of membership.
- Award a pin, a certificate or flower at last meeting in June.
- Honor someone who has done something special
- Founding members get an honorary membership

Cons

- Record keeping not possible for National Council. They do not have membership lists.
- Someone may be overlooked.
- Fund raising might be necessary to cover cost.
- This approved form follows you to your new club. How will it move to new club?
- Not all clubs will have a Recognition Program.
- Guidelines would have to be established for the club.
- 10 years would be the grid to base one's recognition.
- This would be membership of Newcomers plus Alumnae. same grid.
- Information appears on name tags (year began, City as a Newcomer member)
- When do you start this?
- Retroactive for existing
- or only new members?
- Within the same club, long time members (30 years)
- How do you validate?
- Do not pay dues and receive honorary membership?
- Colored name tags = 10 years _ bronze
- = 15 years _ silver
- = 20 years _ gold
- = 25 years _ honorary membership
- Who will administer all this?

7. Attracting and keeping younger members is vital to a club. What are you doing to address this?

- Consider the 30 -40 age group as our younger members.

- Use appropriate language. " The Young and The Restless Group" (catchy title to attract younger women reading the newsletter.)
- Activities should be inexpensive.
- Balance day and evening activities.
- Include partners at certain events.
- Small group situations are more welcoming.
- Activity co-ordination rotates among membership.
- Try to get a younger member on the executive.
- The community newspaper, word of mouth and e-mails are sources of information to attract them.
- Activities of interest that appeal to younger people.
- Provide day care.

Suggestions:

- Moms and Tots, Walking group, Movie Night, Bowling, Barbecues, Pot Lucks, Pub Night or Pizza Night.

8. Information table about National Newcomers' Council of Canada

Information about National Council of Canada website was provided.

Constitution

Roles of Executive

Note: At the December Council Meeting

Jeanne Stoness and Sarah Larz volunteered to create a pamphlet that could be used to inform clubs and members about The National Newcomers' Council of Canada. Do you have a information brochure for your club? Forward it to Sarah Larz or Jeanne Stoness with questions and information you think should be included.

CALGARY NEWCOMERS' CLUB



WELCOMING NEWCOMERS' TO CALGARY SINCE 1961

Calgary Newcomers' Club, PO Box 235,
Station M, Calgary, Alberta T2P 2H6

October 13, 2006

National Newcomers' Council of Canada

Dear NNCC Executive Members

The Calgary Newcomers Club is proud of its heritage as the first Newcomers' Club established in Canada. To honor Mrs. Kay Dant and the many other women who have kept our club vibrant, a committee has been established to make plans to celebrate our 50th Anniversary in 2011.

As part of our celebration, we are requesting your assistance in bringing the National Newcomers Council of Canada's annual conference to Calgary in 2011. Please provide us with the pertinent information needed to make a formal request of this nature.

Sharon Burrill has kindly offered to present this to you on our behalf, and we greatly appreciate your assistance.

In friendship,

*Elaine Carnegie
President, 2006-07
Calgary Newcomers' Club*

*Dianne Averill
President, 2006-07
Calgary NuGrads*

Note: National roots are showing with our Annual General Meeting moving around the country. Last year it was in Truro, NS, next year in London, ON and 2011 in Calgary. Mark these dates on your calendar.

At the December meeting of the National Newcomers' Council, Sharon Burrill Western Liaison Representative was able to join via speakerphone. Your National Council is committed to building a liaison with all clubs across Canada and welcomes any suggestions that will promote this. Please forward your suggestions to any member of the executive.

How We're Appreciated

Verna received an email from David Whelbourn of our Fredericton Newcomers' Club.

My name is David Whelbourn and I emigrated with my family from the UK to New Brunswick November 2005. We didn't discover the Fredericton Newcomers club until March 2006.

The club has really helped us build that important social network and it is a shame we didn't already know about its existence. In the UK there is a newspaper dedicated to informing its readers on emigrating to Canada. It would help many people if they already knew about the Newcomers clubs and how to find one or establish a new one.

As a result of this email I have contacted David and received an email address of the UK newspaper and am forwarding information about newcomers and a copy of our newsletter Jeanne

NATIONAL NEWCOMER'S COUNCIL OF CANADA: Treasurer's Report

Verna Dennis Registrar/Treasurer

2005-2006

Statement of Revenues and Expenses

November 20, 2006

	Year to date	Last Year
Revenue		
Membership dues	2,100.00	1,980.00
AGM registrations	2,635.00	1,730.00
Pins	126.11	504.00
AGM 50-50 Draw	79.00	00.00
Interest and other	136.86	96.80
	5,076.97	4,310.80
Expenses		
AGM	(2,554.70)	(1,736.31)
Newsletter	(160.00)	(187.55)
President	(80.00)	(325.28)
Past President	(85.41)	(00.00)
Registrar/Treasurer	(160.00)	(224.20)
Liaisons & Alumni Rep.	(147.50)	(1,216.63)
Bank Charges	(51.52)	
Pins (pre paid - 05)		(1,067.78)
	(3,239.13)	(4,757.75)
Excess of revenues over expenses	1,837.84	(446.95)
Bank balance at the start of the year	1,244.35	1,691.30
Add excess of revenues over expenses	1,837.84	(446.95)
Closing bank balance	3,082.19	1,244.35

Notes:

There are still a few expenses outstanding, however the total amount would be less than \$250. We also owe approximately \$400 to our web service provider for this year.

We started this year with only \$1,244.35. Thanks to the extraordinary efforts of all Board Members, in particular Jeanne Stoness our Newsletter Editor, we were able to operate well within our limited funds in a large part by publishing the Link and our Register over the web, again saving enormous costs

for printing and postage. I would recommend that the board put aside any excess of \$1400. as a special fund to subsidize as much as possible expenses for future board members travel to Calgary in 2011.

This was approved at our first Board Meeting in December.

SPEAKER TOPICS FOR MEETINGS

Travel store safety travel tips with traveller's checklist

Door Prizes

Door Prizes are a result of your donation... If your Birthday is this month, please bring a gift to the *General Meeting* to donate for a door prize. Value not to exceed \$10. Or . . . if it is not your birthday and you have something you would just like to contribute . . . bring it along!

Burlington Newcomers' Club

IDEAS FOR ACTIVITIES

CAR RALLY



Date:

Start Time: 1 p.m.

Start Location:

Car rally course is approximately 2 hours.

Departures will be staggered. Couples will be divided into three to four passengers per car. One person is the driver, another the navigator and the rest the collectors of information or items.

Bring Munchies - for afternoon to share. Tea and coffee will be provided. **BYOB.**

RSVP: before if you are attending or not attending

Preparation: Plan a route making note of kilometrage or route directions. Give car rally participants chores they must do along the route. I.e. Drive 1.5 km. East along Montreal Street the Family Restaurant is in the plaza at the corner, record the

Special of the Day and its cost. (This restaurant offers great daily specials - almost like home cooking).

Turn right on Mitchell Lane, drive 4 km. and you will see a cemetery. Go into the cemetery and locate the tombstone for Charles Douglas Edward Thompson, record the dates of his birth and death.

Come out of the cemetery and turn right, continue to the fork in the road, drive .25 km and you will see a red schoolhouse mailbox, record the name on the mailbox.

Etc.

It is possible to leaves messages in mailboxes if you make prior arrangements with the owners. The key in giving directions is make the directions simple and clear. Have someone who has not designed the route test drive the rally to catch any flaws. Make sure participants a cell phone so they can call if they run into difficulties
Kingston Alumnae' Club

INTERESTING ITEMS TAKEN FROM CLUB NEWSLETTERS

Information to Community

Did you know that every Friday (revised day) in the Hamilton Spectator Newspaper a restaurant critic reviews local restaurants...

Burlington Newcomers' Club

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The Burlington Farmer's Market is open on the South Side of Burlington Mall (Guelph Line and Fairview)... every Wed and Fri. early am to 3pm and Saturday to noon!

Burlington Newcomers' Club

Looking for economic good eats? Some places worthy of trying . . .

Saigon On Brant

474 Brant Street,
Burlington Newcomers' Club

How various clubs helped their communities during Christmas

Community Food Sharing/Christmas family:
We have a good start on providing gifts and groceries for our family of 4, mother and 3 boys aged 7, 9 and 11. For those who would like to contribute and have not seen the list at meetings, please call. As well, we are looking for money to provide groceries.

St Johns Newcomers'

Naomi Center: We are in the process of organizing 50 gift bags for the Christmas party at Naomi Center. These bags will be delivered Dec. 8.

St Johns Newcomers'

Come, meet & mingle and decorate our Christmas tree with **mittens** for the needy. Knitted, hand-sewn, crocheted or purchased - adult or child sized we want to see them all on our tree on **Wednesday, December 6th at 12 noon**. We challenge all members to donate as many pairs as possible. Then, to add to fun, there'll be a guessing game. We will sell chances to guess how many **mittens** are on our tree. The **mittens** and the money will go to the Kinsmen's Club of Brockville as part of their Snowsuit Drive. There's a prize for the best guess! So, please come to the luncheon and brings lots of **mittens** for our tree, buy a guess or 2, and spread Christmas cheer with the joy of giving.

Brockville Newcomers' Club

Just to Make You Smile

Answers given by 2nd grade school children

Why did God make mothers?

- 1. She's the only one who knows where the scotch tape is.*
- 2. Mostly to clean the house.*
- 3. to help us out of there when we were getting born.*

If you could change one thing about your Mom, what would it be?

- 1. She has this weird thing about me keeping my room clean, I'd get rid of that.**
- 2. I'd make my Mum smarter. Then she would know it was my sister who did it and not me.**
- 3. I would like for her to get rid of those invisible eyes on the back of her head.**

REGIONAL NEWS

London Newcomers' Alumnae are planning a live auction to help with the costs involved in hosting the National Newcomer's Conference here in October. If you are cleaning things out during the next few months, please keep this in mind. We are looking for donations big and small that would have at least a \$5.00 - \$10.00

Editor's Note:

I do sincerely apologize for the delay in delivering your December newsletter. My husband has been in hospital 4 times since Thanksgiving. I am getting to know our local ambulance drivers on a first name basis and their vehicles know the way to our home as they have been here 7 times.

I need an assistant. Is there any one out there who would help?

In order to make The Link a newsletter that truly links our clubs across Canada, I need help collecting information. Please send me a copy of your newsletter. If I see interesting articles, I include them in our newsletter. **Please send me an email j_stoness@yahoo.ca** There's an underscore between j and stoness **with your name & email address**

auction value or more. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to give us a call.

Whitby/Oshawa Newcomers'

A special page teaching members how to reduce email problems has been attached as a separate document to the newsletter. Other clubs might like to share this with their members. Thanks to Shirley Keillor

WEB SITES

St Johns, NL

<http://newcomers-stjohns.blogspot.com>.

Sarnia, ON

<http://www.sarnia.com/newcomers>

Kingston, ON

<http://groups.msn.com/KingstonNewcomersClub>

Calgary, AB

<http://calgarynewcomers.com>

Lethbridge, AB

<http://www.lethbridgenewcomers.com>

National Newcomers' Council

<http://www.newcomersclubcanada.com/>

World

<http://www.newcomersclub.com/>

TRIED & TRUE RECIPES

DOUBLE LEMON GINGER BREAD

- 2 lemons
 - 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups all purpose flour
 - 1 tsp. baking powder
 - $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. salt
 - $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. ground nutmeg
 - 1/2 cup unsalted butter, at room temperature
 - 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ cups granulated sugar
 - 2 eggs
 - $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. vanilla
 - 2/3 cup milk
 - $\frac{1}{4}$ cup finely chopped crystallized ginger
1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
 2. Lightly oil or coat with cooking spray a 9x5 inch loaf pan.
 3. Finely grate 2 tbsp lemon peel and squeeze out 5 tbsp juice from lemons.
 4. Stir flour with electric mixer set on medium speed, beat butter until creamy.
 5. Gradually beat in 1 cup sugar until mixture is pale in colour, from 1 to 2 minutes. Beat in 2 tbsp lemon juice. Don't worry if batter looks slightly curdled - it won't affect baking.
 6. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition and scraping down sides of bowl as needed. Beat in vanilla. Reduce speed to low. Gradually beat in 1/3 of flour mixture, then $\frac{1}{2}$ of milk. Repeat additions, ending with remaining flour and beating until just blended.
 7. Using wooden spoon, stir in ginger until evenly distributed. Scrape batter into loaf pan, then smooth top.

8. Bake in centre of preheated 350 degree oven until a cake tester or thin knife inserted into centre of loaf comes out clean, from 1 to 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ hours. Check after 50 minutes of baking. If edges are a deep golden brown, loosely cover with a piece of foil for remaining baking time.
9. Meanwhile, in a small bowl, whisk remaining 3 tbsp lemon juice with remaining $\frac{1}{4}$ cup sugar until dissolved. Remove loaf from oven. Meanwhile, in a small bowl, whisk remaining 3 tbsp lemon juice with remaining $\frac{1}{4}$ cup sugar until dissolved.
10. Remove loaf from oven. Spoon half of glaze over top hot loaf. Use back of spoon to evenly spread glaze. Let sit for 10 minutes; then spoon remaining glaze over top. Leave loaf in pan until cool.

Louise Nielsen Calgary Nugrads

CAMBAZOLA CHEESE AND PEAR PIZZA

- 1 flat bread or pizza crust
 - 14 oz canned pears
 - 1/4 cup toasted pine nuts
 - 3 oz. cambazola cheese crumbled
 - olive oil
 - freshly ground black pepper
1. Drizzle olive oil over pizza crust.
 2. Arrange pear slices in pinwheel fashion over crust.
 3. Sprinkle pine nuts over pears.
 4. Top with crumbled cheese and grate fresh pepper over all.
 5. Heat in hot oven 400 degrees until cheese melts.

Gail Pieper, Kingston Newcomers'

