

The Link ~ AGM Issue

Connecting Canada's Newcomers from Coast to Coast

2010 AGM - News from Sarnia, Ontario

The 33rd National Newcomers' Council of Canada Annual General Meeting is being held on October 16th, 2010 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.



President

Judy Francis
Courtenay, BC
president@nationalnewcomers
council.ca

Past President

Susan Lotherington
Whitby, ON

Registrar / Treasurer & Incumbent for President

Suzanne Brett Welsh
Calgary, AB

Secretary

Adele Du Plessis
Sarnia, ON

Newsletter Editor

Lisa Mina
Sarnia, ON
newsletter@nationalnewcomers
council.ca

Web-Site Editor

Verna Dennis
Mississauga, ON
friends@nationalnewcomers
council.ca

Eastern Liaison

Beryl Keilty
Truro, NS

Central Liaison

Reina Vipond
Ottawa, ON

Western Liaison

Irene Nevill
Vancouver, BC

Alumnae Representative

Lise Marvell
Williamstown, ON

Member at Large

Cecilia Gilbert
Kitchner-Waterloo Region, ON

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.

Adele Du Plessis - President Sarnia Newcomers Club



Host of 2010 Annual General Meeting

We would like to send an invitation to all clubs across Canada to join us October 16, 2010 in Sarnia Ontario for the Annual General Meeting of National Newcomers Council of Canada.

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. In addition to new workshops, the traditional Presidents' Meeting and Newsletter Editors'

meeting will also be held in the morning. This year we will be holding duplicate workshop sessions so that our participants are able to attend more than one session during the day. A tentative agenda can be found on page 3 of this issue of The Link.

The very modest registration fee of \$45.00 covers the reception, breakfast and lunch as well as the entertainment and guest speaker and door prizes! A registration form can be found on page 7. Register before September 1st for an early bird draw for a free registration to the 2011 AGM in Calgary!! Please share this with all of your members as all are welcome!

We look forward to seeing you in Sarnia!

Eventbrite® and NNCC

This year, National Newcomers' Council of Canada has started to use Eventbrite, an event management online tool, to assist in a few of our database management tasks.

After renewals and insurance forms were received by Suzanne (registrar-treasurer), presidents were sent "receipts" in the form of "tickets" from Eventbrite. We are using Eventbrite to help input and organize club information for our use and for The Co-Operators.

Likewise, we will be using Eventbrite to "register" attendees of our upcoming AGM in Sarnia. AGM attendees will receive a "receipt" from Eventbrite on National Newcomers Council behalf detailing registration requests.

This is a first for National, and we hope our clubs and AGM delegates find the receipts useful. Any questions should be directed to Suzanne at registrar-treasurer@nationalnewcomerscouncil.ca.

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).

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

NATIONAL NEWCOMERS COUNCIL OF CANADA

October 16, 2010

Best Western Guildwood Inn

Sarnia, Ontario

- 8:00 Registration & Hospitality (Suzanne Brett Welsh, Cecilia Gilbert)
- 8:30 Presidents' Meeting ~ Hosted by Susan Lotherington, NNCC Past President
Newsletter Editors' Meeting ~ Hosted by Lisa Mina, NNCC Newsletter Editor
Ideas For Club Meetings ~ Judy Francis and Adele Du Plessis
- 9:30 Opening Welcome ~ Judy Francis, Adele Du Plessis, and City Representative
- 9:45 Ice Breaker ~ Verna Dennis
- 10:00 Business Meeting & Elections ~ Judy Francis
- 11:00 Coffee Break
- 11:15 Break-Out Sessions – Presented concurrently
Alumni Club – Why, How-to ~ Information Session ~ Lise Marvel, Beryl Keilty
How To Keep Your Club Happy, Healthy & Alive ~ Adele Du Plessis
- 12:00 Lunch & Networking
- 1:30 Break-Out Sessions—Presented concurrently
Alumni Club – Why, Wherefore, How-to ~ Information Session ~ Lise Marvel, Beryl Keilty
How To Keep Your Club Happy, Healthy & Alive - Conflict Resolution/Promotion & Fundraising ~
Adele Du Plessis
- 2:15 Coffee Break
- 2:30 Guest Speaker/Entertainment
- 3:30 Introduction of NNCC Executive for 2010-2011
Announcement of Host City for 2011
2011 AGM Early Registration Draw & 50/50 Draw
Table Decoration Draw
- 4:00 Adjournment

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).

- 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).

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).

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

2010 - 2011

Club Name _____		
Please check one		
New (welcome new friends) <input type="checkbox"/>	*Associate membership <input type="checkbox"/>	
Renewal (welcome back old friends) <input type="checkbox"/>	Updating of records only <input type="checkbox"/>	
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	Dues Enclosed
26 to 50 members.....\$40.00	201+ members\$70.00	\$ _____
51 to 125 members ...\$50.00	Associate members*\$ 5.00	Please remit by May 31, 2010
<small>*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.</small>		
NEW – OPTIONAL INSURANCE OFFERED through the NNCC, underwritten by The Co-Operators.		
NEW – General Liability Insurance Option: \$32 + \$0.25 * number of members = _____		
NEW – Blanket Accident Insurance Option: \$0.25 * number of members = _____		
<i>NEW – Directors & Officers Insurance Option – please contact Co-Operators Insurance Co directly.</i>		
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, 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.



REGISTRATION FORM
NATIONAL NEWCOMERS' COUNCIL OF CANADA
33rd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16th, 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 16th. 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 1st.

FRIDAY EVENING GATHERING, October 15th 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 16th 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 or call at 403-836-5631.

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

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