



# SRA

SASKATCHEWAN RETIREES ASSOCIATION

# THE

SUMMER 2018

# ADVISOR

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The Annual General Meeting of the Saskatchewan Retirees Association was held in Regina on May 24, 2018. About fifty members participated in the meeting where reports from the Committees were provided, the auditor's statement was approved and several important announcements were made.

The SRA reported another successful year with a financial surplus and continued membership growth with over 2,800 individuals now receiving extended health benefits through the SRA Health and Dental Plans.

The announcements included:

- Recognizing the first group of honorary lifetime members
- Introduction of a three year action plan with enhanced engagement with members across Saskatchewan
- Introduction of the Member Assistance Program, focused on additional counselling services that support a broader wellness model for members' health and wellbeing
- The addition of the e-transfer option for members' membership payments

The SRA will continue to work to explore new services for members so that we continue to meet your changing needs over time.

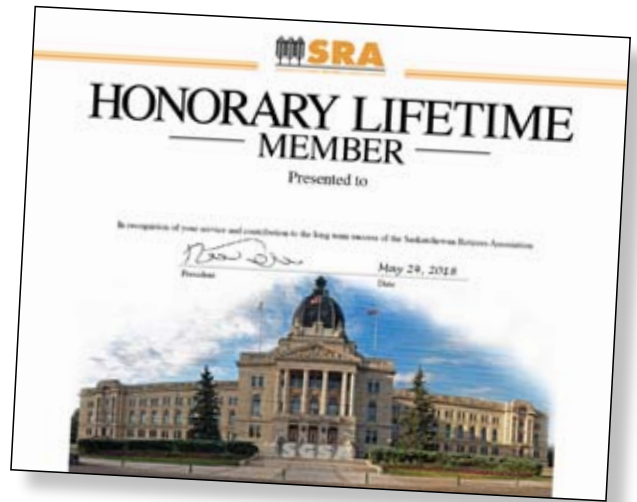
Copies of the 2017 Annual Report are available on a request basis by contacting the SRA at 306-584-5552 or at [info@saskretirees.org](mailto:info@saskretirees.org). A copy has also been posted on the SRA website at [www.saskretirees.org](http://www.saskretirees.org) for your convenience.

Your leadership team continues to look to you for feedback and suggestions to make the Association more relevant to your needs. Please let us know if you have ideas for consideration.



# SRA ANNOUNCES HONORARY LIFETIME MEMBERS

At the May 24, 2018 Annual General Meeting, the membership approved the first group of Honorary Lifetime Members. The members honoured were:



## CHUCK AMES

Charles (Chuck) Ames was instrumental in many of the foundational efforts to start the Saskatchewan Government Superannuates Association and has continued to serve in many capacities over forty years. Chuck was part of a team that toured the province, promoting the SGSA and encouraging retirees to join and participate. He has served on Committees over the years too as his devotion to the cause has continued with energy and enthusiasm. Always looking for better ways, Chuck has shared his views with the SRA on the need to communicate and be more visible so new retirees can consider the SRA, join and participate.

## LINDA TATE

Linda has served as part of the SRA for an extended period as a member, including serving on the Board of Directors in the early 2000's. She is very involved in the labour movement through SGEU and the SK Federation of Labour. Linda is an activist that cares deeply for the rights and concerns of workers in Saskatchewan. Through her service she has participated at many levels in organizations interested in the well being of older adults. Linda has often played a role less visible, but equally effective in ensuring that her views were well known and understood. Linda is a tireless worker whose contribution is worthy of consideration as an honorary member of the SRA.

## BOB WALKER

Robert (Bob) Walker has served the SRA for many years, both as an active member and as part of Committees and the Board of Directors. He was a key leader, working behind the scenes in the development and introduction of the SRA Health Plan, key to the continued success and funding of the Association. Bob has a keen sense of history and is aware that the foundational members are now fewer, so has made efforts to pass on the history and documents to a new generation of leaders. Never afraid to ask a question and complement, Bob's contribution has been significant to the success of the SRA.

## ALF ZIMMERMAN

Alf's involvement with the SRA is marked by a legacy of achievements. His involvement in launching the SRA Health and Dental Plan was important but his landmark achievement was the success in getting partial indexing for public sector pensioners so they would have some protection for their future incomes. As a member of the Board, including Board Chair for over 10 years, Alf has left an indelible mark on the Association. He also was instrumental in recruiting future leaders so the organization would continue to thrive and succeed. His determination is well known, unafraid to ask the hard questions and drive for the results he believed were important, even when it was less politically acceptable to follow a certain style and direction. His long-term contribution set the stage for the SRA that continues to attract members in record numbers.

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# FROM THE PRESIDENT

During 2015-17 the Saskatchewan Retirees Association has focused more internally to ensure our operations and policies were up to date and reflective of our mandate and history. This included updating the bylaws, ensuring our Committee mandates were documented and updating our database to track members. These enhancements were made in preparation for planning to increase our engagement with members and to attract more members to the SRA.



In 2017, we conducted a major member survey to learn more about our members as well as conducted a full planning process that has resulted in a three year plan that will guide our direction during the coming years and begin to utilize the surplus funding that has been collected over recent years.

Membership is growing with a 12% increase in enrolments in the SRA Health and Dental Plans during 2017 and positive trends in membership growth over the last three years, including growing interest from Executive Government retirees.

As we begin to reach out, you can expect to see more communication from the SRA including special speakers and more information like the recently shared Pension Scan, sent to all members. The Advisor newsletter has also been increased to three issues annually and may move to a quarterly publication as we have more information to share with members.

Our Committees have continued to work on a regular basis to monitor the operations of the SRA Health and Dental Plans, post monthly updates on the website, ensure financial sustainability, and monitor marketplace trends in pension policy and preservation.

As we say in our travels, “we are committed to providing leadership to enhance the interests and wellbeing of Saskatchewan public sector retirees!”

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Randy Dove'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Randy Dove, President



**SASKATCHEWAN RETIREES ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2018-19**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

President – Randy Dove  
Vice President, Finance – Linda Clark  
Vice President, Development – Ken Lozinsky  
Vice President, Corporate Secretary – Charlotte Dusyk

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Executive – Randy Dove  
Finance – Linda Clark  
Membership/Communications – Randy Dove  
Group Benefits – Ann Donovan  
Pensions/Issues – Ken Lozinsky  
Nominations – Christine Fuchs

**MEMBERS AT LARGE**

Pat Dean  
Lyle Fluter  
Harold Hugg  
Frank May  
Chris Oleson  
Mae Smith



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# **MEMBER COMMENTS**

Have a question? Suggestion? Need Information?

Let us know:

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