

Chair's Comments with Dan Procop

Greetings. As I prepare to submit these Chairs Comments, it's Sunday morning with temperatures hovering around 14 degrees C. and a forecast of rain. My spring flowers are already bursting through the ground. You gotta like it.

There are 60 days remaining until our Chapter Executive Election in May. Currently, we can confirm strong volunteer interest for the full-term positions of Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Past Chair. Our Elections Committee continues its preparations.

CARP was invited to attend an Ontario Medical Association (OMA) CheckUp Ontario Roundtable recently. Medical experts reported on numerous internal flaws in our healthcare system which we read about and experience almost daily.

In our presentation we advocated for CARP's 2015 Top Ten issues. Of these 10, six involve medical concerns:

1. Healthcare Transformation
2. Universal Pharmacare
3. Homecare
4. Support for Caregivers
5. End of Life
6. National Dementia Care

Along with other Executive Committee volunteers, we were invited to Windermere On The Mount by Revera for a tour and the launching of a new book "*Call Me Ma'am*" by centenarian **Captain Margaret LeBas Howe**, M.A. The book is available for \$8.00 at Oxford Books in London. We appreciate and thank **Julie Anthony**, Lifestyle Consultant with Revera, for the invitation, the tour and book launch. Julie is available at: julie.anthony@reveraliving.com.

CARP members **Alastair** and **Candas Henry** continue to blog about their recent move from London to British Columbia, where they are volunteering for Reconciliation Canada and CUSO International. They are working with "a small cohort of Namgis First Nation people." Their blog is at: merandameranda@yahoo.ca. You can also reach them at: candas.whitlock@gmail.com. A \$1.00 contribution results in \$10.00 for the CUSO program.

With Chapter endorsement, a new free digital, on-line senior's magazine, *The Senior Express*, saw its Premiere March issue sent to readers. It is owned, edited and published by one of our Executive members **Pat Mauro**. Our best wishes for continued success. To get on the free mailing list, contact Pat at: patmor123@gmail.com, or phone: [519.679.3069](tel:519.679.3069).

Many of our members enjoyed the Columbia Sportswear promotion for January and February. Thanks Gord.

Please allow me to remind you that we have two NEW evening Chapter member meetings this year, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Guest Presenters on April 11 are **Dr. Marnin Heisel**, speaking about Men and Retirement; and **Scott St. John**, speaking about the Transportation Alliance.

A one-person, two-part play called "Badger Bites Bear" will be held on May 9 at the Kiwanis Senior Community Centre. Complimentary parking continues at the Kiwanis Center during all of our meeting times. Included are light refreshments and door prizes. You are cordially invited to be a part of the fun, along with an informative program of direct interest to seniors. See you soon.
Dan.