

This is my first news update as the newly elected President of the Seniors' College. What an interesting time it is to be plunging into this new role. So much change is taking place both in our personal worlds and in the Seniors' College.

As we entered this new Covid world how often did you hear "This will change how we do everything?" And in many ways they were right, Covid has changed a lot of things and these changes will likely stay with us. However, there are some things that have not changed, especially as they relate to our need to socialize with each other and enjoy activities in group settings.

The challenge for the Seniors' College will be to embrace the changes that Covid has brought, virtual course delivery for example, while honouring our goal to meet and learn in social settings. Something I know many of you have missed over the past two and a half years.

In this newsletter, I will focus on the fall term and how we are going to begin to meet these challenges. There will be more changes to come, but this will be a start.

#### FALL COURSES

All but one of our fall term courses will be in-person. This is what so many of our members have asked for, so this is what we will deliver.

There will also be one course on Zoom for those of you who prefer to attend this way. The Zoom course will also be recorded and uploaded to YouTube. You can learn more about our fall term and courses [here](#).

#### INFORMATION SESSIONS;

To learn more about our fall term and meet the instructors and organizers, please plan to attend the information session in your chapter.

Dates are as follows:

Truro: September 7, 10:30 am at the Douglas Centre

Liverpool: September 22, 10 am at Trinity Church on Church St.

Mahone Bay/Chester: September 13, 10 am at the Mahone Bay Centre

Halifax: September 12, 10 am at the St. Andrews Community Centre. Please note that, due to seat spacing requirements, attendance at this session is limited to 60:-therefore, we are asking that you register to attend. The session will also be live streamed on Zoom, so if you prefer to attend virtually, you may do that but you must still register. You can register [here](#).

#### PUBLIC LECTURES

Many of you have asked for more public lectures and we have an exciting fall lined up for you.

In Halifax we are planning two public lectures:

October 6, 10 am, Maritime Conservatory of Performing Arts, 6199 Chebucto Rd., Halifax..

Learn about the 135 year history of the Maritime Conservatory of Performing Arts. In person and on Zoom.

November 7, 10 am on Zoom. The Honourable Dr. Mayann Francis will discuss the life of Viola Desmond.

You will find more information about these lectures on our website [here](#).

The Liverpool Chapter of SCANS is hosting a public lecture from the Astor Theatre on Main Street, September 16 at 10:30 am. Dr. Sylvain Charlebois, Professor of Food Distribution and Senior Director, the Agri-food Analytics Lab at Dalhousie University will discuss Canada's food system with Costas Halavrezos.

If you are unable to attend this very topical discussion in person, it will be live streamed on Zoom and recorded and uploaded to our YouTube channel. To view the live stream or the YouTube video you will need to register to receive the link. You can learn more and register for the link [here](#).

### STRATEGIC PLAN

While all this is happening the Board and Curriculum Committee have been working on a strategic plan to guide our activities as we move forward. Many of you will remember that Tony Schellinck conducted an extensive survey to solicit members' opinions on several subjects in 2019. Then Covid arrived on our shores, and we were not able to develop a plan. This spring, Tony conducted focus groups with randomly selected members, both past and present, to see if Covid changed any of the results of the first survey and now, using the results of both surveys as our guide, we are starting again to create a strategic plan for the Seniors' College. I will keep you updated on our activities.

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

I know you see this note with every communication we send out, but please read on. We need help and welcome your input. Most specifically, here are the current opportunities:

**Board Members:** there are three openings to serve on our Board as members at large. You must be a member of the Seniors' College, have knowledge about how we function, and be willing to participate in the activities of the Board. It is a great opportunity to work with an interesting and committed group of people in a relaxed environment. Please contact me, Lois Block or Sue Hawkes in the Seniors' College office if you are interested in serving on the Board or know of someone who is.

**Chapter Committee Members in Chester:** Sheila Knowlton-McRury is the Chapter Coordinator in Chester and she would like some more helpers. Committee members get together with the Coordinator and assist in the planning and presentation of classes in their chapter. This can be anything from booking instructors, planning a public lecture, even baking cookies and making coffee is a help. Please let Sheila or Sue Hawkes in the Seniors' College office know if you are interested.

**Technical Support:** don't let the word technical scare you. Our technical needs are not very difficult, we have excellent teachers who will help you learn to use our equipment, specifically overhead projectors, microphones, loudspeaker systems, computers and software systems. If you can help please contact Sue Hawkes in the Seniors' College office.

**Class Manager Coordinator in HRM:** This is an important but not very onerous position. You recruit the class managers and ensure that they get the materials from the SCANS office

they need. Each class has a class manager who oversees the general operation of the class ensuring that chairs are set up and attendance is recorded, introducing and thanking the instructor, and making any necessary announcements. Once registration is open for each class you get a class list from Sue Hawkes and recruit one of the attendees to be the class manager.

Instructors: We are always looking for volunteers willing to teach interesting, academic level courses. If you are willing, or know someone who is willing to teach for us please contact Sue Hawkes in the Seniors' College office and she will pass it on for follow up.

I am looking forward to meeting many of you at the public lectures, fall information sessions and classes.

Anne Chisholm  
President, The Seniors' College of Nova Scotia (SCANS)