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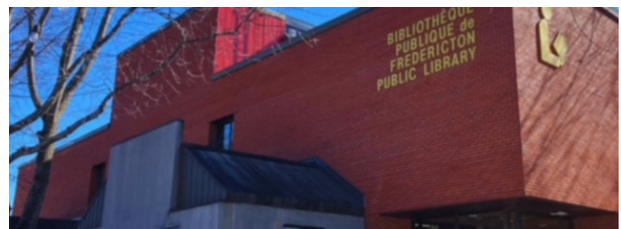
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Presentation Topic:</b> Fredericton / Saint John Public Library Services. Zoom on February 18 @ 9:45 am AST</li> <li>● <b>UNBREA Bursary:</b> Awarded</li> <li>● <b>Benefits:</b> RSV, Paxlovid</li> <li>● <b>Value Pack:</b> Non- credit Course Discounts /Tuition Waiver</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>CURAC report:</b> Scholarship / Webinar</li> <li>● <b>Socials:</b> December 2024 luncheons</li> <li>● <b>UNBREA Promotional Material:</b> Sample</li> <li>● <b>UNBREA Executive:</b> Help needed, Listing</li> </ul> |
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## Presentations on Fredericton and Saint John Library Services

In any modern city, libraries are much more than the place to read and check out books that they were in our youth. Now they are public gathering places, city “living rooms”, egalitarian places where anyone and everyone can meet, and take advantage of the many useful services the library offers. Come and learn about what your local public libraries in Saint John and Fredericton have to offer. Sarah Aaen and Lindsay Warner, Heads of Adult and Young Adult Services from each library will be speaking.



**Lindsay Warner** started with New Brunswick Public Library Service in 2018 at the Moncton Public Library as a reference librarian, then children’s librarian. She became Head of Children’s Services in 2019. She moved to Saint John to work as the Head



**Sarah Aaen** started at New Brunswick Public Library in 2010 at the Stanley Community Library. She continued on to the York Regional Office, and finally landed at Fredericton Public Library in 2019. She is the head of Adult and

of Young Adult and Adult Services in 2022. She enjoys reading non-fiction and bringing the library out into the community.

Young Adult services and loves the hustle and bustle of the library space (especially in the summer!)

**Members and Guests are welcome to attend via Zoom.**

**Date:** Tuesday, Feb 18, 2025

**Time:** Zoom login will open at 9:30 AST with the presentation beginning at 10:00.

**Zoom information** Join from anywhere in the world. The link will be sent again prior to the event.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89950238045?pwd=VY8XmBDbzaWyPdkD3VFa5fo8Rp1Jub.1>

Due to the possibility of inclement weather, the presentation will be online only.

## **UNBREA Bursary Recipient**

We are pleased to announce the recipient of the UNBREA \$1,000 bursary. The 2024-2025 recipient is Jack Porter. Jack is a graduate of Kennebecasis Valley High School and is registered in the Bachelor of Science in Computer Science program on the Saint John campus.

## **Benefits – Did You Know?**

**RSV Vaccine** - “Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) infection is a major cause of lower respiratory tract illness, particularly among infants, young children and older adults. RSV usually causes mild, cold-like signs and symptoms such as: congested or runny nose, dry cough, low-grade fever, sore throat, sneezing, and headache.

In August of 2023, Health Canada approved the use of a vaccine for RSV. A [CBC article](#) indicated the cost of the vaccine was \$270 per person and that it was not funded for the public by the Government of New Brunswick, (with some exceptions) nor the [NB Prescription Drug Program](#).

However, the UNB [Medavie Blue Cross](#) Extended Health plan **DOES** reimburses 100% the cost of vaccination. They require that each individual plan member confirm their eligibility; you can do so by telephone, email, or via the [Medavie website](#). If you telephone or email, you will be asked for your Policy number and ID. The UNB Extended Health policy numbers for retirees all begin with 0003700 and end with 007, 008, or 009. Your Policy number as well as your ID are found on your Medavie Blue Cross Extended Health ID card.

The vaccine can be dispensed at any registered pharmacy and a prescription is not necessary. Reimbursement requires a detailed “paid-in-full” receipt. Other claim information is outlined in your Extended Health booklet which is found at the [“Benefits for Retired UNB Employees”](#) web page under the heading “Medavie Blue Cross.”

**Paxlovid** - “Paxlovid is an antiviral treatment for COVID-19 used to lower the risk of severe illness. Paxlovid is only provided to people under specific conditions and symptoms, such as a positive COVID test. Your general practitioner, as well as some pharmacists, have authority to assess you and prescribe Paxlovid.

Note that Paxlovid is referred to as a treatment, not a vaccine, and is therefore **NOT** eligible under the UNB Medavie Blue Cross Extended Health plan except for Factor 85 retirees. They have coverage for Paxlovid until June 30 after their 65<sup>th</sup> birthday under the UNB Medavie Blue Cross Drug plan.

If you are a post-65 retiree member of the NB Prescription Drug Program and meet the criteria for a prescription, you are eligible for reimbursement. Paxlovid is expensive (almost \$2000), so you may want to confirm coverage in advance by contacting the NB Prescription Drug Program (see hotline on your ID card) as well as by contacting your pharmacy. The web page of "[NB Prescription Drug Program contact information](#)" contains telephone and email information.

## UNBREA Value Pack – Non-credit course Discounts and Tuition Waiver

UNBREA membership incorporates a number of benefits for eligible UNB retirees. Available on both campuses, these include:

- A discount for non-credit courses: UNBREA members receive a 10% off the fees for any personal interest Leisure Learning courses offered through the College of Extended Learning.
- A tuition waiver for up to any two full credit courses per year (a total of 12 credit hours), including those offered through UNB's popular travel-study program. This applies to the tuition portion only; all related student fees are applicable. Financial Services will issue a T4A information slip for the tuition waiver amount, along with a T2202A for income tax purposes. This is the same process as used for current employees and is compliant with CRA rules.

## CURAC

CURAC, the College and University Retiree Associations of Canada continues to offer benefits to UNBREA. There are two items to report.

**First**, the Belair Insurance Company (belairdirect) awarded 50 scholarships, worth \$1,000 each, to the child/grandchild of a belairdirect recognized group member or group employee. In this case UNBREA is eligible because we are members of CURAC.



We are pleased to announce that Claire Chaplin from Fredericton, NB, the grandchild of Robin Chaplin, a member of UNBREA, has been named a recipient of a 2024 belairdirect Scholarship. Congratulations to Claire!

For more information about the 2025 belairdirect Scholarship Program, visit [belairdirect Scholarship Program](#) or call 1.844.567.1237. belairdirect is an insurance partner of CURAC. For more information about insurance rates and benefits available to CURAC members through belairdirect, visit: [belairdirect.com/group-insurance](https://belairdirect.com/group-insurance).

**Second**, Shirley Cleave and Roberta Clarke participated in an online CURAC Webinar. A facilitated discussion took place focusing on strengths, challenges, and areas for potential change in participating organizations. In the UNBREA Executive meeting, Shirley and Roberta both noted the value to UNBREA of the discussions at this WEBINAR. Several key themes emerged during the discussion:

- **Challenges in Engagement and Communication:** A recurring issue was difficulty in recruiting new members and engaging retirees in association activities. Associations also noted challenges in gaining institutional recognition, especially when organizational structures or administrative personnel change.
- **Need for Modernization:** Many associations expressed the need to adapt their processes and offerings to align with contemporary expectations.
- **Opportunities for Collaboration and Learning:** Participants identified CURAC as a valuable resource for sharing best practices. There was strong support for continuing and expanding these collaborative efforts.
- **Sustainability Concerns:** Several associations are feeling the strain of reduced university support due to budget constraints. Participants noted the importance of securing formal agreements with institutions to ensure continued support.
- **Leadership Succession:** A significant challenge is finding new leadership within associations. Long-serving presidents or executive members are often left without successors, leading to concerns about organizational continuity. There was interest in strategies to mentor potential leaders and share the workload among board members.
- **Emerging Opportunities and Advocacy Focus:** CURAC was encouraged to focus on national-level advocacy that directly benefits retirees, such as influencing public policy on health care, long term care, and pensions.

In the closing discussion, attendees brainstormed how CURAC could further support local associations.

## December Socials

Thanks to everyone who attended the social in December. We had good attendance, wonderful food and enjoyed seeing and catching up with colleagues. Hope to see you at our summer socials in June!

### Saint John Social





## Fredericton Social



## See our new Brochures

We are please to attach our new brochures promoting the benefits of UNBREA. These brochures will be distributed to employees who are about to retire. We hope that you will aid in the effort to attract to members from both existing retirees and new retirees. UNBREA has lots to offer. Help get the word out! A PDF of the brochure is attached to the email.

## Executive

**Helped Needed!** UNBREA needs to fill three positions on the Executive. The position of Secretary needs to be filled immediately. The duties of the Secretary are recording and distributing meeting minutes. The positions of our long-time UNBREA Membership Team of Brian Cassidy and Mary-Anne Blakney will be vacated in May when they both be retire from their duties. We are looking for 2 volunteers to fill these important Membership positions. Can you help? Please email [UNBREA-info@unb.ca](mailto:UNBREA-info@unb.ca) if you are interested or want more information in any of these positions. We really need you!

### Listing 2024-2025

- President
  - Vice President
  - Past President
  - Secretary
  - Treasurer
  - Membership
  - Webmaster
  - Communications
  - Benefits Review Committee
  - Members at Large
- Shirley Cleave  
Susan Montague  
Larry Guitard  
Janet Moss  
Trevor Gonnason  
Brian Cassidy, Mary-Anne Blakney  
Linda O'Brien  
Janice El-Bayoumi  
Lloyd Waugh  
Roberta Clark, Linda Kealey, Dexter Noel, Jack Terhune