



## President's Message – November 2013

**Bernard Jordaan**

September 25th, 26th, 27th, the National Pensioners and Senior Citizens Federation held its annual Conference in Windsor, Ontario. We have been a member of the N.P.S.C.F. since 1962.

We had 4 delegates represent us this year, due to the location convenience. The N.P.S.C.F. will be amalgamating, with Canadian Pensioners Concerned, in 2014, resulting in a name change, to National Pensioners Federation, approved by Convention Delegates. The N.P.S.C.F. is looking at bi-annual conventions.

On September 30th, 2013 M.P.P. France Gelinis tabled a Bill 109 in the Legislature, the Ombudsman Oversight Bill, for health and long term care. Prior to the tabling of the Bill, at her request, I participated in on a news conference, in the Media room, at Queens Park, emphasizing the need for this Bill. For years, in our annual briefs to the Government, we have been urging the implementation of this very Bill.

This year again, it was one of the resolutions passed at our convention in St. Catherines and this M.P.P. saw it in our 2013 Brief, 1.23, asking the Government to appoint a Ombudsman. We need every member to contact their local M.P.P. and get them to support this (private members) Bill 109. Having our M.P.P.s not support this will be totally unacceptable, as the need for this Ombudsman for Health and Long Term Care is long overdue.

We held two executive face to face meetings October 7th and 8th, having had an extensive agenda, but managed to get all the business done in our allotted time. Thanks to all our executive members and staff, who were quite tired by the end of our deliberations. All future executive meetings will be held via telephone conference, due to limited funds available for face to face meetings.

September 23rd, 2013, 2nd Vice President and myself had an informal meeting at the office of the Minister for Seniors, Mario Sergio. The Minister's chief Policy Adviser, Chris Yaccato, hosted our discussion. Most of the issues raised and discussed are those that are in our 2013 Brief to the Ontario Government.

As advisor to the Minister, he was seeking areas that we could work on together. We spent about an hour discussing issues facing seniors to-day. I want to thank Chris for this opportunity.

**WE ARE ALL SENIORS WORKING FOR SENIORS.**

**Bernard**