

NEWSLETTER SUMMER

Volume 6 Issue 2, 2006

The opinions expressed in this publication are those of contributors and not necessarily those of the N.P.S.C.F newsletter

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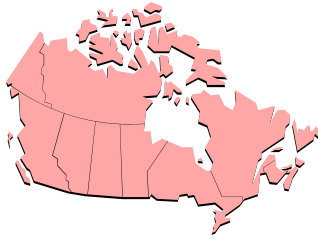
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Our History

The National Pensioners and Senior Citizens Federation (NPSCF) is a democratic, non-political, non-sectarian organization.

Our mission has remained the same for fifty years. The issues are as important today as when we started.

The NPSCF was started in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, by provincial organizations from British Columbia, Alberta, and Saskatchewan. Groups from other provinces have since joined.

It is made up of provincial affiliates, groups, clubs, and individuals.

Objectives

The National Pensioners and Senior Citizens Federation is an organization devoted entirely to the welfare and best interests of Canada's elderly.

1. To promote and establish and foster, Seniors' Centres (called Clubs or Groups) and Regional and Provincial Seniors' groups throughout Canada.
2. To provide education for persons in the retired and senior citizens age group and other individuals interested in aging, and the status and well being of seniors.
3. to reach out to seniors who are lonely, or isolated, or at risk..
4. To provide programs, which promote healthy active lifestyles for seniors, thus sustaining mental and physical health.
5. To assist in developing the knowledge that seniors should learn during their aging process, through promotion of educational experiences.

6. To research the aging process, and any problems and benefits pertaining to the aged that might be of interest to the Federation, and to use the knowledge gained from that research to educate seniors and any other party or parties who are or might become interested in these concerns.
7. To provide opportunities for seniors to utilize their volunteer and leadership skills for the benefit of all persons.
8. To consult with other private and public organizations which offer similar services in order to gather any education information that will add to knowledge and be of use in seniors and the public.

Message from President Art Field

In April I spoke at the Ontario Federation of Union Retirees Convention, held in London, Ont. There were about 80 delegates from across Ontario for a 3-day convention. I also spoke at the Federation of Senior Citizens & Pensioners of Nova Scotia in the 1st week of May at Truro, Nova Scotia. I took copies of our brief and newsletters to hand out at the convention. Also had the magazine Expressions sent by Health Canada for delegates. I explained what the National Federation does. I was received well and saw delegates that I got to know on being there the last 2 years. There were around 100 delegates and guests at the convention, and quite a few people there for the 1st time.

This was their election year as they have elections for executive every 2nd year. There are some new executive members as some people resigned. The new President is Mary Fleck from Cape Breton.

In the 2nd week of May/06 we had our executive meeting in Ottawa, and also met with some M.P. and government staff in presenting our brief from last years convention. Art Kube, our 1st Vice President, and myself met with Chris Carleton M.P. from Hamilton and N.D.P. Critic for seniors, Nicole Demers M.P. Critic for Block Quebecois from Montreal riding. This was the 1st time we had met with the Block. We also met with Marcia Minna M.P., a Liberal critic for seniors and represents a Toronto riding. We had George Johnson 3rd Vice President with us for this meeting. We also met with Hon. John McCallum, a Liberal M.P. from a Toronto riding who was a cabinet minister in Jean Chretien and Paul Martin's liberal government.

We met with Susan Scottie, Assistant Deputy Minister for Human Resources Dept. and Social Development Sections; this department looks after pension, and new Horizons Grants. There were 2 staff people with her and we had a very positive meeting.

We tried to get a meeting with the Minister of Health, or his staff. We tried the Finance Dept., and leader of the Senate who attends caucus meetings of the Tory government. Some of the excuses were: "We are too busy", "We don't have enough staff", etc. So, don't hold your breath waiting for this government to do much for seniors.

In our executive meeting we had some good discussions on what we are doing, what we want to do, convention plans for 2006 in Truro and you will see other items in this newsletter.

There are always horror stories about seniors (fraud). Seniors being taken for work not done on their homes, or being charged too much for work they have had done. Now there is Stock Market fraud, seniors buy shares and mutual funds and they are not worth what these companies tell them. Some of our seniors lose their life savings from dealing with these people. I am meeting with a person who is a retiree and worked in this field. She was working in Toronto, and is willing to help us to explain to seniors how not to be taken with worthless stock or how to get your money back.

Our Web page has been upgraded, and we have a new web server, and a new person to keep it updated. These are links on it now, i.e.: U.S.C.O., COSCO, Health Canada, Johnson Insurance. There is history of the Federation, copies of the brief, and the newsletter on the web site. The new address is www.npscf.org

In this newsletter there is a convention call for September 20, 21, 22, 23, 2006 in Truro, Nova Scotia, at the Best Western Hotel. The Federation of Senior Citizens & Pensioners of Nova Scotia is host and is getting everything in place for a good convention and interesting topics. The convention call is on our web site.

In closing "Age does not diminish the extreme disappointment of having a scoop of ice cream fall from the cone"

First Vice-President's Message

by Art Kube

Tory times are tough times

On May 8th and 9th the National Pensioners and Senior Citizens Federation Executive made its annual pilgrimage to the Nations Capital to present its legislative brief to the Government Ministers and the appropriate Opposition Critics. As in previous years we notified the appropriate Ministers, namely Madam Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources, James H. Flaherty, Minister of Finance, Tony Clement, Minister of Health and Madam Marjorie LaBreton, Government leader in the Senate, in advance to give them plenty of time to fit us into their schedule. It worked out in the past and we didn't expect any less this time. However, when we arrived in Ottawa and contacted their office for the appointments, we were told that none of the Ministers, nor their parliamentary Secretaries or their staff could meet with us. No amount of additional phone calls could get us any meetings with this Tory Government. The only consolation was that this Government has refused to meet with all community based organizations and that this direction was coming directly from Mr. Harper's office. So, this is what Mr. Harper calls an open and accountable Government. Mr. Harper you fooled us once, shame on you.

To the Oppositions credit, our meetings with them were fruitful and informative. We met the liberal finance and human resources critics, the honourable John McCallum and the honourable Maria Minna. We met with whole NDP Caucus and their seniors' critic Chris Carleton and we also met with Madam Nicole Demers of the P.Q. The Opposition spokespersons had read our brief, so we were able to have an informed discussion on the different issues. Generally, they were all supportive to our demand for an increase in the Guaranteed Income Supplement as fighting poverty among elders especially women. They also supported our call for assistance to seniors' organization for the purpose of having more effective input into public policy.

We met with Susan Scottie, Assistant Deputy Minister of Human Resources and two of her Directors. The major issue we discussed with her was the New Horizon Grants. She informed us that the proposed changes for capital costs for seniors' club house repairs were not approved by the government. We pointed out that the present system of applications for New Horizon Grants tend to give advantage to organizations with professional staff that know their way around grant applications and left the smaller seniors group run largely by volunteers at a disadvantage. We were given assurances that New Horizon's field staff will be given instructions to assist smaller groups with the application so as to level the playing field. We urge all smaller clubs to call on the New Horizon field staff and ask for their assistance and tell them about the Assistant Deputy Minister's assurance.

In closing it was very disappointing to see a minority government be so unavailable to meet with the senior's federation, representing the largest number of seniors in the country. Can you imagine their behaviour; should they be successful to obtain a majority in the future?

*A NOTE FROM
EDDA FERGUSON
2ND Vice*

Well, here we are into spring again and we are looking forward to a nice summer.

Our Federation of Senior Citizens & Pensioners of Nova Scotia has just completed our 33rd Annual Convention in Truro, NS. We had 98 including Executive, Delegates and Visitors and very good speakers.

We had 62 resolutions presented and a brief will be made and presented to the Nova Scotia Government Ministers responsible for Seniors issues.

We were pleased to have our National President, Art Field to bring greetings from the National Federation. We also had a War Bride as guest speaker at our Banquet and she had very interesting stories to tell.

The next few months will be a busy time for the FSCP of NS preparing for the National Pensioners & Senior Citizens Convention to be held at the Glengarry Hotel & Convention Centre in Truro, Nova Scotia from September 19th to 23rd, 2006.

So, we hope to see many of our friends here in September, till then take care.

Edda Ferguson

3rd Vice President's Report

- George Johnson

The Future of North America

It was announced recently that China was contemplating on calling in the bonds that China loaned to the United States. If this is so the United States could be in an economical dilemma. It had borrowed Billions from China to keep it afloat. Further to that their domestic debt has risen to three trillion dollars. Up until now the Iraqi war has driven the cost to 300 billion and counting.

I want to devote my article to the proposed Canada-Korea free trade agreement. The present government is fast tracking an agreement with Korea. From what has been said the deal will not be beneficial to Canada and its people. There are no substantial sectors of our economy, which have identified expanded trade with Korea as a significant economic opportunity. Many of our most value added industries will suffer significant dislocation under a Korean free trade agreement. Canada's auto market became vulnerable when Japan flooded our country with auto imports, which cut into our production appreciably. If this Korea deal is consummated Canada tends to lose 20,000 more jobs. NAFTA failed to deliver on its promise. The playing field was never level as noted in the soft lumber affair. Under NAFTA Canada lost 281,000 jobs. The FTA undoubtedly will erode universal health care and would lead to a two-tiered medical system.

The ratio for imports-exports in automotive products Korea vs. Canada is \$150 to \$1. Korea sold 130,000 vehicles in Canada 2005, Canada sold 400 vehicles in Korea 2005. China is proposing to export 1,000,000 vehicles in 2007. Exporting this many cars to North America will place a heavy toll on our industry. In conjunction with the proposed Korean deal this will do considerable damage to our Auto production, parts, shipbuilding, electronics, food industry, tool/die moulds manufacturing, etc. The impact of this agreement will deplete our economy. The more jobs we lose the more our pensioners and medical benefits are in jeopardy. We must convince the government to cease its free trade talks with Korea. We must bring more public attention to what is viewed as a needless, misguided, and very damaging initiative by the Federal Government. We stopped the Mai agreement – why can't we stop this one?

From the Treasurer's Desk - Joyce Mitchell

Well, hello to everyone, hope you are enjoying the spring weather we are having, even though it seems a little cooler than normal for this time of year.

First, a word of explanation, in your Winter and Spring Newsletters you received a purple sheet of paper with requests for your officers' names as well as your dues. If your dues were already paid by the time you got your Spring Newsletter you did not have to resend your officers' names or resubmit dues. This form is for the Secretary to keep and when there is a change of Officers, she would mail me the form to update the mailing list and new officers. Now let me **REPEAT** if your dues were already paid for 2006 previously, do not fill in that side of the form. I do hope I am explaining myself. As you all are aware I like receiving money, but I certainly do not want any club paying twice, and then when they are audited asking for a refund. Enough said. Treasurer's keep up the good work and I really do appreciate getting the dues in early in the year, makes my bookkeeping much easier. If you are keeping a schedule of things to do as the year progresses, **NOTE JANUARY 1, 2007 NPSCF dues are due.**

Moving on, our Executive meeting was held a couple of weeks ago in Ottawa, (this was combined with the presentation of the Brief). Combining these meetings has proven a challenge and will be reevaluated. What a busy time, no kidding, meetings in the morning, afternoon and evening. So much for volunteerism and retirement. So much was accomplished; I do not think there was a topic that was not discussed to do with our organization. I feel we the Executive are better prepared to go to the convention and have a clearer idea of the goals and objectives of this great organization we belong too.

A decision was made to focus on the Health needs of our seniors. More on this will be covered in this Newsletter.

The convention in Truro is so organized, thanks to our Nova Scotia Seniors and Pensioners, that everyone will truly enjoy this easterly location. I do hope we will see a great number of you there. For the smaller clubs, you may want to look after cutting cost, by using VIA Rail. At the current time they have a program, that if one Senior buys a ticket the other goes free as a companion. This does not mean the companion has to be a spouse, it just means another person traveling at the same time as the Senior. So think about this 2 for the price of 1, you cannot complain about bargains, and this may allow clubs to send 2 delegates. As I come from the Maritimes, I want to assure you that the view of the country side will be wonderful in September. Just think of all the fall colors.

To all the Clubs who are busy winding down for the summer season, enjoy those June parties, and relax and have fun during the summer months, regardless of what your summer plans are. Take Care.

YOURS FOR THE BETTERMENT OF SENIORS
Joyce Mitchell, Treasurer

From My House to Yours

Secretary

The month of June is here and with June comes summer. Summer is newsletter time. "Time waits for no man" is an old saying my mother used and this is certainly true. The older you get the faster time goes.

The Saskatchewan Senior Association convention is just over. We had 141 registrants. Forty-one resolutions were presented and debated. I was pleased with the attendance and the interest shown by our Sask. Seniors. We were honored to have Art Field, president of NPSCF attend our convention.

The main concerns centered around the need for financial assistance to keep senior centers open. Senior centres are an essential need throughout Canada. They promote healthy, active lifestyles for Canadian seniors. Without these centres, seniors will have no place to go to socialize, play games or exercise. There will be no incentive for seniors to remain active.

Raising money locally, to remain open has become a difficult task because of the age of seniors, many seniors have reached an age where they want to sit back, relax and enjoy, and rightly so. For seniors with physical limitations, there are fitness programs available. Exercise is essential to retain mobility. Without a senior centre to hold such functions in, all exercising and social activities will cease. When this happens seniors will be in grave danger of losing their mobility and hence more sickness will result, creating more expense to our country through hospitalization. All these closures will be responsible for shortening the life span of seniors. When the senior population is increasing, governments at this time should consider supplying some financial assistance for maintenance of senior centres in Canada, to ensure all centres remain open and functional.

Information about the NPSCF convention at Truro, NS, September 19-22nd will be in this mail out.

I hope everyone will have a great holiday this year. Take your holiday while you're still able. Next year may be to late.

Happy, safe holidays to you all

For the Betterment of All Seniors

Fern from Saskatchewan

Letters to Government from the President

1. Question

The Right Honourable Jim Flaherty, Minister of Finance

April 12, 2006

Government of Canada
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6
Right Honourable Jim Flaherty:

I am writing on behalf of our over one million seniors who are affiliated members of our organization. Each year following our annual convention we prepare a brief to the Minister of Finance, representative of the resolutions passed at our convention. Subsequently we arrange for a meeting with the Minister, last year unfortunately the Minister was called out and we met with a key member of his staff and made our case to him.

This year we are making our annual pilgrimage to Ottawa during the week of May 7th to the 12th. Therefore we would ask you for a meeting during that week. Enclosed is our position brief. We sincerely hope that the Conservative government will continue the practice of the previous administration and allow seniors meaningful input into public policy. These meetings have been invaluable in the past and we would like to continue with them.

I would appreciate to hear from your staff as soon as possible as to the meeting arrangements. Wishing you well in handling the financial business of the Nation, looking forward to meeting with you and offering our sage advice.

Sincerely yours
Art Field, President

1. Answer

Department of Finance Canada, Ottawa, Canada K1A 0G5
2006FIN185618
Mr. Art Field

April 20, 2006

President
National Pensioners and Senior Citizens Federation
Box 92
Little Britain, ON. K0M 2C0

Dear Mr. Fields:

On behalf of the Minister of Finance, the Honourable James M. Flaherty, this is to acknowledge receipt of your correspondence of April 12, 2006.

Please be assured that your comments will be brought to the Minister's attention as soon as possible.
Departmental Correspondence Unit

Letters to Government from the President

2. Question

The Honourable Stephen Harper, Prime Minister

April 12, 2006

Government of Canada
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6
The Right Honourable Prime Minister Harper:

I am writing on behalf of our over one million seniors who are affiliated members of our organization. Each year following our annual convention we prepare a brief to the Government of Canada, representative of the resolutions passed at that convention, which we submit to the Prime Minister, the Members of your Cabinet, all Members of the commons and the Senate. Subsequently we arrange for meetings with the appropriate Minister, like the Minister of finance, Minister of health and the Minister in charge of seniors. We have written to the Minister of finance and the Minister of Health; however we don't know who is designated to look after seniors in your Cabinet.

We would kindly ask your office to forward the attached brief to the designated Minister and we would ask to meet with this designated Minister during the week of May 7th to the 12th. This week is the annual pilgrimage to the Capital to do our public policy input. We sincerely hope that your government will continue the practice of the previous government and allow us meaningful input into policy affecting seniors. These meetings have been invaluable in the past and we would like to continue with them.

Wishing you well, in governing our great land. Hoping that someday you could see your way clear to meet with us and listen to our sage advice. Thanking you for your assistance in seeing the designated Minister in charge of seniors.

Sincerely yours
Art Field, President

2. Answer

Office of the Prime Minister, Ottawa, Canada K1A 0A2

April 20, 2006

Mr. Art Field
President
National Pensioners and Senior Citizens Federation
Box 92
Little Britain, ON. K0M 2C0
Dear Mr. Fields:

On behalf of the Right Honourable Stephen Harper, I would like to acknowledge receipt of your recent correspondence, in which you raised an issue that falls within the portfolio of the Honourable Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Social Development.

Please be assured that your comments have been carefully reviewed. I have taken the liberty of forwarding a copy of your correspondence to the Minister, who, I am certain, will also appreciate being made aware of your views.

Thank you for writing to the Prime Minister. For more information on the Government's initiatives, you may wish to visit the Prime Minister's Web site, at www.pm.gc.ca

Letters to Government from the President

3. Answer

House of Commons Canada

May 4, 2006

Peter G. MacKay, Deputy Leader of the Conservative Party to Canada

Mr. Art Field, President

Mr. Art Kube, 1st Vice President

National Pensioners & Senior Citizens Federation

Box 92

Little Britain, ON., K0M 2C0

Dear Mr. Field and Mr. Kube:

Thank you for sending me your *Position Brief to the Government of Canada: May 2006*. Please be assured that the information you provided is appreciated and will be taken under careful consideration.

Thank you again for taking the time to get in touch with me. Should you have any further comments or concerns please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Call for applications Announcement – New Horizons for Seniors

Call for applications Announcement – New Horizons for Seniors

Human Resources and Social Development Canada is accepting applications from organizations interested in funding under the New Horizons for Seniors Program. New Horizons for Seniors funds community-based projects that encourage seniors to contribute to their communities through their social participation and active living.

The program provides funding to projects that:

- Encourage seniors to share their skills, wisdom and experience in support of social well-being in their communities through volunteerism, mentorship and civic leadership; and
- Promote the ongoing involvement of seniors in their communities to reduce their risk of social isolation.

Information on eligibility and requirements is available at <http://www.sdc.gc.ca/>

Applications must be postmarked no later than July 14, 2006.

Inquiries for this Call for applications can be made to:

Telephone: **1-800-277-9914**

TTY: **1-800-255-4786**

Losing Investment Savings Due to Wrongdoing

LIMITATION PERIOD REDUCED TO TWO YEARS

Rights of investors being jeopardized

(July 14, 2005) Barrie – Bill 213, *Justice Statue Law Amendment Act, 2002*, enacted the Limitations Act, 2002, which provides for a reduction in the legal limitation period, from six years to two years.

MPP Joe Tascona. Opposition Critic to the Attorney General is addressing this issue because of concerns that the two-year limitation period in effect from January 1, 2004, is not long enough for investors seeking restitution after suffering serious financial damages due to the wrongdoing of the financial services industry. The attorney General's position is that plaintiff interests do not need further protection.

"The revised Limitations Act does not adequately provide for the rights of investors, particularly widows and seniors, who are endeavouring to seek justice through civil litigation", said Tascona.

"The problem of seniors losing their life savings due to investment industry wrongdoing is much greater than acknowledged", said Stan Buell, President of SIPA. "Scandals such as mutual fund market timing, hedge fund collapses, corporate misdeeds, and governance failures are robbing Canadians of their life savings. Seniors seem to be targeted. Victims last recourse to obtain restitution is civil litigation, and now that right is being jeopardized by reduced limitation periods, from six years to two years."

Contact: MPP Joe Tascona, Official Opposition Critic for the Attorney General, 705-715-6707

LIMITATION PERIODS vs ACCESS TO JUSTICE – 20060504

ROAD TRIP

While on a road trip, an elderly couple stopped at a roadside restaurant for lunch. After finishing their meal, they left the restaurant and resumed their trip. When leaving, the elderly woman unknowingly left her glasses on the table and, she didn't miss them until after they had been driving about twenty minutes. By then, to add to the aggravation, they had to travel quite a distance before they could find a place to turn around in order to return to the restaurant to retrieve her glasses.

All the way back, the elderly husband became the classic grouchy old man.

He fussed and complained and scolded his wife relentlessly during the entire return drive. The more he chided her the more agitated he became.

He just wouldn't let up one minute. To her relief, they finally arrived at the restaurant and as she went in to retrieve her glasses, the old geezer yelled to her "while you're in there, you might as well get my hat, and the credit card".

April 25, 2006

by fax to : 705-786-0350

Mr. Art Field, President

National Pensioners and Senior Citizens Federation

Box 92

28 Matilda St.

Little Britain, ON K0M 2C0

Dear Mr. Field:

I have had the pleasure of meeting Judith Muzzi last year and working with her on some issues that impact on seniors.

The Small Investor Protection Association (SIPA) is a national non-profit organization run by volunteers. Our focus is on investor protection or rather the lack of adequate investor protection. Founded in 1998 SIPA developed a website to make information available to the public. We have 500 members in nine provinces across Canada and provide a bi-monthly newsletter to members.

We believe that many small investors, particularly seniors and widows, are losing their savings due to widespread investment industry wrongdoing. In December 2003 eight of Canada's largest financial institutions admitted their participation in mutual fund market timing and agreed to pay \$200 million dollars. The significance of this issue is that it indicates how widespread wrongdoing is.

More recently there have been the Portus and Crocus fiascos that have affected over 50,000 investors with losses in excess of \$1 billion. There are continuing media reports of properly registered investment advisors defrauding their clients many of whom are seniors or elderly, however only a small fraction of the wrongdoing gets reported. Most victims are unwilling to speak out and even those who pursue their dispute are generally obliged to sign a gag order in order to receive a settlement, so the public remains unaware.

As a result most people do not know how large this problem (seniors being robbed of their savings) is.

The regulators of course suggest that all is well, but admit they can't get the victims money back. The industry provides an ombudsman service and an arbitration program for dispute resolution but these industry-sponsored mechanisms have proven unsatisfactory for many aggrieved investors. Civil litigation is the only recourse to obtain justice but takes time and is costly.

With the Limitations Act (Ontario) reducing the limitation period from six years to two years Government has eroded the right of citizens to take civil action. This has also happened in several other provinces.

Since last spring we have been pursuing this issue with the Ontario government and trying to enlist support. Mrs. Muzzi recognizes the seriousness of this issue for seniors and has been very supportive.

Judy said that you were interested and suggested I send you some information. We depend on the Internet and e-mail for most of our communications and most of our documentation is in electronic form for ease of transmission and cost of printing.

We did prepare a report that was released on February 27, 2004, and have made a number of submissions to various committee including the Standing Senate Committee on Banking Trade and commerce. That submission provides a good summary of where we stand but was published before we were aware of the limitation period issue. We of course made a supplementary submission to the Senate committee on limitation periods.

If you would like additional information please call me at 905-471-2911 or 905-471-2342.

Stan I. Buell, P.Eng.

President

SIPA Inc.-P.O. Box 3325, Markham, ON, Canada, L3P 3J8 – Tel: 905-471-2911 – e-mail: SIPA@sipa.to - web: www.sipa.ca

continued Increased Use of Generic Medicines Slows Rise in Canada's Drug Bill

According to IMS Health, generic drugs are dispensed to fill fully 43% of all prescriptions in Canada yet account for only 17% of the \$16.6-billion spent in 2005 on prescription medicines. By contrast, generic drugs are used to fill 53% of prescriptions in the United States. It is estimated that if use of lower-priced generics in Canada increased to the same level as in the U.S., it would save Canada's health-care system between \$400- to \$500-million in the first year alone.

Under the current rules, brand-name drug companies find it more lucrative to litigate than to innovate and that isn't how the patent system is supposed to work. It's time for the federal government to put a stop to evergreening. If the United States can do it, Canada can do it.

Jim Keon is President of the Canadian Generic Pharmaceutical Association

To learn more about prescription drug costs and Canada's drug patent laws, visit <http://www.canadiangenerics.ca/>

Aprons

I don't think our kids know what an apron is.

The principal use of Grandma's apron was to protect the dress underneath, but along with that, it served as a potholder for removing hot pans from the oven.

It was wonderful for drying children's tears, and on occasion was even used for cleaning out dirty ears.

From the chicken coop, the apron was used for carrying eggs, fussy chicks, and sometimes half-hatched eggs to be finished in the warming oven.

When company came, those aprons were ideal hiding places for shy kids.

And when the weather was cold, grandma wrapped it around her arms.

Those big old aprons wiped many a perspiring brow, bent over the hot wood stove.

Chips and kindling wood were brought into the kitchen in the apron.

From the garden, it carried all sorts of vegetables. After the peas had been shelled, it carried out the hulls.

In the fall, the apron was used to bring in apples that had fallen from the trees.

When unexpected company drove up the road, it was surprising how much furniture that old apron could dust in a matter of seconds.

When dinner was ready, Grandma walked out onto the porch, waved her apron, and the men knew it was time to come in from the fields to dinner.

It will be a long time before someone invents something that will replace that "old-time apron" that served so many purposes.