



Dear John Pettitt,

Welcome to our second newsletter. You will recall that we are going to be issuing these between editions of Justice magazine to keep you more up to date with the many recent activities of your board.

Once again, this will be a short update, with headlines and links to press articles you may have missed. You can also go to our website www.britishpensions.com which is frequently updated.

In early November, a delegation of Canadian MPs visited London. They were invited to attend a meeting of the Frozen Pensions APPG and we understand had very constructive discussions. We made sure they were all fully briefed before they left for the UK. Subsequently, this article appeared in the Sunday Express. [Click here for article.](#)

In November, the ICBP (International Consortium of British Pensioners) board travelled to London for a number of parliamentary and other meetings. CABP was represented by myself and board members Sheila Telford and Fiona McLeod. Our PR company, Tendo had arranged for us to be interviewed for GB TV news while we “demonstrated” with our selfie banner depicting pictures of real frozen pensioners (many thanks to you for these), and handed in handwritten letters from pensioners to DWP Minister Mel Stride. [Click here to see the GB News video.](#)

A drop in event, to which all MPs were invited took place (remember we asked you to write to your old MP to encourage them to come) in Portcullis House. We had a good turnout of 40 mostly new MPs, some of whom were ignorant of the issue of frozen pensions and pledged their support.

Sir Roger Gale hosted a lunch in the House of Commons to which the High Commissioners of Canada, Australia and New Zealand were invited. Although there were deputies in the latter two cases, the lunch was a huge step forward as these are Commonwealth countries with the majority of frozen pensioners, and this was the first time they were brought together with the purpose of talking about the frozen pension agenda.

Sheila Telford and I also went to Canada House to meet separately with the High Commissioner, Ralph Goodale and Andrew Cook, the Political Officer. We had a very frank and useful discussion and we are hopeful that after receiving some of the information we were able to send, the High Commissioner will be able to advance our arguments in Ottawa.

In addition, during this visit we met with Liberal Democrat peers who were eager to engage us on the Overseas Voters bill. This is a great opportunity for us, so we are going to compile a database of postal codes where members last lived in the UK. The 15-year rule for voting eligibility has been scrapped and EVERY British person will be allowed to vote when the next general election is called as long as secondary legislation relating to the details of how this will take effect is passed in good time. The results of the survey below compiled by an interested group of European residents will help them pinpoint what overseas voters believe will make the system work best. [Please click here to complete the survey.](#)

A number of MPs were elected by a very slim margin in the last election, and we intend to target their constituencies and canvas all individuals hoping to be elected and insist that they support an end to frozen pensions if they want our votes.

CALL TO ACTION: Please email info@britishpensions.com with “Postcode” in the subject line and give us the postcode of the address you last lived at in the UK. If you cannot remember the postcode, try searching your last address on google. *Note: please make all efforts to find the information before contacting Lucy in the office. If you do not know the postcode/address – no need to email.

In the lead up to an anticipated election in 2024, all parties are in the process of developing their manifestos and in the new year we will be arranging for a Change.org petition that we intend to send to

the leaders of all parties asking them where they stand on the issue, with special reference to our ability to vote in the next election! We will, of course, be sharing this petition with you and asking you to pass it on to all your friends and contacts.

Tendo, our PR agency in London, often need individuals to lend their voices to support media coverage etc, but as we all live across the globe, this is difficult. If you have friends or relatives that live in or close to London that might be prepared to participate on our behalf, we again would ask you to let us know at info@britishpensions.com. We will forward the contact details to Tendo and they will take it from there.

Two of the CABP board members, Peter Sanguinetti and Rob Morris, were able to set up several meetings with Shadow MPs and a number of staffers in Ottawa. They were able to tie down commitments on which they will be following up in the coming months. One of their particular successes was to encourage MP Michael Chong to bring up the issue of frozen British pensions with the UK Foreign Secretary, James Cleverly.

As a result of the success of the UK parliamentary “drop in” event for MPs, we are planning to hold a similar event in Ottawa on April 19th 2023. Matt Jeneroux, the Edmonton Riverbend MP, has been extremely helpful in facilitating this event. Closer to the date we will be asking you to write to your own MP and indeed Senators to ask them to attend this event. This could be a major opportunity to convince Canadian MPs to push for an inclusion on the agenda of the trade talks.

I have been involved on the periphery (their choice not mine) of the Trade Talks between Canada and the UK, as we firmly believe that frozen pensions can and must be part of these talks. We may have something of a breakthrough, as the committee has declared that new information has come to light regarding the inclusion of pensions in these discussions. I will be talking to the lead civil servant dealing with this essential addition to the trade talks the week of the 6th February, 2023.

Below are some of the recent media articles that have been released in the UK.

- [State pension warning as 520,000 Britons set to miss out on upcoming boost. Express UK](#)
- [100 year old living on just GBP46 per week. Express UK](#)
- [Warning over state pensions as thousands set to miss out. Chronicle Live UK](#)
- [Half a million pensioners due to miss out because of where they live. Express UK](#)
- [Pensioners, 84, frozen at GBP24 per week. Express UK](#)
- [UK cut off thousands of pensioners in Canada. CBC Canada](#)
- [State pensioners miss out 10.1% increase. Mirror UK](#)
- [Disgraceful, half a million pensioners miss out. Express UK](#)
- ['Done my bit for Britain' Frozen pensioners slam Hunt. Express UK](#)
- [State pensioners protest cruel policy. Express UK](#)
- [Anger over missing out on triple lock. Yahoo](#)
- ['End this injustice' Fury at frozen pensions. Express UK](#)
- [Political turmoil in Britain hits pocket books of Canadians. Globe and Mail Canada.](#)
- [Guy Opperman removed as pensions minister. Pensions Expert](#)
- [Retired expats deserve huge state pension pay rise. Telegraph UK](#)

Ian Andexser

Chairman, [Canadian Alliance of British Pensioners \(CABP\)](#)