



January 2023

Dutch Touch

Dutch Canadian Club (Edmonton)

13312 142 Street NW, Edmonton, AB T5L4T3

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Happy New Year



Photo by Rinske TerHeide

EDITORIAL

by Jenny Smits
780-975-7426 - dutchtouchedmonton@gmail.com



Dear readers:

Our best wishes for a happy and healthy new year, for as much as that is possible. For our family 2022 was not a great year and we hope that 2023 is much better. We very much enjoyed the Christmas season with family get togethers and are looking forward to future family events.

At the DCC we have been planning for the winter season. All our groups are starting again in January and we will keep you informed of special events and we hope that our members will come out and enjoy them and participate. The Murder Mystery on the 21st of January should be fun and interesting and Keith will be back with a talk about cyber security and he can answer questions about your Apple devices on February 4 which will be very informative. We welcome other ideas that might bring our members out. And as always, the Windmills come up with different events for special days, like Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day and Easter to name a few. And often there is a birthday or anniversary to celebrate with delicious cake. So come and socialize with each other when you can. See you in January.

Jenny

Welcome to our new members!

Our membership dues are per calendar year (January-December) at the following rates:
Family: \$70.00, Senior Family \$60.00, Single \$35.00, Senior Single \$30.00, Student \$25.00

Please mail your membership application or renewal with your **name, address, phone number and email address** to:

**Dutch Canadian Club
13312—142 Street NW
Edmonton, AB T5L4T3**

Or remit via e-transfer to dccedm@gmail.com

BOARD MEMBERS

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From the desk of Frank Stolk

Dear membership:

Well. Christmas is just behind us again and we are getting ready for the New Year. It is also the very first time that I don't bake any *Oliebollen* and *Appelflappen*, which had become my annual tradition since we got married 49 years ago on December 7, 1973.

I usually did this in my heated garage, where I have a table with a hotplate, one gallon of the finest canola oil, and a even finer bottle of Camus Meilleur Cognac VS VSOP XO, just the name already sounds good LOL. I would put on my Bluetooth speaker and turn up the volume to listen to some fine classics from the 70's and 80's and would treat myself to a fine cigar. By the time I was nearly done I would go on facetime and talk to my brother Cees and sister Anneke in Holland to wish them all the best for the new year.



Unfortunately this year I had to cancel my tradition as I can't stand too long (according to the Hip and Bone clinic my hip is completely *kaput*). The good news is that I'm on top of the list to get this repaired soon in the new year. I am looking forward to that.

Well my dear friends take care of yourselves and your loved ones, enjoy everyday as life is too short to waste it.

From my family to yours, we wish you all the best, good health and happiness, and we are looking forward to seeing you all in the new year.

Frank



Skating reaches a new high: rooftop ice rink opens in Rotterdam

Dutch enthusiasm for ice skating reached a new high with the opening of an ice rink on the roof of the Bijenkorf department store in Rotterdam. The rink itself is largely unaffected by the weather as it is not made of frozen water, but from self-lubricating polymers known as 'glice'. Glice was chosen because it's more sustainable than ice. It's made of a synthetic material that looks, feels and slides like real ice, but it doesn't use any energy or water.

Three floors up, the rink and winter garden offer impressive views of the city as well as close encounters with the season's low temperatures. A snack bar selling hot chocolate, soup and sausages helps keep visitors warm.

The glice rink is the latest in a series of innovative rooftop conversions in Rotterdam, showcased since 2015 in the annual Rotterdam Rooftop Days festival, which in 2023 will run from 1-4 June.

The 12 square metre rink is open to the public from 12pm on Friday December 30 and will remain on the roof until 13 January 2023. Skating starts at 12:30pm each day and finishes between 19:00 and 21:00 depending on store closing times. Tickets cost €10 for 45 minutes.



Source: DutchNews.nl

Card Makers

By Ria Bok - 780-472-2725

I hope you all had a great holiday season with friends and family. We sure did, it was wonderful to be with family and friends.

We hope to start our new season on January 14, 2023 at 10.30 am and I hope you can all make it.

Ria



SATURDAY SOCIALS

By Aris Smits - 780-920-7699 - smitsaris@gmail.com

Happy New Year! We have a few different events lined up for the coming bi-weekly Saturday events:

January 21, 2023, 1:00 pm - Murder Mystery. Come join us for a fun afternoon.

It's 1930's London and the Paige Turner family and friends have gathered at Barbara Paige Turner's mansion, Meddleton Manor. They are there to celebrate the 60th birthday of her son, Clive Paige Turner. During the course of the evening Barbara Paige Turner was murdered. Every guest had a good reason for wanting her dead, but who actually had the guts to go through with it? The inspector and the audience are tasked with finding who killed Barbara.



February 4, 2023, 1:00 pm - Cyber security - protect yourself in a digital world.

Bad guys have gotten sophisticated and their favourite victims are people who are insecure about what they are doing online.

Join an experienced IT System Analyst, for an afternoon of learning about the various types of cyber crimes and the best ways to protect yourself including:

- *Managing various online accounts*
- *Best way to keep passwords safe*
- *Online banking done right*
- *How to spot fake emails.*
- *Turning the tables, how to scam the scammers!*

And much more!



February 18, 2023, 1:00 pm - Back by popular demand: **BINGO**. Lots of good prizes are up for grabs.

Our Saturday events start at 1:00 and we will have Dutch snacks available, the coffee is on and the bar will be open.



Aris

Stitch 'N Rip Knitting Club

By Edith Van Leeuwen

Happy New Year to all!

We will start again on January 16 on a Monday, hoping this will work out better for all. Let me know. We donated 100 toques and many blankets for the homeless which is very much needed this year. Thank you all for making them. See you on the 16??

Edith



Sewing & Craft Circle

By Jenny Smits - 780-975-7426

Happy New Year everyone!

Our sewing group is starting up again on January 10, 2023, from 10:30 until 3:00. We are looking forward to starting some new and exciting projects. We always start off with coffee and bring our own lunch. If you like to get together for some sewing, quilting and crafts you are welcome to join us any Tuesday.

Jenny



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This and that to the Windmills

By Rinske TerHeide



As we are at the beginning of another year I want to wish everyone a healthy, happy 2023. I hope you all had a good Christmas and that everyone was able to bring out the best of what this special season has to offer.

Our family doesn't have any set traditions for Christmas, since we usually rotate hosting between families. But it was still very different this year, since we spent the week before Christmas in Fairmont B.C., with some of our kids and grand kids joining us there. It was a very cold week, -38°C one morning. But we enjoy each other's company making meals, making puzzles, board games, Scrabble and cards, taking walks, soaking in the hot springs and enjoying the amenities the resort has to offer. We all agreed it was too cold to go skiing. From there we drove to Rocky Mountain House on Christmas Eve, spending Christmas at the acreage where our daughter lives with her husband and kids. The rest of the family joined us on Boxing Day after having spent Christmas Day with the in-laws. The weather warmed up and we were able to go on quad rides, snow shoeing and having hot chocolate sitting around the fire.

Meanwhile we received pictures from our family in the Netherlands while they had a few days of winter weather in mid December. The spell did not last long but they were able to go skating on thin ice on lakes and canals. They always make the most of it while it lasts.

Our winter here has definitely been quite a bit colder but we had a good time inside when we got together to watch the Canadian and Dutch soccer teams play their matches in the FIFA world cup. After the initial games, Canada was out of the competition having faced tough opponents like Croatia and Morocco, but the Dutch National team advanced to the knock out stage and on December 3rd we were very excited to watch them win 3-1 against the USA. On Friday Dec 9th more than 70 people came to the club to watch the quarter-final match against Argentina. It was an exciting game and they were tied at 2-2 after regulation time and still tied after playing overtime.



Unfortunately the Dutch ended up losing 4-3 after penalty kicks. As has been the case at all the soccer games, the ladies at the club came very early to make breakfast for the morning games and they made lunch for this last game at 12 o'clock, serving more than 70 people. It was a bit of an effort coming out to do this for a number of days in a row, but they did it with a smile. Bravo ladies.

There were also a few special events happening in December on Thursday afternoons.



- On December 1st our volunteers at the club had prepared special snacks, served in the clubroom, in celebration of St Nicholas day (*Sinterklaas*). Dutch treats like herring on rye, (*roggebrood*) and bitterballen, as well as skewers of fruit and skewered cheese, sausage and veggies. We enjoyed a piece of *banket staaf* (almond paste filled pastry) and everyone received a traditional chocolate letter.

- On December 8th we welcomed a special visitor when George Dettling came to the club, together with his son, to mark the occasion of his 100th birthday. We all celebrated this very big milestone birthday with him while enjoying a piece of delicious birthday cake.



- On December 15th we hosted an afternoon luncheon in the big hall, celebrating Christmas together with special guests. A buffet spread was laid out with roast beef, potatoes, oven roasted vegetables and salad. On the tables there was a choice of wine and for dessert there was a delicious Crème Brulé. A good time was had also in trying to find the answers to the Christmas quiz prepared by Jenny Smits. Congratulations to Jetske Koning who won the door prize, a beautiful Christmas centre piece made by Ria Bok. A big “thank you” goes to Ria all the volunteers who helped in making this all possible.

This was the last Thursday event before the Christmas/New Year break, but we hope to see you all on Thursday January 12th when we start again for a brand new year.

Rinske

Watching FIFA World Cup Soccer Games at the Club



Some random pictures at the Club



Windmills Christmas 2022



“Inburgering” (integration) lesson with DutchNews: 10 ways to ring in the New Year

Lesson for New Nederlanders

New Year’s Eve in the Netherlands is celebrated in a most untypically over-the-top way. Here are 10 things you must do to fit right in.

1. Let off fireworks. If you live in one of the few places that have decided to ban fireworks this year, do not think you will escape the annual frenzy – because if the past two years are anything to go by, the ban will be ignored by just about everyone. If you are a firework fan and you have not smuggled them in from Belgium or Eastern Europe months ago, you can only buy fireworks on December 29, 30 and 31 – and for some reason, garages seem to be popular licenced stockists. (Those tiddly little children’s fireworks you can buy in the supermarket are still allowed, everywhere). Make sure you are not one of the hundreds of people to end up in hospital with firework injuries every year.
2. Watch a bonfire. The largest fires can be found on the shores of Scheveningen and Duindorp, where there is a fierce rivalry to build the tallest pile of wooden pallets. In 2018, the Scheveningen fire, which towered 48 metres above the beach, sent clouds of cinders across the seaside resort, causing small fires and damaging dozens of cars and bikes and eventually causing the mayor to resign.
3. Listen to the final fifty or so entries in Radio 2’s Top2000 which, for some bizarre reason, is listened to by millions of people every year and won every year (almost) by Queen’s Bohemian Rhapsody. 2022 was no exception.
4. Watch whichever comedian is giving this year’s televised Oudejaarsconference – a long and winding monologue wrapping up the year.
5. Buy an oudejaarslot – a lottery ticket – in the hope of winning €38 million. You and 17 million other people.
6. Eat *oliebollen* and *appelflappen* – deep-fried dough balls covered in icing sugar and deep-fried apple dough balls. Forget the diet until January 2. Don’t try and make them yourself because the smell will take at least until January 30 to disappear.
7. Set fire to a car or two – but only if you live in a Brabant or a Drenthe village where it is tradition, of course. Have running battles with the police and get arrested.
8. Other rural traditions include *carbidschieten* (or death by milk churn) which involves mixing carbide and water in a milk churn and blasting off the lid.
9. Have a New Year’s Day swim in the sea – along with tens of thousands of others attempting to shake off their hangover. Wear an orange hat advertising smoked sausage company Unox while having your swim. Beware, if you are a pretty girl in a bikini you may end up the Telegraaf newspaper’s new favourite front page pin-up.
10. Go back to work and spend the first few days of the year trying to avoid kissing all your colleagues. Luckily the coronavirus kissing ban excuse still works.



Source: DutchNews.nl

Members Page

A little poem for seniors

Sent in by Vicky VanderKley

*Another year has passed
And we're all a little older.
Last summer felt hotter
And the winter seems much colder.*

*There was a time not long ago
When life was quite a blast.
Now I fully understand
About 'Living in the Past'.*

*We used to go to weddings,
Football games and lunches.
Now we go to funeral homes
And after-funeral brunches.*

*We used to go out dining
And could not get our fill.
Now we ask for doggie bags,
Come home and take a pill.*

*We used to often travel
To places near and far.
Now we get sore asses
From riding in the car.*

*We used to go to night clubs
And drink a little booze.
Now we stay home at night
And watch the evening news.*

*That, my friend, is how life is,
And now my tale is told.
So enjoy each day and live it up.....
Before you're too dam old!*



I just want to say thanks to the great team I had for preparing our Christmas dinner.

I enjoyed it so much, working with all of you. You know who you are and you're all just great.

Thanks again.

Ria



**Happy 77th Birthday
to Ria Bok.**

Thanks for all you do!

We congratulate everyone who has celebrated a birthday or an anniversary. If you would like to share these or other special events with our members please email me at:
dutchtouchedmonton@gmail.com
or phone 780-975-7426 and I will include it on our member's page.

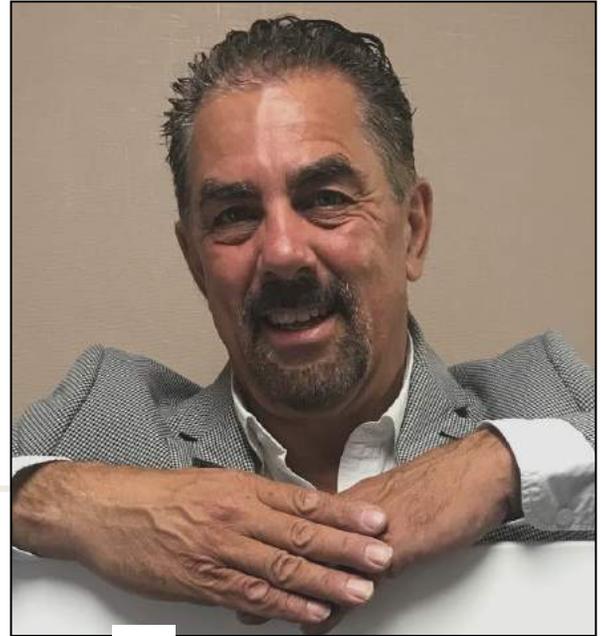


**Happy
50th Anniversary
To
Hans and Leida
Buikema**





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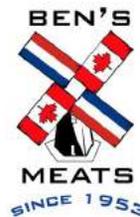


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Is It a Stroke or a Heart Attack?

Stroke and heart attack symptoms occur suddenly. Though the two events have a few possible symptoms in common, their other symptoms differ.

A common symptom of a stroke is a sudden and powerful headache. A stroke is sometimes referred to as a “brain attack.” A heart attack, on the other hand, often occurs with chest pain.

Recognizing the different symptoms of a stroke and heart attack can make a big difference in getting the right kind of help.

The symptoms of stroke and heart attack depend on:

- the severity of the episode
- your age
- your gender
- your overall health

The symptoms can come on quickly and without warning.

Stroke causes

The most common type of stroke is an ischemic stroke:

A blood clot in an artery within the brain can cut off circulation to the brain. This can cause a stroke.

The carotid arteries carry blood to the brain. Plaque buildup in a carotid artery can have the same result.

The other main kind of stroke is a hemorrhagic stroke. This occurs when a blood vessel in the brain ruptures and blood leaks into surrounding tissue. High blood pressure that strains the walls of your arteries can cause a hemorrhagic stroke.

Heart attack causes

A heart attack occurs when a coronary artery becomes blocked or narrows so much that blood flow stops or is severely restricted. A coronary artery is an artery that supplies blood to the heart muscle.

Blockage in a coronary artery can happen if a blood clot stops blood flow. It can also happen if too much cholesterol plaque builds up in the artery to the point at which circulation slows to a trickle or stops altogether.

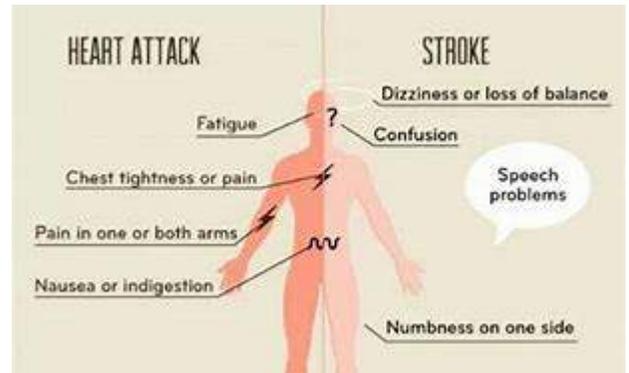
What are the risk factors?

Many of the risk factors for stroke and heart attack are the same. These include:

- smoking
- high cholesterol
- high blood pressure
- age
- family history

High blood pressure strains the walls of your blood vessels. That makes them more rigid and less likely to expand as needed to maintain healthy circulation. Poor circulation can increase your risk of stroke and heart attack.

If you have a heart rhythm abnormality known as atrial fibrillation (AF), you also have an increased stroke risk. Because your heart doesn't beat in a regular rhythm during AF, blood can pool in your heart and form a clot. If that clot breaks free of your heart, it can travel as an embolus toward your brain and cause an ischemic stroke.



Source: www.healthline.com

North Sea flood of 1953 - Watersnood ramp

By Rinske TerHeide

In the Netherlands through the ages the Dutch people have always had a love-hate relationship with water. They depended on the rivers, waterways and ocean for fishing, trade and transportation. The long coastline running from North to South, gave them easy access to the North Sea and the oceans beyond and they explored the world and as a result this brought riches and prosperity. But at home in a country that lies for a large part below sea level, flooding was always a threat and the Dutch have toiled and laboured over the centuries to build defences and dikes to keep the water out.

The south-western provinces are located in an area made up of many islands, inlets and peninsulas and are surrounded by water. Through millennia this land was formed by deposits of sand and silt (Deltas) from two major rivers The Scheldt (Schelde) and Maas (Muess),

The Dutch Government's department of water management the "Rijkswaterstaat" was working on plans to build better flood protection and close off many of the inlets from the sea. For instance the *Afsluitdijk* was completed in 1932, closing off the inland Zuiderzee, keeping the North Sea from surging inland during a storm. But the country was still rebuilding and recovering from the effects of WWII and when in 1953 a disastrous storm struck the country, coastal protection had not been a priority.



It is 70 years ago when a "once in 500-year"-storm hit the North Sea coastal areas. People woke up Sunday morning, February 1st, to the news on the radio that a disaster of major proportions was taking place in the south/western part of the country. The provinces of Zeeland, Zuid-Holland and Noord Brabant had been hit by a combination of a strong North Westerly storm along with a major "spring tide" surge. The dikes they had relied on to keep them safe had been breached and broken through in multiple locations and the sea was surging inland. People asleep in their beds had been surprised by the fury of wind and water in the middle of the night and with very little warning they had been unaware of the danger and were totally unprepared. The "Rijkswaterstaat" had put out a warning of "dangerous high water", (at the time the highest possible state of alarm) the day before, when the water level at low tide was already at high tide level, and with the "spring tide" the water level would rise even more. This warning was somehow not heeded or misunderstood. The local radio stations closed at midnight and the weather stations and telephone services were only manned during the day. That faithful night hundreds of people perished, unable to deal with the rapidly rising water. On the island of Goeree-Overflakkee the water came in so fast as to submerge some villages 2 to 3 meters in half an hour. At the town of Bruinisse the water level reached 4.5 meter above NAP (Normal Amsterdams Peil). (Peil=level).

Early Sunday morning the Schielandse Hoge Zeedijk along the Hollandse IJssel near Nieuwerkerk was starting to collapse. This dike was all that remained to protect 3 million people in South and North Holland from the effects of the storm. In desperation the local mayor commandeered an 18 metre long inland ship to be manoeuvred right in front of the dike, plugging the breach and thus stopping further flooding and many

lives were saved as a result. But most people living on the islands were left helpless. Houses that had been able to withstand the first flood, with residents finding refuge up in their attics or roof tops, collapsed the next day, due to the strong current created by another high tide and the continuing storm. Many people drowned in this second flood.

At first help arrived in the form of life boats being dispatched from other areas as well as response from fishing vessels located outside the disaster area. The full scale of this catastrophe only became clear when on Monday the storm had subsided, and more help started to arrive. The US army sent helicopters from Germany to rescue people from roof tops as well as the Dutch armed forces deploying its only helicopter that day.

Neighbouring countries sent soldiers to assist in the rescue and in the search and recovery of bodies. In one night 165.000 hectares of land had turned into a disaster area, covered by the sea, with 1.795 people losing their lives. The largest death toll was in the province of Zeeland where 864 people perished, with 677 victims in South Holland, 247 in North Brabant and 7 in North Holland. Also listed among the death toll were 2 infants, born during the storm, perishing along with their mothers. 72.000 people were evacuated and 100.000 lost their home and belongings. Beside the human toll, 47.000 cattle drowned as well as 140.000 poultry.

Queen Juliana and Princess Beatrix were among the first to visit the disaster zone to survey the devastation as well as trying to bring some comfort to the people who had lost everything and were in shock. Fund raising efforts were started by private citizens and all kinds of institutions in the Netherlands and “The National relief fund” was launched with lots of international aid pouring in.



In addition to the victims on land, three ships sailing under the Dutch flag, the Salland, the Westland and the Catharina Duyvis were shipwrecked, as well as other vessels from England. Another tragedy was the sinking of the ferry “Princess Victoria”, off the coast of Belfast with 133 people on board. As many as 220 people lost their life at sea during this storm.

Not only did this “once in 500-year” storm affect the Netherlands, 307 people were killed in England, 19 in Eastern Scotland and in West Flanders in Belgium 28 people lost their lives.



After these devastating floods England started building the Thames Barrier as well as other projects along the coast. In the Netherlands the Delta Plan project was started with the building of giant flood barriers a massive seawall with installations that make it possible to close off estuaries and sea inlets during storm surges. These gigantic works were started in the 1960s and were completed in 1997. This project brought a lot of employment to the area and in the year after the disaster the Gross Domestic Product in the Netherlands grew by 8.4 percent, an unheard of percentage, giving a boost to the whole economy.

While people of the affected areas have recovered materially, the memories of that faithful night are forever etched in their minds and they remember and commemorate yearly, all the lives that have been lost and taken by the sea. The motto written on the province of Zeeland's coat of arms reads “Luctor Et Emergo” (*Ik worstel en kom boven*. In English; I struggle and overcome) seems fitting.

Meanwhile the struggle against water continues, even with more urgency, with the sea levels rising due to Global warming.

Aging In Place

By Harold (Benny) Bens, Edmonton, Alberta

I'm 90 years and my wife Ann is 85 and we have been "aging in place" in our own bungalow type home since 1964. We built a separate two door garage in the 70's and a beautiful solarium with lots of windows and a fireplace to the back of our house in the 80's, where we live all the time. We came to Canada in 1961 from The Netherlands and became a Canadian Citizen five years later, which was the law at that time. We both survived the German invasion and occupation of WWII, the bombing of Rotterdam in 1940, the hunger winter of 1943 and now in Edmonton we survived Covid 19.

Ann had a lung operation in 2015, developed a chronic obstructed pulmonary disease (COPD) probably due to years of smoking and is unable to do many things at home because of breathing and other related problems. She sold her car and is staying home, most of the time on oxygen. Fortunately, I quit smoking a long time ago when I was young.

I'm still Blooming and being the caregiver. After my retirement in 1995, I continued with my hobby in music since I was 16 years old, when I was allowed to exchange my mother's violin for a guitar. At that time, I liked to play the piano, but we could not afford that, and small keyboards were not available at that time. At present, I'm still performing at retirement homes under the name "Benny" with my partner on the accordion. This name was given to me when I was playing the harmonica bass, it sounded better, "Benny Bens on Bass". To continue to perform is sometimes difficult to leave Ann alone, but she'll be able to call our good friends Ken and Carolyn if she needs assistance.

In the meantime, I'm learning new tasks in housekeeping, grocery shopping, etcetera, and did not know how hard it is. But I don't mind learning all the things to do like doing the laundry, operating the air fryer, coffee machine, microwave and a host of other things, most of all cooking.

My partner, who is also a Blooming musical senior, refused to tell me his age based on discrimination. I found this very unusual as I have no problem giving my age to anyone who is asking. The other day, I read an article about ageism from Alice Lukacs in the Edmonton Journal that drew my attention. She said, people should not feel sorry for me, talk down to me or treat me differently because I'm "old". Ageism has got to stop.

Ageism on the internet describes the words, prejudice, bigotry or discrimination on the grounds of a person's age. Lying about your age for fear of negative perception. Younger people are geniuses and older people are inept. One thing I'm finding out is that teenagers are considering older people inept, out of touch with the present time. This is probably the reason that it is difficult for older people to have meaningful conversations with grandchildren.



My son lives in Calgary with his wife and three teenage children with boys 11 and 15 and girl 13 years old. When I was young, my sister and I were always visiting my grandmother. She was the pride of the family and we enjoyed her many stories. At that time, we did not have any social media, TV's, telephones, cell phones or computers. She lived through WWI with nine children, 1918 influenza pandemic, recessions and more and survived and now we are here.

Today, with all the communication devices available, there are limited conversations. I refuse to use social media to communicate. When we were young, there was no social media and things were a lot better. We are from the good old system, if you want to talk to us, visit or use your cell phone. A lot of people have no regular landline telephones anymore. We may be out of touch with the present time, but we'll continue "aging in place".

Dutch nationals living abroad have until February 1 to register for senate vote

Dutch nationals living abroad have until February 1, 2023 to register their intention to vote in next year's electoral college ballot – which will influence the make-up of the upper house of parliament or senate. It is the first time Dutch expats will have been able to have an impact on the make-up of the senate, following a change in the voting regulations earlier this year. Dutch expats cannot vote in the provincial elections per se, but they can vote on March 15 for a new electoral college, whose members will then vote alongside provincial councillors for the 75 members of the senate.

Dutch nationals who live outside the Netherlands and are not registered with a local authority will vote via a central registration system in The Hague. Once the form is filled in and sent off, together with a copy of your Dutch ID, you will receive confirmation when it arrives in The Hague and again when you have been included in the register. Voting itself takes place by post although the ballot is sent by email. If you live on Aruba, Curaçao or Sint Maarten you will receive your voting documents through the Netherlands Representative Office. The 570 members of the 12 provincial councils, plus the members of the expat electoral college, will go on to elect the 75 members of the senate on May 30.

The Senate (Dutch: Eerste Kamer der Staten-Generaal or simply Eerste Kamer literally "First Chamber of the States General", or sometimes Senaat) is the upper house of the States General, the legislature of the Netherlands. It's 75 members are elected on lists by the members of the twelve States-Provincial and four electoral colleges for the Senate every four years, within three months of the provincial elections. All provinces and colleges have different electoral weight depending on their population.

Members of the Senate tend to be veteran or part-time politicians at the national level, often having other roles. They receive an allowance which is about a quarter of the salary of the members of the lower house. Unlike the politically more significant House of Representatives, it meets only once a week. It has the right to accept or reject legislative proposals but not to amend them or to initiate legislation. Directly after a bill has been passed by the House of Representatives, it is sent to the Senate and is submitted to a parliamentary committee. The committee decides whether the bill can be immediately put on the agenda of the full chamber or if there should first be preparatory study of the bill. If a bill is immediately put on the agenda of the full chamber, it is passed as a formality without a debate.

Source: DutchNews.nl

January 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 sewing klaverjas	11	12 windmills	13	14 card making
15	16 Stitch 'N Rip	17 sewing klaverjas	18	19 windmills	20	21 murder mystery
22	23 Stitch 'N Rip	24 sewing klaverjas	25	26 windmills	27	28 card making
29	30 Stitch 'N Rip	31 sewing klaverjas				

February 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 windmills	3	4 Cyber se- curity info
5	6	7 sewing klaverjas	8	9 windmills	10	11 card making
12	13	14 sewing klaverjas	15	16 windmills	17	18 BINGO
19	20	21 sewing klaverjas	22	23 windmills	24	25 card making
26	27	28 sewing klaverjas				