

Dear District 32 RTO-ERO Members

Well, I don't know about you folks, but I am ready for Spring to arrive. The time changed this weekend so that means Spring is on the way. Thank goodness.

To begin I want to thank the members of our District 32 Executive for their dedication to you, the members of our organization. They are truly a great group to work with and willingly take their roles seriously. As in all organizations, there could be room for new members to join in to learn more about what goes on at our meetings and perhaps you have a skill you would be willing to share and join the team. If so, there is info in this newsletter from our Nominating Committee Chair. Please reach out to him if you have questions etc.

Periodically, you receive messages from our Head Office of RTOERO National, inviting you to listen in to webinars on many different topics. I have joined some of these webcasts and am impressed with the information that is shared about many topics. I encourage you to register for them when you receive an email telling you about them.

Our Annual General meeting is approaching in June. Check out the date in this newsletter and mark it in your calendars. We hope to have an amazing turnout so members can hear the latest updates, chat with other retirees, hear from our National President, Martha Foster and celebrate with members who have reached special membership milestones. I hope to see many of you with us.

We have a group of people who are still actively employed who have joined our District RTOERO. Their membership is free until they do retire. I encourage you to let other education workers, teachers, administrators, educational assistants, PSW's, speech pathologists, superintendents, office administrators, custodians, IT technicians, anyone involved with education, that they can join if they are approaching retirement, so there is a smooth transition into our District.

In closing, thank you to Kathy Findlay, who is the creator of this newsletter and to everyone who has contributed in any way. Would you like to contribute?

Caroll Carkner, President



As we come to updating the executive, we are asking if anyone is interested in being on the local district 32 board. Submit your name to David Nieman at 623-525-0883 or Linda MacKinnon at 613-678-2625. Come and join as it a way of helping your fellow friends

## Vision Your Future



### **Retirement Planning Workshops**

Join us – District 32 will be hosting a free Retirement Planning workshop. In Person.

**April 5 at Vankleek H.S stating at 4:30**

Refreshments and after school snacks will be provided

Register on line at [district32.rtoero.ca](http://district32.rtoero.ca) or at [rtoero.ca](http://rtoero.ca) (Toronto)

Learn what you need to know, connect with peers at the same stage as you and walk away with answers, resources, and clarity on your next steps.

### **Free RTOERO membership for actively employed until retirement**

RTOERO is offering free membership until retirement to anyone actively working in the education community. This offer includes all those who work in private and public schools and school boards, early childhood education and post-secondary education.

Check the website – [rtoero.ca/retirementbundle](http://rtoero.ca/retirementbundle)

### **Member Services Committee**

One of our committee's mandate is to share information regarding Important Documents with our members. We are working on an accessible electronic resource with information and links to websites. Information regarding wills, powers of attorney and estate planning will be available as well as other pertinent topics such as MAiD (Medical Assistance in Dying), Compassionate Communities and Seniors for Social Action Ontario. Once completed, this resource will be found on the District Executive Reference and Resources webpage.



On the RTOERO website under the Learning Management System (under Membership) there are several useful webinars available for our members: Technology - Introduction to Cyber Security #1 and #2 and RTOERO Foundation – Delirium: An Overview of the causes, treatments and how You can help!

Congratulations to the following five districts celebrating their 50th anniversary with RTOERO in 2023!

District 16 – City of Toronto

District 20 – Frontenac Lennox & Addington

District 22 – Etobicoke and York

District 23 – North York

District 24 – Scarborough and East York

Anne Marie Farnworth



**The Annual General Meeting and luncheon** is coming soon. Save the date **June 8**. Come and enjoy meeting old friends. More information will be sent closer to the date.



### **Community Grants and Scholarships** (project report)

Our districts “Drum Circles For Seniors” project is now complete. Residents living in residences in Chute a Blondeau, Vankleek Hill, Russell and Rockland benefited and enjoyed the activity and fellowship lead by instructor William Laurin. Thank you to our members at large who joined in the sessions. Project evaluation remains to be completed and submitted. Our district is very much interested in applying for another grant and we are asking for ideas from our members. Please send Carroll, Pat or Mary an idea to pursue. Deadline for grant application is June 2, 2023.

Mary Leduc

### **Community Grants and Scholarship Report** (scholarships)

The committee received 177 scholarship applications this year from many fields of study, Nursing, Education, Law, Divinity, Kinesiology, Landscape Architecture, Social Work, Neuroscience to name a few. We were pleased to see we had one candidate from Prescott-Russell. \$3000 is awarded to 20 successful candidates. RTOERO members can recommend students from their family or community for a post-secondary scholarship. Application forms and instructions for next year will be posted on the RTOERO website in January, 2024.

Submitted by Pat Rogers

### **Health report**

This first week in March, RTOERO Johnson sent out an information sheet to all plan participants of the Extended Health Care Plan. It includes a benefit statement and income tax summary. Other items of interest are as follows.

Sun Life Assurance Company has been replaced by Canadian Premier Life Insurance Company. There will be no changes to the premiums or to the plan and you will still contact Johnson regarding claims or questions.

A reminder that claims must be submitted within 6 months from the date incurred.

Your RTOERO insurance premiums can be claimed on your tax return as well as the part of the claim expenses not covered by the plan.

Your membership fee is not tax deductible

Ruth Barton-Dempster



## March 2023 PAC Update

I attended a Provincial PAC meeting in Toronto on Feb. 16th. Danielle Norris, Manager, Marketing & Communications, presented on the work of the Vibrant Voices Advocacy team, noting their targets for 2023. In addition to the regular advocacy initiatives, such as the Vibrant Voices webinar series and ongoing meetings with elected officials, the team will shift their focus to supporting advocacy at the district level via providing tools and training to PAC district representatives



It was confirmed that PAC members will take part in the virtual one-on-one meetings with elected officials during the April 24-25 Federal Advocacy on the Hill event but will not attend the in-person reception in Ottawa.

The committee agreed to add a half-day training session to the meeting schedule in May. PAC members will receive in-person training on May 2, from 1-3 p.m., followed by the PAC meeting on May 3, from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

PAC regional meetings will be held later this month. It was also agreed that the newly created PAC Rep role description would be presented at these meetings so that attendees could give their feedback.

### Pension Plans

It was decided that, going forward, select committee members would monitor these pension plans, so as to alert the committee should any issues arise which could impact our members:

- Jacquelin Asselin – CAAT
- Inta Aldridge – OMERS
- Richard James – OTPP

Next PAC provincial meeting in May2-3, 2023

Respectfully submitted by Richard James  
PAC Rep and Provincial PAC Member

### **Beware Fraudsters!**

The website [GetSmarterAboutMoney.ca](https://www.getsmarteraboutmoney.ca) by the Ontario Securities Commission offers tips and advice to help you recognize fraud and protect yourself. Here are some tips.

**Emails or text messages** – a fraudster may pose as someone trustworthy to try to get private information. They may encourage you to open a link or attachment. If it seems suspicious just delete do not open or reply.

**Social media** – Scammers create fake accounts or take over another person's account. Delete connection requests from people you don't know. Review your privacy settings on your accounts.

**Phone** – phone scammers may change their caller id to appear legitimate. They may claim to be from a business or gov't agency. Avoid doing business over the phone unless you made the call yourself. If you're not sure, hang up, then call the company back.

For more information about protecting yourself from fraud, visit [Getsmartaboutmoney.ca/protect-your-money/fraud](https://www.getsmarteraboutmoney.ca/protect-your-money/fraud)

## **Membership Report for February 2023**

Retired membership – 178

Actively Employed membership – 38



New members since December –

Lise Theoret

Danielle Wackid

Sylvester Sergerie

Submitted by Pauline Sarrazin and Bill Young

## **Greeting Our Members** *Goodwill Report for December 2022 to March 2023*

### **December:**

Birthdays: 6 birthday cards were sent

Condolences: Donna Lafrance on the passing of her niece, Chantal Lafrance-Boudreau

80 Christmas cards were mailed to those 70+ and 24 Christmas gifts were sent to those 80+

Get Well: Shari Baldwin for a speedy recovery from knee surgery

Correspondence: Nancy MacGregor thanking us for her Christmas present

### **January:**

Birthdays: 1 card was sent plus flowers for a special birthday for Helen McCormick

Condolences: Audrey Amell who lost a sister-in-law

### **February:**

Birthdays: 3 birthday cards were sent

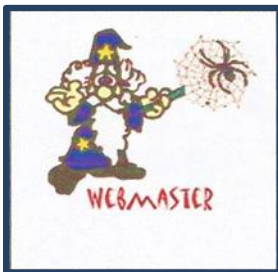
### **March:**

Birthdays: 4 birthday cards were sent



Submitted by: Melanie Beaupre and Eileen Rainey

## **Keeping In Touch**



### **Engaging with RTOERO District 32 on social media**

Connect with RTOERO on social media to discover:

- Healthy aging tips, information and resources
- Fun member stories, photos and contents
- RTOERO news
- Connections with like-minded RTOERO members
- Retirement ideas and inspiration

Follow, like and visit so you don't miss any content:

Like Our Facebook page - Rtoero District 32 Prescott-Russell

Follow Our Twitter account - RTO/ERO\_PR@rto\_pr

Visit Our website - [district32.rtoero.ca](http://district32.rtoero.ca) You can also access our Facebook page and Twitter directly from our website by clicking on the icons in the right hand corner.

