**RTOERO Fall Luncheon Meeting**
**October 26, 2023**

**AGENDA**

1. **Welcome**
2. **Memorial Candle**

 **3.  Agenda- additions, corrections**

 **4. Minutes**

**Summary of Minutes -** Linda McKinnon

-Our President Caroll informed us that many of our Executive members also serve on National Committees. Pat Hempey-Rogers chairs the Community Grants & Scholarships Committee and Lynne Current is a member of that committee. Anne Marie Farnworth is the chair of the Member Services Committee. Richard James is a member of the Political Advocacy Committee and Caroll Carkner is a member of the Governance & Nominations Committee.

-Caroll presented David Nieman and Diane Legault with gifts as they are leaving the Executive. She also recognized 5 members who had attained milestone memberships of 25 & 30 years.

-RTOERO offers webinars on-line through Vibrant Voices & RTOERO Foundation. Many are available to the entire membership.

-Our bank account balance is $ 24,455.90. Bursary cheques of $300 have been sent to 7 high schools in our District.

-Mary Leduc introduced William Laurin who led Drum Circle for Seniors, our Community Grants Project.

-Grace Gong from our District was awarded a scholarship offered by RTOERO. We supported her with an additional $200.

-Our Facebook page provides members with information about activities & upcoming events. Caroll Carkner will be our new administrator.

- Our local PAC Executive is hoping to meet with our local MPP Stephane Sarrazin to discuss 3 key issues: Environmental Stewardship, Geriatric Health Care and a Senior Strategy.

-In 2023 the Foundation streamlined its granting process to include a wider variety of project proposals. The Foundation relies on generous donations from members to continue its work to support healthy active aging for Seniors.

-We presently have a total of 177 retired members and 37 actively employed members.

-Our Fall Luncheon and Christmas Lunch were well attended and very enjoyable.

-The Member Services Committee works to provide advice regarding member engagement, volunteer recruitment & succession planning. This coming year the Committee will continue to focus on 2 other mandates: provision of information regarding important documents and addressing goodwill and social isolation. The important documents section on the website contains a fillable inventory of important documents and contacts.

-ENTENTE is the new name for our group insurance plan. A new booklet will be mailed out to members. Cloud MD has replaced Teledoc and Best Doctors.

**5.  President's Report** – Patricia Rogers

Five members of your executive had the opportunity to attend the RTOERO Fall Special Meeting and Forum.

At the Special meeting there was a motion that RTOERO membership fees for members enrolled in the Entente Group Insurance Program (Health Plan) be financed through income earned on long term investments, which are solely funded by insurance premiums.  Members not enrolled in the plan will still have to pay their annual dues. Fees as of January 2024 will be 76.50. This motion was passed by the majority of the corporate members.

The Board of Directors are seeking to change the name of RTOERO. There are to be consultations with the membership over the next several months or longer in an effort to pick a name that represents who we are. We are no longer just retired teachers, we now have actively employed members, members were employed in a variety of educational settings, and we are no longer just in Ontario, etc.

There was an opportunity to share effective district practices in topics such as Political Advocacy, DEI, Environmental Stewardship, Volunteer Engagement, etc...

Several of RTOERO Preferred Partners were present at the Forum, Hearing Life, Iris, Merit Travel, and a new partner Telus. If you are interested in knowing more about  Telus I have a couple of handouts that were given to me.

 **6. Vice-Presidents' reports -** Val Allen, Richard James(no report)

 **7.  Secretary**’**s Report- Summary of Minutes provided –** Linda MacKinnon

  **8.** **TREASURER**’**S REPORT** – Anne Marie Farnworth

As of October 22, we had $17, 678.84 in our bank account less an outstanding cheque for $73.98. The balance is therefore $17, 604.86.

At our last district meeting in September, the executive passed a motion to continue to support the Meals on Wheels programs in Prescott-Russell. An amount of $200 each was given to the fifteen community organisations for a total of $3000. One of RTOERO’s strategic plans is to improve the lives of members and seniors. Meals on Wheels is a worthwhile cause that helps older persons who don’t have the means to shop and prepare meals.

**9. Committee Reports**

**A) Goodwill Report for July to Oct. 2023 -** Melanie Beaupre, Eileen Rainey

**July:**

Birthdays: 4 birthday cards were sent

Condolences: to the family of Helen McCormick

**August:**

Birthdays: 3 cards were sent

Flowers were sent to Elizabeth Stewart for a special birthday

Condolences: To the family of Michael Whetstone. A donation to the RTOERO Foundation will be made in his memory as he was on the executive of District 32

And to Jill Cass on the passing of her father

**September:**

Birthdays: 3 cards were sent

Flowers were sent to Shirley Folkard for a special birthday

Condolences*:* flowers were sent to the family of Eric McCrae – a donation will be made to the RTOERO Foundation in his memory as he taught for our board

To Eileen Rainey on the sudden passing of her husband John – a donation to the RTOERO Foundation will be made in his memory as he taught for the Upper Canada board

To Sandy Rainey and Eric on the passing of her brother-in-law/ his brother

To Kathy Findlay on the passing of her sister-in-law**,** Shirley Bishop

Get Well: Get well wishes sent to Shari Baldwin and Gary Barton

**October:**

Birthdays: A card was sent to Alfred Thereby

**B) Membership Report -** Pauline Sarrazin, Bill Young

October 26, 2023

Since the Fall Luncheon of October 2022, the following members have joined District 32.

1. Danielle Wackid- Rockland
2. Lise Théorêt- Cornwall
3. Richard Jennings- L’Orignal
4. George Tomas- Rockland
5. Scott Hepburn- Alfred
6. Kelly Canning- Alfred
7. Charlene Debransky- L’Orignal
8. Kathleen Mannion- Fournier
9. Denise Gauthier- Curran
10. Carolle Rose- Alfred

Welcome to all new members.

In Memoriam:

1. Marion Christie- L’Orignal
2. Barbara Rutherford- Hawkesbury
3. Helen McCormick- Rockland
4. Marguerite McCrank- Orleans
5. Michael Whetstone- Hawkesbury
6. John Rainey- Vankleek Hill

This brings our retired membership # to 177.

The “actively employed membership” # is 26.

Submitted by: Pauline Sarrazin and Bill Young

 **C) Communication**

**Newsletter -** Kathy Findlay

Newsletters will be sent out seasonally and also special announcements and invitations. If there are items, photos and articles about travels you have taken, I would be interested in including them in the newsletter. Send them to findlayk718@gmail.com

If your email changes, please send me an email with the new address. If you are receiving an email and a hard copy of the newsletter, please let me know which you prefer. Thanks.

Kathy Findlay

 **Facebook –** Caroll Carkner

Please feel free to make comments and answer questions on our Facebook page.

Rtoero District 32 Prescott-Russell

  **Website-** John Healey

Check out our website at district32.rtoero.ca

**D) Member Services-** Anne Marie Farnworth (no report)

**E) Health Report –** Ruth Barton-Dempster

On Tuesday November14 at 10.00 am there will be a Webinar for Districts 27,32 and 45.

**New - extra coverage for trip cancellation/interruption**

As of September 2023, you have a new option to top up your existing trip cancellation and interruption coverage.

With the RTOERO travel insurance included with your extended health care plan, you're covered for up to $6,000 per person, per trip for cancellation or interruption expenses. You can now add extra coverage.

﻿Buy the extra trip cancellation/interruption insurance for a specific trip to have coverage of up to $12,000 per insured for that specific trip.

﻿Choose single, couple or family coverage.

﻿Read the Entente Insurance Program booklet for full details, as coverage is subject to the same terms and conditions as the trip cancellation/interruption in the RTOERO travel plan.

AUTO

Extra days

You have coverage for up to 93 days per person, per trip through your extended health care plan. If you're travelling for longer than 93 days outside your province or territory of residence, you can easily add coverage for extra days.

﻿Add five more days of coverage for a trip of up to 98 days or extend your coverage in 15-day blocks.

**F)  Social-** Jill Cass, Sandy Rainey

District 32 Spring Luncheon and Annual General Meeting was held on Wednesday the fourteenth of June at the Casselview Golf Club in Casselman. A delivery of hot buffet featuring sliced roast beef with rosemary gravy was served.

Thirty-six members attended to hear the chair of the board of directors RTOERO Martha Foster. She spoke of the dedication and involvement of our members at the various levels of the organization.

Milestone certificates were presented to Jacqueline Houde, Nancy MacGregor and Marjorie McGinnis for their years of membership with RTOERO.

Caroll Carkner received a pin as past president and Pat Rogers received one for incoming president.

Looking forward to seeing everyone on Thursday December 7th for our Christmas get-together in Plantagenet.

**G) Community Grants and Scholarships -** Mary Leduc

**Community Grants** are designed to encourage all RTOERO Districts to support and partner with local organizations to promote projects that will help our organization to meet its strategic goals of improving the lives of members and seniors; being the trusted voice for the broader education communities; and broadening our membership base. RTOERO Districts are eligible to receive grants of up to $4,000 for community projects that advance these strategic goals. Districts interested will serve as the project sponsor and will submit the application for a Community Grant either in partnership with a community organization or on behalf of the district.

Please share your ideas and suggestions with Mary and/or any member of our local executive. Applications are due by June 2, 2023.

To invest in a better future for our communities, RTOERO awards**scholarships** valued at $3,000 each to 20 post-secondary students. The scholarships will help the students to pursue goals that support well-being, from geriatric medicine, to nursing, to public health, to age-friendly technology. RTOERO includes retirees and active employees from the broader education community and has a mission to improve the lives of members and seniors.

The awards go to university or college students enrolled in programs leading to careers that support RTOERO’s mission. District 32 RTOERO members can recommend students from their family or community for a post-secondary scholarship.

The **2024 Post-Secondary Scholarship application** is now available on the RTOERO

website at the following link: <https://rtoero.ca/giving-back/scholarships/>.

In addition to the online application, you will find information about eligibility and criteria,

as well as downloadable application instructions.

Please note that applications are to be completed by the student applying, not the

sponsoring RTOERO member, and can be accessed via the “application” button at

<https://rtoero.ca/giving-back/scholarships/>. Note that the **deadline to apply is January**

**12, 2024 at midnight.**

If you have any questions please contact Jessica Martin (jmartin@rtoero.ca).

 H**) Political Advocacy –** Richard James (no report)

**I) RTO Foundation Report – October 25, 2023 -** Dorothy Kinkaid

In a recent article, Dr Paula Rochon, RTO Chair in Geriatric Medicine, at the University of Toronto stated, that “If you look at just about every report that comes up, it talks about older people and doesn’t differentiate by sex, and it doesn’t differentiate by age group" .

The demographics of society have greatly changed from the median age in 1970 of 26 in 1970 to today where it is 41. Our life expectancy in 1970 was 73 today it is 83. Eighteen percent of our population has reached age 65.

Dr Rochon realized that more research was needed to focus on the needs of the various groups that make up the Canadian population. One goal is to improve the health and social care of older women. She suggests that presenting data information by sex and age group would increase the validity of the data results.

The Women’s Age Lab was established two years ago at Women’s College Hospital in Toronto. The lab is striving to transform the aging experience by using science to address the needs of older women which have gone considerably unmet.

Women tend to live longer than men. They are likely to act as caregivers for family members, live alone, or in long term care. The Lab began tracking gendered ageism by launching a one-of-a-kind interactive module to educate the importance of sex and age data in health research.

The RTO Foundation opened a new granting cycle in September 2022. The goal is to identify and partner with results- based organizations in order to address the most critical issues faced by our aging population. The RTO Foundation awards grants between $10,000 and $50,000 to projects that aim to improve seniors' health and wellness.

**10.     Adjournment**