

RWTO ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

Waterloo Inn and Conference Centre

Waterloo, Ontario

June 6, 7 and 8, 2006

SESSION I – JUNE 7, 2006

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks – Joy Patyk, President; Carol Bell, Program Coordinator

All were welcomed to the Fiftieth Annual Convention. Joy read “Be the Best of Whatever You Are”. Housekeeping items were dealt with before business began. There were 150 delegates present.

Resolutions 1– 8 and 10 need 66 % of the registered voters or 100 people to carry. Resolutions 9 and 11 need 50% of the registered voters or 76 people. A Constitutional resolution brought to the floor without prior notice needs 80% of the registered voters or 121 people to pass.

2. Minutes of the 2005 Annual Meeting

Motion #AM-06-01

Moved by Leslie Uttley, seconded by Judy Anderson, the adoption of the Minutes of the 2005 Annual Meeting as printed Pages 4 – 12 in the Fiftieth Annual Report. **Carried.**

3. Treasurer’s Report

Martha Abra, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, gave a detailed account of the past year’s financial transactions. She reported that the auditor, Ralph Watters, found that the statements present fairly the financial position and the statement of operations for the year ending March 31, 2006. In all, she dealt with the Statement of Financial Position; Statement of Operations and Reserve Fund Expenditures; Statement of Cash Flow; Notes to Financial Statements; Statement of Operations (advertising now split off salaries).

Revenues were up by \$4525. Revenue over Expenditures was \$2822.

In the 2006 – 2007 proposed Budget, Board expenses are separated from Convention expenses. Newsletter expenses are up because of more members and postage. There are now bank charges. A question was raised as to whether the Bank of Montreal has such charges. There will be a deficit in the budget.

Parliamentarian, Lee Beech, assumed the chair for resolutions.

RESOLUTIONS FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Motion # AM-06-02

Moved by Carol Martin, seconded by Marilyn Emmett

RESOLUTION 1 (from the Board)

Be it resolved that the Constitution be amended to read as follows:

Article III Membership and Fees

4. Fees

(c) The membership year shall be from September 1 to August 31.

(e) Annual provincial membership fees are due September 1st each year. They should be forwarded to the Provincial Office by October 15th. To be included in the membership count for the determination of delegates to the Annual Meeting, fees paid after that date must be forwarded prior to November 30.

Note: This change is to coincide with the school year, and will take effect for the 07-08 school year. For the transition year only, an advance rebate of 50% of the previous year's rebate will be paid to Branches on July 31.

Carried.

Motion # AM-06-03

Moved by Marilyn Emmett, seconded by Marion Kasha

RESOLUTION 2 (from the Board)

Be it resolved that the Constitution be amended to read as follows:

Article VIII - Duties and Structure of Provincial Committees

8. Review Committee

The Review Committee shall:

- (a) Be chaired by the Past President**
- (b) Consist of the President, the First Vice-President and two Directors**
- (c) Meet to review the performance of the RWTO employee(s)**
- (d) Recommend any increase in salary beyond the COLA increment**
- (e) Report, in camera, to the Executive**

Rationale: Traditionally, there have been periodic performance reviews of the RWTO employee. For the past few years a small committee composed of Executive members has done this. This is a tradition that has worked well and has been passed on verbally. It is now time to formalize this practice with a Committee.

Carried.

Motion # AM-06-04

Moved by Carol Martin, seconded by Sandra Train

RESOLUTION 8 (from the Board)

Be it resolved that the Guidelines for Board of Directors be amended as follows:

Work of the Provincial Committees

A. Standing Committees

6. Review Committee

(a) This committee is comprised of the Past President, the President, the First Vice- President and two Area Directors.

(b) The committee does the performance review of the Executive/Secretary Treasurer or any other employee that RWTO has hired.

(c) The Past President chairs the Review Committee and reports to the Executive the committee's recommendations.

(d) >From time to time the Committee may review and change the instrument used to evaluate the employee.

Carried.

Motion # AM-06-05

Moved by Carol Martin, seconded by Marion Kasha

RESOLUTION 3 (from the Board)

Be it resolved that the Constitution be amended to read as follows

Article VI - Duties of the Executive Officers

2. Past President

(d) Chair the Review Committee **Carried.**

Motion # AM-06-06

Moved by Marilyn Emmett, seconded by Carole Watson

RESOLUTION 4 (from the Board)

Be it resolved that the Constitution be amended to read as follows:

Article VI - Duties of the Executive Officers

11. Executive Secretary-Treasurer

Remove (b) and renumber the list. **Carried.**

Motion # AM-06-07

Moved by Linda Seath, seconded by Carole Watson

RESOLUTION 5 (from the Board)

Be it resolved that the Constitution be amended to read as follows:

Article 1X - Branch Organization

(f) To receive a rebate the Executive Officers of a Branch must be RWTO members in good standing.

(g) Once the membership of a Branch falls below fifteen (15) members the Branch and the Provincial Executive will enter into a dialogue to discuss the feasibility of keeping the Branch open.

The above amendments are to be inserted after (e) and the present (f), (g) and (h) become (h), (i) and (j). **Carried.**

Motion # AM-06-08

Moved by Jeannine Renaud, seconded by Sandra Train

RESOLUTION 6 (from the Board)

Be it resolved that the Constitution be amended to read as follows:

Article X - Annual Meeting:

4. Amendments to the Constitution

(c) When a constitutional change has been duly passed, it shall be extended to all relevant clauses, which need to be changed, without further resolutions being required.

Carried.

Motion # AM-06-09

Moved by Carol Bell, seconded by Carole Watson

RESOLUTION 7 (from the Board)

Be it resolved that the Constitution be amended to read as follows:

Article X - Annual Meeting:

6. Delegate Expenses

(b) i. (the present (b))

ii. Reimbursement for public transportation

(i.e. Bus, air, train) will be calculated on the lesser amount of: the regular mileage rate paid on the distance that exceeds 800 kilometres return or the actual fare. **Carried.**

RESOLUTIONS FROM THE BRANCHES

Motion #AM-06-10

Moved by Carolyn Pitt, seconded by Shelley Cotton (Kingston Branch)

RESOLUTION 9 >From Kingston Branch:

Be it resolved that: the annual rebate per member paid to the Branches be increased to 20% of the membership fee paid by members who have joined RWTO since August 31, 1980, effective 2007-2008.

Rationale:

1. In order to encourage retired women teachers to join RWTO, more funds are needed at the local level to provide activities of interest.
2. Branches need additional funds in order to continue their “Caring and Sharing” outreach.
3. The cost for delegates to attend the Annual Meeting is increasing and Branches need additional funds to cover those costs.
4. The cost of events is increasing and Branches need this increase to maintain quality events.
5. This would bring RWTO closer to alignment with RTO practice.
6. Since there are so many requests by charities for funds for various worthwhile causes, it has become difficult for local RWTO Branches to raise funds to supplement the rebate.

Recorded Vote: For 74 Against 76 **Defeated.**

Motion #AM-06-11

Moved by Linda Hansen, seconded by Joyce Bentham (Northumberland)

RESOLUTION 10 (From Northumberland Branch)

Be it resolved that the Constitution, Article III - Membership and Fees

3. Sustaining Member

Be amended to read 3. Life Member

Rationale:

Sustain means “to keep in existence, keep up, maintain or prolong”. That is probably how the term “sustaining member” came to be; however, the adjective form of sustain is sustainable, not sustaining. Usually when the term sustaining is used, it is to do with something like a program or it is used in the verb form, meaning to lengthen or extend in duration.

*Members of RWTO should feel that they are honoured and valuable. The Branch feels that the definition of “being in existence, maintained or prolonged” is not suitable for those members who are unable to carry on with their membership due to circumstances beyond their control. **Referred.***

Motion # AM-06-12

Moved by Erna de Burger-Fex, seconded by Lillian Wahamaa

That Resolution 10 be amended by the deletion “Life” and substitution of “Permanent” member. Referred.

Motion # AM-06-13

Moved by Jean Axcell, seconded by Carol Watson

That the amendment Motion #AM-06-12 and the main motion Resolution 8 # AM-06-11 be referred to the Board.

Carried.

Motion # AM-06-14

Moved by Patricia Lasko, seconded by Betty Vent (York North)

RESOLUTION 11 >From York North

Be it resolved that whenever a resolution presented to the Annual Meeting has a possible financial implication for RWTO, the Executive shall prepare an accompanying information sheet for the delegates which outlines exactly what those implications would be and how the upcoming budget would be affected.

Rationale: It is often difficult for delegates to grasp the full effects that resolutions involving monies will have on the budget. In the midst of a debate the facts are easily lost or misunderstood. An accompanying fact sheet prepared by the Executive ahead of time would be most helpful for the delegates to have in hand. They would be able to study it before the debate arises and thus make well-informed decisions.

Carried.

President, Joy Patyk, returned to the chair.

4. Nominations Report – Carol Martin

Full slate of officers as printed on Page 48 of the Fiftieth Report was presented.

5. Program Coordinator's Report – Carol Bell

Congratulations to all the branches on completing a wonderful year; many special events were undertaken to celebrate the Fiftieth.

6. Membership Report – Sandra Train

The committee tried to contact all pay direct members personally to encourage them to join a Branch. The Barbara Bain Awards helped spark membership growth.

7. Honorary Life Membership Report – Vivian Fleming

Three Honorary Life Awards were approved for this year as outlined in the Annual Report.

8. Issues and Concerns – Carole Watson

Three topics were highlighted this year as in the Annual Report

9. Archivist's Report – Mary Jane Finn

Sadly, 205 members passed away up to March 31, 2006. RWTO archival documents are available

through York University for study and use.

10. Goodwill Report – Jean Axcell

Twenty members are over 100 years old; two members are 104! Roses distributed by branch presidents are appreciated and save many dollars on delivery for the 100-year-olds.

11. Insurance Report – Judi Hood, Carolle Kennedy

Bernice Pew was replaced by Carolle due to Bernice's family concerns. Next year will be a year of branch visits. Last year a successful workshop was held in conjunction with the Treasurers. 338 took insurance through the Open Window. Insurance cards have proven helpful.

12. Outreach Project – Carol Martin

Fifty-two out of fifty-three branches completed projects with a wide variety and many wonderful results. A scrapbook of projects being prepared

SESSION 2 – JUNE 8, 2006

13. In Memoriam Service – Mary Jane Finn

Area directors placed yellow roses in memory of the 205 members who have passed away in the past year. The theme of Peace, Love and Friendship was used

14. Communications Report – Martha Summers

Newsletter continues to grow and appears to be well-received by members.

15. Book Project Report – Carol Martin

The Anniversary Book is turning out to be a great success. Thanks to all the writers and interviewers and t to those transporting them to save postage. Some books are still available for sale.

16. 50th Anniversary Committee Report – Joan Sisler-Wells

The 50th pins have proven very popular and the cake was a hit.

17. Insurance - ENCON

Over \$18000.00 was returned to RWTO through profit sharing. Ruby Vaughan, Central Algoma, won the draw prize

18. Boundary Study Committee Report – Barbara Johnston

The report was presented for information at this time. Any further action will come from the board. Questions for clarification only were entertained.

19. Feather In Your Hat – Sandra Train

The "Feather in Your Hat" was presented to East Parry Sound and York North for outstanding projects.

Motion # AM-06-15

Moved by Erna de Burger-Fex, seconded by Betty Wells

That all the reports as printed in the RWTO Convention 2006 Annual Report be accepted. Carried.

20. New Business

Motion # AM-06-16

Moved by Adele Muldoon, seconded by Ann Davelaar

Be it resolved that the Provincial President and the Issues and Concerns Committee write a letter to the appropriate Federal and Provincial Ministries on behalf of all RWTO members; the letter to register our concern over the increase in child pornography on the Internet today and to insist that immediate action be mandatory to eliminate this.

Rationale: Our children should be protected by our governments as they are our country's most valuable assets and future leaders. Exploitation of their innocence is not acceptable.

Carried. Unanimously

21. Budget Approval

Motion # AM-06-17

Moved by Judy Vanleeuwen, seconded by Joan Watson

The acceptance of the Budget as printed for 2006 - 2007. Carried.

22. Invitation to the 2007 Convention

Sarnia-Lambton welcomes RWTO members to the Convention June 5-7, next year.

23. Adjournment

Moved by Carol Martin

That the meeting be adjourned.

Leslie Uttley, Recording Secretary