

Recognitionthrough Our Community Support

Adopt A Child Program (clothing)

Alzheimers Society

*Autism Chapters **

Backpacks for Kids

Bags Plus - personal items for women and children

Basketeers www.basketeers.ca *

*Big Brothers/ Big Sisters **

Blankets for Elderly or Needy

Books and Pyjamas Project

Books for Babes

Books in Hand - A Book for Every Child

Breakfast/Nutrition Programs/Clubs

Bursaries/Scholarships

Cancer Quilts/Runs/ Walks

Caring and Sharing Awards

Caring Caps

Caring Partners Global

Childrens' Foundations

Children's Treatment Centre

Christmas Hampers/Outreach

*Coldest Night of the Year program**

Community Care

Crossroads

Emergency Shelters

Fall Fairs

Family Violence Prevention Centre

Firefighters' Christmas Drive

Food Banks/Food4Kids

Free the Children

Fresh Start

Fun with Books

Gift Wrapping - for local charities

Girls Incorporated www.girlsinc.org

Grade 8 Graduations

Homeless shelters

Hope Worldwide

Hospital Foundations

In Memoriam donations – local libraries, hospitals

Interval House

Izzy Dolls – African Comfort Dolls

Junior Farmers

Kiwanis Music Festival (participants)

*Learning Disabilities of Ontario (LDAO) **

Learning Foundation

Literary grants

Local dog, and cat rescue facilities

Local hospitals, libraries, museums

Local outreach programs – needy children

Meals on Wheels

Members' Special Projects - offshore

Milk Bag Mattresses – countries in need

Mission Work – Haiti, Kenya, Zimbabwe*

Music Mates programs

Out of the Cold programs *

Pet Rescue

Pregnancy and Family Support Centres

Prison Libraries

Reach Out Centre for Kids - R.O.C.K.

Retirement Homes

Ride for Dad

Royal Canadian Legion

Safety Village

*Salvation Army Santa Fund – Christmas Hampers **

Shelters for Abused Women *

Shoebox for Shelters/Shoebox Project

Sleeping Children Around the World

Soup Kitchens

SPCA

Special Child of the Year

Special Olympics

Squares to Blankets

Stephen Lewis Foundation – Grandmothers to
Grandmothers *

Street Missions

Strong Start (5-7 years)

Student Emergency Fund - through local school board

Summer Art Camp

Syrian Refugee Aid/Sponsorship

Tactile Lap Quilts for shut-ins

Teddies and Books for Local Hospital

Take a Kid Fishing Derby

Tales and Tunes for Tots

The Giving Tree

Violence Against Women

Walk to End Homelessness

Women in Crisis

Women's Centres

Women's prisons *

Women's Rural Resource Centre

Women's Shelters for Abused Women and Children

Wreaths for Remembrance Day services

We Care.....We Share

* *branches also reported using these organizations as part of their programs*

Recruitment *sharing successful practices*

Adopt 'Each One Bring One' - as branch motto

'Be Our Guest' Membership Drive - include creative Interest Group displays, food and fellowship-

Communications or Publicity Convenor - remember to regularly send updates to be posted on your branch website, including updates to information, photos etc.

Did you know? – RWTO/OERO has a display at the *ETFO Annual Meeting* in Toronto each August – thank you Carol Nelson and volunteers

Display - if possible and as permitted, have a display at any *Ladies Night* in your community

Education Week - *as possible*, take treats to local schools showing support and sharing info about RWTO/OERO

Existing Membership - ongoing encouragement for members to bring a friend, contact known retired teachers, etc

Extend a Personal Invitation - by letter to prospective members

Fall Fairs - have a table with your information on display

Gift wrapping at a local mall - the charity's sign will identify your group

Goodwill Convenor and Executive members - pay attention to members as they deal with family circumstances that necessitate moving in and out of membership

Greeters - have a greeter at each meeting to make newcomers feel comfortable and welcome

Invite a retired teacher friend - to join you for an excursion, event, etc. with branch members

Invite newly retired teachers or newcomers to community - for a free breakfast, coffee hour, luncheon etc and follow up with a personal phone call

Invite Photographer - having a special meeting? - invite a local newspaper photographer

Lapsed members - contact all and personally invite back

Local newspapers - publicize your branch events, charitable activities, and share branch contact information in your local newspaper(s) on a regular basis

Meet and Greet - host a *Meet and Greet* event at a venue of your choice, such as *Muffins and Mimosas*

Membership - include this position on your executive and consider a committee to work with her to connect with ETFO, OECTA, OSSTF and local school boards.... *as possible*

Participate in Community Events - Coldest Night of the Year, Out of the Cold, International *Women's Day* activities, etc - wear something to identify your branch

Participate in specific block of time for the Salvation Army Christmas Kettle Drive -sign will identify your group

Publicize - use local media to publicize your events, programs and speakers

Retirement Celebrations - if possible have representation/display at board retirement dinners

Signage - poster or sign at your meetings and community events having your branch easily identifiable

Sponsor RWTO/OERO Community Event – sponsor a speaker/event, perhaps in cooperation with a neighbouring branch, in your community

Welcome Wagon - Welcome Wagon hostess in your area can distribute information to newcomers

Retention

Using Stimulating Programs and Activities to support Membership Retention

- Adoption from China
- Antiquing
- Armchair Traveller- *speaker who has taken a special trip*
- Art Gallery
- Audiologist
- Autumn Tours - *Orchard, Farm, Corn Maze*
- Because I'm a Girl
- Belly Dancing
- Book Exchanges
- Buddy Benches
- Butterfly Conservatory
- Canada Blooms
- CEO – local hospital
- Chiropractor
- Community Services
- Craft and Games Meeting
- Cruise/Boat Ride
- Elder Abuse
- Eye Glasses for 3rd World countries
- Fashion Show
- Financial Planning
- Fitness for Seniors
- Flower Arranging
- Fraud – *how it affects seniors*
- Free the Children
- Garden Gallery/Greenhouse
- Grey Roots Museum
- Habitat for Humanity
- Healing with Horses
- Historical Homes
- Icebreaker to start meeting
- Interest Groups - *Film, Walk, Book Club, Golf, Lunch, Bridge, Coffee time, etc.*
- Iron Fish
- Kids Help Phone
- Lawyer - *wills, power-of-attorney*
- Lions Club - *Message in a Bottle*
- Local author
- Local Historian
- Local Mayor or other politician
- Local winery
- Lunch at The Old Mill - *Toronto*
- Lucy Maud Montgomery home
- Master Gardener
- Millie Morton (Kingston) author of 'Grace'
visit milliemorton.wordpress.com
- Mini Golf
- Mobile Millinery Museum h Norma Shephard
travelling museum www.hatshowlady.com
- Movies
- Musical groups – *adult and children*
- Nature Photographer
- Naturopath
- Nutrition and Fitness
- Ontario Securities Commission
- Operation Christmas Child
- Outreach nurse
- Picnic
- Plays/Summer Theatre
- Pollinators
- Post Traumatic Stress Disorder - *PTSD*
- Queen's Park Tea - *Toronto*
- Quilting
- Ripley's Aquarium - *Toronto*
- Sleeping Children Around the World
- Social time – *Meet and Greet before meeting*
- Soup Kitchen
- Storyteller/Actor- *Pauline Grondin (Burlington)*
905-522-4157 www.paulinegrondin.com
- Summer Tea/Potluck
- The History of Steeped Tea
- Themed Lunch at local shelter -
(see [Kitchener-Waterloo 2017 Annual Report](#))
- Therapy/Guide Dogs of Canada
- Trip to Stratford/Niagara on the Lake
- Trivia Questions at each meeting
- Victim Services Representative
- Visit to one-room schoolhouse
- War Child Canada
- Yoga - *Tae Chi*

*See 'Recognition' list for overlapping program ideas reported by some branches **