



RWTO/OERO Ottawa-Carleton Branch

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

September 2020

FROM YOUR EXECUTIVE...

We may think that summer will go on forever, but fall comes every year. This September will be very different as we move into our sixth month of the pandemic. The school year, of which we were part for so many years, will be challenging for teachers, students, families and the many others whose lives intersect and interconnect.

It will also be different for our organization, as with the uncertainty of the pandemic, our meetings and planned social gatherings have been cancelled. Our new Provincial President, Nancy Papiez, has asked Branches to focus on maintaining membership, staying connected and embracing technology as a way of staying connected.

Marilyn, our Goodwill Convenor, has sent cards to our over 80s and other cards as occasions arise. Thank you to both her and our phone committee. We will continue to use our phone tree, newsletters, and email messages to stay in touch with you. Please let us know if you need some help or just a friendly chat. We hope you are keeping busy with your projects, staying connected with your family and friends and finding opportunities to go outside for fresh air and exercise.

Your executive met on August 11 for a “social distanced” meeting in Sharon’s backyard. We plan to take advantage of the fall weather and have booked the gazebo in Andrew Hayden Park for members to join in a *Picnic in the Park* on September 11 which will allow some of us to get together. There is no rain date. Details are provided later in this newsletter. We also look forward to other activities and events as conditions improve.



In caring and sharing, be well, stay connected, and stay safe.

Your Branch Executive

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

President, Sharon Chop: 613-729-2008 s.j.chop@gmail.com
Goodwill Convenor, Marilyn Adair: 613-274-3331 marilyn.adair@gmail.com
Treasurer, Barbara Edwards: 613-731-3331 angelbunny@live.ca
Insurance Convenor: Margaret Dempsey: 613-820-7864 medempsey@sympatico.ca
Insurance Broker, Terry Kennedy: 519-583-2876 tkennedy34@bell.net
Manulife Financial: 1-800-268-3763

GOODWILL REPORT

The purpose of this report is to inform you, our members, how, in this unusual time of COVID 19, we continue to maintain communication with our “special” members, that is those over eighty years of age. Since our last AGM, on 14 May 2019, we have sent the following:

- Ø 69 birthday cards;
- Ø 23 thinking of you cards;
- Ø 9 sympathy cards;
- Ø 3 get well cards;
- Ø 1 congratulations card.

As well, invitations were prepared and mailed to 55 members for the luncheon honoring our 80+ members held on 29 Oct 2019. In addition, each of our 55 over 80 members received a Christmas card, either at the Christmas luncheon or mailed if the member was unable to attend the luncheon. Further, after the lockdown began in March/April 2020, all of our “special” members received a personal note, wishing them well and indicating the executive were ready to extend help if needed.

Since the Annual General Meeting held on 14 May 2019, RWTO/OERO Ottawa-Carleton Branch has lost five members. As we were not able to honor them at an AGM, I would like to do so here.

In Memoriam

Joyce (Hawkins) Boyce died on 29 Aug 2019. She was predeceased by her husband, Gerald, and is survived by a son and a daughter. Her obituary described her as “a cherished retired teacher who enriched the lives of new Canadians learning English in 30+ years at Cambridge and Glashan PS.”

Thelma Oakes died peacefully in her sleep at the age of 94 on 2 Sep 2019. Her obituary stated: “*Thelma is fondly remembered by her many friends and former students through her 40 years of teaching.*” She was predeceased by her husband, Jack and is survived by her son.

Sheila Kathleen Hefler died on 26 Oct 2019 in Deep River at the age of 89 years. She was the beloved partner of the late James Harrington and the late Norman Hefler by her first marriage. She is survived by two sons. Her obituary stated: “*The friendliness of the community was a perfect match for her warm and gentle spirit. Kathleen will be missed by her many friends in Deep River.*”

Dorothy G. Williamson passed away in Newmarket, Ontario on 19 Jan 2020 at the age of 89. She was predeceased by her husband, Iain, and is survived by a daughter and two sons. “*Dorothy taught English at Lisgar Collegiate in, Ottawa, Ontario for many years. Her interests and hobbies included gardening, quilting, baking and instructing for the Taoist Tai Chi Society.*”

Shelagh Caroline (Courtney) Williams died in Ottawa on 7 May 2020 in her 81st year. She is survived by her husband, David, and one sister, Moira. Following receipt of her M.Sc. in 1966, Sheila taught science as a high school teacher. After switching fields to librarianship, “*her love of teaching persuaded her to spend the rest of her career as teacher-librarian at Rideau High School.*”

“*When someone you love becomes a memory, the memory becomes a treasure.*”

Marilyn Adair, Goodwill Convenor



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Community Outreach has been an important aspect of our local branch. Our donation of \$1000.00 to *Sharing in Student Success* was particularly appreciated this year as there are many more families in need this September. On July 6, 2020 we received a thank you for our donation: "Thank you so much for your extremely generous donation to our Sharing in Student Success program! Your gift will help provide hope and a renewed sense of excitement to children from families in need when returning to school for in-class instruction! We are so thankful for your continued support, especially through this uniquely challenging time! We know that you have seen first-hand the impact of your generosity." This program provides students with grade-appropriate stuffed backpacks.

2020-2021 MEMBERSHIP

Thank you to the 66 of you who have already renewed your membership. You may be the lucky member who will have her fee refunded in the Early Bird Draw! If you have not yet renewed, please keep in mind that the renewal fee remains at \$48.00 for 2020-2021. (Provincial fee is \$40.00 and Branch fee is \$8.00 - total \$48.00). In order to maintain your RWTO/OERO insurance your fee must be paid annually.

Please send your cheque and the attached renewal form to Treasurer, Barbara Edwards, at 2266 Kipling St., Ottawa ON K1H 6T5. The cheque should be made out to RWTO/OERO, Ottawa-Carleton.

Please note: If you change your email address, phone number or mailing address, please email or phone the information to **Barbara Edwards at 613-731-3331 or angelbunny@live.ca** so that we don't miss sending you important information.

FINANCE UPDATE

Because we did not have our Annual General Meeting, the budget for 2020-21 is included on the next page. It was developed with the best information we had about future activities as of April 1.

AREA DIRECTOR REPORT

Greetings from your Area 9 Director. I hope that this finds you well and adjusting to our "new normal". Your Provincial Executive met in June using the Zoom app. It was nice to get together with the other members of the group to discuss future plans.

Congratulations go to Judy Drummond from Lanark Branch who was elected Second Vice-President.

On October 5, Anne Wilde, Provincial Insurance Convenor will join the Area 9 Presidents and Insurance Convenors to update us on insurance matters. The Provincial Board will be conducting the regular September meeting on Zoom once again. More information will follow.

Kathy McLean, Area Director

RWTO/OERO INSURANCE UPDATE

Here are a few thoughts about our current RWTO/OERO Hospital and Home Care Insurance:

- Remember that in order to retain your plan, you must be a "member in good standing" of RWTO/OERO, i.e. have paid your annual membership fee.
- There is no change to the cost of Manulife premiums for the RWTO/OERO Hospital & Home Care Plan. The cost remains at \$14.49 for a member and \$15.57 for a spouse.
- To date, no RWTO/OERO members have claimed for COVID-19 hospitalization support.
- As you know, the RWTO/OERO plan is additional insurance over and above what is provided by your regular extended health insurance plan such as the RTO/ERO one. Terry Kennedy, our broker, has provided a comparison chart that shows what additional coverage the RWTO/OERO one will give you. If you are interested in seeing this, please feel free to contact our Insurance Convenor, Margaret Dempsey at medempsey@sympatico.ca

Marg Dempsey, Insurance Convenor

Proposed Budget Ottawa-Carleton Branch April 2020

<u>REVENUE</u>	Actual 19/20	Budget 19/20	Budget 20/21
Membership fees	\$5,402.00	\$5,088.00	\$5,250.00 (105)
Provincial fee rebate	\$1,120.00	\$1,060.00	\$1,050.00 (105)
Fundraising	\$1,143.20	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Event Registration	\$6,710.00	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00
Other (Prov. Grant)	\$400.00		
Total for March 31, 2020	\$14,775.20	\$14,148.00	\$14,300.00
Opening Balance April 1, 2019	\$5,631.20	\$5,631.20	\$2,317.68
Total Revenue	\$20,406.40	\$19,779.20	\$16,617.68
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>			
Membership fees to Province	\$4,440.00	\$4,240.00	\$4,200.00 (105)
Goodwill	\$370.89	\$400.00	\$400.00
Membership	\$593.13	\$600.00	\$600.00
Communications	\$96.54	\$300.00	\$150.00
Archives	\$117.34	\$100.00	\$100.00
Accounting	\$144.04	\$350.00	\$200.00
RWTO/OERO Events	\$8,520.30	\$9,000.00	\$8,000.00
Annual Report	\$37.61	\$50.00	\$50.00
Convention 2019	\$1,575.67	\$1,500.00	
Convention 2020 (Seed Money)	\$1,085.20	\$1,500.00	\$0.00
Community Outreach 2018/19	\$1,100.00		
Community Outreach 2019/20		\$1,000.00	
Community Outreach 2020/21			\$1,000.00
Other	\$8.00		
Total Expenditure	\$18,088.72	\$19,040.00	\$14,700.00
<u>BALANCE</u>	\$2,317.68	\$739.20	\$1,917.68

Picnic in the Park



Green Gazebo at Andrew Hayden Park

Friday, September 11, 11:30 a.m.

3169 Carling Avenue, beside the Britannia Yacht Club

From Hwy 417, take Exit 130. Follow Bayshore Dr. to Carling, and head left to the main gates at Holly Acres and Carling. Turn left and the gazebo is ahead around a bend. Park on the other side of the maintenance building.

Enjoy time with your RWTO/OERO friends.

Bring a picnic lunch, a drink, your lawn chair, hand sanitizer, and a mask to wear in public spaces.

**** Bathrooms are located nearby.**

If you are planning to attend, please contact Marg Dempsey

at medempsey@sympatico.ca or 613-820-7864.

Questions Needing Answers...

1. Which letter is silent in the word "scent", the S or the C?
2. At a movie theatre, which arm rest is yours?
3. Why is there a "D" in fridge, but not in "refrigerator?"
4. Why is the letter 'W', in English, called "double U" instead of "double V"?
5. If poison passes its expiration date, is it more poisonous or is it no longer poisonous?
6. Who knew what time it was when the first clock was made?
7. How come lipstick doesn't do what it says?
8. Why are goods sent by ship called CARGO, and those sent by truck SHIPMENTS?

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM 2020 - 2021
RWTO/OERO Ottawa-Carleton Branch

Please renew my membership for year 2020-2021.
I have attached my cheque for \$48.00 payable to RWTO/OERO.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ E-mail: _____

May we include your contact information in the Ottawa-Carleton Branch Directory?
____ Yes ____ No (It will be used only within RWTO/OERO.)

The following two items are optional, but would be helpful to the Executive in planning programs for the Branch.

Date of Birth: _____

Do you have RWTO/OERO Hospital and Home Care Insurance? ____ Yes ____ No

Emergency Contact: (This will be used only in the event of an emergency which might occur at a Branch activity.)

Signature _____

Send this form and your cheque to Treasurer, **Barbara Edwards,**
2266 Kipling Street, Ottawa, ON K1H 6T5.

Don't forget: If she receives this before September 1, you will be eligible for the Early Bird Draw in which one member will have her fee refunded!