

65th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (VIRTUAL)

RWTO/OERO AGM 2021 JUNE 1-3, 2021 MINUTES

Note: Prior to the start of the Annual General Meeting an Introduction was held to the Virtual Convention. Welcoming attendees were Nancy Bell, Linda Huffman, Judy Drummond, and Kathy Gallagher, Convention Convenor. This introduction was available to all RWTO/OERO members. Judith Bennoch explained the project for the virtual song and, along with pre-recorded video performance, “Who Loves You” was sung by many talented RWTO/OERO members from several branches. President Nancy Papiez provided the keynote address focusing on “the RWTO legacy” and challenged the members to consider the organization’s future goals. She acknowledged the considerable efforts by the Virtual Convention Committee, and introduced, and thanked, the committee members.

SESSION 1: TUESDAY, JUNE 1

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks

Nancy Papiez, President, welcomed the delegates to the Annual General Meeting.

2. AGM Procedures

Judith Bennoch, Program Coordinator, explained the procedures:

- Stay on mute until recognized to speak
 - Rename by indicating first and last names followed by Branch name
 - Use of the chat feature to offer discussion and to move/second motions
 - Use of the polling process to pass motions, vote on resolutions, and possibly vote if an election occurs
 - Introduction of Steering Committee (Sharron Colter, Sherri Stokes, Annette Rhodes) who would advise re wording of resolutions/motions as required, Jane Cartier – Parliamentarian, and Jessica Thompson – Timekeeper
- Judith introduced Ethan Snook, the technical resource.

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion #1 AGM 2021: Moved by Deborah Hart (Mississauga) and seconded by Judy Anderson (Board of Directors) that the Agenda be approved as presented. **Carried.**

4. Approval of Minutes of 64th Online AGM 2020

Motion #2 AGM 2021: Moved by Lynn Anderton (Hamilton-Wentworth) and seconded by Judy Drummond (Board of Directors) that the Minutes of the 64th Online AGM 2020 be approved. **Carried.**

5. Committee Report .01 Nominations

Karen Clark-Lauzon, Past President and Chair of the Nominations Committee, presented the proposed slate of Officers for 2021-2022. For each elected position she announced the

nomination and then called for nominations from the floor. Since none were forthcoming, she declared the positions acclaimed. She then introduced those in Appointed Positions, as well as the Area Directors as selected by the various areas.

Motion #3 AGM 2021: Moved by Vera Rowland (London Middlesex) and seconded by Bonnie Folkard (Burlington) to accept the slate of Board of Directors as presented. **Carried.**

6. Executive Secretary-Treasurers Report

Linda Huffman thanked Gloria Drake for her mentorship and presented the Financial Report 2020-2021: Actual versus Budget, Auditor's Report, Balance Sheet, Profit and Loss Statement, and Statement of Cash Flow. Various lines were explained and additional Notes to the Financial Position were included. It was noted that the Revenue exceeded Expenses due to the pandemic resulting in fewer in-person meetings and no in-person convention. Membership numbers overall decreased.

No questions resulted.

Motion #4 AGM 2021: Moved by Suzanne Rondeau (Board of Directors) and seconded by Claudia Stewart (Burlington) that the Financial Statement for 2020-2021 be accepted. **Carried.**

Linda Huffman presented the Proposed Budget for 2021-2022 explaining forecast Revenues and Expenses. She noted any significant changes from previous years. Questions were answered.

7. Committee Report .02 Constitution and Resolutions

Nancy Bell, 1st Vice-President presented the report. Presentation of the Resolutions began with Jane Cartier chairing.

The following Resolutions were submitted by the Branches and Board of Directors for the 2021 Annual General Meeting. Those Resolutions that were not presented last year due to a global pandemic situation were carried forward and addressed at the AGM this year.

BRANCH RESOLUTIONS for 2021 Annual General Meeting

Resolution # 1 (from Windsor-Essex)

Moved by Patricia Wales (Windsor-Essex) and seconded by Betty Lee-Daigle (Windsor-Essex).

Be it resolved that Policy and Procedures RWTO/OERO document section III, Finance Policies, 3 Fees, b Fee Rebates to Branches i "The annual Branch rebate per paid Provincial member shall be 25% of the membership fee, commencing with the 2008-2009 membership year. The rebate on the fifteen-dollar membership fee shall remain at \$8.00" be amended to read,

"The annual Branch rebate per paid Provincial member shall be 40% of the membership fee, commencing with the 2021-2022 membership year. The rebate on the \$15.00 membership fee shall remain at \$8.00 for those members who retired on or before August 31, 1980."

Rationale:

- Local Branches are facing the challenges of rising costs and operating expenses (e.g. Convention expenses/ Goodwill cards & gifts /Membership activities / Special Events: 80+ Tea / Archives / Office supplies / Luncheon venue deposits/etc.).

** The existing 25% rebate per member is a minimal return in assisting with actual costs per member.

** A minimal number of members/delegates are subsidized to attend Convention. The major work of RWTO/OERO occurs within the Local Branch.

- Promoting “Caring & Sharing” in our communities is a Local Branch priority demanding “time, talent and treasure.”

- Rebates are guaranteed based on membership to provide monies for local expenses wherever needed. As local membership increases, Provincial also sees an increase in funding. Grants may or may not be forthcoming and their use is directed by Provincial.

- It has been ten years, established in 2008/2009, that the membership rebate was implemented at 25% as stated in the “Policies and Procedures” document.

- The amount of rebate is only defined in the “Policies and Procedures” document and not in the Constitution.

- Fundraising to increase membership for the purpose of generating revenue at the local level is increasingly demanding of time and energy due to the reality of an aging membership.

Discussion focussed on several considerations:

- The amount to be returned to the branches
- The decrease in membership numbers and possible expansion opportunities
- The possibility of increasing membership dues
- The questions related to the impact on the 2021-2022 budget due to the pandemic

A wide variety of opinions were expressed resulting in amending the Resolution.

Motion #5 AGM 2021: Amendment (1) to Resolution #1

Moved by Catherine Gardiner (St. Thomas/Elgin) and seconded by Sue Bandeen (St. Thomas/Elgin) that “The annual Branch rebate per paid Provincial member shall be 40% of the membership fee, commencing with the 2021-2022 membership year” be replaced with “RWTO/OERO Provincial shall increase the membership fee rebates remitted to each of the branches from 25% to 40% and that this increase of 15% shall be implemented incrementally with equal increases of 5% over a period of the next three years beginning with 2021-2022.”

An active discussion ensued. The vote on Amendment (1) resulted in being **defeated**.

Motion #6 AGM 2021: Amendment (2) to Resolution #1

Moved by Linda Sargeant (Hamilton-Wentworth) and seconded by Lynn Anderton (Hamilton-Wentworth):

Be it resolved that the RWTO/OERO Board of Directors set up an Ad Hoc Committee, including Branch members, to investigate the percentage of Provincial fees rebated to the Branches and the direct impact on Provincial fees and that this Ad Hoc Committee forward a resolution at the AGM in 2022.

After several friendly amendments it was put to a vote. Amendment (2) to Resolution #1 **Carried**.

8. Announcements

Session 1 concluded with spin draws by Suzanne Rondeau (Convention Committee) and announcements by Kathy Gallagher, Convention Convenor. She reminded everyone of Convention Activities: Workshops in the afternoon and Comedian, Joe Pilliteri, as Entertainer in the evening.

Session 1 ended at 12:10 p.m.

SESSION 2: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2

Session 2 was introduced by Kathy Gallagher who presented an inspiring video of "This Is My Canada".

1. Opening Remarks

Nancy Papiez, President welcomed delegates to Day 2.

2. AGM Procedures

Judith Bennoch, Program Coordinator, reviewed procedures: muting, renaming, use of chat and voting. The Steering Committee and Timekeeper were introduced.

3. Resolutions Continued

Jane Cartier continued with the Resolutions beginning with #2.

Resolution #2 (from Daisy Wilson Coldwater)

Moved by: Helen Carstairs (Daisy Coldwater) and seconded by Michelle Laurin (Daisy Coldwater)

Be it resolved that Constitution Article IX, Branch Organization, be amended by the addition of 10 "Whenever possible, endeavour to ensure that RWTO/OERO Branch meetings and events take place in a location or facility that is accessible to all."

Rationale:

We are an organization who cares about the well-being and needs of our members. We seek to retain our members as they age and their health, comfort and safety needs may require careful consideration when planning our events and activities. We strive to be inclusive and responsive to our members' special needs so we may all benefit from each other's participation in our organization.

Discussion focussed on the importance of this resolution.

Resolution #2 **Carried**.

Resolution #3 (from Daisy Wilson Coldwater)

Moved by: Helen Carstairs (Daisy Coldwater) and seconded by Michelle Laurin (Daisy Coldwater)

Be it resolved that Constitution Article V Duties of the Board of Directors, 2 Board of Directors, be amended by the addition of f, "Whenever possible, endeavour to ensure that RWTO/OERO Provincial meetings and events take place in a location or facility that is accessible to all."

Rationale:

We are an organization who cares about the well-being and needs of our members. We seek to retain our members as they age and their health, comfort and safety needs may require careful consideration when planning our events and activities. We strive to be inclusive and responsive to our members' special needs so we may all benefit from each other's participation in our organization.

Considerable discussion ensued focussing on:

- Wording for clarification
- The difference between suggesting and mandating
- Definition of meetings and events

Motion #7 AGM 2021: Amendment (1) to Resolution #3

Moved by Sandra O'Brien (London-Middlesex) and seconded by Margaret Dempsey (Ottawa-Carleton) that Resolution #4 be reworded to:

Be it resolved that Constitution Article V Duties of the Board of Directors, 2 Board of Directors, be amended by the addition of f, "Wherever possible, ensure that RWTO/OERO Provincial meetings and events take place in a location or facility that is accessible to all."

Amendment (1) to Resolution #1: **Carried.**

Motion # 8 AGM 2021: Amendment (2) to Resolution #3

Moved by Peggy Irwin (Scarborough) and seconded by LeAnne Taylor (Board of Directors) that Resolution #4 be reworded to:

Be it resolved that Constitution Article V Duties of the Board of Directors, 2 Board of Directors, be amended by the addition of f, "Wherever possible, ensure that RWTO/OERO Provincial meetings and events take place in a venue or facility that is accessible to all."

Amendment (2) to Resolution #3: **Carried.**

Motion # 9 AGM 2021: Amendment (3) to Resolution #3

Moved by Violette Hagerty (St. Catharine's) and seconded Claudia Stewart (Burlington) that Resolution #4 be reworded to:

Be it resolved that Constitution Article V Duties of the Board of Directors, 2 Board of Directors, be amended by the addition of f, "Wherever possible, ensure, that RWTO/OERO Provincial meetings and events take place in a venue or facility that is accessible to all, and, if not possible, by way of virtual access."

Amendment (3) to Resolution #3: **Defeated.**

Motion # 10 AGM 2021:

Moved by Margaret Dempsey (Ottawa-Carleton) and seconded by Kathy Smith (Board of Directors) that Resolution #3 be referred to the Board of Directors for further study and that the Board of Directors report back with suggested wording at the AGM 2022.

Discussion followed and the question was called. Motion #10 AGM 2021 was **Carried**.

Resolution #4 (from Windsor-Essex)

Moved by Val Luscott (Windsor-Essex) and seconded by Anna Campigotto (Windsor-Essex)

- 1) *Due to Val Luscott experiencing technical difficulties, Linda White spoke in her place.*
- 2) *The Windsor Essex Branch revised the original Resolution that was published in Connections. The revision was shared.*

Be it resolved that Policy and Procedures RWTO/OERO document Appendix C 3 13 "Visit Branches at the request of the Branch" be amended to read, "Visit Branches at the request of either party within a two-year period."

Rationale:

- Presidential expenses for travelling across the province over a one-year period would be reduced, therefore this measure will be more cost-effective.
- There would be fewer restraints and challenges for the Presidents regarding travel conditions and timeframe.
- It would allow local branches a broader timeline to plan visits from the President.

Discussion focussed on:

- The intent of the resolution
- The fairness to the President
- Possible cost savings
- The importance of the President connecting with individual Branches.

Motion # 11 AGM 2021: Amendment (1) to Resolution #4

Moved by Nancy Hrytzak (Chatham-Kent) and seconded by Jan Murdoch (Board of Directors) that Resolution #4 be referred to the Board of Directors for further study with a report to come at the AGM 2022.

After discussion, the question was called. Motion #11 was **Defeated**.

Motion # 12 AGM 2021: Amendment (2) to Resolution #4

Moved by LeAnne Taylor (Board of Directors) and seconded by Debra Kalb (Palmerston) that Resolution #4 be amended to:

Be it resolved that Policy and Procedures RWTO/OERO document Appendix C 3 13 “Visit Branches at the request of the Branch” be amended to read, “Visit Branches at the request of either party within a two-year period, either physically or virtually.”

Amendment (2) to Resolution #4 Carried.

Resolution # 4 as amended was Carried.

Resolution #5 (from London-Middlesex)

Moved by Sandra O’Brien (London-Middlesex) and seconded by Vera Rowland (London-Middlesex)

Be it resolved that Constitution Article X Annual Meeting be amended by the addition of a new section 7, Honorary Delegates. The current sections 7 and 8 will be renumbered to 8 and 9, consecutively.

7. Any Past Provincial President attending the Annual General Meeting will be considered an Honorary Delegate.

- a. They may speak to resolutions and motions to assist in clarifications in a discussion.
- b. They will have no voting privileges.
- c. They will be responsible for their own Convention expenses.

Rationale:

Past Provincial Presidents have a wealth of experience and background information in our organization and would add significant, important information to discussions regarding Resolutions or other business at the Annual General Meeting.

Motion # 13 AGM 2021: Amendment (1) to Resolution #5

Moved by LeAnne Taylor (BOD) and seconded by Kathy Smith (BOD) to amend the resolution to read:

Be it resolved that Constitution Article X Annual Meeting be amended by the addition of a new section 7, Honorary Delegates. The current sections 7 and 8 will be renumbered to 8 and 9, consecutively.

7. “Any Past Provincial President attending the Annual General Meeting, not as a delegate, will be considered an Honorary Delegate.

Motion # 14 AGM 2021: Amendment (2) to Amendment (1) for Resolution #5

Moved by Anne Graham (Lanark) and seconded by Helen Carstairs (Daisy Wilson Coldwater) to amend the resolution to read:

Be it resolved that Constitution Article X Annual Meeting be amended by the addition of a new section 7, Honorary Delegates. The current sections 7 and 8 will be renumbered to 8 and 9, consecutively.

7. “Any Past Provincial President attending the Annual General Meeting, not as a Branch delegate, will be considered an Honorary Delegate.

This motion was **Defeated**.

Motion # 15 AGM 2021: Amendment (3) to Amendment (1) for Resolution #5

Moved by Sandra O'Brien (London-Middlesex) and seconded Lynne Snee (Northumberland South Durham Branch) to amend the resolution to read:

Be it resolved that Constitution Article X Annual Meeting be amended by the addition of a new section 7, Honorary Delegates. The current sections 7 and 8 will be renumbered to 8 and 9, consecutively.

7. "Any Past Provincial President attending the Annual General Meeting, not as a voting delegate, will be considered an Honorary Delegate.

This amendment was **Carried**.

The question was called on the amended **Resolution #5**:

Be it resolved that Constitution Article X Annual Meeting be amended by the addition of a new section 7, Honorary Delegates. The current sections 7 and 8 will be renumbered to 8 and 9, consecutively.

7. "Any Past Provincial President attending the Annual General Meeting, not as a voting delegate, will be considered an Honorary Delegate.

- a. They may speak to resolutions and motions to assist in clarifications in a discussion.
- b. They will have no voting privileges.
- c. They will be responsible for their own Convention expenses.

Resolution #5 as amended was **Carried**.

4. Announcements

Session 2 concluded with spin draws by Suzanne Rondeau (Convention Committee) and announcements by Kathy Gallagher, Convention Convenor. She reminded everyone of Convention Activities: Tours, Fashion Show, Jerusalem Challenge in the afternoon and Tribute to the Beatles as Entertainment in the evening.

Session #2 ended at 12:15.

SESSION 3: THURSDAY JUNE 3

Kathy Gallagher began the meeting by sharing a video song of "O Canada" in Cree, French, and English.

1. Opening Remarks

Nancy Papiez, President, continued the meeting.

2. AGM Procedures

Judith Bennoch, Program Coordinator, reviewed the procedures.

3. Manulife Insurance Report

Anne Wilde, Insurance Convenor introduced Terry Kennedy, RWTO/OERO's Insurance Broker, who shared an update from Manulife:

- ID cards are now being provided.
- There is a process in the works so that claims can be made online after registering with Manulife; also direct deposit is available.
- The Insurance contract is being rewritten using plain language.
- There are no rate changes.

Terry Kennedy thanked Anne Wilde for her work as RWTO/OERO Insurance Convenor and presented a cheque to Nancy Papiez for Return of Premiums of \$73,485.22.

Anne Wilde concluded by expressing her appreciation of Terry Kennedy's continued support of RWTO/OERO. Karin Mussen, Assistant Insurance Convenor noted that a gift will be sent to Terry Kennedy and thanked Anne Wilde for her service.

4. Approval of the 2021-2022 Budget

Linda Huffman, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, reviewed the Proposed Budget for 2021-2022 and asked for questions and input. No discussion.

Motion # 16 AGM 2021:

Moved by Lynn Anderton (Hamilton-Wentworth) and seconded by Marlene Falls (Central Algoma) that the 2021-2022 Budget be approved. **Carried.**

5. Resolutions Continued

Jane Cartier and Nancy Bell continued with the Resolutions.

Please Note: Board Resolutions #9 to #13 originated from the creation of a Voting and Election Procedures Handbook.

RESOLUTIONS FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Resolution #6 Sales and Materials Convenor

Moved by Karen Clark-Lauzon (BOD) seconded by Sandie Bender (BOD)

Be it resolved that Constitution Article VII Duties of Other Members of the Board of Directors, 5 Sales and Materials Convenor, The Sales and Materials Convenor shall: be amended with the addition of,

- a. collaborate with Area Directors to track and manage distribution of Membership and Cora Bailey pins on an annual basis,
- b. manage all aspects of the sales of RWTO/OERO pins and materials during the year and at a display at the Annual General Meeting and Convention,
- c. maintain records of all sales and inventory, and
- d. recommend purchases as required to maintain inventory and suggest new items for consideration.

Rationale:

At the 2019 Annual General Meeting, a resolution was passed to establish the appointed position Convenor-Sales and Materials to promote and manage sales of RWTO/OERO materials. This section describes the Duties of this position to be included in Article VII, Section 5.

Resolution # 6 was **Carried**.

Resolution #7 Appointed Committees /Convenors

This Resolution has been WITHDRAWN by the Board of Directors.

Be it resolved that Article VIII Duties and Structure of Provincial Committees, B Appointed Committees/Convenors, 5 Communications Website Convenor, be removed and replaced with the following:

Communications Website Committee

The Communications Website Committee shall:

- a) be chaired by the Communications Website Convenor,
- b) be comprised of the Communications Website Convenor and members representing different areas of the province, duly approved by the Board of Directors,
- c) ensure the RWTO/OERO website is maintained and updated as required,
- d) support and assist Branch Communications Convenors.

Rationale:

- Currently, the position of Communications Website Convenor does not have a committee. By creating this committee, the Communications Website Convenor would then have members to assist her with her duties.
- Creating this committee gives non board members an opportunity to work on our provincial website.
- Creating this committee does not have any financial implications.

Resolution #8 Duties of Other Members of the Board of Directors

Due to the withdrawal of Resolution #7, the Parliamentarian has ruled that this Resolution is now Out of Order.

Be it resolved that Article VII Duties of Other Members of the Board of Directors,

3 Communications Convenors, The Communications Website Convenor shall: be amended by the addition of a) and b) and renumbering of the current a) through d) to c) through f) respectively.

- a) chair the Communications Website Committee,
- b) liaise with the Webmaster and Communications Newsletter Convenor,

Rationale:

These duties apply to the Communications Website Convenor now that a Communications Website Committee has been formed.

Board Resolutions #9 Elections

Moved by Kathy Smith (BOD) and seconded by Judy Anderson (BOD)

Be it resolved that Constitution Article IV Organization, 4 Elections (b) "If more than one candidate is nominated for any position then a secret ballot shall be held. Election of these candidates shall be by majority vote of the delegates present at the Annual Meeting" be amended to read, "If more than one candidate is nominated for any position then a secret ballot shall be held. Election of these candidates shall be by majority vote of the registered delegates at the Annual Meeting."

Rationale:

- Adding the word 'registered' clarifies that the delegates have received their voting cards and are eligible to vote.
- Deletion of the word 'present' delineates that the majority vote shall be based on registered delegates who are attending the Convention.

Resolution # 9 was **Carried**.

Resolution #10 Annual Meeting

Moved by Karin Mussen (BOD) and seconded by Lynn Sulman (BOD)

Be it resolved that Constitution Article X Annual Meeting, 1 "There shall be an Annual Meeting of RWTO/OERO in June of each year" be amended to read, "There shall be an Annual Meeting of RWTO/OERO in June of each year. Refer to the Voting and Election Procedures Handbook for details."

Rationale:

A detailed Voting and Election Procedures Handbook has been created by an Ad Hoc Committee. Procedures for nominations of elected positions, voting, elections, et cetera are detailed in the handbook and can be referenced.

Discussion produced clarification about Voting and Election Procedures Handbook. It will be completed this summer, brought to the Board of Directors for approval in September, and then posted on the RWTO/OERO website.

Resolution # 10 was **Carried**.

Board Resolution #11 Quorum

Moved by LeAnne Taylor (BOD) and seconded by Joan Gamble (BOD)

Be it resolved that Constitution Article X Annual Meeting, 3 Quorum "A quorum for the Annual Meeting shall be fifty percent (50%) of the registered delegates" be amended to read,

3. Definitions

a) Quorum

A *quorum* for the Annual Meeting shall be fifty percent (50%) of the eligible delegates.

b) Eligible Delegates

Eligible delegates who may attend the Convention are based on paid membership numbers for each Branch.

c) Registered Delegate

An eligible delegate becomes a registered delegate upon receipt of her voting card at the Convention.

Rationale:

Definitions are now clarified.

Resolution # 11 was **Carried**.

Board Resolution #12 Voting Delegates

Moved by Judy Drummond (BOD) and seconded by Judy-Anne Tumber (BOD)

Be it resolved that Article X Annual Meeting, 5 Voting Delegates, c “Each Branch is entitled to delegates according to the following formula” be amended to read,
“Each Branch is entitled to eligible delegates according to the following formula.”

Rationale:

By adding the word, “eligible”, the delegates entitled to attend the Convention is more clearly defined.

Resolution # 12 was **Carried**.

Board Resolution #13 Election and Appointments of Board Members

Moved by Evelyn Martin and seconded by Connie Morris

Be it resolved that Constitution Article X Annual Meeting, 8 “The election of officers and the appointment of the other members of the Board of Directors shall take place at the Annual Meeting” be deleted.

Rationale:

This information is redundant (see Article IV Organization, 4 Elections (a) Election of Executive Officers, (c) Election or Selection of Area Directors, and (d) Appointments to the Board of Directors).

Resolution # 13 was **Carried**.

No new Resolutions were presented from the floor.

6. Committee Reports Continued

.03 Archivist

Susan Rose, Archivist, presented her report- page 18 in the Annual Report. Susan noted that she appreciates being able to connect the past to the present. She expressed appreciation to Suzanne Rondeau for assisting with the French portion of the In Memoriam.

.04 Communications Newsletter

Jan Murdoch, Communications Newsletter Convenor, presented her report - page 18 in the Annual Report. She noted that the graphic designer has changed. She thanked her editorial team. Jan

requested photos of Covid activities for *Connections*. She mentioned that Areas 1, 4, 7, 13 will be highlighted in the September issue.

.05 Communications Website

Kathy Gallagher, Communications Website Convenor, presented her report. She encouraged Branch Website Convenors to check the tips on the RWTO/OERO website to help them keep the Branch pages up to date.

.06 Convention Handbook Revisions

Judy Drummond, Chair of the Convention Handbook Revisions Committee, presented her report - page 18 in the Annual Report. No review was held, and no revisions were made due to the cancellation of the in-person Kingston convention in 2020. She noted recommendations being made from the committee. Information from the virtual 2021 convention will be added in 2021-2022.

.07 Goodwill

Judy Drummond, Goodwill Convenor, presented her report- page 19/20 in the Annual Report. She expressed her pleasure at being able to connect with the ladies and thanked Linda Huffman for her assistance in providing information.

.08 Honorary Membership

Lois Lockhart, Honorary President, presented this report. She noted the 2020-2021 recipients for this high honour for outstanding achievement at the provincial level were Nancy Papiez and Kathy Gallagher.

Honorary President

Lois Lockhart read her report and stressed the importance of sharing leadership.

.09 Insurance

Anne Wilde, Insurance Convenor, presented the report. She reviewed the information from Manulife.

.10 Issues and Concerns

Kathy Smith, Issues and Concerns Convenor, presented her report. Topics covered in her *Connections* articles in 2020-2021 included Staying Connected, How Can We Downsize, and Estate Planning. She asked that ideas for topics for future articles be sent to her from the membership.

.11 Membership

Joyce Ratz, Chair of the Membership Committee presented this report. She expressed her appreciation for the last two years in this position and noted Evelyn Martin would be succeeding her.

.12 Policies and Procedures

Karen Clark-Lauzon, Past President, presented her report. She noted that the Policies and Procedures document is ever evolving. The alignment of the Constitution and the Policies and Procedures will be posted on the website in October.

.13 Program Coordinator

Judith Bennoch, Program Coordinator, presented her report – pages 25-26 in the Annual Report. She thanked Joyce Ratz and LeAnne Taylor, two Area Directors fulfilling their terms, and welcomed new Area 11 Director, Emily Noble and new Area 12 Director, Margaret Geare.

.14 Sales and Materials

On behalf of Judy Anderson, Sales and Materials Convenor, Judith Bennoch presented the report – on page 26 in the Annual Report. New notecards will be purchased.

7. Provincial President's Report

Nancy Papiez, President, presented her report. She gave honorable mention to those leaving the Board of Directors: Lois Lockhart, Karen Clark-Lauzon, Anne Wilde, Joyce Ratz. Nancy extended a warm thank you to those Branches who invited her to Zoom meetings throughout the year. She thanked the Board of Directors for their work on the Ad Hoc Committees. Nancy encouraged the maintenance of a positive attitude into the future.

8. Motion to Accept Committee Reports

Motion # 17 AGM 2021

Moved by Diana McKendry (Upper Canada East) and seconded by Suzanne Rondeau (BOD) that the Committee Reports be accepted as presented. **Carried.**

Session # 3 the Annual General Meeting concluded at 10:45 a.m. This ended the business part of the meeting.

9. Announcements

Suzanne Rondeau held spin prize draws and Kathy Gallagher reminded delegates to access the link for the Closing Ceremonies at 1:00 p.m.

CLOSING CEREMONIES

THURSDAY, JUNE 3

10. In Memoriam

Susan Rose, Archivist, assisted by Suzanne Rondeau provided an inspirational tribute to "Teachers as Heroes". A slide show honoured those members of RWTO/OERO who passed during 2020-2021.

Nancy Papiez led a moment of silence to honour the 215 Indigenous children who lost their lives at the Residential school in Kamloops, B.C.

11. Over 90s Recognition

Judy Drummond, Goodwill Convenor, paid tribute to the 286 ladies over 90. A Certificate of Appreciation will be sent to each Over 90 member.

12. Awards Ceremony

- **Barbara Bain** Joyce Ratz, Membership Convenor, was joined by Barbara Bain to present the awards to Branches for increasing their membership.

Tier 1: Small Branches (Placed 3rd Rendezvous; 2nd Dundalk- High Point; 1st Brockville)

Tier 2: Mid-Size Branches (Placed 3rd Palmerston; 2nd Orillia tied with Durham-North; 1st Haldimand)

Tier 3: Large Branches (Placed 1st St. Thomas Elgin)

- **Feather in Your Hat**

Joyce Ratz, Membership Convenor, presented awards to Durham-North, Hamilton Wentworth, and Sudbury. All projects related to supporting charities in their communities.

- **Honorary Membership**

Lois Lockhart, Honorary President, outlined the extensive contributions of this year's recipients: Nancy Papiez and Kathy Gallagher. They were presented with certificates and flowers. Each recipient expressed her gratitude.

13. Installation of Incoming Board

Lois Lockhart, Honorary President installed the incoming Board of Directors. They were introduced with accompanying photos.

14. Remarks of Outgoing President

Nancy Papiez, Past President, reviewed with pride the hard work that Provincial and the Branches did in Maintaining Membership, Staying Connected, and Embracing Technology throughout the year noting specific details. Nancy expressed gratitude for the opportunity and privilege of being Provincial President for this very different 2020-21year.

15. Presentation of the Past President's Pin

Nancy Bell presented Nancy Papiez with the pin and noted that RWTO/OERO had benefitted from Nancy P.'s leadership and exceptional service.

16. Presentation of the Gavel

Nancy Papiez presented Nancy Bell with the gavel noting that the ritual of passing the gavel is an ongoing legacy: the gavel is inscribed "OASWT 1973" and passing it on represents trust in the upcoming President. Nancy Bell accepted.

17. Introduction of Incoming President

Cathy Harrison, London-Middlesex, introduced Nancy Bell, the new President. An accompanying slide show entitled "This Is Your Life" was an interesting accompaniment.

18. Remarks from Incoming President

Nancy Bell, President, thanked her Branch. Her focus on growing membership, fresh ideas, establishing a social presence, and reaching out to others outlined her direction. She delineated a TEAM approach – Together Each Accomplishes More

19. Call to Convention 2022

Cathy Harrison and her team from London – Middlesex provided the Call to Convention 2022 in London, June 7-9. The theme will be “Laughter Lifts us Up.”

20. Closing Remarks/Announcements

Nancy Bell introduced Suzanne Rondeau who led the conclusion to the Convention through an activity called “Cloud Words” whereby participants described their virtual experience at Convention in one word. “Amazing” appeared most frequently.

Nancy Bell declared the Convention and AGM 2021 adjourned at 3:00.

Following adjournment participants listened again to “Who Loves You”, the opening song, and completed an Evaluation.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sandie Bender". The script is cursive and fluid.

Sandie Bender, Recording Secretary 2020-2021