

September 2022

Dear Lydia Snow friends,

We are pleased to be returning to in person events. Here's what's coming up:

Monday, September 19th at the Acton Town Hall Centre

19 Willow St. N., Acton

9:30 a.m. Refreshments & Fellowship

10:00 a.m. Card Making Activity with Janice Thompson

Participants will have the opportunity to make two greeting cards. Cost is being subsidized by the branch.



11:00 a.m. General Meeting

In order for Janice to have supplies ready, please **RSVP by Friday, September 9th**. Simply reply to this email that you'll be attending. Thank you!

The RWTO/OERO Provincial Directive for Covid has been updated. We have been asked to follow our local health unit advice regarding social gatherings. We will no longer be checking vaccination status at meetings and wearing a face mask is optional. Because we are all at different comfort levels with Covid, executive has decided to borrow this sticker idea at our meetings. Green, yellow and red stickers will be available to place onto your name tag:

- green stickers show you are comfortable with hugs, bring them on!
- yellow stickers mean you are comfortable socializing with minimal contact.
- red stickers, no contact please and respect my 6 foot bubble.

Earlier this year, RWTO/OERO members were asked to participate in a survey on membership extension. Please click the link to see the Ad Hoc Committee Report from this survey. <https://rwto.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Appendix-1-Report-for-the-Membership-.pdf> The second attachment in this email is a draft of Membership Extension resolutions that will be discussed at our September meeting.

Wednesday, October 19th, 10:30 a.m., PENTA

St. Volodymyr's Cultural Centre, 1280 Dundas St. W, Oakville

\$50 due by Friday, September 30th

Our branch is hosting this event! Please help out even if you're unable to attend. Refer to the "Lydia Snow Penta Update" email you received in your inbox on August 31st for details.



Thursday, December 1st

Christmas Luncheon & Fellowship

Please mark your calendars! Details TBA.

Considering inclement weather and inclusion for as many of our members as possible, we are planning a Happy Hour in December via Zoom and resuming online presentations for January and February.

At our May meeting, Jeanne Gray led us through a “Re-imagine Lydia Snow” activity to ask membership how we could attract more people to take on Executive and Committee positions. A suggestion was given that each executive outline their role in a newsletter. Our first submission is from LeAnne Taylor:

The Joys of Being Second Vice President

“Third time’s a charm” is perhaps a saying that you have heard before. I have deduced that I must be a totally charming person since this is my third time working my way through the executive. If I’m totally honest (and I really do try to be), this is only my second time as Second Vice, since the second time through the executive, I hopped on board as First Vice since the Second Vice was stepping down. Now, if you were able to follow that, your brain is in good shape!

The role of Second Vice is a wonderful place to begin your connection with the Executive of Lydia Snow North Halton. As such, there is the fun of getting to really know the members – new ones just joining as well as familiar ones, but if you meet one in the grocery store, you kind of wonder why you know her. A meeting task for Second Vice is to give out the name tags as members arrive, and then collect them at the end. Our members are stellar at folding the ribbon back inside the tag container, so the task of refiling into the handy-dandy fits-perfectly box is easy. Having retired from the secondary panel of Halton, I did not know many of Lydia Snow’s members – I have gained so many friends here and knowing their names is a great start.

If you look at the role description of Second Vice in our Constitution, there are 11 bullets, but many of them require touching base with the members who actually do the job (Insurance and fund raising for instance) to see that all is well, or updating an existing binder or database (membership forms and contacts) or simply passing on the Second Vice Binder at the end of your term. In reality, it isn’t a daunting task! We have learned to be “responsible swimmers” and no one ever swims alone. There are five life jackets (the other members of the Executive) and many buoys (the rest of our members) who make sure you won’t sink should you run into rough water.

We do have one little vexing problem currently, and that is the empty name space beside First Vice President. If the idea of being Second Vice isn’t your dream job, but you would like to be on the Executive, here is your opportunity to jump in with both feet into the position of First Vice. The analogy of life jackets and buoys still applies!

On a more serious note, Lydia Snow North Halton RWTO is a strong branch; to stay that way, we need members to be willing to step beyond volunteering to help out at meetings- a gesture deeply appreciated, and so many willingly do so. We will only stay strong if as a branch, we can depend on members joining the executive to provide the steering of our ship.

We hope you have good summer memories to share when we reconnect with one another very soon!

Yours in caring and sharing,
Deb

