

**LANARK RWTO  
FALL NEWSLETTER  
November 1, 2020**

**President's Message**

October is a good month for counting our blessings and being thankful. This month we have been able to enjoy God's spectacular colour on the leaves and get outside on many bright sunny days before winter season sets in. They have given us pleasure and hope during this difficult time as well as several awesome rainbows in the sky this fall. All of these natural occurrences give us pleasure and hope during this difficult time dealing with a second wave of Covid.

We had so hoped to be able to plan a November luncheon for our members, but unfortunately it has become very clear that there will be no getting together in the immediate future. We really have missed seeing everyone.

Mary Dexter-Kayser and I went to Ottawa recently for a combined President/Insurance meeting. We met outside, under our area director Kathy McLean's carport shelter, wearing masks and coats! It was still wonderful to see them.

Our Lanark executive ladies held our first Zoom meeting which was a great success. We are making plans for Christmas Greetings and will be donating \$200 to each of our four local community Food Banks. Our Lanark Branch won a Barbara Bain Award of \$300 for an increase in new membership this past year ...this is the second year in a row that we have won, so thanks ladies for encouraging newly retired teachers to come to our events and to join RWTO.

I would like to encourage everyone to continue to wear a mask, wash your hands and social distance when in a group. We are fortunate to live in our area where the cases are fewer. Stay safe everyone, we miss seeing you.

In caring and sharing, Jane Graham

**Insurance News**

On October 5, Mary Dexter Kayser, our Lanark Insurance Convenor, and our President, Jane Graham, attended (outside and socially distant) an insurance meeting with Anne Wilde, Provincial Insurance Convenor, at the home of our Area 9 director Kathy McLean in Ottawa.

Anne walked them through how to complete a claim form. Claim forms are available on line or from Mary who has copies. Anne stressed using the correct form and she suggested copying everything before you mail it. The form must go in the mail because there is no electronic version and she strongly emphasized that we keep all receipts (parking, home nursing, ambulance, physiotherapy, assistive devices etc.) to help when completing the form.

If you have any questions or need a brochure/enrolment form or a claim form, Please contact:

Mary Dexter-Kayser, 613-283-0630  
[mdexter-kayser@cogeco.ca](mailto:mdexter-kayser@cogeco.ca)

Our RWTO Manulife Insurance contact is:  
Terry Kennedy 519-583-0098  
[tkennedy@bell.net](mailto:tkennedy@bell.net)

**Treasurer's Report**

Our treasurer, Judy Drummond, has reported that we now have 70 members. We are thrilled that you have renewed your memberships.

**Donations to Food Banks**

We are pleased to be in a position to donate \$200 to each of our local Food banks on your behalf. If you would like to donate personally, it would be much appreciated.

**Lanark Highlands Food Pantry**

P.O. Box 41, Lanark ON K0G 1K0

**Carleton Place Food Bank,**

84 Mill Street, Carleton Place K7C 1T5

**Smiths Falls Community Food Bank**

93 Russell Street, Smiths Falls K7A 1G8

**The Table**

190 Gore Street, Perth K7H 1K3

## MEMBER NEWS

**Our thoughts are with you.**

Celebrating Special Birthdays  
Marion Howard 104  
Vivian Fleming 90

Recovering from operations  
Mary Lou Labrie and Lynne Evans  
Brenda Johnson's husband Glen

## SAD NEWS

Passing of former Lanark County Board of Education Director, Stuart Howard on Tuesday, October 27 following a short battle with cancer.

## Let's Be Together

On Thursday, November 19, our regular luncheon date at 11am when we would be gathering, in the comfort of your home, enjoy your favourite beverage and think about your RWTO friends.

Remembering our motto of Caring and Sharing, choose at least 3 of those friends whom you haven't heard from for awhile to contact by email or telephone. It is a great joy these days to hear the phone ring. While we can't be with them, it is a pleasure to hear their voices or to receive an email with their news.

Do you have a story to share? How have you passed the time during Covid 19? What have you found to be the biggest challenge? Some of our members enjoyed social distancing golf and now it is time for bowling. Have you read some books that you think others would enjoy? I have been enjoying going through a "Catherine Cookson" collection. After knitting a pile of dishclothes, I have learned to crochet covers for hangers. Never too old to learn something new!  
It would be great to collect your stories!

## PROVINCIAL RWTO/OERO

My term as 2nd Vice President runs from June 2020-2021 and my mandate as Goodwill Convenor is sending cards to all the ladies over 90. I am enjoying the replies that I have received from these great ladies who are so appreciative of any contact and I have also received a phone call from a lady who had just celebrated her 93rd Birthday. What a great visit!

It has been challenging having our provincial meeting by ZOOM but this has been a life saver in communicating and conducting business. One of my RWTO friends from Mississauga, listens to her two grandchildren read to her everyday at a specific time. What a world of technology we are in & learning to use this type of communication has endless possibilities.

I am chair of the Convention Handbook Committee and a member of the Convention 2021 planning committee. This coming year it will be a full virtual convention and you will see the advertisement in your next Connections Newsletter in November.

I am enjoying my position on the Provincial Executive, but sure missing the personal contact with all our Lanark members and families.

Keep healthy and safe.  
Yours in Caring and Sharing,  
Judy Drummond

**The Lanark branch is very proud of our Judy!**

Thinking if you with caring and sharing  
Stay healthy and safe.

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