

RWTO/OERO Ottawa-Carleton Branch Newsletter

September 2023



Once again, the summer has flown by. Although weather was unpredictable this summer, with periods of dry weather and severe storms with rain, wind and hail, gardens have done very well. My *Roses of Sharon* are in full bloom.



Although summer doesn't officially end for another few weeks, for or us, as educators, September has always been the beginning of a new school year. We welcome you to a new year of activities with RWTO/OERO Ottawa-Carleton Branch as we begin another year of retirement. Plans are underway for an interesting and fun year of events. I would like to thank the Executive who work diligently on your behalf. Our upcoming events are on the last page of this newsletter.

At the moment our only interest group is our Book Club. It is thriving and met over the summer to discuss what members are reading. If you have an idea for an interest group or a one-day activity or event please let a member of the executive know. Your ideas and feedback help to make our organization active and vibrant.

We thank you for your continued support of our Community Outreach. It really makes a difference in peoples' lives. This year our branch will again support the *Breakfast Program of the Ottawa Network for Education* and *Debra Dynes Family House*.

Our newsletters contain important information. If you should misplace your newsletters, they can be found on at <https://rwto.org/>. Go to Branches and click on Ottawa-Carleton. You should have also received your September *Connections*. Some of our over 90s are in the photos taken at the June Convention. As we no longer publish member phone numbers and email addresses in newsletters, your Directory, which you receive each December, is also important. It has the phone numbers and emails of other members. Please send any change in contact information to Suzanne Lanouette-Carswell or me. You can always contact me at my email below.

Our branch is looking forward to another year of "caring and sharing".
Looking forward to seeing you.



Sharon Chop

rwto.ottcar.sharon@gmail.com

2023 - 2024 EXECUTIVE

President: Sharon Chop

Past President: Kathy McLean

1st Vice-President: Margaret Dempsey

2nd Vice-President: Irene Cameron

Treasurer: Barbara Edwards

Recording Secretary: Patricia Taylor

Membership: Suzanne Lanouette-Carswell

Insurance: Margaret Dempsey

Goodwill: Linda Willman

Communication:

- Newsletter: Executive
- Website: Marg Dempsey

Archivist: Barb Edwards (Acting)

Member-at-large: Marilyn Ad

Area Director: Brenda Johnston, Lanark Branch

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

Insurance Broker, Terry Kennedy: 519-583-0098 tkennedy34@bell.net

Manulife Financial: 1-800-268-3763

Provincial RWTO/OERO Office: 1-877-607-6696 info@rwto.org

Membership



Our membership year begins on September 1st. If you have not already done so, it's time to renew your membership for 2023-2024. The fee is \$50.00 for the coming year. Our Early Bird Draw will take place at our Welcome Lunch.

Reminder: To keep your RWTO/OERO insurance plan valid, you must be a member in good standing.



RWTO/OERO delegates passed resolutions at the June 67th AGM Convention in Kingston to extend membership to retired women Educational Assistants, women Early Childhood Educators and women Child and Youth Workers/Counsellors. We have already had one educational assistant, who worked with several of us, join.

If you know of any others who would like to join us, please reach out to them. Invite a retired woman educator to attend an event. We need to grow our numbers to ensure our sustainability. Spread the word!

Goodwill

Linda Willman, our Goodwill convenor, asks that you bring any birthday, Christmas or Thinking of You cards that you are not using to our September 7th lunch. If you know of anyone who is in need of a card, please let her know.



Feather in Your Hat Award



As reported in our June newsletter, our branch was honoured to receive a *Feather in Your Hat Award* in recognition of our Ukrainian project last year. We are hoping to make another submission this year based on our fundraising for the *Breakfast Program of the Ottawa Network for Education*. The criteria for the award are for *creative, innovative and successful* activities carried out by branches who work on projects to enrich the programs offered by RWTO/OERO. We intend to continue with many of the same "Fun Raising" activities: the Quarter Frenzy, the Christmas Silent Auction, Priscilla Pig and directed fundraising **but** with a twist. Look for them at our events!

Teachers' Tea Time Book Club 2023-2024

The following books have been chosen for the upcoming year. Contact Joy Phillips-Johansen to let her know if you would like to join the group. New members are always welcome.

The book club is presently meeting at Cora's Restaurant on Richmond Road at 11:30.

September 12	The Weight of Ink by Rachel Kadish
October 2	A Spanish Sunrise by Boo Walker
November 6	Looking for Jane by Heather Marshall
December 4	No meeting - This is the Christmas Luncheon date.
January 8	Denial by Beverly MacLaughlin (Former Chief Justice)
February 5	Atlas: The Story of Pa Salt by Lucinda Riley and Harry Whittaker
March 4	The Underling by Ian McKercher
April 1	Still Life by Sarah Winman
May 6	People of the Book by Geraldine Brooks
June 3	I Could Have Been by Helen Gallagher



"One child,
One teacher,
One book,
One pen
Can change the world. "

Malala Youafzai

"Teaching is not a job.
It's a lifestyle.
It permeates your
whole life."

Jill Biden



Summer Moments

Our branch has been “Dining Around the World” over the past year. During the summer, members enjoyed their Italian lunch at the Canal Ritz and afternoon tea on the lawn at Billings Estate. Both were opportunities to come together with other RWTO/OERO members and enjoy summer in Ottawa.



Enjoying a delicious lunch overlooking the canal on a beautiful sunny day.



July 26 2023



Tea on the Lawn
August 17, 2023



Afternoon tea at the historic Billings Estate is always a popular event.





UPCOMING ACTIVITIES and EVENTS

The following events are planned for the next few months. Be sure to send in your registration for events early. This helps to make finalization of the event easier for the coordinator.

Please remember to wear your RWTO/OERO pins. You may win a prize! Also get your Rewards Card punched to be eligible for the draw at the Christmas luncheon.

This year we are continuing our *Dining Around the World* theme. Please join other members on:



Thursday, September 7, 11:15 a.m.

Welcome Lunch with Quarter Frenzy

Lone Star Texas Grill, 780 Baseline Road

Contact Marg Dempsey to reserve a spot.

Tuesday September 19, 10 a.m.

Breakfast and Conversation

Chances R, 1365 Woodroffe Ave.

For this month only, contact Marg Dempsey to reserve a spot.



Wednesday, October 18, 11:30 a.m.

Lunch with Provincial President, Sandra Salerno

Algonquin International Restaurant, 1385 Woodroffe Avenue

Join fellow members at Algonquin College culinary-school teaching restaurant.

Cost: \$40.00 for a three-course meal. A poster with more details will follow.



November 24 and December 15 via Zoom at 10:00 a.m.

Coffee and Chat

Bring your coffee, join friends and catch up on the news.
Register with Sharon Chop

Monday, December 4

Christmas Luncheon and Silent Auction

Centurion Conference and Event Center



Join your friends for a delicious lunch, bring your contribution and cheque book for the Silent Auction fundraiser and an item for the collection of toiletries/hygiene products. There will be a Rewards Card Draw. More information will follow.



Wednesday, May 15, 2024

Spring Lunch and AGM

Falcon Ridge Golf Club

More information to come.

We are grateful to live on the traditional unceded, unsundered territory of the Anishinabe Omàmìwinini/Algonquin Nation whose presence on this land goes back thousands of years.