

67th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

RWTO/OERO

JUNE 6 - 8, 2023

Kingston, Ontario

MINUTES

Session 1: Wednesday, June 7, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks

Judy Drummond, President, welcomed the delegates and guests to the 67th Annual General Meeting. She noted that history was being made with the unprecedented number of resolutions submitted by the Branches. She thanked the Branches for their support and concluded with an inspirational poem.

The Land Acknowledgement was shared and “O Canada” was sung.

2. Approval of Agenda

Changes to the Agenda resulting from repetition of items 7 and 8 were made.

Motion #1 AGM 2023: Moved by Linda Frey (Lydia Snow, North Halton) and seconded by Diana McKendry (Upper Canada East) that the Agenda be approved as revised. **Carried.**

3. Announcements

Marg Dempsey, Convention Convenor, shared information about tour procedures, emergency contacts, and storage of luggage.

4. AGM Procedures

Judith Bennoch, Program Coordinator, reviewed voting procedures. She noted that amendments and new motions would appear on the screen for delegate information and clarity. Scrutineers, the Timekeeper, Door Monitors, and members of the Steering Committee were introduced. It was noted that speakers going to the microphone would be recognized by the Parliamentarian and have a maximum of two minutes to speak.

The role of the Honorary President as a Board delegate conflicts with the impartiality required on the Steering Committee on which she may be asked to serve as a Past President. Nancy Papiez as the Honorary President relinquished her rights as a delegate and would be serving as a member of the Steering Committee.

The Area Directors reported absentees and the number of voting delegates was confirmed.

5. Minutes of 66th AGM 2022

President Judy Drummond directed delegates to the Minutes of AGM 2022 and asked for revisions. None were reported.

Motion #2 AGM 2023: Moved by Lynn Anderton (Hamilton - Wentworth) and seconded by LeAnne Taylor (Board of Directors) that the Minutes of AGM 2022 be approved as presented. **Carried.**

6. Business Arising from the 2021 AGM

There was no business arising.

7. Committee Report .01 Nominations

In the absence of Nancy Bell (Past President), Nancy Papiez (Honorary President) presented the proposed slate of Officers for 2023-2024. She called for further nominations from the floor for each elected position. Since none were forthcoming, she declared the positions acclaimed. Then she announced the names of those that would fill appointed positions as well as the names of the Area Directors for 2023-2024.

8. Executive-Secretary Treasurer's Report

Linda Huffman presented the Financial Report for 2022-2023: Actuals versus Budget, Auditor's Report, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Operations and Reserve Fund Expenditures, and Statement of Cash Flows. Various lines were explained. It was noted that the Revenue exceeded Expenses due to an increase in meetings via Zoom. No questions resulted.

Linda Huffman presented the Proposed Budget for 2023-2024 explaining forecasted Revenues and Expenses. She noted significant changes from previous years. No questions resulted at this time.

9. Committee Report .02

Sandra Salerno, First Vice-President and Chair of the Constitution and Resolutions Committee, presented her report.

10. 2023 AGM Resolutions

Sandra Salerno presented the Resolutions for 2022. Jane Cartier, Parliamentarian, presided over subsequent discussion of Resolutions and any proposed Motions. Resolutions #1-15 were submitted by the Branches. Resolutions #16-20 were proposed by the Board of Directors.

Resolution #1

Submitted by Area 12 (Lydia Snow North Halton, Mississauga, BurlOak, Peel North), Area 7 (Belleville, Durham North, Northumberland South Durham, Peterborough, Trenton & District), Hamilton-Wentworth, Wiarton, South Bruce

Moved by Kathy Avey (Peel North) and seconded by Wendy Campbell (Durham North).

Be it resolved that Constitution, Article III Membership and Fees,

1. Regular Members: any retired woman teacher is eligible to be a member of RWTO/OERO whether or not she is receiving a teacher's pension, be amended to read:

1. Regular Members

a. Regular Members include Retired Women Educational Professionals who have worked in schools as listed:

i. Retired Women Teachers

ii. Retired Women Educational Assistants

b. Retired Women Educational Professionals may become Regular Members whether or not they are receiving a job-related pension.

Rationale:

- The Ad Hoc Committee Report on the Survey of Membership Extension (on the website) received a substantial majority for Retired Women Educational Assistants.
- Teachers and other Educational Professionals worked as a team in the classroom and school setting with common goals for children. They supported students with different levels of abilities, behavioural issues, mobility and language challenges, and social/emotional struggles.
- Qualification requirements for Educational Professionals have changed greatly over the years. They have received credentials, diplomas and/or certification within their areas of expertise that have taken years of training.
- Expanding membership is particularly important for small and rural branches. Provincially, membership is both declining and aging, which can be a factor in having viable branches and filling executive roles. Membership recruitment is needed to ensure a strong organization in the future.

· Building a viable and inclusive membership would permit us to continue providing Health Care. Insurance plans, combating isolation concerns for our membership, and fulfilling our goal of providing caring and sharing opportunities for women and children in our communities as well as ourselves.

Motion #3 AGM 2023: Moved by Patricia Lawrence (Mississauga) and seconded by Margo Bennett (Mississauga) that voting for Resolutions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 13, 14, and 15 be held by secret ballot. **Carried.**

Note: The Parliamentarian ruled this motion in order. A challenge from the floor resulted in a straw vote that confirmed that the Motion, as indicated by the Parliamentarian, was in order.

Discussion points related to Resolution #1 included:

- the important role of Education Assistants;
- important decisions regarding significant changes should be done by referendum to the entire RWTO/OERO membership, not survey results;
- the intent of the survey was to obtain the feelings of the membership, not to determine direction of the issue of membership expansion;
- a question regarding the history of the issue resulted in an explanation of the history and an articulation of the direction previous delegates had given the Board of Directors regarding a membership survey;
- concern about passing this resolution would change the uniqueness of RWTO/OERO.

After a vote by secret ballot, **Resolution #1 Carried.**

Note: As the results of secret ballots were awaited, Committee Reports .03 -.15 were referenced. Delegates had the opportunity to ask questions and/or seek further explanations.

Resolution #2

Submitted by Area 12 (Lydia Snow North Halton, Mississauga, BurlOak, Peel North), Area 7 (Belleville, Durham North, Northumberland South Durham, Peterborough, Trenton & District), Hamilton-Wentworth, Wiarton, and South Bruce

Moved by Claudia Stewart (BurlOak) and seconded by Moira-Jane Plexman (BurlOak).

Be it resolved that Constitution, Article III Membership and Fees,
1. Regular Members, be amended with the addition of “Retired Women Early Childhood Educators”.

Rationale:

· The Ad Hoc Committee Report on the Survey of Membership Extension (on the website) received a substantial majority support for Retired Educational Assistants.
(See Resolution #1, Rationale)

Discussion points related to Resolution #2 included:

- Expansion of membership would encourage survival of RWTO/OERO;
- This resolution maintains the direction of the organization to have women supporting other women.

After a vote by secret ballot, **Resolution #2 Carried.**

Resolution #3

Submitted by Hamilton-Wentworth, South Bruce, Wiarton

Moved by Lynn Anderton (Hamilton-Wentworth) and seconded by Linda Cerson (South Bruce).

Be it resolved that Constitution, Article III, Membership and Fees, 1. Regular Members; be amended with the addition of “Retired Women Speech & Language Pathologists”

Rationale:

· The Ad Hoc Committee Report on the Survey of Membership Extension received considerable support for Retired Women Speech & Language Pathologists.
(See Resolution #1, Rationale)

Motion #4 AGM 2023: Moved by Cathy Gardiner (St. Thomas – Elgin) and seconded by Gina Marcon (Windsor - Essex) that audiologists and vision specialists be added to Resolution #3. **Carried.**

After a vote by secret ballot, **Resolution #3 Failed.**

Session #1 concluded 11:30 a.m.

Awards Ceremony at the Wednesday Evening Banquet

Barbara Bain Membership Awards

Kathy McLean, Membership Convenor, presented the awards to Branches for the greatest increase in membership throughout the year.

Tier 1

- 1st. St Catharines
- 2nd. Durham North
- 3rd. Haldimand
- 3rd. London -Middlesex.

Tier 2

- 1st. Sudbury.
- 2nd. Belleville.
- 2nd. Trenton.
- 3rd. Peterborough.

Tier 3

- 1st. South Bruce.
- 2nd. Warton.
- 2nd. Blue Mountain.
- 3rd. Daisy Wilson, Coldwater.
- 3rd. Niagara West

Feather in Your Hat Awards

This award is designated for creative, innovative and successful activities carried out by a Branch that enriched the programs offered by RWTO/OERO at the Branch level. Kathy McLean presented the certificates and fascinator hats to recipients.

Tier 1

Burl Oak

Ottawa-Carleton

Tier 2

Niagara South

Tier3

Daisy Wilson Coldwater

Kingston

Honorary Membership Award

Nancy Papiez announced that Judy Drummond was the recipient of the Honorary Membership Award for her outstanding service at the Provincial level. She was presented with a certificate of recognition and her various contributions to Provincial RWTO/OERO were shared.

Session #2 Thursday, June 8, 2023 at 8:30 a.m.

- 1. In Memoriam:** Susan Rose and Suzanne Rondeau led the In Memoriam, a moving tribute to RWTO/OERO members who passed away in 2022-2023.
- 2. Opening Remarks:** Judy Drummond began this session of the AGM with a humorous poem.
- 3. Announcements:** Marg Dempsey provided details regarding the luncheon and check-out.
- 4. Manulife Financial Report:** In the absence of Terry Kennedy, the Insurance Broker for RWTO/OERO, Karin Mussen and LeAnne Taylor presented the report from Terry Kennedy.

A cheque for \$80,685.69 from Manulife was presented to Judy Drummond. This was a combination of the monthly Promotional Support and Return of Premiums.

5. **Budget Approval:** Linda Huffman entertained questions for clarification of the proposed budget presented in Session #1.

Motion #5 AGM 2023: Moved by Diana McKendry (Upper Canada East) and seconded by Patricia Lanford (Sault Ste. Marie) that the Budget for 2023-2024 be approved. **Carried.**

A question from a delegate resulted in the presentation of Motion #6.

Motion #6 AGM 2023: Moved by Judith Bennoch (Board of Directors) and seconded by Lynn Sulman (Board of Directors) that the RWTO/OERO regular membership fee be raised from \$40 to \$50 effective September 2024.

Rationale: A deficit budget was just passed. Projections indicated that this trend will continue even with Virtual Conventions being planned. It was noted that with the increase in fees the Branch rebate also will increase. The Board of Directors will continue long-range planning to maintain fiscal responsibility.

Motion #6 **Carried.**

Resolutions Continued

Motion #7 AGM 2023: Moved Wendy Campbell (Durham North) and seconded by Margo Bennett that voting occur by show of hands and voting cards rather than a secret ballot. **Carried.**

Note: The President's Report (Agenda item 13 from Session #1) was presented.

Judy Drummond summarized her report that appears on page 16 of the Annual Report.

Resolution #4

Submitted by Hamilton-Wentworth, South Bruce, Wiarton

Moved by Lynda Cerson (South Bruce) and seconded by Pat Howes (Wiarion).

Be it resolved that Constitution, Article III, Membership and Fees, 1. Regular Members, be amended with the addition of "Retired Women Child & Youth Workers/Counsellors"

Rationale:

· The Ad Hoc Committee Report on the Survey of Membership Extension (on the website) received support for Retired Women Child & Youth Workers/Counsellors.
(See Resolution #1, Rationale)

After minimal discussion the vote was held and Resolution #4 **Carried**.

Resolution #5

Submitted by Hamilton-Wentworth, South Bruce, Wiarton

Moved by Pat Howes (Wiarion) and seconded by Lesley Devries (Hamilton-Wentworth).

Be it resolved that Constitution, Article III, Membership and Fees,
1. Regular Members, be amended with the addition of "Retired Women Social Workers"

Rationale:

· The Ad Hoc Committee Report on the Survey of Membership Extension (on website) received support for Retired Women Social Workers.
(See Resolution #1, Rationale)

After minimal discussion the vote was held and Resolution #5 **Failed**.

Resolution #6

Submitted by Owen Sound and Area 7

Be it resolved that Constitution Article III 1. Regular Members, be replaced with:
"Be it resolved to extend RWTO/OERO membership to include Retired Women Educational Professionals as members of RWTO/OERO. Retired Women Educational Professionals shall include but not be limited to Retired Women Teachers, Retired Women Educational Assistants, Retired Early Childhood Educators, Retired Women Speech and Language Therapists and Pathologists, Retired Women Child and Youth Workers/Counsellors and Retired Women Social Workers.

Rationale:

It is time to expand membership to all retired women who have worked in the education system. While there may be differences in qualifications and experience it is important to give all retired women who have worked in the school system the opportunity to be members of RWTO/OERO.

Resolution #6 was Ruled Out of Order due to the inclusion of multiple issues.

Resolution #7

Submitted by Hamilton-Wentworth

Moved by Lesley Devries (Hamilton-Wentworth) and seconded by Ursula vander Ploeg (Hamilton-Wentworth).

Be it resolved that Constitution, Article I Name

"The organization shall be called the "Retired Women Teachers of Ontario/Organisation des enseignantes retraitées de l'Ontario", hereafter referred to as RWTO/OERO." be amended to read:
"This organization, which as of June 2023 extended its membership to represent not only Retired Women Teachers but also other Retired Women Educational Professionals, shall maintain the name "Retired Women Teachers of Ontario/Organisation des enseignantes retraitées de l'Ontario", hereafter referred to as RWTO/OERO."

Rationale:

- This has historically been the name of our organization since 1999, is well recognized throughout our communities, and maintains our identity and outstanding reputation.
- Following the positive response to the Ad Hoc Committee Report on the Survey of Membership Extension (May 2021) the Board of Directors passed Motion #74, recommending that the RWTO/OERO name remain the same.
- Adding the year the membership was expanded, gives an easily found historical reference.

Discussion focussed on the recognition of the current name in the community and the cost to change the name. It was suggested that, if others from the previous groups mentioned choose to join RWTO/OERO, they may bring up the concept of changing the name in the future.

After a vote Resolution #7 **Carried**.

Resolution #8

Submitted by Hamilton-Wentworth

Be it resolved that Constitution, MISSION STATEMENT, VISION STATEMENT 1, 2 and 5, and GOALS 1, “teachers” be amended to read “Educational Professionals”.

Rationale:

The word “teachers” appears 8 times in the Constitution. Two of these are used as part of our official name, which would remain the same. The other 6 are in reference to our members being Retired Women Teachers. These references now need to be inclusive for all of our members, and Retired Women Educational Professionals incorporates everyone.

Note: Resolution #8 was deemed unnecessary. After each AGM the Parliamentarian revises the Constitution as required.

Resolution #9

Submitted by Hamilton-Wentworth

Be it resolved that Constitution, GOALS 2, “retired teachers” be amended to read: “retired women educational professionals”.

Rationale:

- In addition to the rationale from Resolution 8, the word "women" should be included in GOALS 2 as a better reflection of our membership, as the historical intent of this sentence was always directed to our membership of women.
- The phrase "retired women educational professionals" would now be consistent throughout the Constitution when referring to our membership.

Note: Resolution #9 was deemed unnecessary. After each AGM the Parliamentarian revises the Constitution as required.

Resolution #10

Submitted by Area 12 (Lydia Snow North Halton, Mississauga, BurlOak, Peel North), Area 7 (Belleville, Durham North, Northumberland-South Durham, Peterborough, Trenton & District) Hamilton-Wentworth, Wiarton, and South Bruce

Be it resolved that Policies and Procedures, ARTICLE III, MEMBERSHIP AND FEES,

1. Membership

- a. To be a member of RWTO/OERO, a retired woman member must pay her Provincial fees.
- b. A retired woman member may join at any time during the year.
- c. A retired woman member holds membership in the Branch to which she pays her Provincial fees.
- d. She is eligible to serve on the Executive of that Branch and/or be a delegate of that Branch.

Be amended to read:

1. Regular Membership to include other Retired Women Professional Educators into our organization as follows:

- a. To be a member of RWTO/OERO, a Retired Woman Professional Educator must pay her Provincial Membership Fee.
- b. A Retired Woman Professional Educator may join at any time during the year.
- c. A Retired Woman Professional Educator holds membership in the Branch to which she pays her Provincial fees.
- d. All members will have equal opportunity within the organization the Branch and Provincial levels, and/or be a delegate of the Branch.
- e. Insurance Programs will be available to all joining women members.

Rationale:

- The replacement of “teacher” with “Woman Educational Professional” aligns the Policies and Procedures with Constitution.
- These additional statements in Policy and Procedures provide equal opportunities and supplemental insurance, if qualified, for all members.

Resolution #10 was **withdrawn**.

Resolution #11

Submitted by Area BurlOak, Lydia Snow North, Halton, Mississauga, Peel North

Moved by Sheila Williams (Mississauga) and seconded by Deborah Hart (Mississauga).

Be it resolved that Policies and Procedures, ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP AND FEES,

1. Membership

- a. To be a member of RWTO/OERO, a retired teacher must pay her Provincial fees.
- b. A retired woman teacher may join at any time during the year. (Revised October 2016)
- c. A retired woman teacher holds membership in the Branch to which she pays her Provincial fees. She is eligible to serve on the Executive of that branch and/or be a delegate of that Branch.
(Revised October 2016)
- d. In addition, a member may pay a local Branch fee to other branches where she wishes to attend.
(Revised October 2016)
- e. RWTO/OERO will provide Branches with a free membership pin for each new member. (Revised October 2016) be amended to read:
 - a. To be a member of RWTO/OERO, a Retired Woman Educational Professional must pay her Provincial membership fee.
 - b. A Retired Woman Educational Professional may join at any time during the year.
 - c. A Retired Woman Educational Professional holds membership in the Branch to which she pays her Provincial membership fee.
 - d. Each member has equal opportunity within the organization, at Branch and Provincial levels, and may be a Convention delegate for their Branch.
 - e. The Insurance Program will be available to any qualified member.
 - f. In addition, a member may pay a local Branch fee to other Branches where she wishes to attend.
 - g. RWTO/OERO will provide Branches with a free membership pin for each new member.

Rationale:

- The replacement of "teacher" with "Retired Woman Educational Professional" aligns the Policies and Procedures with the Constitution.
- Statements "d. & e." provide equal opportunities and supplemental insurance, if qualified, for all members.

After the vote Resolution #11 was **Carried**.

Resolution #12

Submitted by Hamilton-Wentworth, South Bruce

Be it resolved that Constitution, Article III Membership and Fees, 4. Interim Member (a.),

"An Interim Member shall be a woman teacher who is currently on Long Term Disability (LTD)" be amended to read:

"An Interim Member shall be a Woman Educational Professional who is currently on Long Term Disability

(LTD)".

Rationale:

- "Woman Teacher" in this statement refers to a person who has not yet retired.
- "Woman Educational Professional" would reflect our new membership status.

Note: Resolution #12 was deemed unnecessary. After each AGM the Parliamentarian revises the Constitution as required.

Resolution #13

Submitted by Area 7 Branches (Belleville, Durham North, Northumberland – South Durham, Peterborough, Trenton & District)

Moved by Marie Geelen (Durham North) and seconded by Judy-Anne Tumber.(Peterborough).

Be it resolved that Constitution Article X Annual Meeting 3. Definitions b) Eligible Delegates Eligible delegates who may attend the Convention are based on paid membership numbers for each Branch, be replaced with:

Each Branch shall be represented by two (2) delegates, one Provincial Delegate and one Branch Delegate, regardless of the paid membership numbers for each Branch.

Rationale:

· It is an equitable voting strategy for all Branches. A Branch may have between one and seven voting delegates according to the current formula. (See AGM Report June 2022 --- the committee summarized numbers of paid-up members reported in the Annual Area Reports)

3. Definitions (b). Eligible Delegates

So, 36 branches get 51.30% of the total votes while only 12 branches get 48.70% of the total number of votes.

· The main purpose of the Convention is an Annual General Meeting. Having only two delegates for each Branch is an efficient way to vote.

· The role of the Program Coordinator may be easier regarding tabulation of the number of votes and calculating percentages in order to decide if a motion is carried.

· It would be cost efficient for Branches. Provincial would continue to pay for the Convention package, including Executive registration, accommodation and mileage for the Provincial Delegate as described in the Constitution Article X Annual Meeting #6. Delegate Expenses. Provincial will continue to pay the registration fee of the Branch Delegate. Branch Delegates additional expenses of accommodation and mileage may be paid by each Branch as determined by each Branch.

- Branches who currently send more than 2 delegates would save money which could then be spent on a greater number of their members locally. To be determined by each Branch Executive.
- Any Branch could send additional members to observe the AGM at the Branch's expense or at their own expense.
- There could be a significant cost saving to Branches hosting a Convention in the future as there would be fewer members.

Note: Charts were examined and it was noted that this Resolution was developed as a team from Area 7.

Motion #8 AGM 2023: Moved by Anne Mageran (Haldimand) and seconded by Joanne Weeks (Haldimand) that due to the proposed concept changes the RWTO/OERO Board of Directors create an Ad Hoc Committee to study the concerns and implications surrounding Resolution #13. The committee should include representation from small, medium, and large Branches as well as members of the Board of Directors. The committee will report back to the AGM in 2024 with resulting recommendations which may include resolutions. **Carried.**

Resolution #14

Motion #9 AGM 2023: Moved by Suzanne Rondeau (Board of Directors) and seconded by Elaner Pound (Belleville) that Resolution #14 be referred to the Ad Hoc Committee established by Motion #8. **Carried.**

Submitted by Area 7 Branches (Belleville, Durham North, Northumberland South Durham, Peterborough, Trenton & District)

Be it resolved that Constitution Article X Annual Meeting 5. Voting Delegates:

- The Provincial Office shall notify each Branch President of the exact number of delegates to which the Branch is entitled based on the official membership count as received in the Provincial Office and recorded by November 30.
- Each Branch shall be entitled to one voting delegate with all reasonable expenses paid by the Provincial Office.
- Each Branch is entitled to eligible delegates according to the following formula.: Up to 50 members 1 delegate; 51-100 members 2 delegates; 101-150 members 3 delegates; 151-200 members 4 delegates; 201-250 members 5 delegates; 251-300 members 6 delegates; 301 members + 7 delegates

Be amended to, Constitution Article X Annual Meeting 5. Voting Delegates

a. Each Branch shall be entitled to two voting delegates with all reasonable expenses paid by the Provincial Office.

Rationale:

- Equal representation of 2 delegates per Branch eliminates the need for Provincial Office to notify Branch Presidents the exact number of delegates per Branch.
- Equal representation of 2 delegates per Branch eliminates the need for a sliding scale calculation of delegates.

Resolution #15

It was deemed that Resolution #15 was not required at this time.

Submitted by Area 7 Branches (Belleville, Durham North, Northumberland South Durham, Peterborough, Trenton & District)

Be it resolved that Constitution Article X Annual Meeting

5. Voting Delegates, be replaced with:

- a. Each Branch shall be entitled to two voting delegates with all reasonable expenses paid by the Provincial Office.
- b. Branch delegates selected to attend the Annual Meeting must be representing the Branch through which they pay their Provincial fees.

Rationale:

- Equal representation of 2 delegates per Branch eliminates the need for Provincial Office to notify Branch Presidents the exact number of delegates per Branch.
- Equal representation of 2 delegates per Branch eliminates the need for a sliding scale calculation of delegates.

Note: This Resolution will be addressed by the Ad Hoc Committee formed as a result of Motion #8 being Carried.

Resolution #16

Moved by Jan Murdoch (Board of Directors and seconded by Suzanne Rondeau (Board of Directors).

Be it resolved that Constitution, Article VIII Duties and Structures of Provincial Committees, A. Standing Committees, be amended by the addition of: 9. Marketing Committee

The Marketing Committee shall:

- a. Be chaired by a member of the Board of Directors;
- b. Consist of three members from the Board of Directors and invited members-at-large, the number determined by the committee;
- c. Meet to develop a marketing plan that includes analytical strategies and innovative ideas;
- d. Report results to the Board.

Rationale:

- There is an ongoing need to convince women teachers that RWTO/OERO has a service that is different and worthy of their support. This need may change over time as circumstances within our society alter and impact on us both directly and indirectly.
- Maintaining our membership is critical to the continued success of our organization.
- A marketing committee's purpose is to raise awareness of the services provided by the organization to its members and to generate interest for potential new members.

Discussion followed.

Motion #10 AGM 2023: Moved by Lynn Anderton Hamilton-Wentworth) and seconded by Karin Mussen (Board of Directors) that the vote on Resolution #16 be held. **Carried.**

After the vote Resolution #16 **Carried.**

Resolution #17

Moved by LeAnne Taylor (Board of Directors) and seconded by Susan Rose (Board of Directors).

Be it resolved that Constitution Article VII –Duties of the other members of the Board of Directors

1. Honorary President

- a. Install the elected officers and members of the BOD at the Annual General Meeting be amended by the addition of: “conclusion of” before “the Annual General Meeting”.

Rationale:

- This clarifies that the Honorary President has completed her role on the BOD when the installation of the next BOD takes place.
- A BOD member cannot perform the installation of fellow members.

Resolution #17 **Carried.**

Resolution #18

Moved by Judith Bennoch (Board of Directors) and seconded by Margaret Geare (Board of Directors).

Be it resolved that Constitution, Article VII Duties of the Board of Directors 1. Honorary President 3. 'Serve as a member of the Steering Committee' be removed.

Rationale:

- Maintains the impartiality of the Steering Committee.
- Allows the Honorary President to fulfill all her duties as a member of the BOD.

Resolution #18 **Carried.**

Resolution #19

Moved by Judith Bennoch (Board of Directors) and seconded by Suzanne Rondeau (Board of Directors).

Be it resolved that Constitution Article X – Annual Meeting

7. a. 'May speak to resolutions and motions to assist in clarifications in a discussion', be amended by adding "unless acting as a member of the Steering Committee".

Rationale:

- Maintains the impartiality of the Steering Committee.

Resolution #19 **Carried.**

Resolution #20

Moved by Jan Murdoch (Board of Directors) and seconded by Emily Noble (Board of Directors).

Be it resolved that Constitution, Article IX, Branch Organization, 7: "A Branch wishing to disband must give six months' notice in writing to the Provincial President" be amended to read: "Branches considering disbanding or amalgamating must inform the Provincial President in writing with a six-month notice."

Rationale:

- The current Constitution has no reference to amalgamation.
- Branches will be given an option to amalgamate or disband as a choice for the membership.
- The Provincial Policies and Procedures Manual will be aligned with the RWTO/OERO Constitution.
- Branches are asking for more direction from RWTO/ OERO Provincial, related to Branches' amalgamating or Branches' disbanding. This revised statement will give direction to Branches.

Note: Attention was drawn to the inappropriate use of the term “housekeeping” with reference to resolutions of minor significance. It was suggested that the terms “administrative clarification” or “editorial detail” be used instead. The delegates firmly supported this.

After a vote Resolution #20 **Carried.**

Motion #11 AGM 2023:

Moved by Judith Bennoch (Board of Directors) and seconded by Suzanne Rondeau (Board of Directors) that all secret ballots be destroyed. **Carried.**

7. Committee Reports

Motion #12 AGM 2023: Moved by Linda Frey (Lydia Snow North Halton) and seconded by Kathleen Bradley (St. Catharine's) that the Committee Reports be accepted as printed. **Carried.**

8. Call to Convention 2024

A video produced by Linda Sargeant was shown as the call to the Virtual Convention for 2024. It included pictures and/or information from all the Branches.

Closing Luncheon

Peggy Stock, former Provincial President, opened the luncheon by saying Grace.

Recognition of 'Over 90' Members/Mother and Daughter Duos

Marg Dempsey, Convention Convenor, introduced the recipients and they were presented with certificates of recognition and flowers.

Installation of Incoming Board

Nancy Papiez, Honorary President, led the installation of the Incoming Board of Directors for 2023-2024.

Remarks by Outgoing President

Judy Drummond stated her appreciation for the work of the Executive, the Board of Directors, and the Branches. She noted the focus on the future was the expansion of membership and the structures of our branches. The warm welcome and hospitality from Branches were appreciated during her 36 Branch visits. Judy expressed thanks for the honour and privilege of being Provincial President.

Presentation of Past President's Pin

Sandra Salerno presented Judy Drummond with the Past President's pin.

Introduction of Incoming President

Joanne Weeks, President of the Haldimand Branch, along with other members of the Branch, introduced Sandra Salerno with a slide show and anagram that outlined her various interests and talents.

Presentation of the Gavel

Judy Drummond presented the gavel to Sandra Salerno. The tradition of passing on the gavel represented the transfer of the Presidency and the trust given to the new President. The gavel was inscribed in 1973 by OASWT (The Ontario Association of Superannuated Women Teachers) and has been passed on to Provincial Presidents since that time.

Remarks by Incoming President

Sandra Salerno thanked the members of the Haldimand Branch for their support. She expressed appreciation to Judy Drummond and other members of the Board of Directors for their support. Sandra thanked the delegates and their members for making the Kingston Convention a historic one. She stated that even though we will welcome other educational professionals to our organization we are staying true to our roots by keeping our name and motto. Our values will not change.

She concluded by saying she looked forward to visiting the Branches as Provincial President.

Adjournment

Sandra Salerno declared the 2023 Convention and AGM adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandie Bender".

Sandie Bender, Recording Secretary 2022-2023