



Lydia Snow North Halton July 2026 Newsletter

[Lydia Snow 2026-2027 Begins Wednesday, September 16](#)

We are looking forward to a great year for our branch. Please join us as we launch in September with two amazing guest speakers, our book and puzzle sale and a lunch to reconnect after our summer break.

NEW members are welcome - reach out and invite someone to join you!

September Meeting:

Location: Acton Town Hall

Book and Puzzle Sale throughout the morning

9:15 - refreshments, meet and greet social time

10:00 - **Guest Speaker: Anne Bokma & Pat Dickinson**

Start Your Story: The Magic of Memoir

“There is no greater agony than bearing an untold story inside you,” wrote Maya Angelou. In this workshop, you’ll familiarize yourself with the art of memoir and start thinking about a story you might want to write from your life.

12:00 - **Lunch* ~ Quiche, Salad and Dessert**

***Deadline for Lunch Payment of \$25: Tuesday, September 8**

e-transfer to: lydiasnow1999@gmail.com

Cheques payable to: Retired Women Teachers of Ontario, Lydia Snow

Branch. Send to: Jeanne Gray, 12 Nixon Cres., Georgetown, ON L7G 5K4

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2026-2027 Program Brochure Can Be Picked Up at Our September Meeting

If you have not received the program brochure for 2026-2027, you can pick it up at our next meeting in September. For your convenience, the topics, dates, times and locations for all of our meetings are found below. It is best to mark your calendar now so you don't miss out on any of the exciting guest speakers that have been arranged for the upcoming year.

Tuesday, October 13 ~ Gellert Centre, Georgetown
Pelvic Health as We Age - Meryl DaCosta
General Meeting

Wednesday, November 25 ~ Granite Ridge Golf Club
Christmas Luncheon & Fundraising Raffle

Wednesday, January 13 ~ Zoom
What does AI mean to me? - Amanda Tkaczyk

Wednesday, February 10 ~ Zoom
Super Agers - Dr. Angela Roberts
Special Meeting for Outreach Vote

Monday, March 8 ~ St. John's United Church, Georgetown
Sleeping Children Around the World - Debbie Will-Dryden

Tuesday, April 13 ~ Acton Town Hall

A Life of Courage, Curiosity & Conservation -Dr. Anne Innis Dagg
Annual General Meeting Book and Puzzle Sale & Lunch

Wednesday, May 12 ~ Acton Town Hall

Healthy Aging and Wellness Fair

Website Information:

Did you know that Lydia Snow has an active website? Please use the link below to connect with the site.

<https://rwto.org/branch-new/lydia-snow-north-halton/>

We also have a FaceBook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/lydiasnownorthhaltongroupchat>



In Memory Of:

Carolyn Ryall - August 3, 1943 – June 13, 2026

Note: For Carolyn's full obituary - please visit the
[Jones Funeral Home](#)

It is with deep love and profound sadness that we announce the passing of Carolyn Ryall, who left us peacefully at home on the morning of June 13, 2026.

Just days before Carolyn passed, she enjoyed some of her favourite things: brunch with her husband of almost 53 years, texting and messaging with her many friends across the continent, reading her latest popular book, noting the number of pages to be read each day to return it to the library for the next person, watching an episode of the newest

release of a favourite cozy mystery series on BritBox, the evening news, Wheel of Fortune and Jeopardy; doing Wordle, Connections and other puzzles on her cell phone to share with a Facebook group. She was also planning to make her famous BBQ ribs on the weekend and bake tea biscuits to go with the fresh strawberries from the farmer's market, to go with the sinful clotted cream her British heritage required.

A dedicated educator, Carolyn spent decades shaping the minds and hearts of children in the classroom.

After teaching in Ottawa for 8 years, in 1974 Carolyn joined the Peel Board of Education when she and Alan married. She taught at Northwood Public School in

Brampton. Then at Creditview, Glendale and Centennial Public Schools, with some years as a Special Education Resource Teacher using her expertise to support classroom teachers in multiple schools.

While teaching full time as a wife and mother of two, Carolyn boldly proceeded to obtain a BA from York University on a part-time basis in 1992. She really enjoyed the Political Science courses she took. Carolyn was rightfully proud that all her hard work, evenings of travel back and forth, followed by work the next morning, gave her higher income and pension.

After retiring in 1998, she continued following her many interests, adding Retired Women Teachers of Ontario activities, serving on the Executive for a time, theatre trips, the Red Hat Society and her beloved book club. Carolyn was predeceased by far too many members of the 25-year-plus book club and three decades-long friends who shared many adventures: Jeannie, Debbie and Joanne. Maybe they will reconnect to drink wine, search for antiques, talk books, teach or car rally.

Her happiest moments were spent surrounded by the people she loved. Game nights at home or at the cottage in Haliburton were among the family's cherished times. She found great joy in the simple pleasures: reading on the deck, attending art shows, enjoying a glass of white wine, and enjoying outings with friends and family.

Carolyn is survived by her loving husband, Alan; her daughters, Karen and Andrea; her grandchildren, Sebastian, Natasha, and Alex; her great-grandson, Eugene; and her feline sons, Monkey and Tigger. She was predeceased by her beloved son, Andrew.

Carolyn would have been delighted that instead of flowers, a donation was made in her name to Cats Anonymous Rescue and Adoption at 063055, Dufferin County Rd 3, East Garafraxa, ON L9W 7J1, catsanonymous.ca, or via CanadaHelps.org; or a similar animal rescue organization of your choice.

There will be a Celebration of Carolyn's incredible life on Saturday, September 26, 2026, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion, Acton Branch, 15 Wright Ave., Acton.

There will be a memory wall to share your memories of Carolyn. Please share your brief favourite Carolyn anecdote by email to alan@cryall.com so we can include it with the others.

In Memory Of:

Norma Reid - May 13, 1934 - May 17, 2026

A Celebration of Life will be held for Norma Reid at St. John's United Church, 11 Guelph Street, Georgetown on Monday July 13 at 2:00 PM.



Cards of Thanks

We received a note from Jane Campbell's daughter, Natalie:

Thank you so much for your lovely words on Mum's obituary page and the donation in her honour. She spoke many times about the luncheons and socializing at the RWTO functions. I know how much she valued the connection.

From Lorna Pennock:

I would like to express sincere gratitude for your kind words, cards and heartfelt sympathy and support at the loss of my husband, John.

Congratulations Are Due

A tip of the hat goes to **Cathy Bennett** who recently received a well-deserved Cora Bailey Award from her Peel North RWTO/OERO Branch! We are very fortunate to have Cathy as a Social Member of Lydia Snow who actively serves as a member of our Refreshment Committee.

News From the RWTO Convention:

At our May meeting, Lydia Snow members were made aware of the Resolutions that were to be presented at the June RWTO/OERO Annual General Meeting. Below is a summary of these Resolutions showing in brackets the result of the vote:

Resolution 1 and 2- clarification that retired administrators can be members of RWTO/OERO. (Carried)

Resolution 3- reduce the use of "Retired Women" and list groups in alphabetical order for ease of reading. If Resolution 1 and 2 pass, "administrators" will automatically be added to the list. (Amended to put "teachers" at the top of the list versus the bottom and carried as amended)

Resolution 4- wireless microphones will make it easier for members with mobility issues to speak at an AGM. (Carried)

Resolution 5- Honorary delegates will be given speaking privileges at the AGM. (Defeated)

Resolution 6- a delegate's travel expenses will be reimbursed regardless of the distance travelled. (Deferred to 2027 AGM)

Resolution 7- similar to Resolution 6 but reimbursement given regardless of distance travelled. (Deferred to 2027 AGM)

Resolution 8, 9, 10, 11, 12- In recent years, many members have been coming to the Board of Directors in the role of Second Vice President with little or no Board experience. The Board would benefit from the expertise of an Honorary President. The role of this position is being divided up from the roles of other members of the Board. (Carried)

Resolution 13- Replace "Member at Large" with "General Membership". (Carried)

Resolution 14- If there is no one for a position, the Board of Directors will appoint someone. (Carried)

Resolution 15- women who are on Long Term Disability could become “Interim Members” making people aware of our organization and possibly becoming full members upon retirement. (Carried)

Resolution 16- only one key issue per Resolution. (Carried)

Resolution 17-indicate that RWTO/OERO is a Not-for-Profit organization. (Carried)

If you have any questions regarding these Resolutions or Convention, please contact Jennifer Cardwell, Tammy Somerville, LeAnne Taylor or Cheryl Davidson.

Contact Information:

We are updating our current membership list. If you have had a change of mailing address, e-mail address, phone number or emergency contact person, please share your new information with Jan Hassard hassardj1982@gmail.com or call Jan at 905-703-0005.

Email Issues: If you have heard of anyone who is not receiving our emails, please let Jan Hassard know so that some follow up can take place.

Phone and Email List:

By popular request, we will distribute a contact list in September, complete with telephone and email addresses of the current members.

Care and Share:

Do you have any information on members that we should connect with through our caring and sharing? Please forward the information to Valerie Jordan, jordanheirs@yahoo.com or call Valerie at 905-877-3291.

Let's Grow Lydia Snow!

Members are encouraged to invite others to join our branch. If they are a retired woman teacher, educational assistant, early childhood educator, child and youth worker/counsellor, audiologist, office support staff, psychologist, social worker or speech and language pathologist, invite them to a meeting, give them a brochure, tell them to visit our Website or FaceBook page.

Yours in Caring and Sharing!

The Lydia Snow Executive