

RWTO/OERO ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

Delta Waterfront Hotel, Sault Ste. Marie, ON

June 6 and 7, 2012

SESSION 1 – JUNE 6, 2012

1. Welcome – President Annette Rhodes welcomed all in attendance. O Canada was sung.

2. Motion #AM-01

Moved by Carol Nelson, seconded by Karin Mussen, the approval of the 2012 AGM agenda. **Carried**

3. Announcements- Co-convenors Martha Summers and Nancy Konzuk welcomed the delegates, and related activity and tour information times and meeting locations.

4. Pat Depencier gave the gathered delegates the necessary voting information and procedures. One hundred and thirty-nine delegates were present. A count of 66% of (92 delegate votes) is necessary for constitutional amendments to pass and a count of 50 % (70 delegate votes) for other matters. Resolutions from the floor require a count of 80%, (111 votes). As well, the rules for debate/ voting procedures and rules for leaving the meeting were reviewed. The Scrutineers and the Steering Committee were introduced.

5. Motion #AM-02

Moved by Peggy Stock, seconded by Astrida Jenkinson-Chalmers, the acceptance of the 2011 Annual Meeting Minutes. **Carried**

6. Business Arising from the Minutes of the 2011 Annual Meeting

a) Ad Hoc Committee to Consider Extending Membership

As the result of the request from Owen Sound Branch member Sandy Houlgrave to consider extending membership within RWTO/OERO to non-teaching women retirees who had also worked in education, an Ad Hoc Committee was struck by the Board of Directors in October 2011. Anne Graham delivered the report of this committee to the delegates. The committee members had carefully studied the request, and had talked to many members to get their input. The unique nature of RWTO/OERO, with its opportunities to network and to interact with former teacher colleagues, was acknowledged to be a large part and of the reason why many members had joined. The overwhelming response was that members valued this uniqueness and the feeling was that we would lose members if our mandate changed.

In summary, the committee recommends that our membership requirements remain the same. Many branches encourage guests at their meetings, and perhaps this is the best way to handle including friends and former non teaching colleagues.

As a result of the recommendation from the Ad Hoc Committee, the consensus of the Board of Directors is that there should be no change in membership criteria for RWTO/OERO .

7. Executive Secretary-Treasurer's Report/Presentation of the 2012-2013 Budget

Gloria Drake, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, gave a detailed account of the past year's financial transactions. She thoroughly reviewed all entries, highlighting the Financial Statements, namely Operations, Reserves, Cash Flows and Investments. Where differences occurred between the Projected Budget of 2012 and the Year to Date Actuals as of March 31, 2012, these were thoroughly and clearly explained. G. Drake reported that the Auditor found that that all statements present fairly the financial position of RWTO/OERO for the year ending March 31, 2012.

A full explanation of the proposed Budget for 2012-2013 was then presented. The Income and Expenses for this budget were both reviewed. This will be a deficit budget, largely due to the projected increase in Convention 2012 expenses. G. Drake stated that any questions would be entertained on Thursday morning after delegates had a chance to study the proposed budget.

Motion #AM-03

Moved by Carol Bell, seconded by Diana McKendry, the acceptance of the Financial Report. **Carried**

President Rhodes thanked the Executive Secretary-Treasurer for her excellent presentation, and for all her hard work on our behalf.

8. Reports

Constitution and Resolutions Report- Leslie Uttley

Chairperson Leslie Uttley thanked the branches who submitted resolutions and the members of her committee. There are no resolutions from the Board this year.

Motion #AM-04

Moved by Leslie Uttley, seconded by Carol Bell, the acceptance of the Constitution and Resolutions Report as printed. Carried

9. Resolutions

Parliamentarian, Joy Patyk, assumed the chair for Resolutions. She noted the Financial Implications for Resolutions, prepared by G. Drake, for the delegates' consideration.

Resolution #1 from Rendezvous Branch

Motion # AM-05

Moved by Jean Franklin Hancher, seconded by Judy Anderson

Be it resolved that RWTO/OERO establish a membership fee for new members who join RWTO/OERO after March 1st that is one half the annual rate set at the most recent Annual Meeting. *Withdrawn*

Coffee Break: 10:00-10:15 a.m.

President Rhodes reconvened the Annual Meeting.

Terry Kennedy presented the Financial Report from Manulife. She stated that the plan experienced another very successful year, that again, there will be no increase in the premium to members and that the transportation benefit has increased this year. This year's Profit Sharing cheque of \$44,189.00 is the largest to date. President Rhodes thanked Terry on behalf of all members for her terrific work on our behalf. A floral arrangement was given to Terry as an expression of the membership's appreciation for Terry's hard work and commitment as our broker.

Parliamentarian Joy Patyk re- assumed the chair.

Resolution #2 from Burlington Branch

Motion #AM-06

Moved by Moira-Jane Plexman, seconded by Pamela MacDonald

Be it resolved that Provincial RWTO/OERO provide branches with a free membership pin for each new member. *Carried*

Resolution #3 from Windsor-Essex Branch

Motion #AM-07

Moved by Mary Jane Finn, seconded by Linda White

Be it resolved that the preamble to the RWTO/OERO Constitution be amended to include:

Motto: Sharing and Caring

An amendment to Resolution #3 was presented.

Motion #AM-08

Moved by Moira-Jane Plexman, seconded by Pamela MacDonald

That Resolution #3 be amended to read: Caring, Sharing and Having Fun *Defeated*

Motion # AM-07 was then re-read and put to a vote.

Motion #AM-07

Moved by Mary Jane Finn, seconded by Linda White

Be it resolved that the preamble to the RWTO/OERO Constitution be amended to include:

Motto: Sharing and Caring *Carried*

Resolution #4 from Coldwater Branch

Motion #AM-09

Moved by Marilyn Bancsi, seconded by Johanne Dalton

Be it resolved that Provincial RWTO/OERO fund a lump sum grant (e.g. \$100.00) to small branches (50 or fewer members) to assist with their RWTO/OERO programming and operating costs.

A friendly amendment to Resolution #4 was then presented.

Motion #AM-10

Moved by Judy Putherbough, seconded by Johanne Dalton to amend Resolution #4 to read:

Be it resolved that Provincial RWTO/OERO fund a lump sum grant of \$100.00 annually to small branches of 50 or fewer members to assist with their RWTO/OERO programming and operating costs. *Carried*

Motion#AM-10 thus replaced Motion #AM-09 as the main motion. Motion #AM-10 was then re-read and put to a vote.

Motion #AM-10

Moved by Judy Putherbough, seconded by Johanne Dalton to amend Resolution #4 to read:

Be it resolved that Provincial RWTO/OERO fund a lump sum grant of \$100.00 annually to small branches of 50 or fewer members to assist with their RWTO/OERO programming and operating costs. *Carried*

This ended the Resolutions portion of the AGM and President A. Rhodes re-assumed the chair.

10. Committee Reports

Nominations Report- Carol Bell

Carol Bell presented the slate of nominated officers for 2012-2013. There were no nominations from the floor.

Motion #AM-11

Moved by Carol Bell, seconded by Johanne Dalton, the acceptance of the Nominations Committee Report. **Carried**

End of Session 1. The remaining Committee reports were to be presented in Session 2, on Thursday, June 7, 2012.

Session 2- June 7, 2012

Memorial Service

The meeting opened with a fitting and meaningful tribute to RWTO/OERO members who had passed away during the past year. The service was conducted by Barbara Moorcroft and eleven of the area directors. Ann Dube, Past President of Sudbury Branch, represented the Director of Area 10, Valma Mongeon. Mary Jane Finn assisted in the French language readings. Carnations were placed in tribute and in memory of our deceased members as we reflected on their lives and their contributions.

Budget Approval

Gloria Drake updated the proposed budget to reflect changes occurring as a result of Resolutions 3 and 4.

Motion #AM-12

Moved by Rebecca Hlynialuk, seconded by Suzanne Wilson-Marjerrison, the acceptance of the 2012-2013 Budget. **Carried**

Membership Pins Procedure

Leslie Uttley addressed delegates to explain the procedure to be followed for Membership Pins for new members. Firstly, the branches are asked to keep a list, tracking members as they join and receive their pin. Secondly, Area Directors will have a supply of pins available to the Branches, and will have these on hand when they visit their branches each year. Thirdly, any Presidents who have purchased pins for new members, at this AGM, may be reimbursed for this cost, provided they have the receipt.

Committee Reports continued

Highlights of Committee Reports were presented by each convenor. The full committee reports are printed in the Annual Report Booklet.

.02 Program Coordinator- Pat Depencier

P. Depencier thanked the Area Directors for all their hard work during the year. Within the Area Directors' reports, donations, fundraising and volunteering are key components at the branch level. Small interest groups appear to be growing in popularity.

.03 Communications-Bev Pickard

Bev Pickard related that our RWTO/OERO website continues to increase in effectiveness as a communication means. All branches are represented on the website now.

.04 Membership-Annalee Ladouceur

Annalee Ladouceur thanked delegates for their participation and great ideas at the Membership Storefront. Ideas gathered at the Storefront will be published in the newsletter. She reported that the RWTO/OERO membership poster will be ready in the fall.

.05 Archivist-Barbara Moorcroft

Preserving our RWTO/OERO history is a very important task. There will be time for Area Directors to report at the October Board Meeting on the status of archival storage in their branches.

.06 Honorary Membership-Barbara Moorcroft

This honour is presented to a member based on her exemplary service to RWTO/OERO at the provincial level.

.07 Issues and Concerns-Dianne Rice

The Issues and Concerns report is as printed on page 17 of the Annual Report.

.08 Goodwill- Anne Graham

Approximately one thousand greetings were sent throughout this past year. Forty-two of our members celebrated their ninetieth birthday, and twelve members became centenarians!

.09 Insurance-Judy Anderson

The Fall Provincial Insurance Workshop was very well received. The convenors, Judy Anderson and Nancy Iannizzi thanked our broker Terry Kennedy on behalf of all members for her dedication to our insurance program.

.10 Policy- Carol Bell

Policy updates from the Board of Directors are sent to the Area Directors and the branches after the October Board Meeting. C. Bell reminded all delegates of the importance of updating Branch policy books as soon as these updates are received.

Motion #AM-13

Moved by Judy Drummond, seconded by Mary Duffin, the acceptance of the Committee Reports. **Carried**

President's Report: Annette Rhodes

Annette Rhodes reflected on her year as Provincial President. She gave special thanks to Executive Secretary-Treasurer Gloria Drake, for all her help, support and patience. President Rhodes made several recommendations based on conversations she has had with members during her branch visits. Among these are:

- RWTO/OERO needs to develop a higher profile within both the teaching community and the community at large.
- RWTO/OERO is a group of talented, creative and skilled members. Encourage branch members to take a turn filling branch executive positions.
- Membership needs to remain a focus for all branches and branch members. 'Each one reach one' is a good motto to remember.
- Interest groups create a special bond within the larger group.
- Variety in programming, location, entertainment is motivating and stimulating.
- Remember to always support your members and to keep in touch.

The delegates showed their appreciation of and thanks for President Annette's contributions this year, with a standing ovation.

New Business:

.01 Request from London-Middlesex Branch

Barbara Bain spoke on behalf of the London-Middlesex Branch. This branch submitted a request that a representative from the Provincial Membership Committee meet with the small branches, either individually or as a group, to listen to and discuss their needs, with the intent of offering strategies to help them solve ongoing concerns.

London-Middlesex feels that yesterday's Resolution #4 is a first step, in a bigger picture of 'Outreach' to smaller branches. London-Middlesex desires to convey to small branches that RWTO/OERO cares about their future and will help them to find solutions.

.02 Request from Northumberland-South Durham

Astrida Jenkinson-Chalmers submitted a request from the Northumberland-South Durham Branch that the RWTO/OERO Provincial Board write a letter to support the current active teacher federations of Ontario.

Call to Convention 2013! Delegates were delighted to receive the invitation from Hamilton-Wentworth to participate in the 57th RWTO/OERO Annual Convention to be held June 4-6, 2013 in Hamilton, "The Jewel on the Bay". The venue will be the Sheraton Hamilton Hotel. The convenor is Nancy Papiez.

Honorary President Carol Watson installed the 2012/2013 Officers.

Outgoing President Annette Rhodes made closing comments regarding her year as Provincial President. The Sault Ste. Marie and Central Algoma branches, together with the convenors Martha Summers and Nancy Konzuk were most sincerely thanked for all their hard work in preparing and hosting this year's wonderful convention.

Motion #AM-14

Moved by Heather Bosman that the 2012 Annual Meeting be adjourned.