

NORTHUMBERLAND

Spring 2022

<https://district30.rtoero.org>

Issue No. 56



District 30
Northumberland

President's Message

It's hard to believe that we are now in our third spring managing the challenges of Covid in our daily lives. Hopefully the weather will provide opportunities for many recreational and social activities to safely take place as summer approaches. Our Executive to date has still been holding meetings via Zoom and will be considering the format of future meetings at our next April Executive meeting.



The National Annual Meeting is being held as a 'hybrid meeting' with alternates and delegates having the option of attending the meeting in person or joining the meeting virtually. The meeting will be held on May 5th. David Wing and I will be attending as Delegates and Marsha Jones and Mary Ellen French will be participating as Alternates.

Ukraine Donation

A donation of \$1000 was made through the Red Cross after our last Executive meeting. Such donations are currently being matched by the federal government. We will also be considering further options to support refugees and the Ukraine at our next Executive meeting.

Budget

One aspect of our District that has flourished over the last two years is our treasury. The savings from no in person events means that we have money to be used for activities to better meet your needs and interests. If you have any suggestions regarding activities or events that you would like to see implemented, please contact me or any member of the Executive with your suggestions. We intend to reinstate the 'Happy Hour' socials throughout the District and have a celebratory event at our first in person general meeting.

APPLEPRESS

We Want You - Consider Joining the Executive!

We would welcome any member to come forward and become a part of our Executive. We offer a Member at Large positions for members to become familiar with the organization both locally and at the provincial level. If you have an interest in running for one of the elected positions, please contact me or Charlotte Majic, Past President, for more information. Our plan currently is to continue with the current Executive in place until our next General meeting. If there is anyone wishing to run for office prior to such a meeting we can facilitate an election virtually through the provincial office.

The Heart and Soul of District 30

In closing I want to say a huge thank you to each and every member of our District Executive. They have risen to the challenges of the last two plus years to ensure the needs of our members are addressed. If it were not for their expertise and hard work within each committee or portfolio, the district could not survive. There is **never** a time I ask for help, ideas or information that I don't get multiple calls to assist. Executive, my sincerest thank you to you all for your support, hard work and commitment to District 30 and RTO-ERO.

Have a Wonderful Spring,
Mark

News from Your Recruitment and Membership Committee

As of Apr. 1, 2022, we have 804 members in District 30—Northumberland. We have 36 members in their 50's, 150 in their 60's, 354 in their 70's, 227 in their 80's, 30 members in their 90's and one member who is 100!

We welcome to District 30-Northumberland new/transferred members since our last Applepress in November, 2021: Wanda Sharpe, Lisa Cole, Patrick Herrington, Stephen Turl, Elisabeth Harnden and Bruce Laird.

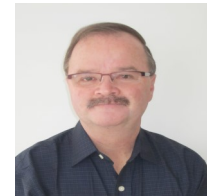
Sadly missed , District 30—Northumberland since November 2021 are:
Melberta Abernathy, Elizabeth Barnum, Mary Bowland, Gwen Herrington,
Barbara Moorcroft, Patricia Turl, L Diane Laird, Don Harnden, Frances Presley,
Ivy E Reynolds and Garry Sear.

RTO has been holding all their Retirement Planning Workshops online. Any prospective member, looking to retire in the next five years, can sign up for any presentation that suits their schedule. They can register at <https://rtoero.ca/events/retirement-planning-workshops/> . Also, anyone still working can join RTO with free membership until they retire! Consider the benefits of joining RTO!

Please inform us of any change of address or e-mail, or contact our National Office directly at 1-800-361-9888x223 or e-mail membership@rto-ero.org .

Heather Griffin, Mary Ellen French, Recruitment and Membership Committee

District Health Representative's Report



District members were invited to attend a Know Your Health Plan webinar on Tuesday, April 5, 2022. The session was designed to serve as a refresher on the information, resources and tools needed to help navigate our RTOERO health plans. Following the presentation, a Question and Answer period was provided. Special thanks to Stephen Wong (Director, Benefits), Anya Rampersad (Coordinator, Benefits) and the rest of the team at Head Office team for facilitating the webinar.

As mentioned in the last Applepress, our benefits insurance partner, Johnson Inc., has now launched the new Johnson My Insurance Dashboard. It can be accessed electronically by visiting <https://insurance.johnson.ca/CommunityLoginPage>. This new digital insurance portal provides members with an improved process to submit group benefits claims and access policy information with a single user sign-on.

I will be attending the District Health Representation Workshop in October on your behalf. I will report back to you about the workshop in a future Applepress.

Until next time, stay both healthy and safe!

Respectfully submitted by Philip E. Palmer
RTOERO District 30 – Northumberland's Health Benefits Representative

District Webmaster's Report – Spring 2022 Applepress

I am very pleased to announce that our new website has been launched!

Special thanks to Charles Tabone (Director, Information and Technology) for his work on the project and in particular, for the one-to-one ZOOM in-service he provided me with. The new platform is very user-friendly to administer and presents itself nicely to visitors. If you happen to visit our old website, you will be automatically directed to our new website.

Some of the information on our new website is auto-populated by data held by Head Office such as contact information for Executive Committee members. This allows our website to be as up-to-date as possible.

There is a "Classified" section that contains advertisements for various products and services. The content of this section is currently populated by Head Office and not by District-30 Northumberland.

Visit us at <https://district30.rtoero.ca/>.

Kayla McKenzie (Co-ordinator of Marketing and Communication) has now transitioned us to our new Facebook page and linked it to the Head Office page. Kayla will serve as the "Administrator" on behalf of Head Office and Kathy Harding and I will serve as "Editors". Our Facebook page can be found by searching "Rtoero District 30 Northumberland".

Kathy and I continue to participate in regular Marketing and Communication Committee Round Tables on your behalf and find them to be very informative. In addition to these ZOOM meetings, we have been invited to send two representatives to the District Communications Workshop to be held on October 2 and 3, 2022.

Enjoy the summer that lies ahead!

Respectfully submitted by Philip E. Palmer
RTOERO District 30 – Northumberland's Webmaster

RTO District 30 Executive

President- **Mark Fallis**..... 416-523-3729
mfallis56@gmail.com
Past President- **Charlotte Majic**.....905-885-5887
cmajic@gmail.com
First Vice Pres.- **Dave Wing**.....289-385-3132
davewing01@gmail.com
Second Vice Pres. - **Marsha Jones**
markagar@sympatico.ca
Secretary- **David Staples**.....905-987-4055
2chalkdusters@gmail.com
Treasurer-**Jeremy Fowlie**905-375-7006
jeremyfowlie25@gmail.com

Executive Committees

Health Services- **Philip Palmer**..... 905-987-0585
nightskier@gmail.com
Website Manager- **Philip Palmer**.... 905-987-0585
nightskier@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor- **Kathy Harding**....416-467-0272
district30comm@gmail.com
Goodwill Co-ordinator
Wendy Westwood..... 905-987-1123
lilacottage601@hotmail.com
Political Advocacy- **Marsha Jones**....
markagar@sympatico.ca
Social Committee- Entire Executive
Travel- **Bryan Marjoram** 905-372-6389
bryan.marjoram.23@gmail.com
Pension-**Morris Tait**..... 905-372-6700
tait@eagle.ca
Archives- **Patricia Murphy**..... .905-349-2847
smurf@eagle.ca
Recruitment and Membership
Heather Griffin..... 905 623-4535
hgriff551@gmail.com
Mary Ellen French
maryellen.french@gmail.com
Member-at-large
Mary Ellen French.....
maryellen.french@gmail.com
Community Grants
Dave Wing.....289-385-3132
davewing01@gmail.com

Goodwill Committee

PLEASE SAVE THIS LIST!
YOU OR A FRIEND MAY NEED IT!

Bowmanville/Hampton
Phyllis Price905-623-3280
Brighton/Codrington
Susan McGuire,.....613-475-4152
Campbellford..
Trish Wood705-653-6371
Castleton/Colborne
Wendy Westwood.....905-987-1123
Cobourg
A-C **Don Swanson** 905-372-8449
D-F **Mike Desjardins**,.....905-373-1433
G-J **Harry Knapper**905-372-3604
K-M **Harry Knapper**.....905-372-3604
N-S **Wendy Westwood**905-987-1123
T-Z **Peggy Desjardins** -905-373-1433
Grafton
Marsha Jones.....905-349-2416
Havelock/Norwood/Peterborough/Marmora/Madoc
Bob Watson613-473-2735
Hastings
Jacqueline Beamish 705-696-2878
Orono/Kendal/Newcastle/Newtonville
Sharon Staples905-987-4055
Oshawa/Whitby/Courtice
Zelda Armstrong905-576-7266
Port Hope
A-F **Sylvia Terpstra**.....905-373-4435
G-K **Peter Delanty**905-372-0515
L-R **Charlotte Magic**.....905-885-5887
S-Y **Ron Tuttle**.....905-885-4670
Roseneath
Emily Macklin.....905-352-2738
Trenton/Frankford/
Jane Slater..... 613-392-1587
Warkworth..
Mary Michell..... 705-924-2376
All other areas ... **Wendy Westwood**..... 905-987-1123

The Member Services Committee would appreciate your help. If you know of a member who could use a card, phone call, a visit to the hospital, or support in the death of a loved one, please let a committee member know or call **Wendy Westwood** (905-987-1123). Or even better, volunteer for one of the vacancies!

PLANNING AHEAD FOR POLITICAL ACTION

**SAVE
THE
DATE**

Tuesday, May 24, 2022
Cobourg Lions' Centre, Elgin Street, Cobourg
7:00 pm

All Candidates' Meeting

Please join us to meet and question the Candidates for Election to the Provincial Parliament

Ontario's Provincial Election of June 2022 will be here before we know it. It is very important for each of us to be actively involved in this process. It is not too early to begin our plans. I am sure that you have noticed the TV ads that have begun already.

I hope, sincerely, that we will be able to gather together to meet our candidates. I appreciate being able to hear the varying platforms and expand my knowledge and understanding through the questions asked by others. If this cannot happen, we will have to work individually.

My thoughts are turning to the priorities that I feel must be addressed. My personal list includes the environment, health care, long term care, education and the economy. I'm sure this list will grow in future months. I encourage you to create your own list of concerns and priorities. Contact with the candidates in your area will influence and inform. It's time to begin the work to ensure the best future for the Province of Ontario.

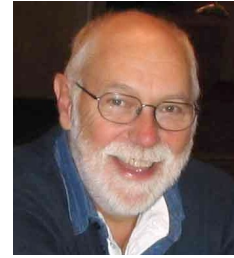
We have all been concerned about the backlog of people awaiting surgeries in Ontario as a result of cancellation of procedures during the Covid crisis. Also of great concern is the approach that may be used to reduce the backlog. Privatization of health care services has been one of the options under consideration.

Watch for information on that state of healthcare present and future presented by your local Healthcare Coalition. Knowledge in this area will assist with the decisions we make regarding the June 2nd elections in Ontario.

Marsha Jones, PAC Committee

Member Services

OTPP 2021



The AGM for the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan of Ontario took place on April 7 by online video and an virtual Q & A streamed on April 14. During 2021 there was a continued effort by OTPP to be environmentally responsible by buying into green projects in Canada and around the world. Some of the purchases include Chilean water distribution, Atlantic Qua farms, wind and solar power facilities in U.S.A, insurance interests in Australia and New Zealand and a large interest in Home Equity Bank in Canada

Fast Facts from OTPP annual report

Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan has:

- 182,000 working members
- 151,000 pensioners
- 333,000 total number of working and pension members
- 5,000 new retirees in 2021
- 44 average age of a working member
- 73 average age of all retirees
- 1.2 to 1 ratio of working to retired
- 32 years average years retirees collect pension
- 59 average retirement age
- 4 – 109 years, age range of pensioners
- 146 members are over the age of 100
- \$49,400 average starting pension
- 31 teachers have received a pension for more than 50 years

Morris Tait



RTOERO Community Grants - 2022

RTOERO Community Grants are designed to encourage all RTOERO Districts to support and partner with local organizations to promote projects that will help our organization to meet our strategic goals of:

- to improve the lives of members and seniors;
- be the trusted voice for the broader education communities;
- and broaden our membership base.

All Districts are eligible to receive a Community Grant. District 30 will serve as the project sponsor and will submit the application for a Community Grant in partnership with a community organization. The project applications may include wide ranging topics that have a direct and positive impact on the community, including RTO members and seniors, and/or demonstrate environmental stewardship. Past projects that have received funding in our District include:

- Cornerstone's COVID-19 Recovery;
- Northumberland Hospice Care Centre;
- Northumberland New Ventures Band;
- Back Pack for Kids Program.

Successful Community Grant applicants will receive a grant of up to \$4,000.

For more information please contact David Wing at davewing01@gmail.com

Ontario Health Coalition

Many public meetings have taken place in March and April to stop health care privatization and improve care, accountability and residents' rights in LTC.

Many changes are being proposed for Healthcare Diagnostics and Services in Ontario. To learn more about the changes and what you can do about them, read the attachment. For more information, contact Charlotte at cmajic@gmail.com

<https://www.thestar.com/local-kawartha-lakes/news/2022/02/25/privatization-poaches-medical-professionals-local-health-coalitions-sound-alarm-following-comment-by-health-minister.html>

<https://www.globenewswire.com/news-release/2022/03/21/2406750/5/en/Ford-government-plans-unprecedented-for-profit-privatization-of-health-care-Health-Coalitions-across-the-province-holding-summits-to-fight-privatization-and-protect-public-health-care.html>

BRYAN MARJORAM'S TRAVELS

COME RIDE WITH US ...



“Day Tripper(s)”

Restrictions have lifted enough that we can do some day trips in Ontario if you didn't catch the flight to Florida.

Toronto ~Spend a day exploring what Toronto has to offer by car, bus, or Go Train. Personally, I like to drive to Oshawa and take the Go Train up to the city. Ripley's Aquarium of Canada situated at the base of the CN Tower and downtown Toronto. Seniors 65+ \$29.00

CN Tower ~ Soar to great heights as you take the open air elevators and enjoy the view. Enjoy lunch or supper in their dining area. Seniors 65+ \$27.00

St. Lawrence Market ~ At your own pace, walk through the market and enjoy the varieties of meats, cheeses, baked goods ...

Royal Ontario Museum ~ (ROM) Visit Canada's largest museum. Enjoy the art, culture, and nature from around the world. Seniors \$18.00

Hockey Hall Of Fame ~ Visit the Hall and enjoy the greats of the game, the Stanley Cup, and many artifacts from the game of hockey. Seniors \$20.00

** Please call in advance for times, reservations, and special events. I didn't even mention theatre.

If you want to kick back and let someone do the driving, check out Lakeshore Tours and Travel. (**Phone:**905-623-1511)

Toll Free:1-800-387-5914 **Email:**info@lakeshoretours.ca

Stars On Ice in Hamilton May 7th

Dreamboats at Sanderson Centre May 12th

Abba Story May 25th

Warkworth A Place To Be Explored June 8th

Midlands Butter Tarts and Murals June 11th

Importance of Being Earnest June 14th

A Beautiful Noise June 15th

Remember: Ontario ... Yours To Discover!