

Retired Teacher's of Ontario
Executive meeting Minutes
Monday March 2, 2015 @ 9:00 am
UGDSB Boardroom, Guelph, ON

1. Call to Order and Welcome: *Brenda McGinnis*

Present: Brenda McGinnis, Stephen O'Connell, Nancy Baker, Pam Niesiobedzki, Anne Smith, Mike Curtis, Joyce Barnes, John Ritchie, Marina Howlett, Joe Tersigni, Joan Berry, Mary Hermann, Pat Bruder, Carol Christie, Rick Goodbrand, Joan Miller

Absent: Lynn Morrison, Mike Essex

2. Approval of/Additions to the Agenda: *Brenda McGinnis*

Motion by Pat Bruder to approve the agenda; seconded by Mary Hermann;
Carried

3. Approval of the December 1, 2014 Minutes: *Brenda McGinnis*

Motion by Pam Niesiobedzki to approve the Dec. 1, 2014 minutes; seconded by Nancy Baker; carried

4. Next Meeting Dates: *Brenda McGinnis*

Monday March 25, 2015

5. Planning for Thursday May 7, 2015 Luncheon: *Brenda McGinnis*

Location: Italian Canadian Club – Guelph, ON

(See green planning sheet); Brenda invited June, Norbert, Simon, also Invite Waterloo president, Provincial President (Harold); we supply Centerpieces for tables; they supply linens, etc.; Nancy to get plants For centerpieces; give away at luncheon's end;

Door Prizes: 3 Blazin' Fiddles CD's

Flower Centerpieces

1 Basket (\$30 - \$35)

\$15 Gift Certificates to LCBO, Tim Horton's

Entertainment: Fun Boys play 60's to 80's music; Nancy to contact SNAP to see If they will come and cover event for their paper

6. Planning for Newsletter: *Anne Smith*

Hard to proof own work; need a system where we proof each other's work; make Sure your article is correct before you submit it to Anne

Articles due to Anne: March 13, 2015

Newsletter mailing date: March 24, 2015

Respond to Luncheon date: May 1, 2015

7. Budget Discussion: *Brenda McGinnis*

(See yellow sheets) RTO is extension of Federation in retirement years; OTIP Receives more Provincial support because they provide \$ kickbacks for new

Memberships; OTIP – have to switch to another group plan at age 65;

#1: see sheet

#2: manual will be free this year; increased food cost \$14/person; will get \$10 Grant; should break even; ICC cost \$200 for 4 hours; if buy their food get

Reduction in room rental; they set up;

Johnson gives out \$5 Tim Horton gift cards and draw for an I Pad at every Workshop; see bright green flyer from Provincial; cost \$25 for 500; when Hear someone's retiring, promote RTO; working members have to submit Projected retirement year; we need retiree lists for 2016 and 2017 and contact These people; Provincial needs to make connections with Universities, Colleges, Etc.; RTO needs to educate public of other services they provide; RTO not just an Insurance Company like OTIP: need to redo comparison chart to show Differences; add our social benefits to the chart as well; have an active recruiter To go to high schools and talk to potential retirees; RTO is our voice for ALL Retired teachers; ALL RTO members need to be active and encourage new Retirees to join

#3: we get A LOT of public recognition from Norm Jary Golf Tournament

#4: OK

#5: RTO Travel: nothing is subsidized this year; see how members react

#6: Luncheons charge \$25/person; budget entertainment \$500 (+/-) \$900

#7: Senate: 2 senators paid by Provincial; 1 observer or 2 if share room;

Need to plan who goes – 2 males 2 females or 4 males or 4 females; could

Pick up tab for own room if bring spouse, friend or wish privacy

#8: Volunteers: pay for own lunches after meetings but still get free tickets to

Luncheons; give \$10 to Mike to pay one bill instead of separate bills

#9: Provincial Workshops: President's – Rick and Steve go;

Membership – Carol and Joyce go;

Health – Pat go

Has Annual Rebate changed? i.e. Goodwill rebate is \$0.50/member;

Goodwill cost \$962 up to \$1200 this year; this is Senate issue; bring it up at Spring Senate

8. Provincial Donation Submission: *Brenda McGinnis*

\$10 000 provincial donation

1. K-9 For Vets – W-5 promoted this

2. Go-Go Grannies – possible

See email from Christine McEwan (gold sheet)

9. Provincial RTO and Spring Senate: *Brenda McGinnis*

Haven't received official response to Brenda's letter (sent in Feb) as of yet;

Motion made to include a 1-hour time allotment to discuss conflicts between

Provincial and Local Districts; no discussion at president's Workshop; large

Range in members comments from "jerks to what's the problem"; probably the

Speaker will lead discussion; need 2/3 majority vote to move decisions; Pre-

Senate meeting gives Provincial Office insight to Districts' opinions, views, etc.

Provincial uses data to have plan in place for potential "rabble rousers" at actual

Senate; also control who gets on Provincial office; we're not to know Provincial President's salary; non-profit organizations must make public their salaries; next President may be better; not all Districts see this as a problem; Next Pre-Senate: District responsible can't afford it so asked members to pay for Their own lunch; held in Guelph; do private lobbying before meeting; possibly Extend meeting after Provincial Exec.'s leave; District Presidents use electronic Communication and have plan in place before Senate and eliminate pre-Senate; Provincial office pick up tab for Pre-Senate if want us there

10. Project Service to Others: *Brenda McGinnis*

Support 2015 Senior Games this year

11. Reports: *Brenda McGinnis*

Pension and Retirement Concerns: *Marina Howlett*

Annual meeting Report out in March; Meeting in April: nothing to report as of Yet

Health: *Pat Bruder*

Harold endorses Johnson Inc.; he must be being PAID; definite conflict of Interest;

OTIP controls all Long Term/Disabled Plans in Ont.; it's a business out to make Profit; 2013/14 gave cash donation to Wellington OECTA for addresses; 2014 OTIP gave them \$7500 to host fancy workshop to promote OTIP; what Incentives are they giving cities, boards, non-teaching staffs, etc. for access to Information? Have \$100 000 to \$1 Million budget for marketing; Simon L. and Laurie Mc-B aware but do nothing; Unions buy into OTIP for monetary kickbacks (See Pat's draft notes for further details/stats information – white sheet)

New Retirees being told can switch to RTO in future if dissatisfied with OTIP; Told don't have a choice (misleading information); **not fair representation**; Why is Provincial RTO not addressing this? Their jobs are potentially threatened; We need to reach out to future potential members and let people know our plan Is better

Treasurer's Report: *Mike Curtis*

(See Financial Report dated: December 31, 2014)

Need balance of about \$2000 in Dec. 2015 to receive next year's funds; \$500 loan Given by Mike Curtis to make balance; surplus from last year paid deficit; spent Approx. \$1500 – newsletter; \$200 – Goodwill; \$200 – Other so far this year

Goodwill: *Joyce Barnes*

Got 80+ list in Feb.; may not have 80+ names when get updated members list; Joanne Weeks should have info; Joyce to email her; receiving lots of positive Feedback from members regarding cards and donations

Membership: *Carol Christie*

RPW – April 15, 2015 @ Victoria East Golf Course; need volunteers to fill bags; Arrive at 4:45 – Brenda, Joan B., Carol, Pat; people can register on-line; have lots Of posters to hand out; Marina take extras and hand out; Carol away from Mar.8 To Apr.6

Political Advocacy: *Brenda McGinnis*

A) All Candidate Meeting: ask candidates questions about our concerns: 1. Health
2. Pharmaceuticals 3. Postal Service; must remain non-partisan;

B) Corduroy Road group: (see pink Sheet); Brenda to check them out

C) Dignity For All: may endorse; Brenda to send us info via email; Coalition
Endorsed this

Travel: *Brenda McGinnis (Lynn Morrison absent)*

June 16 – Stratford – Carousel

Sept. 9 – Ripley Aquarium Toronto \$87 per person; \$73 for seniors

Sept. 14 – 18 – Best of Quebec Trip

Oct. 7 – Trent Waterway Cruise

Website: *John Ritchie*

Mike paid \$500 loan; if didn't, could we declare bankruptcy? Provincial
Tells to spend less

Public Relations: *Brenda McGinnis*

Be cautious

12. Future Entertainment: *Brenda McGinnis*

For Fall Luncheon: 1. Corduroy Road – Brenda to check them out

2. Slide By Slide - Dave Davidson; 4 in group; 3 are RTO
Members; cost \$400; trombone group

3. Lloyd Robertson – Mike to check him out

4. The Fair Wind – Guelph group; Irish/English Pub songs

Possible Fall Luncheon: Thursday Oct. 29, 2015 in Fergus; book "Big Room";

Have Craft tables, etc. Encourage members to come early and shop

13. Other: *Brenda McGinnis*

Wellness Workshop: concerning "Fraud" do we have the funds? Look at this
At next meeting

14. Adjournment: *Brenda McGinnis*

Motion by Carol Christie to adjourn meeting; seconded by Joan Berry; carried;

Concluded at 11:45 am; Special thanks to Mike Curtis for coffee and Nancy Baker
For treats!