

The Retired Teacher

Nova Scotia Teachers Union

Volume 43, Number 3, April 2012

The Retired Teacher is available online at rto.nstu.ca. To download Adobe Reader, go to www.adobe.com

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The Retired Teacher, a newsletter for retired teachers, is published by the Retired Teachers Organization, an affiliate of the Nova Scotia Teachers Union.

The opinions expressed in stories or articles do not necessarily reflect the opinions or policy of the Retired Teachers Organization or the Nova Scotia Teachers Union, its professional staff or elected provincial representatives.

We assume no responsibility for the loss or damage of any unsolicited photographs or articles.

Submissions should be directed to the editorial staff c/o RTO Newsletter, 3106 Joseph Howe Drive, Halifax, NS B3L 4L7.



**A newsletter for the
retired teachers of
Nova Scotia
A MEMBER OF ACER/CART**

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Nova Scotia Teachers College Annual Reunion

The 42nd annual reunion of the Nova Scotia Teachers College will take place August 17-19.

Graduates of all years from the old Normal School, the Nova Scotia Normal College or the Nova Scotia Teachers College are invited to attend. Special attention will be given to classes with graduation years ending in the number "2", but everyone is welcome.

The reunion will be held on the campus of the Community College (the former Nova Scotia Teachers College), in Truro. Rooms and meals will be available at the residence. In addition, a block of rooms has been booked at the Best Western Glengarry Hotel. You must book before mid-July to get the special rate. As usual, on Friday evening there will be a guest speaker, followed by a pub night.

For registration forms or more information, please contact either Rosella MacDonald at 902-736-6315 or rosellamacdonald@yahoo.ca, or Robert Jordan, rwjordan@ca.inter.net.

To check out the website, visit: <http://www.nsteacherscollege.ca>.

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DEALS & DISCOUNTS

FOR NSTU & RTO MEMBERS ONLY!

Subject to change without notice.

Latest update: February 9, 2012.

ACCOMMODATIONS

- ▶ Delta Halifax & Delta Barrington
(NSTU Contract Hotel)
- ▶ Belgravia Bed & Breakfast
- ▶ Best Western Plus Chocolate Lake Hotel
- ▶ Digby Pines Golf Resort & Spa
- ▶ Keltic Lodge Resort & Spa
- ▶ Liscombe Lodge Resort & Conference Centre
- ▶ Lord Nelson Hotel & Suites
- ▶ The Farmhouse Inn
- ▶ The Waverley Inn
- ▶ Westin Hotel

PERSONAL CARE

- ▶ Enlighten Laser & Skin Care Clinic
- ▶ Maritime Massage Health Clinic
- ▶ Medicine in Motion
- ▶ Natural Path Massage Therapy
- ▶ Remedy Facial Bar & Spa
- ▶ Simply for Life
- ▶ Spring Garden Cosmetic
- ▶ SunME Swimsuit Spa
- ▶ Touch Therapies

BOOKSTORES

- ▶ Blue Griffin Books
- ▶ Tattletales
- ▶ Woozles



*For detailed information on
each business - go to the RTO
website: <http://rto.nstu.ca>*

MISCELLANEOUS

- ▶ Banana Republic
- ▶ Benjamin Moore Sackville Decorating Centre
& The Benjamin Moore Bayers Lake
Decorating Centre
- ▶ Big Apple Fashions
- ▶ Budget Rent A Car Maritimes
- ▶ Christine Ritchie (Watercolour Painter)
- ▶ Comfort Orthotics by: 4th Generation
- ▶ Discount Car and Truck Rentals
- ▶ Discovery Centre
- ▶ Dulux Paints
- ▶ Elephoto
- ▶ EOA Scientific
- ▶ Esprit Dartmouth Crossing Outlet
- ▶ Event System Rentals
- ▶ Frame Express
- ▶ GCR Tire Centres
- ▶ Grand & Toy
- ▶ Homelife Real Estate Centre Inc.
- ▶ Hotel Discount Program
- ▶ Instructor Aids Limited
- ▶ Intrepid Travel
- ▶ Irving Oil
- ▶ Liberty Tax Service
- ▶ Midas
- ▶ Neptune Theatre
- ▶ OG Event Filming
- ▶ Oh My Sole!
- ▶ Papa Mario's Pizza
- ▶ Park 'n Fly - Halifax Stanfield Airport
- ▶ Port Hawkesbury's Lingerie Store
- ▶ Quality Footwear & Mahone Bay
Trading Company
- ▶ Scotia Auto Glass
- ▶ Softmoc
- ▶ Soles in Motion
- ▶ Staples / Business Depot
- ▶ Tall Ship Silva (Halifax)
- ▶ Ultramar Refinery
- ▶ Winsby's
- ▶ Wong's Tae Kwon Do



From the Desk of the President... Randy Holmesdale

My second year as your RTO President is passing quickly. The Executive meets in April to organize for the 2012 AGM which will be held in Yarmouth on May 25. Our committees will have their reports ready, as well as packages of information for the delegates to the AGM.

This has been a busy year for your Executive and me. We held a meeting with the Chair of the Insurance Trustees, along with NSTU Staff Officer Joan Ling, and Paul Sarty of Johnson Inc. We discussed a number of important topics. One situation that remains unresolved is placing a retired teacher on the Insurance Trustees. Each time we have asked that the NSTU consider our request, they have turned us down. Our Executive requested that NSTU Locals submit a resolution supporting our position at their Annual Council. Their resolutions were

ruled out of order, but the Cumberland Local has submitted a resolution asking for a feasibility study on the matter. We understand that this resolution will be on the Annual Council Agenda.

As your President, I sit as a Director on the Group of IX [Seniors Advisory Council of Nova Scotia] and I was able to gain the support of all the organizations on the Group of IX to assist in our quest for a National Drug Plan. We wrote a letter to our Provincial Health Minister and the Federal Health Minister. We await replies from the Ministers of Health.

Three times a year, the RTO and NSTU meet to discuss topics that are of concern to both groups. We have expressed our support for the active teachers, and for what is happening to our Education programs across Nova Scotia. The NSTU shared an update on its program called



“Cutting to the Core”. Let’s hope that the government takes time to think about the impact reduced funding will have on education in Nova Scotia.

I would like to thank the members of the RTO Executive and the Branch Presidents for the time and effort they put into our organization to make it work. Please take a moment to discover the date of your next Branch meeting, and attend.

RTO Important Numbers

RTO Executive 2011-2012

President: Randy Holmesdale.....	538-8173
Past-President: Phyllis Côté.....	625-2306
Vice-President: Jim Kavanaugh.....	862-3833
Treasurer: Pierre Belliveau.....	837-5966
Secretary & Member-at-Large: Dorothy Smith.....	463-6511
Member-at-Large: Steve Hogan.....	849-5341
Member-at-Large: Bill Berryman.....	633-2211
Member-at-Large: Peter Lewis.....	243-2075
Member-at-Large: Gary Archibald.....	742-4195
Member-at-Large: Shirley Melanson.....	947-2122
Member-at-Large: George Landry.....	535-3248
Pension Com. Rep.: Albert Johnson.....	825-3062
NSTU RTO Liaison: Bruce Kelloway.....	477-5621
	1-800-565-6788 (Toll-free)

Nova Scotia Teachers Union 477-5621 / 1-800-565-6788
Nova Scotia Pension Agency 424-5070 / 1-800-774-5070
Johnson Inc. 453-1010 / 1-800-588-3885
Service Canada, Canada Pension Plan & Old Age Security
 1-800-277-9914 English / 1-800-277-9915 French
 1-800-255-4786 TTY device

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RTO Branch Presidents 2011-2012

Annapolis: Neil MacNeil.....	825-4354
Antigonish & Guysborough: Phil Hughes.....	863-6185
AER-Baie Sainte-Marie: Andre Turbide.....	769-3006
Colchester: Marilyn Rodgers.....	893-4379
CPX: Mary Hammond.....	852-3146
Cumberland: Esther Boyd.....	667-8341
Dartmouth: E. Margaret MacDonald.....	435-3116
Digby: Debby Trask Cushing.....	837-5936
Glace Bay & Area: Fred Courtney.....	849-7769
Halifax City: Ann-Noreen Norton.....	423-5663
Halifax County: Colleen Putt.....	835-5417
Inverness: Al MacKinnon.....	756-2183
Kings: Graeme King.....	538-7407
Lunenburg: Brian Jobb.....	634-4432
New Waterford: John Donovan.....	862-7868
Northside-Victoria: Judith Whalen.....	736-9767
Pictou: Fred Jeffery.....	923-2965
Queens: Linda Delaney.....	354-4713
Richmond: Danny Madden.....	535-3366
Shelburne: Elizabeth Acker.....	875-3044
Sydney & Area: Bernadette Hollohan.....	562-2724
West Hants: Bill Berryman.....	633-2211
Yarmouth/Argyle: Wendy Woodworth.....	742-9479

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

Assessment Committee

The RTO Assessment Committee held its fourth meeting of the 2011-2012 year at the NSTU Building on March 28, 2012. All Committee members were in attendance at the meeting.

The Committee reviewed and approved the Request to Host RTO Golf Tournament document and were apprised of the RTO Table Officers' decision on a follow-up to the Education In Nova Scotia document produced by Committee member Bill Wagstaff.

The Committee reviewed the Annual General Meeting Recommendations document which was approved by the Executive at the February 15, 2012 meeting. The Committee approved the chair's document entitled 15 B Guidelines for Hosting and Organization of the Annual General Meeting which will be provided to the Executive today and placed under Tab 3 of the Operations Handbook.

The Committee approved the January 4, 2012 Conflict of Interest definition, guidelines and declaration form which will be presented to the Executive today. If approved these changes will be incorporated in the RTO Constitution and RTO Operating Procedures for approval at the May 25, 2012 Annual General Meeting in Yarmouth.

The Committee reviewed Resolution Number 1: ACER/ CART Representation and changes in the RTO Constitution and RTO Operational Procedures to be approved at the AGM.

The Committee was provided copies of the 2011-2012 RTO Membership Committee document entitled Summary Notes RTO Branch Survey. The Committee was informed that the 2012-2013 RTO Assessment Committee will review this document, the June 2011 RTO Branch Summary of Questionnaire Results- Invitation To New Retirees To Join The RTO document, and the October 2010 Branch Questionnaire results with a view to standardizing RTO Branch Bylaws and possibly setting province-wide minimum standards.

The Committee had an open and frank discussion on "Towards a Resolution Culture" which was facilitated by Committee member Danny Madden. This discussion was prompted by recent recommendations approved by the Executive to change the focus of the Annual General Meeting towards a more professional/business organizational model.

—Bill Berryman, Chair

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Finance Committee Report

The Finance Committee met twice since our last newsletter. Listed are the main topics brought up for discussion and action.

- A. Executive Assistant. Committee members discussed the responsibilities associated with this position and concluded that the position is not necessary at this time.
- B. RTO and Foundation fiscal year. It was recommended to the Executive that our present fiscal year be changed from April 30 to December 31, effective January 1, 2013. The Executive has approved the change.
- C. Budgets. We devoted our February meeting to the preparation of the two budgets needed by the changes to our fiscal year beginning January 2013. The first of the two budgets covers the eight-month period, from May 1, 2012 to December 31, 2013. The second runs for the twelve months, January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013.
- D. Travel meal allowance adjustment. As of May 1, 2012 meal allowances will be adjusted to match those of the NSTU, an increase of \$1.00 for each of three meals. The breakfast rate becomes \$11.00, lunch \$13.00, and dinner \$25.00.
- E. Membership. As of February 23, 2012, our membership stood at 6773.

—Pierre Belliveau, Chair

Membership Committee

The RTO Membership committee has been busy with a number of activities. These are the highlights:

The RTO Wall at NSTU continues to receive submissions. The Executive authorized the expenditure of \$500.00 to update The Wall. The plaque of past RTO Presidents is full. Rather than adding a second plaque, a larger plaque will be obtained with space for both past-presidents and future past-presidents. The main display board will be raised so that the past-presidents' plaque can be placed beneath it. This will improve the view to both items.

The Membership Committee awards a laminated certificate to RTO Branches that sign-up 75% or more of retirees as members. In the past, some Branches have had difficulty acquiring the number of retirees from their boards, as the boards cited privacy regulations. In many areas, working with

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COMMITTEE REPORTS (cont'd)

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the applicable Local of the NSTU has proven effective. This year, a letter will be sent to each NSTU Local, requesting the number of retirees in 2012. In the meantime, any Branch that makes a reasonable effort to reach this goal will be awarded the certificate. At press time, nearly all Branches have succeeded. This is the result of the good work done by Branch Presidents and their executives.

The RTO membership database continues to challenge the Membership Committee. Since there is no "automatic check-off" for membership, as there is for NSTU, it is an ongoing challenge to keep the membership database up-to-date. It has been suggested, and the RTO Executive has agreed, that the membership year for all members run from August 1 to July 31 of the following year. This is already the case for the vast majority of members. However, there are about 65 members who pay dues directly; their dues expire in different months of the year depending on their renewals. This complicates the matter of sending out reminders that their dues have expired. With the move to a common membership year, this will simplify the reminders to once a year. As well, the RTO database is being revised so that it will be more accurate. For example, we have some members who do not get the newsletter; this is due to revisions to the database over several years. We are in the process of overcoming these difficulties. Look for improvements next year.

RTO members are reminded that RTO does not send out receipts for membership dues. RTO is not a union as described by the Income Tax Act. Our dues cannot be used as an income tax deduction. RTO has to be transparent with its members and Revenue Canada. Receipts were sent out at one time, but we can no longer do this.

In October, Branch Presidents were asked to fill out a survey on Branch activities. All have now completed this survey. The results can be found under a separate heading in this issue of the newsletter. These results will be summarized, with the results of a similar survey in 2009, by the Assessment Committee. Some suggestions for Branch activities may be forthcoming. Branch Presidents reviewed the results of the current survey at their February meeting. There was a good exchange of ideas at this meeting.

The Committee responded to a request from a retired teacher as to the benefits of RTO membership. We do have a brochure on Deals and Discounts, which can be seen, updated regularly, at www.rto.nstu.ca. A document is being prepared to give further information. It will be released when the Committee and the Executive have reviewed it.

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At the AGM to be held in Yarmouth in May, the Branch Presidents will receive a sufficient number of retiree packages to be circulated in their areas at retirement dinners in June, or in another matter as they see fit. Later in April, Branch Presidents will be asked to provide the number of packages they need in their respective areas.

Enjoy the remainder of the spring and all of the summer!

—Peter Lewis, Chair

Pensions & Benefits Committee

The Committee met on January 4, 2012, and discussed several matters, including Travel Insurance. Medoc rates increased the most for the age bands 70 to 74 (18%), and 80+ (110%), as these two bands accounted for 80% of claims. The "Snowbird" plan is really for retirees, and in 2012 it goes to tender, so the base could rise from 35 days.

CPP Benefits changes took effect January 1, 2012:

- Retirees must contribute if working under age 65, with 2.5% increase the following year, and may do so if over age 65;
- The pension adjustment for early CPP increases within 5 years to .6% per month, while late CPP increases within three years to .7% per month;
- Because of the global slowdown and the European sovereign debt crisis, the Nova Scotia Teachers Pension Plan Quarterly Report September 30, 2011 showed a 6.46 rate of return. The next Report is for year-end 2011, and the question is - how far will the funded level of the Plan drop?

The NSTU Pension Committee met on February 17, 2012. The members received a brief confidential report on the Pension Partners Board and Pension Trustees Inc., much of which becomes public with the publishing of the Annual Report. Discussion was held on an Annual Council Resolution (S012-56) related to indexing. Members reviewed two new articles: (1) failure of the Harper Government to expand the CPP according to the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives; (2) problems with public-sector defined-benefit pension plans.

The Chair reported to the RTO Presidents at their meeting on February 16, 2012. An updated Deals & Discounts for NSTU and RTO members was circulated, and is available on the RTO website and in this issue of the newsletter. It includes eight new discounts.

On April 20, 2012, both the Pension Committee and the Pension and Benefits Committee will meet for the final time this year.

—S. Albert Johnson, Chair

Summary Notes: RTO BRANCH SURVEY

Question 1: Number of executive meetings and when?

The average number of executive meetings held by the RTO Branches is three to four a year, for the most part, scheduled evenly throughout the school year (September to June).

Question 2: Number of general meetings and when?

The average number of general meetings held by the RTO branches is four a year, for the most part, scheduled evenly throughout the school year (September to June).

Question 3: Do your general meetings include a meal?

Twenty-one of the twenty-two respondents indicated a meal was included at meetings.

Question 4: Presentations and Examples? (at General Meetings)

Twenty of twenty-two respondents indicated guest speakers or presentations at meetings.

Examples: Johnson Inc., Seniors' Pharmacare, Youth Achievement, humourist/entertainer, teachers, legal rights, RTO Travel Club, police officers, health professionals, service clubs, NSSBA President, pensions and benefits rep, financial advisor, RTO President, alternative schools, what happens at 65, chiropractor.

Question 5: Locations for meetings?

Locations include the following: church hall, fire department, rec centre, Masonic temple, Legion, motel, NSTU, teachers' centre, restaurant, service club, community centre, school, private home, golf and curling club.

Question 6: Activities that occur other than meetings?

Activities included the following: reading club, pool group, bowling and curling groups, bridge, cribbage, golf tournaments, plays, safe-driving courses, drama workshops, lobster suppers, kayaking, travel groups, winery tours, museum visits, breakfasts, biking, trivia contests, skiing, hiking, socials, visiting sick and shut-ins, charity events, Valentine social, "Not" back to school breakfasts, coffee hours, craft sessions, computer workshops, legal information.

Question 7: Does your Branch have dues other than RTO Provincial dues?

Fourteen of the respondents indicated no Branch dues. (Nine have local dues, ranging from \$17 (1) to \$10 (2) to \$5 (6)).

Question 8: Other activities of interest?

Examples: volunteer fair, retirement dinners/socials, nursing home visits and gift-giving, NSTU Credit Union visits, pre-retirement seminars, Scrabble contests, Christmas socials, food donations, door prizes, 50-50 draws.

BRANCH SURVEY RESULTS
February 2012

(Compiled by the RTO Membership Committee)

	Branch	Ex Meet.	Gen Meeting	Meal	Pres entation	Loca tion	Oth Act.	Brnch Dues	Fur ther Act
1	Lunenburg	8 (m)	6	Yes	Yes	*	Yes	\$5	No
2	Cumberland	4	4	Yes	Yes	*	No	No	No
3	Inverness	2	2	Yes	Yes	*	No	\$10	No
4	West Hants	2	4	Yes	Yes	*	Yes	No	No
5	Halifax Co.	6	4	Yes	Yes	*	Yes	No	Yes
6	Halifax City	3-4	3-4	Yes	Yes	*	Yes	No	No
7	New Waterford	4(BG)	4	Yes	Yes	*	Yes	\$17	No
8	Yarmouth	8-10(m)	3	Yes	Yes	*	Yes	No	Yes
9	Queens	0	7	Yes	No	*	No	\$5	Yes
10	Shelburne	0	4	Yes	Yes	*	Yes	\$5	No
11	Kings	5	1	No	Yes	*	Yes	No	Yes
12	Pictou	3	3	Yes	Yes	*	Yes	No	No
13	Antigonish Guys	7(m)	2	Yes	Yes	*	Yes	\$10	No
14	Halifax CPX	4	3	Yes	No	*	Yes	No	Yes
15	Sydney	3-4	3	Yes	Yes	*	No	No	Yes
16	Digby	0	2-3	Yes	Yes	*	No	No	No
17	AER	2	2	Yes	Yes	*	Yes	\$5	No
18	Richmond	3	10	Yes	Yes	*	Yes	No	Yes
19	Colchester	7(m)	5	Yes	Yes	*	Yes	\$5	Yes
20	Annapolis	2	2	Yes	Yes	*	Yes	No	Yes
21	Glace Bay	5(BG)	5	Yes	Yes	*	No	No	Yes
22	Dartmouth	4	4	Yes	Yes	*	Yes	No	Yes
23	Northside-Victoria	4	4	Yes	Yes	*	No	\$5	Yes

*Various locations, to be listed in summary notes.

m = monthly

BG = before General Meeting

From the Editor...

The final edition of *The Retired Teacher* 2011-2012 is ready for the printer. It has been an enlightening year for me as a first-time editor. I have renewed acquaintanceships with many of my former colleagues, both in teaching and in union business. I have learned of the many opportunities that exist for retired teachers in Nova Scotia to involve themselves in social activities in their local regions. Active RTO Branches provide their retirees with so much to do. Dinners, bowling tournaments, golf, craft sessions, drama, and various other events are held across the province for those who once gave their days to our schools.

The RTO is a source of advice for those who remain active in education, either as volunteers or as substitutes. And for those who luxuriate in the freedom of traveling or for those who remain at home with their families, their books, their movies, their music and their gardens – never again having to face the early mornings, the constant bells, and the hours of marking – the RTO works to maintain and to improve our benefits. And three times a year, *The Retired Teacher* drops in on you, carrying news, important information about benefits, and even a contest with prizes.

More than thirty years ago, I became involved with the NSTU as a school rep. I had no idea that my journey would become so tightly interwoven with my teaching career. From Local President, to Provincial Executive Member, to Chair of the Insurance Trustees - with a multitude of committees in between – I never once thought about retirement. I didn't realize that NSTU leaders naturally evolve into RTO leaders. It wasn't until I retired and, in fact, until I assumed the role of editor of this newsletter, that I understood how vital the RTO is in our lives. The application form for committees is in this newsletter. Please consider becoming involved in your organization.

I am grateful for the outstanding assistance of the Communications Committee, chaired by Gary Archibald, and with members Ken MacDonald, Reg Johnson, Betty Farrell, and Webmaster Colin Campbell. Sonia Matheson has been superb in taking the newsletter through its final stages of preparation for the printer. Bill McLaughlin has made me laugh many times as we shared the editing process. That is an accomplishment. All those many retirees, Branch Presidents and their executives who have submitted articles for publication – you are the foundation of this newsletter. Your contributions and your suggestions for the newsletter and the website are always welcome. My final thank you is to the RTO itself – to its President Randy Holmesdale and to each of its leaders who continue to make our lives more fulfilling in retirement.

On a final note, I would like to acknowledge those retired teachers who passed away during the last year, as well as the active teachers who never had the opportunity to experience the joy of retirement. They will be missed.

CREDIT UNION
TEACHERS Plus
www.teachersplus.ca
Toll Free 1-800-565-3103

- 2012 is the International year of Co-operatives and Credit Unions.
- Teachers Plus Credit Union is excited to announce that we will be offering our patronage rebate to our members. Please visit our website for more information.
- Refer a friend or family member to Teachers Plus Credit Union for an opportunity to receive a gift card up to \$100.00.
- Our office will be closed Friday, April 6, 2012 and re-open Monday, April 9, 2012.
- We have in-vault safety deposit boxes to provide secure and safe storage for your important documents, valuables and keepsakes. Contact us today for our special offer!

IF WINTER HAS YOU SEEING **DOUBLE**

Let Teachers Plus have you seeing **TRIPLE** this spring

3 year Mortgage @3.33%*

*OAC Offer expires in 3 months (May 31, 2012)

The Pun Also Rises

Congratulations to Margaret Weeks, Kings RTO Branch, who submitted the winning entry for the first contest. Margaret successfully solved 8 of the 10 puns. A second prize will be sent to Sandra Irwin, Kings RTO, who was the first to send in her answers. Thank you to Johnson Inc., NSTU, and Teachers *Plus* Credit Union for their generous support of our Pun Contest. Good luck to members in the second round of puns. Each statement leads to a pun on a movie title. The correct answer is that pun. Names of actors are sometimes embedded as hints. Entries can be submitted to the editor by mail (Betty Anne McGinnis, RR#1 Ellershouse, NSB0N 1L0) or by email (bettyanne@eastlink.ca). **May 15 is the deadline for entries.** The submission with the most correct answers will be declared the winner. In the case of a tie, a draw will be made.

Contest Round Two:

1. On a weekend evening, Travolta voluntarily performs a task for a friend.
2. In wartime Greece, the Allies discover a town in which all the residents have lost their teeth.
3. What surely has to be the correct answer comes to the man's mind as he stands behind the French cathedral.
4. The cantankerous American general refuses to fight until his invention is recognized.
5. The true believer donates thousands of dollars, while the non-believer tosses a few cents.
6. Barbara Streisand designs a barbeque for the exclusive use of clowns.
7. The leader of the revolution writes a new constitution in one short, incomplete sentence.
8. The Wayne sandpaper proves too coarse to be effective.
9. Kevin, the trout fisherman, though generally depressed, glows on the occasion of a successful catch.
10. The dentist pulls the tooth, as the patient shudders and dies.

Answers for Round One:

1. The colonel leans on the railing and stares down into the swirling current of tears.
The Bridge on the River Cry (The Bridge on the River Kwai)
2. Sir Lawrence notices that during the arid British summer all vegetation on the surrounding hills dries up. Withering Heights (Wuthering Heights)
3. Meryl reminisces as she re-reads the old words of greeting from the line of barberry bushes. Past Cards from the Hedge (Postcards from the Edge)
4. Steiger, not wanting to wake the household, walks in the dark to the kitchen, makes a beef sandwich and eats it along with the maggots that call it home.
In the Meat of the Night (In the Heat of the Night)
5. Credit card in hand, Julianne Moore waits on her front steps for the arrival of the weekly flyers.
The Shopping News (The Shipping News)
6. In order to get his shattered life to stick together, Poitier mixes up a homemade concoction of mucilage.
A Batch of Glue (A Patch of Blue)
7. Nicholson becomes sick after kissing his flu-infected girlfriend.
Germs of Endearment (Terms of Endearment)
8. Though the wind blows wildly, the branches of the mighty oak make not a sound.
Silence of the Limbs (Silence of the Lambs)
9. Mexican scientists study the fatal effects of alcohol on one avian species.
Tequila Mockingbird (To Kill a Mockingbird)
10. Frodo stares at the shadowy figure clutching a bunch of fruit in its hand.
The Grapes of Wraith (The Grapes of Wrath).

FEATURE TEACHER

Albert Lee Peppard

Every community needs an “Al Peppard”. After a distinguished career as a teacher and administrator at the Middleton Regional High School, Al has spent his twenty-six years of retirement making his town, Middleton, a better place to live. With his wife Kaye’s encouragement, and the drive and determination learned while playing sports, Al has accomplished so much.

A gifted athlete from an early age, Al honed his skills on the playing fields, marshes, and gravel pits in the east end of Truro during the depression. In high school - Colchester County Academy - he was a star on hockey, baseball, and rugby teams, and he captained the Truro Junior Bearcats hockey team to the mainland title two years running.

Following high school, he got his first degree, Bachelor of Science in Physical Education, from McGill University. Al returned to our province, one of two graduates with this degree, Hugh Noble being the other, and began teaching at the newly opened Middleton Regional High School in 1949. In 1967 he became its principal, a position he held until his retirement in 1986. During this time he completed both Bachelor and Master’s Degrees in Education at Acadia University, and lectured at Dalhousie and Acadia summer programs.

While teaching, Al coached all sports at one time or another, both at the school and in the town, inspiring the local youth to participate in activities with skill, enthusiasm, and fairness. In 1986 the Nova Scotia School Athletic Association honoured him with the prestigious Hugh A. Noble Award for his leadership role in promoting athletics in his community.

There are few sports awards that Al has not received over the years for his volunteer

work. The Track and Field Society, the Red Cross Society, the Royal Life Saving Society, the Amateur Hockey Association, National Health and Welfare (Lifestyle Award), and the Nova Scotia Horseshoe Association have all recognized his efforts. He is an elected member of the Sports Heritage Wall of Fame in both Truro and Middleton, and on the Acadia Hockey Honour Roll.

Sports require facilities and Al was instrumental in initiating the construction of the Middleton and District Swimming Pool. He was the driving force behind the building of the Middleton Arena and the new high school gym, and he helped transform the old Rotary Raceway into an outdoor, multi-purpose recreation park.

Sports also require a framework, so he founded the local Minor Hockey League, Slo-Pitch League, and Track and Field Club. These organizations continue to benefit from his support and expertise. He still plays hockey twice a week with young men in their twenties and thirties, and lob-ball once a week in the Middleton League - as pitcher, of course.

Al’s contributions are not limited to community sports. His talent and energy have helped move several Middleton town projects forward to completion. Among these are the Middleton Riverside Park, the new town library, and most recently, the fifty-bed seniors’ total care facility opened this past fall. His leadership skills have been well-employed as Clerk of Session for his church, and as the President of the Annapolis County Branch RTO. He still regularly attends all RTO meetings and is an active contributor to discussions giving practical advice and fresh ideas. His work in the community has been recognized



with the Volunteer of the Year Award for the Province of Nova Scotia, and in 2000, the Distinguished Service Award from the Masonic IONIC Lodge #73.

After so much service to his community, one would think Al had little time to do much else, but he has. His interest in family genealogy led to the writing of three books - Peppard People - *The Descendants of Lawrence Peppard (1737-1819)*; *The Cox Connection - The Descendants of Captain John Cox (1717-1789)*; and *Henderson - The Descendants of Daniel and Catherine Henderson*. A passion for history resulted in papers being written on Middleton Regional High School, the Nova Scotia Headmasters Association, the Ionic Lodge #73, the Rotary Club of Middleton, and the Middleton and District Minor Hockey Association.

In his retirement, Al has continued to be a wonderful role model for young and old. His achievements are over-whelming, but he is a modest, friendly, and approachable man. This personality is his greatest asset and the secret to his success as a leader. He brings out the best in people and they want to be on his “team”. A friend of his said that if you looked up “winner” in the dictionary, you would find Al’s picture. Actually, his fellow educators and community members are the winners because they have Al Peppard on their side.

Group of Nine Report

On February 23, 2012, I had the privilege of sitting in for President Randy Holmesdale at the Group of Nine meeting. I found this meeting to be most informative, and I would like to report on four presentations that were made at this meeting.

1. Palliative Home Care Patients Eligible for Free Drug Coverage

It was reported that as of February 15, 2012, terminally ill patients in Nova Scotia who are within six months of anticipated death now have the option of staying at home, and shall have free drug coverage. *“Many terminally-ill patients prefer to spend their last days at home, in familiar surroundings, cared for by family and friends. This coverage will give patients and their loved ones a real choice about where and how they spend their remaining time together,”* said Health and Wellness Minister Maureen MacDonald.

2. Funeral Pre-Planning

This presentation was made by Ian MacDonald of Dignity Memorial. The presenter stressed the point that most of us pre-plan for weddings, birthdays, anniversaries, and trips, but only 25% of Canadians pre-plan for an event that all of us face. Pre-planning for our funeral makes sense, and it is appropriate that we remind ourselves of its importance, and add it to our to-do list.

3. Seniors Pharmacare Program Update

Marina Keeping from the Dept. of Health and Wellness reported that for the next fiscal year (April 1/12 to March 31/13) there will be no change in the premium for the Seniors Pharmacare Program. That is, for those who pay full premium, the cost will remain at \$424/year + 30% co-pay up to a maximum of \$382.

4. 211

An extremely interesting presentation by Mike Myette, the Executive Director of a new program called 211. Mr. Myette reported that the average person makes seven (7) telephone calls before they reach the service they need. He says this new program, for which people call 211, will dramatically simplify *“Where to call when you don't know where to turn.”*

Some details:

- This program has been in the preparation stage since October 2011.
- The program launches in February 2013.
- Funding: 95% Provincial Government, 5% United Way
- Overseen by a Non-Profit Board
- Purpose: To help people access human and social services
- Will be available 24/7
- Live answer
- Multilingual
- Free
- Confidential
- Will have access to all three levels of Government and non-Government Organizations
- Information is organized by need – examples: food, shelter, clothing, financial resources, legal services, mental and health care, aging parents.
- Not replacing 911, 811, 411

The value in having the RTO as one of the nine retirement groups represented on the Group of Nine is that the RTO has input into programs such as this “211” Program. This and many such programs substantially impact the lives of retirees in Nova Scotia, and it is important to provide relevant input and feedback.

—Reported by Jim Kavanaugh

For more news on RTO Events visit the RTO website at:

<http://rto.nstu.ca>

Branch

Updates

COLCHESTER EAST HANTS BRANCH - The November 1, 2011 program at the regular meeting of the Colchester East-Hants RTO was the result of an idea presented to the program committee by a few RTO members. The idea was to offer members an opportunity to showcase their talents. Included were displays of knitting, Christmas sewing gifts, oil painting, bee producing, woodcarving, watercolour painting, scrapbooking, and photography. Members heard explanations regarding the products, saw the processes of creation, and made purchases.

Approximately one hundred members attended the 10:30 a.m. business meeting. At their leisure, members enjoyed the Showcase and a light lunch. It was a time for RTO members to find that special Christmas gift, and to discover the talent we have within our organization. Feedback has been positive, with more RTO members indicating their desire to be presenters at a future talent Showcase.

On December 1, 2011, the RTO Christmas Social was held at the Truro Fire Hall on Victoria Street, Truro. The M.C. for the event was RTO President Marilyn Rodgers. A buffet of tempting snacks and delicious punch attracted members as meeting and greeting took place. A visit from Santa, Christmas music by Rose Salmons, and a Christmas sing-along led by Ron and Anne Marie Fougere comprised the entertainment. The ninety-four members and guests who attended made a donation of 344 pounds of food items to the Colchester Food Bank.

On Wednesday, February 8, 2012, eighty-three members and their guests enjoyed a Valentine Social at the Best Western Glengarry in Truro. The event began with a meet-and-greet at 5:30 p.m. RTO President Marilyn Rodgers welcomed everyone to an evening of good food and friendship. She introduced Local NSTU President Robert George and his wife Theresa, thanking President George and the Local NSTU for its effective working relationship with the RTO. A visit to the buffet followed greetings. Prizes in a Valentine theme were drawn for. A

time for mingling and conversation followed the meal. Throughout the evening, the ring of laughter gave proof of an occasion enjoyed.

GLACE BAY & AREA BRANCH - The Glace Bay & Area Branch RTO is proud to announce that two of its members will be inducted into the 2012 Cape Breton Sport Hall of Fame on Saturday, May 26 at Centre 200 in Sydney. Roddie "Yogi" Boutilier will receive a place of honour in the Athlete Category as a Baseball/Softball Player. Henry Boutilier Jr., has been named to the Builder Category as a Baseball Coach.

The reception is at 6:00 PM and Dinner is at 7:00 PM. Tickets are \$30.00 each and can be ordered from Barry Verbeski at (902) 849-0313.

Roddie "Yogi" Boutilier is a native of Port Caledonia, Cape Breton. For 14 years he played baseball and softball in the Glace Bay area. He was a starry, fleet-footed outfielder in the 1950s and 1960s. He was a perennial .300 hitter with explosive speed on the bases. Roddie's leadership, work ethic, and sportsmanship were without question. He is recognized as one of the elite and iconic ball players of his era. Roddie was an educator for 37 years (1950-1987). For 22 years, he was an administrator at Donkin-Morien District High School, with six years as vice-principal and sixteen years as principal. He introduced badminton, basketball, softball, and track-and-field to the students of Donkin-Morien High. Roddie also coached the school's Bantam hockey team for 25 years. Roddie coached and umpired in the Eastern Suburban Little League for 10 years. In 1966-1967, Roddie was made an Honorary Member of Branch 5 Legion – Donkin, and he was presented with the Meritorious Service Award for positive involvement with youth of the community. Roddie has been a true role model who has made a difference in the lives of students in the area.

Henry Boutilier Junior is a life-long resident of Glace Bay. His name has become synonymous with Little

Branch

Updates

League Baseball. He is known both locally and nationally for developing championship teams. Henry was the mastermind behind the Glace Bay Colonels (11-12 year-olds) national and international success. Between 1987 and 2003, he managed five Canadian Little League Championships and made five appearances at the Little League World Series in Williamsport, Pa. In all, Henry's teams represented the Maritimes in 20 Canadian Championships. In 2009, Henry moved on to manage the Cape Breton Dodgers Big League team (17-18 year-olds). The Dodgers went on to win the Canadian Big League Crown, and represented Canada at the Big League World Series in South Carolina. Henry has been in the teaching profession for almost 35 years, as a well-respected teacher, guidance counselor and administrator. He has volunteered his time and expertise in coaching and refereeing in various school sports. Henry's work ethic and sportsmanship are beyond reproach.

SYDNEY & AREA BRANCH - A big hello from the Retired Teachers Organization, Sydney and Area. Thus far, our year has been busy and enjoyable, and now we are in the process of making plans for next year. This year our Branch meets four times - in October, December, March, and June.

More than 100 retired teachers attended the Christmas meeting to gather with colleagues and friends. Students from Coxheath Elementary, under the direction of their music teacher Carol Ann MacDougall, provided entertainment.

On March 20, a luncheon was held for RTO members and their guests at Kiju's Restaurant in Membertou. A lobster and steak supper is always enjoyed, and in June we expect a large number of members to taste Cape Breton lobster. We shall contact members regarding the date.

By the time you receive this newsletter, winter will be over. The RTO from Sydney and Area wishes RTO members across the province all the best of spring.



Karen Greenman, Branch President Bill Berryman, and Mary Ruth Cochran who attended the March dinner meeting.

WEST HANTS BRANCH - The West Hants Branch RTO held its second dinner-meeting of the year in December. More than 120 retirees and guests attended. Prior to the business meeting, a turkey dinner was served. Door prizes, donated by local businesses, added a special touch to the Christmas celebration for colleagues and friends.

The March meeting featured an informative presentation by Ian Bower, Executive Director to Primary Health Care and EHS, Department of Health and Wellness. A ham dinner was served to almost 100 retirees and guests. President Bill Berryman conducted the business meeting, bringing the Branch members up to date with RTO news.

The final meeting of the year will be held in May.



Barb Wilson, Chair of Registration; Joan Jack, Treasurer; and Charlie Levy, Chair of Membership Committee.

Jim Kavanaugh RTO President Elect



At the end of February, Jim Kavanaugh became RTO President-Elect by acclamation and will assume his duties following RTO's Annual General Meeting in Yarmouth on May 25, 2012.

From 2010 – 2012, Jim was Vice-President of the RTO, and for the five years prior to

that, he was the RTO Pension Rep on the NSTU Pension Committee. He also served as the retired teacher representative on the Teachers Pension Trustee Inc. Board.

Jim retired from the teaching profession in 2003. For the last fourteen years of his career he served as Principal of Breton Education Centre in New Waterford.

Throughout his teaching career Jim was active in the NSTU at both the Local and Provincial levels. Locally, he served as Local President, Newsletter Editor, and Chair of numerous committees. At the provincial level, he served as Provincial Executive Member, Secretary-Treasurer, 2nd Vice-President, and Chair of many committees, including the Pension Committee and the Insurance Trustees. In 2002 the NSTU honored him with a Local Service Award.

During his teaching career, Jim received a number of awards. In 1998, the Cape Breton Sports Heritage Hall of Fame chose him as their "Executive of the Year". The NS School Administrators Association selected him for the 2002 "Distinguished Principal of the Year Award", and in 2003 he received the "Distinguished Principal Award" from the Canadian Association of Principals (CAP). Perhaps one of his greatest honors came in 2004, when the Coal Bowl Board of Directors initiated the "Jim Kavanaugh Leadership Medal" that is awarded annually.

Bill Berryman Vice-President Elect



Bill began his teaching career as a Junior High French teacher at Hants West Rural High School in 1970. Later he added the responsibilities of French Department Head at Hants West. When he was a first-year teacher, Bill became involved with the Hants West Local, and he has never regretted the hours spent both volunteering and working for the NSTU.

During his 37-year teaching and Union Staff Officer career, Bill's primary concern was always the welfare of teachers and Community College members. He served as school rep, a member of Negotiating committees, Public Affairs committees, Public Relations committees, and as Local President. Bill has held the positions of Provincial Executive Member, Second Vice-President, and First Vice-President, and was appointed NSTU Staff Officer in Member Services in 1996.

In 2007, Bill retired as an Executive Staff Officer with the Nova Scotia Teachers Union. In February 2008, he attended his first Retired Teachers dinner with the West Hants Branch. At the Branch's Annual General Meeting in May 2008, he was elected President. At this date, he continues to serve as President of the West Hants Branch.

In May 2010, Bill was elected Member-at-Large for the Southwest/Valley Region, and served on the Retired Teachers Organization (RTO) Executive in that capacity during the 2010 – 2011 year. Because of reconfiguration, he continued to serve on the Executive for 2011 – 2012, but as Member-at-Large for the Valley Region.

While serving on the Executive, Bill has chaired the RTO Assessment Committee. Over the past two years, the Committee has produced documents vital to the organization and operation of the RTO. These include resolutions, revisions to the Operations Handbook, and updates to the Constitution and Operating Procedures.

Bill looks forward to continued participation in the RTO as Vice-President, and during his two-year term he will advance, promote, and protect the welfare of all RTO members.

RTO - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 2012 RTO AGM will be hosted by the Yarmouth/Argyle Branch at the Rodd Grand Hotel in Yarmouth on Friday, May 25, 2012 starting at 9:00 a.m. and ending around noon. The AGM Luncheon will follow after the AGM at the same location.

Rooms are available at the Rodd Grand Hotel, please mention the RTO for a special rate. Please make your own reservations as soon as possible by calling the Grand at 902-742-2446, toll free at 1-800-565-7633 or online at: <http://roddvacations.com?rodd-grand-yarmouth>

In order to be a delegate you must fill out the AGM Registration Form and mail it to the provided address by May 18th.

A reception with a variety of entertainment will be held on Thursday evening at the Grand Hotel starting at 7:30 p.m. All RTO Members and their Guests are welcome to attend.

The Yarmouth/Argyle Branch would like to recognize and thank our major sponsors namely, Johnson Insurance, Maritime Travel and Teachers Plus Credit Union for their generosity.

The 2012 RTO AGM Registration Form

Name: _____
Surname First name

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____

RTO Branch: _____

Name of Guest (If not an RTO Member) _____

Dinner Ticket(s) _____ @ \$25.00 = _____ (cheque/money order payable to RTO)

Please check the appropriate square:

- , Yes, I will be attending the AGM business session
 , No, I will not be attending the AGM business session

REGISTRATION MUST BE RECEIVED PRIOR TO MAY 15TH

to

RTO Annual General Meeting

3106 Joseph Howe Drive

Halifax, NS B3L 4L7

Paid in advance tickets will be given out at the registration desk.

No luncheon tickets will be on sale the day of the AGM.

RTO - Annual General Meeting Business

OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES

OPERATIONAL PROCEDURE 2

CALENDAR

B. FISCAL YEAR:

The fiscal year shall be from the first (1st) of May **January** to the thirtieth (30th) of April **thirty first (31st) of December** next.

OPERATIONAL PROCEDURE 4

COMMITTEES

A.3. COMMITTEES

- iii. Committee chairs shall make every effort to schedule Committee meetings to coincide with Executive and/or other meetings as set forth in the annual calendar of meetings. **prior to the Executive and/or other meetings in order to provide a written report on the business of each meeting.**

ii. OPERATIONAL PROCEDURE 5

AFFILIATIONS

C. ACER/CART

- i. The Organization shall have two (2) ACER/CART Representatives:
 - (a) The President or designate shall be the spokesperson for the RTO;
 - (b) The ACER/CART Representative shall be elected from the floor at the Annual General Meeting and serve for one (1) five (5) year term only and need not be an Executive Member.
- i. **Effective after the Annual General Meeting in 2013 representation at the ACER/CART meeting shall be the President of the RTO and a representative elected by the Executive.**
- ii. **At the end of the second year of a non-returning President's term, the RTO shall be represented by the outgoing President and the President elect.**
- iii. **The President shall be the spokesperson for the RTO.**

OPERATIONAL PROCEDURE 7

SPECIAL SERVICES

- i. Upon request, copies of *The Teacher* and Member Diary **subject to availability**;

OPERATIONAL PROCEDURE 10

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

A. Definition

A conflict of interest exists when a situation arises in which the member has a private, personal or pecuniary interest that is not common to all members and which is sufficient to make it appear to have a possible influence on the objective exercise of that member's duty.

B. Guidelines

- i. **Members shall be sensitive to the perception of conflict of interest;**
- ii. **Grounds for possible perception of conflict of interest shall be made known after the approval of the meeting's agenda;**
- iii. **Members are advised to consult the RTO President, RTO Vice-President or Chair of the Standing or Ad-Hoc Committee when in doubt whether conflict may exist or thought to exist;**
- iv. **When in doubt members shall err on the side of caution rather than presume that no conflict shall be perceived;**
- v. **When members withdraw/absent themselves voluntarily from the meeting because of the possibility of a conflict of interest, this shall be stated and recorded in the minutes of said meeting. The minutes shall also record the time at which the member left the meeting and the time of return.**

C. Declaration Form

- i. **Members attending meetings of the RTO Executive, RTO Branch Presidents, Standing or Ad-Hoc Committees shall sign a declaration form on conflict of interest prior to the initial meeting each year;**
- ii. **The declaration form shall be co-signed and dated by the RTO President for members attending Executive meetings, the RTO Vice-President for members attending Branch Presidents meetings and by the Chair of the Standing or Ad-Hoc committee for members attending committee meetings.**

RTO - Annual General Meeting Business (cont'd)

OPERATIONAL PROCEDURE

11

MISCELLANEOUS

- B.** Branch grants are conditional upon the Treasurer receiving the required Branch forms; **a completed yearly financial statement prior to May 15th of each year.**
- i. If forms are not submitted on time, a Branch may forfeit one (1) or more installment payments; **A Branch which fails to submit the financial statement may not receive a grant for the following year.**

RESOLUTION NUMBER 1 ACER/CART REPRESENTATION

During discussion on proposed changes in Operational Procedure 5C: ACER/CART at the May 27, 2011 Retired Teachers Organization (RTO) Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Sydney, the following motion was moved by Peter Lewis and seconded by Gayle May: "To refer proposed changes in Operational Procedure 5C: ACER/CART to the Executive for study and report back to AGM 2012."

RECOMMENDATION

The RTO Executive strongly recommends that the 2012 Annual General Meeting endorse the following changes in Operational Procedure 5C: ACER/CART.

5C. ACER/CART

- i. In 2012, the RTO representatives to the annual ACER/CART meeting shall be the out-going President, the in-coming President, and the 5-Year Representative.
- ii. In 2013, the RTO representatives to the annual ACER/CART meeting shall be the Vice-President, the President and the 5-year Representative.
- iii. Beginning in 2014, the RTO representatives to the annual ACER/CART meeting shall be:
 - (a) in an election year of a change in President, the in-coming President and the out-going President, and
 - (b) in a non-election year, or in an election year with no change in President, the President and the Vice-President.
- iv. The President shall be the spokesperson for the RTO.
- v. The responsibilities of the ACER/CART representatives shall be:
 - (a) to attend the annual ACER/CART meeting;
 - (b) to submit an annual report to the RTO Annual General Meeting;
 - (c) to keep RTO members informed, through the Executive and Branch Presidents, of ACER/CART

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE 5

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES

C. Election of Members-At-Large

- vii. Those Branches that opt to nominate a Member-at-Large will conduct an election that will be overseen by the Branch President and one name only will be submitted by that Branch to the Regional Nominating Committee no later than April 30 15;

ARTICLE 6

GENERAL PROVISIONS

J. CONFLICT OF INTEREST ITEMS

- i. Definition : **A conflict of interest exists when a situation arises in which the member has a private, personal or pecuniary interest that is not common to all members and which is sufficient to make it appear to have a possible influence on the objective exercise of that member's duty.**
- ii. Members attending meetings of the Executive, Branch Presidents, Standing or Ad-hoc Committee Meetings must identify possible conflict areas once the agenda has been approved;
- iii. A conflict of interest heading shall appear on the agenda immediately following the item agenda (additional approval).
- iii. ~~Should a conflict of interest occur, either following the presentation of the agenda, or occurs during subsequent discussions, the member's presence during such discussion shall be at the discretion of the Chair.~~

- activities throughout the year; and
- (d) to carry out other duties assigned by the RTO Executive.
- vi. Prior to payment, the ACER/CART fee shall be reviewed by the Executive.

COMMITTEE APPLICATION
Deadline for Application – May 15th

The RTO has four (4) standing committees. They are:

- Assessment
- Communications
- Membership
- Pensions & Benefits

If you are interested in serving on one of these committees, please check which one; or if more than one, use numbers to reflect priority choices, i.e. 1, 2, etc.

[Please Print]

Name: _____

Branch: _____

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Signature

Please attach resume including the following:

RTO Branch Activities: _____

RTO Provincial Activities: _____

Other (Including NSTU Local or Provincial activities):

Return to:
RTO Nominations Chairperson
Nova Scotia Teachers Union
3106 Joseph Howe Drive
Halifax, NS B3L 4L7
or Fax 902-477-3517

Committee Responsibilities

There are four standing Committees. The duties are briefly outlined below:

Assessment Committee – This committee’s responsibilities are to periodically edit the RTO Handbook to keep the RTO Constitution, Operating Procedures, pension and insurance information, and the RTO Deals and Discounts up-to-date. This Committee deals mainly with organization within the RTO.

Communications Committee – This Committee’s responsibilities are to publish the Retired Teacher Newsletter at least three times a year and to keep the RTO Website up-to-date. The Committee must ensure that the newsletter contains reports from the RTO committees, a President’s message, pictures and reports from the Branches, and information for those interested in offering for RTO Executive and committee positions.

Membership Committee – This Committee’s responsibilities are to ensure the membership database is current and accurate and, as active teachers retire, to establish procedures to recruit new members to the RTO. The Committee prepares materials, including Branch membership lists and application forms which are presented to Branch Presidents at their meetings.

Pension and Benefits Committee – This Committee’s responsibilities are to keep RTO members up-to-date on pension and insurance matters and to propose improvements in pension and insurance matters to the RTO Executive. This Committee prepares information which is regularly published in the RTO Newsletter. As well, the Committee seeks discounts and special offers for RTO members. There are five members on each Committee, including the chair, an Executive member who reports regularly to the Executive. The success of the RTO depends on the participation of members from all parts of the province.

14th Annual Retired Teachers Golfing Tournament

WHERE: Truro Golf Club

WHEN: Wednesday, September 19, 2012.
Shotgun start 1:00 p.m.

DEADLINE: Applications, index or handicap and fees should be received by August 24, 2012. Because of popularity in 2010, please register early. Our cut-off number this year is 124 allowing for some foursomes of spousal partners of retired teacher golfers.

PRIZES: Special Competition each Division.
Overall Gross Tournament Winner
Overall Net Tournament Winner
1st Gross and 1st net in each division
Hole-in-One
Other prizes by Draw.

APPLICATION FORM: Available spring 2012.

FORMAT: Two Person Scramble
Five divisions A, B, C, Mixed & Ladies

(if numbers permit) and a group for nonteachers

FEE: \$70.00 per person

Please enclose fee & index or handicap with application. Meal provided.
Putting Contest with Prizes

GOLF CARTS: Carts must be booked at pro shop (902-893-4650) – book early. Power Carts are limited (30) but the course is flat and walker friendly.

INQUIRIES & REGISTRATION:

Chester Sabean

12901 HWY 2

Lower Onslow, NS B6L 5G1

902-897-7274 / cdeesabean@eastlink.ca

ACCOMMODATIONS: There are several Motels in the area. Host Motel is Super 8 Motel (902-895-8884). Special Price \$89 per room.

THOSE INTERESTED IN HOSTING THIS TOURNAMENT IN 2013 CAN CONTACT CHESTER SABEAN FOR INFORMATION AT 902-897-7274 OR cdeesabean@tru.eastlink.ca.

The offering host Local(s) will communicate with the Provincial Executive for final confirmation.



RTO Executive 2011-2012: Back Row (l-r): Pierre Belliveau, Shirley Melanson, George Landry, Bill Berryman, Albert Johnson, Steve Hogan and Gary Archibald. Front Row seated: Jim Kavanaugh, Randy Holmesdale, Dorothy Smith and Phyllis Côté. Missing from photo: Peter Lewis

Retired Teachers Organization
FOUNDATION GRANT
Application Form



Name of Applicant _____

Address _____

_____ Postal Code _____

Phone No. _____ Fax No. _____

Federal Charitable Status Number _____

Program Coordinator _____

Brief Description of Program _____

Number of children involved in this program _____

Percentage of total number of children in the program who are sick and/or challenged _____

How will this grant make a difference? _____

Regular source(s) of funding for your organization _____

- Note:
1. By signing this application, you will also be authorizing the Retired Teachers Foundation to verify your business number and check any other relevant facts about your organization.
 2. Please attach a one-page letter to elaborate on information requested in this form.

Signature _____ Date _____

**Please submit form with additional information no later than May 1 to:
RTO Legacy Foundation
c/o President, RTO, 3106 Joseph Howe Drive, Halifax, NS B3L 4L7**

Want to reduce STRESS?

Try these.

1. Simplify! Simplify! Simplify!
2. Get up 15 minutes earlier in the morning.
3. Don't rely on your memory! Write things down.
4. Be prepared to wait.
5. Plan ahead.
6. Procrastination is stressful.
7. Don't put up with something that doesn't work correctly.
8. Create order out of chaos.
9. Do the most unpleasant task first.
10. Judge people much less.
11. Don't count to 10, count to 1000.
12. Learn to delegate.
13. Take care of today.
14. Become more flexible.
15. Stay away from people who are "energy vampires".

NOTICE

Pictou RTO Branch:

Retired Teachers' Birthday Bash
Durham Presbyterian Church Hall
Wednesday, April 25, at 5:30 p.m.

Roast Beef - \$13.00

Program of music and laughter.

Bring your spouse or friend.

For tickets, call Laurene at 755-3762
by Friday, April 21.



Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to:
3106 Joseph Howe Drive, Halifax, NS B3L 4L7