

RTO/ERO NEWSLETTER

DISTRICT 18

AUGUST 2007

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Plans are well underway for the September 25th Annual General Meeting of District 18. The details of the meeting are to be found elsewhere in this newsletter but I would like to highlight our two information topics of the day.

The first session is devoted to a presentation and discussion of the upcoming Ontario election referendum. What is being proposed in the referendum is a change in the pattern by which we will be represented at Queen's Park – a change which, in theory, will make the system a little more reflective of the way in which the voters have cast their ballots. While the whole issue is somewhat confusing its importance cannot be over-emphasized and we need to become as informed as possible in order to vote intelligently on the issue in October.

The second information session will be of great interest to those of us who like to travel, and these days that seems to be most of us! As you probably know, RTO/ERO has recently changed its official travel agency. Merit Travel Group is now the agency of record and Lori Copeland, Merit's Business Development Manager, has agreed to join us on the 25th and to make a presentation to our group detailing the services available to RTO/ERO members from Merit. You may have seen a profile of Lori in the latest Renaissance magazine from the Provincial Office. (continued next column)

DISTRICT 18 EXECUTIVE

Past President Robert Ellis - 454-1745
President Max Radiff - 324-4602
1st Vice President Marg Valentine - 454-3451
2nd Vice President Karen Brentnell - 878-1075
Secretary-Treasurer Louise Cooper - 745-9129
Senator Nicholas Pawluch - 286-1562
Senator Mary Dickson - 328-3361
Communications Officer Edna Madill - 324-5380
Health Services and Insurance Officer
Joe Lovsin - 324-6000
Members' Services Officer
Lorna Synnott - 324-2295
Pension Concerns Officer
Nicholas Pawluch - 286-1562
Political Action Officer Ward Levine - 328-9889

All in all, it should be a very interesting day so why not join your fellow RTO/ERO members for the experience!

One other item I would like to mention in this newsletter is the Retirement Planning Workshop to be hosted by this District in October. The District Membership Coordinator, Lorna Synnott, has the plans well in hand but she is somewhat concerned by the sparse response to her request for an expression of interest from potential retirees. If you know of anyone who is thinking of retiring in the next few years please get the word out about the Workshop – this is an opportunity not to be missed!

Since this is my last President's Message, I would like to take this opportunity to say "thanks" to Edna Madill who has worked long and hard on your behalf to make this publication a reality and, thereby, to keep in touch with all the members!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Aug. 19 Blue Jays Game
Sept. 4 "To Hell with the Bell" lunches
Sept. 18 Kawartha Lakes Referendum Meeting
Sept. 19 Haliburton Referendum Meeting (tentative)
Sept. 25 District 18 Annual General Meeting
Oct. 1 Fall Trip
Oct. 27 Retirement Planning Workshop
Nov. 14 Curling Bonspiel

HALIBURTON UNIT EXECUTIVE

Past President Milt Sheppard - 489-2950
President Marg Valentine - 454-3451
Secretary Betty Mark - 286-4754
Treasurer Louise Cooper - 754-9129
Senator Nicholas Pawluch - 286-1562
Goodwill Convenor Marjorie Baldry - 286-4722
Membership Convenor Louise Cooper - 754-9129
Member-at-large Diane Dron - 754-3081
Member-at-large Sue Sisson - 286-2000
Member-at-large Gloria Tomlinson - 489-2117
Member-at-large Maraylene Welch - 754-2347
Member-at-large John Stouffer - 457-1933

KAWARTHA LAKES UNIT EXECUTIVE

Past President	Joe Lovsin - 324-6000
President	Karen Brentnell - 878-1075
1st Vice President	
2nd Vice President	Alf Doherty - 454-8334
Secretary	Bob May - 328-9391
Treasurer	Lenore Davidson - 786-2401
Senator	Mary Dickson - 328-3361
Goodwill Convenor	Evelyn Mighton - 374-5513

Health & Insurance Convenor	Joe Lovsin - 324-6000
Newsletter Convenor	Edna Madill - 324-5380
Telephone Convenor	Anna Marie Farrow - 738-9463
Unit Membership Coordinator	Grace Irvine - 328-1232
Golf Convenors	Rich Brien & Bob Ellis
Social Convenor	Edna Madill - 324-5380
Member-at-large	Mert Davis - 324-6323
Member-at-large	Claudette Lindsey 328-1046
Member-at-large	Jack Nevins - 374-5545

NEW MEMBERS TO DISTRICT 18

We welcome the following members who have joined District 18 since July 1, 2007.

Haliburton Unit

Patricia Stephenson Janice Vernon

Kawartha Lakes Unit

Catherine Caissie	William Davidson
Diane Dean	Sandra Hill
Scott Moore	Lois Nessel
Louise Patenall	Jean Pogue
Linda Janet Savage	Susan Savage
Otabor Ustohal	Muriel Walker
Dave Auld	C. William Cragg

My apologies go to Claudette Lindsey for spelling her name incorrectly in the last newsletter.

ELECTION 2007

The Kawartha Lakes Unit will be hosting an information meeting on Tuesday, September 18, 2007 at the Lindsay Legion, on York St. N. at 7:30 p.m. regarding the referendum in the upcoming October election.

This meeting will feature Wilf Day, who will speak about the referendum and what it means for all voters. Please mark this date on your calendars and let your friends and neighbours know about this opportunity to understand more fully about "One Ballot, Two Votes."

RETIREMENT PLANNING WORKSHOP

Have you teaching relatives or friends who are considering retiring in the near future? If so, please inform them about the RTO/ERO retirement planning workshop on October 27, 2007 at I.E. Weldon S.S. in Lindsay. Information and registration forms will be included in the August newsletter, on the web site at www.rtoero-district18.com and from Lorna Synnott at (705) 324-2295.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed to help with the Retirement Planning Workshop. Please contact Lorna Synnott at (705) 324-2295 or Max Radiff at (705) 324-4602 or maxradiff@hotmail.com.

Advertising

Have something to sell? Perhaps an ad in the newsletter would help. Call Edna Madill at (705) 324-5380 or e-mail at emadill@nexicom.net.

Cost: 1 inch of column space is \$5.00
2 inches of column space is \$10.00
4 inches is \$20.00

Ads are subject to the approval of the executive.

E-MAIL ADDRESSES NEEDED

The executive would like to set up a database of e-mail addresses of the members of District 18. This would enable communications with members to be accomplished quickly and easily. Members without an e-mail account would still be communicated with by the telephone callers. Newsletters could also be sent by e-mail which would help save money and trees. If we do not have your e-mail address, please send it to Edna Madill at emadill@nexicom.net.

Curling Bonspiel

When: Wednesday, November 14th, 2007

Where: Lindsay Curling Club

Peel St. Lindsay

Who: RTO members, family, friends

Cost: \$20.00 per person - includes morning refreshments, curling, lunch, prizes for everyone

Format: Morning Refreshments 9:00 - 10:00 a.m.

Six end game - 10:00 a.m.

Lunch - 12:15 p.m.

Six end game - 1:30 p.m.

Social & Prizes - follows last game

Contact: Karen Brentnell

(705) 878-1075 dmacduff@cogeco.ca

Please include your usual playing position (skip, vice etc.)

Please mark this date on your calendar and come out and enjoy some curling and a wonderful social time.

Attention All Bike Riders!

Ruth Barrett has volunteered to help organize a bike riding group for any interested members and friends.
Please contact her at (705) 324-5951.

District 18 Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting will be held at Royal Resort on Tuesday, September 25, 2007. Lori Copeland, from Merit Travel, will be speaking to us on the services Merit offers to RTO members. They are in the process of developing some exciting custom tours for late 2007 and 2008 and would like to hear suggestions. RTO members receive a 5% discount on all packages and tours. Come hear about what your next trip might be. A registration sheet is included with the newsletter.

Lawn Bowling

We had a great day of lawn bowling on June 20/07. Approximately 30 members signed up. Instruction was given. A lovely lunch was served. Cash prizes were awarded. Everyone enjoyed themselves and there were many favourable comments. Look for this event again next year. Thanks to Grace Irvine for organizing this event.

“TO HELL WITH THE BELL”

Kawartha Lakes Unit will have a Champagne Luncheon on September 4, 2007 at 11:30 a.m. at the home of Grace Irvine.
7 Redwing St.
Lindsay
(705) 328-1232
RSVP by August 27, 2007
New retirees free of charge
Others \$20
SPACES ARE FILLING UP QUICKLY
PLEASE RESERVE YOUR PLACE NOW

Catered by Fancy Pants

“TO HELL WITH THE BELL”

Haliburton Unit of RTO will be holding its third annual To Hell With The Bell Luncheon on the first day of school, Tuesday, September 4, 2007, at 12 p.m. at the Summerkiss Restaurant, Moore Falls. All RTO members, retired teachers and guests are welcome. Haliburton members will be telephoned. Kawartha Lakes members are welcome! Call Louise Cooper at (705) 754-9129 or Marg Valentine at (705) 454-3451 for reservations before August 28th. Be prepared to choose either Pork Tenderloin or Shrimp Capellini.

RTO Golf Scramble

Forty people had a great time at the golf scramble held on June 28th. Thanks to Bob Ellis and Rich Brien who organized this year's event and are already looking forward to next year.

150th Anniversary Parade

RTO/ERO Kawartha Lakes Unit participated in the 150th Anniversary parade in Lindsay on July 28th. Our entry helped make people more aware of the impact teachers have made on the shaping of our community over the years. Joe Lovsin, Bob May and Mert Davis organized our entry which consisted of 4 convertibles draped in banners and 8 retired teachers waving pennants. We thank Richard Skidmore, Mike Holmes, Bob Ellis and Polito Ford for supplying the cars. Evelyn McLean, Doreen Roadhouse, Edna Madill, Rich Brien, Alf Doherty, Joe Lovsin, Bob May and Mert Davis took part. This may have been Lindsay's largest parade ever and it was good to present our organization to the thousands of spectators present.

Please see the web site for photos of other RTO activities.
www.rtoero-district18.com.

**RTO Political Action Survey
Kawartha Lakes/Haliburton District**

Preamble

As you are aware, there is a provincial election coming in October and the possibilities of a federal election is ever present.

This survey is being conducted to confirm with the Provincial Political Action Committee the issues they have identified in the most recent issue of the Renaissance (see centerfolds). More importantly we would like to identify issues that you feel need to be addressed locally by the federal parties and their candidates when the call to the polls occurs.

When you have completed the survey, please forward by mail (if you wish to ensure anonymity, do not include a return address) to:

**Ward Levine
8 Purdy Ct.
Lindsay, ON
K9V 6E4**

Please see the chart for the list of initially identified issues and thank you for taking time to complete this survey.

Please include below other comments or items of concern that you believe should be pursued at either a local or provincial RTO executive level.

Kawartha Lakes/Haliburton RTO Locals – Political Action Issues Survey

In the chart below, please identify the top 5 issues you feel should be addressed at each of the local, provincial and municipal levels of government. Place the numbers 1 to 5 beside the issues you feel are the most important **IN EACH COLUMN** with 1 being the most important and 5 being the least important of your choices. Please feel free to add any issues you feel are missing from your top 5 list.

Thank you in advance for your time and support in this initiative. A summary of the results will be presented to the membership in the next newsletter (or before if any elections are called).

Issue	Top 5 Municipal Priorities	Top 5 Provincial Priorities	Top 5 Federal Priorities
Health Care including wait times, lack of family physicians, eye check-up fees, hospital access			
Rising tax burden including personal taxes, user fees and municipal taxes			
Deteriorating Education funding including elementary, secondary & post-secondary			
Pension maintenance (CPP et al)			
Lack of accessible Public Transit			
Urban/Regional Development and associated planning issues			
Recycling			
Environmental concerns			
Ensuring safe & quality drinking water			
Increasing cost of hydro/water/natural gas			
Child poverty			
Affordable housing for seniors			
Long term care for seniors including affordable and accessible residential care			
Garbage disposal			
Policing including assuring safe and secure neighbourhoods/communities			
Conservation of existing green spaces			
Globalization and loss of jobs to international companies			
Deteriorating local economies			
Support for Energy Efficient alternatives			
Other:			
Other:			
Other:			

**Retired Teachers of Ontario
District 18, Haliburton-Victoria
DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING**

Tuesday, September 25, 2007
Royal Resort
44 Royal Cedar Road, Fenelon Falls, ON

- 9:30 a.m. - Registration and Refreshments
- 10:00 a.m. - Business Meeting
- 11:00 a.m. - Information Session:
Guest Speakers will discuss the MMP Referendum, to be held on October 10, 2007.
- 12:00 p.m. - Pre- Lunch Break
- 12:30 p.m. - Lunch (See Menu Choices below)**
- 1:30 p.m. - Guest Speaker:
Lori Copeland, Business Development Manager for Merit Travel Group, the official RTO/ERO travel agency.

Lunch Menu: Soup
Stir fry on brown rice: **Choice of Beef or Chicken or Vegetarian**
Choice from the dessert table
Coffee or Tea

Please detach and return the Registration Form below by **Wednesday, September 19**, with your cheque payable to RTO District 18, to:
Louise Cooper, Secretary-Treasurer
RTO/ERO District 18
1010 Shamba Trail, R. R. 1
Haliburton, ON KOM 1S0

The total cost for the refreshments on arrival, lunch, taxes, gratuity, and the use of the facility is **\$25 per person**. (If you think your reply will not reach Louise in time, please call her at 705-754-9129 to confirm your place at lunch.)

REGISTRATION FORM			
NAME(S)	PHONE NUMBER	MENU CHOICE	DIABETIC ?

Enclosed please find a cheque for \$25 x ____ = \$ _____

**RTO
FALL FOLIAGE MYSTERY TOUR
"A World Famous Tourist Destination"
Monday October 1, 2007
\$85.00 per person**

Price Includes:
Motorcoach Transportation
Cardinal Coach Tour Guide
Dinner
Gratuity on Meal
Fall Foliage Circle Tour

DEPARTURES: OMEMEE - TD Bank 11:30 A.M.
LINDSAY – Kawartha Lakes Café (Hwy 35) 12:00 P.M.
FENELON FALLS - Municipal Parking - off Frances St. 12:30 P.M.

Fall Foliage Mystery Tour to a World Famous Tourist Destination ... Experience the gracious charm of yesteryear - Colourful - National Historic Site - Elegant & Historical!

Joins us for a Great Fall Foliage Excursion!

6:15 p.m. - Lindsay 6:45 p.m. Omemee

Name _____ Phone _____

Enclosed please find a cheque for _____ x \$85.00 = _____ for the Fall trip. Please make your cheques payable to RTO - Kawartha Lakes Unit. Questions? Call Edna Madill at 324-5380 or emadill@nexicom.net

Please return by Sept. 6, 2007 to Edna Madill
75 Adelaide St. S.
Lindsay, Ontario
K9V 3K2

Please check your departure point - Omemee.____ Lindsay____ Fenelon Falls_____