

Helen Biales ACER-CART President 2007-2009 Biography



Helen retired in 1996 after 35 years in the teaching profession, four in the London Separate school system and 31 in the Windsor Separate school system. A 1961 graduate of London Teachers' College, she later completed a B. A. at the University of Windsor, an M. Ed. at Wayne State University, Special Education Specialist Certification and Supervisory Officer Certification. During her teaching career she taught at several JK to Grade 8 schools in a variety of positions, her last (1993-1996) as principal of H.J. Lassaline Separate School.

Helen was born in Peterborough, raised in Mosa township where she attended S.S. #12 Mosa. (Yes, a traditional one room school.) She currently resides in Windsor, ON.

Her teacher organization service included the provincial executive of the Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association (1988-1995), serving as President (1992-1993), a governor of the Ontario Teachers' Federation (1983-1995), and a Director of the Canadian Teachers' Federation (1992-1993). Among the awards she received were the Margaret Lynch Award in 1984 (local federation), an Ontario Teachers' Federation fellowship in 1991, the Queen's Golden Jubilee medal in 2002, and a Life Membership in OECTA in 2004.

Helen participated in international teaching training projects in Botswana in 1983. As a member of the CTF Trust fund she was sent to evaluate projects in Mozambique and Malawi in 1995 and Sierra Leone in 1997.

Upon her retirement, she became involved in the Retired Teachers of Ontario (RTO/ERO), serving as local president in 2001 -2002 and the provincial president in 2004-2005. She also served on several committees at both the local and provincial level. Helen was an observer at ACER-CART AGMs and became a member of its executive in 2005. She served as Vice-President (2005-2007) and President (2007-2009) of ACER-CART.

Helen is active at the local level, currently serving on the Alzheimer's Society of Windsor-Essex Board (2006-), Hiatus House Board (2008-), New Horizons for Seniors Review Committee (2010 -) and many committees and other activities at St. John Vianney Church. She has served on the Hotel Dieu-Grace Hospital board (1994-2003), HIROC Insurance Board (1998-2004), and Windsor's Senior Advisory Committee (2007-2009). Helen has been a member of Sigma Phi Gamma International Sorority since 1971, serving as the first Canadian president (1999-2000) and currently as the Parliamentarian.