**Association canadienne des enseignantes et des enseignants retraités**



**Canadian Association of Retired Teachers**

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

**2017 ACER-CART AGM**

1. **Introduction**

This has been a very different year for ACER-CART. As this is the year that followed the Federal elections, the chances for political action seemed to be more difficult to address as there was a wait and see around the actions of this new government. From what we gather, a government is a government irrespective of their colours. This is very evident when you consider their way of dealing with the national Health Accord and also Bill C-27. Divide to conquer, and push with new initiatives in spite of the public outcry.

1. **MEMBERSHIP**

This year, Members have reported an increase in their membership of 1786 members. This represents a 1.3% increase over last year.

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|  | **Association** | **Members** | **Fee Amount**  |
| **1** | Retired Teachers' Association of Newfoundland and Labrador  | 5 662 | 1 981.70 $ |
| **2** | Retired Teachers Organization of the Nova Scotia Teachers Union  | 7 259 | 2 540.65 $ |
| **3** | New Brunswick Society of Retired Teachers  | 2 718 | 951.30 $ |
| **4** | Société des enseignantes et des enseignants retraités francophones du N.B.  | 1 980 | 693.00 $ |
| **5** | P.E.I. Retired Teachers Association  | 1 053 | 368.55 $ |
| **6** | Quebec Association of Retired Teachers  | 210 | 73.500 $ |
| **7** | Quebec Provincial Association of Retired School Educators | 1 188 | 415.80 $ |
| **8** | Retired Teachers of Ontario | 65 517 | 16 279.25 $ |
| **9** | Retired Teachers Association of Manitoba | 9 517 | 3 330.95 $ |
| **10** | Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan  | 11 111 | 3 888.85 $ |
| **11** | Alberta Retired Teachers' Association  | 16 790 | 7 000.00 $ |
| **12** | BC Retired Teachers Association  | 15 603 | 5 461.00 $ |
| **13** | Yukon Retired Teachers' Alumni  | 146 | 51.00 $ |
|  | **TOTAL** | **138 754** |  **43 135.55 $** |

1. **REPRESENTATIONS**

During the year Executive members and I have represented ACER-CART at the following coalitions and meetings. The president has already described the work we have done with these organizations. I will thus not repeat it in my report

1. Canadian Teachers Federation
2. National Association of Federal Retirees
3. The Coalition for Retirement Security (CRS)
4. Canadian Health Coalition LOBBYING DAY

It is interesting to note that although most of these coalitions and representations originated and were focused around the elections, there seems to be a desire to continue the dialogue on a more permanent basis.

1. **EXECUTIVE MEETINGS**

The executive has participated in three conference call meetings. These were held on October 12, 2016, January 19, 2017 and March 23, 2017. It has held two face to face meetings, post-2016 AGM and pre-2017 AGM.

1. **FINANCIAL SITUATION**

Our finances are on a sound footing. This year we saw an increase in member contributions. Thanks to Johnsons and to CTF, we are able to maintain the fees at the same level. Our total investments are now at 44 256.00$ surpassing the 42 00.00 $ goal that was set in 2014.

1. **Correspondence**

More than 50 letters were generated or received during the year. The President and I have received numerous emails, most of which requested a reply or further work. Communication with the Federal government seems to have improved. The letters we receive are more timely and pertinent to the issues we have addressed.

1. **Publications**

As was reported in the communications report, we have produced two issues of OPTIONS,

1. **Coalition for Retiement Security (CRS) Bill C-27**

On October 16, 2016, Bill C-27 (an Act to amend the pension Benefits Standard Act, 1985) was presented to the House of Commons for its first reading.

This enactment amends the Pension Benefits Standards Act, 1985 to provide a framework for the establishment, administration and supervision of target benefit plans. It also amends the Act to permit pension plan administrators to purchase immediate or deferred life annuities for former members or survivors so as to satisfy an obligation to provide pension benefits if the obligation arises from a defined benefit provision.

If you want to read the act, follow this link. <http://www.parl.gc.ca/HousePublications/Publication.aspx?Mode=1&DocId=8511182&Language=E>

 “The National Association of Federal Retirees and the Canadian Coalition for Retirement Security have established websites to further inform Canadians on the impact of Bill C-27 and also information on how individuals can participate in protesting this legislation”:

a. [www.honouryourpromise.ca](http://www.honouryourpromise.ca)

b. [www.respectezvotrepromesse.ca](http://www.respectezvotrepromesse.ca)

c. [www.federalretirees.ca/BillC27](http://www.federalretirees.ca/BillC27)

d. [www.retraitesfederaux.ca/C-27](http://www.retraitesfederaux.ca/C-27)

A letter from the Office of the Minister of Finance to Mr. Herb John, President National Pensioners Federation stated and I quote:

*“Going forward, the Government will consider the comments it has heard from Canadians and stakeholder groups since the Bill was tabled. In particular, we have engaged with the unions that expressed concerns with certain aspects of the legislation. The Government will not move forward with the legislation in Parliament until this engagement process is closed.”*

This indicates that they plan to go ahead with Bill C-27 but that they will consider changes to the legislation. It is therefore important for all Members to approach their members of parliament and keep the pressure on this issue. It might die on the roster this summer but be assured that it will r-appear sometimes in the near future.

1. **Conclusion**

Brian, thank you for your leadership. Executive and Directors, thank you for answering our requests and producing your reports in a timely fashion.

I want to recognize the work done by Lynne and Samantha of CTF. They have been a tremendous help.

Thank you.



Roger Régimbal

Executive Director