 **RETIRED TEACHERS’ ASSOCIATION OF MANITOBA**

**MEMBER REPORT**

1. **FEDERAL LEVEL,**

RTAM has pledged to continue supporting the following ACER-CART Initiatives;

1. continue to support the National Association of Federal Retirees’ official opposition to House Government Bill C27, which if enacted in its current form, is likely to erode the retirement security earned/accrued by millions of Canadians in defined benefit pension plans.

ii. continue efforts to draw political attention to the main points contained in the Declaration Concerning a National Health Care Strategy for Seniors.

iii. continue efforts to support Defined Pension Plans with adequate cost of living indexing for retired teachers.

iv. continue to publish the distinctions between Defined Pension Plans, Defined Contribution Pension Plans and Targeted or Shared Risk Pension Plans.

1. **PROVINCIAL LEVEL,**
2. RTAM plans to build better relations with the Provincial Government. It hopes to be officially recognized as the voice of Retired Teachers in Manitoba and within the next 3 years to gain the authority to appoint the retired teacher representative to the Teachers’ Retirement Allowance Fund (TRAF) Board.

ii. RTAM plans to develop a more effective and interactive relationship with the Manitoba Teachers’ Society.

iii. RTAM plans to improve governance and meeting effectiveness.

iv. RTAM plans to expand its membership base by providing active teachers who are within 10 years of retirement with information about our membership benefits and services.

v. RTAM plans to improve communications and advocacy on health, wellness and economic security issues of interest to retired teachers.

1. **Main activities of your association since last ACER-CART AGM**
2. RTAM promoted the United Nations International Day of the Older Person (October 1st, 2016) by publicizing information on Housing, Health, Pensions and Inequality.
3. RTAM hosted its 3rd Meet & Greet social evening with the MLAs from all political parties at the Manitoba Legislature on October 19th, 2016.
4. RTAM appointed 2 members to sit on the Manitoba Teacher`s Society 100th Anniversary Committee.
5. RTAM negotiated a joint proposal with the Manitoba Teachers’ Society for a 5 year disbursal period of the Restricted Surplus which, if accepted by TRAF and then Government, will provide approximately an additional $22.70 monthly income to the average Manitoba retired teacher's pension over the five-year disbursal period.
6. RTAM received the go ahead from the Manitoba Teachers' Society for any of its interested Board members to register to attend one of the MTS sponsored Pension Sustainability information sessions being offered at various locations throughout the province.RTAM hired consultant Adam Dooley to expand on his Communications Strategy report to the Public Relations Committee last year, by facilitating the development of a Strategic Planning Document.
7. RTAM promoted the ACER-CART letter writing campaign to negotiate a new Health Accord.
8. RTAM struck and Ad Hoc Committee to study and make recommendations on an effective video conferencing system which would be used to facilitate member participation on committees from distant locations throughout the province.
9. RTAM promoted the Cogniciti project by posting information on the website and in the KIT magazine.
10. RTAM’s Political Action, Public Relations and Pension committees produced a joint brochure/presentation informing MLAs of what RTAM is and how teacher pensions are set. The brochure/presentation is meant to facilitate face-to-face meetings with interested MLAs.
11. RTAM continues to sponsor both pre-retirement and wellness seminars. Recent events in Winnipeg and Brandon were very well attended, each with over 100 attendees..
12. RTAM has authorized the hiring a 30 hr per week Membership Services person to replace two part-time employees.
13. RTAM will promote the National Association of Federal Retirees’ official opposition to House Government Bill C27. On its website.
14. **Motions from your association to the ACER-CART AGM.**

RTAM does not have any motions to put forward at this time.

Respectfully submitted by,

**Bill Cann**

Vice President

RTAM Director/ACER-CART