**HEALTH COMMITTEE REPORT MARCH 2018**

 After many years of lobbying pharmacare finally appeared in the 2018 Federal Budget. At present there is a great deal of uncertainty over the implementation of this plan. However, it is important that we finally have admission of the need for a program. This will be a first step in a long process. Over the next number of months there will be many discussions and models put forward for consideration. ACER-CART will be diligent in the study of these proposals with the aim of getting the best possible program for seniors and retired teachers. As time passed we will be sure to make our voice heard on this issue. We would hope that it will indeed be applied as a federal program and not follow the current health care arrangements. Our hope of having all funds allocated to any program of this nature is better if the program is administered as a national program. Over the years funds that have been allocated to health programs sent from the federal government to the provinces and territories have not always found their way into the provincial programs. Hopefully when this program finally rolls out there will be safeguards to make sure all funds reach the proper source.