

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

**Canadian Association of Retired Teachers**

**President’s Report**

**Executive Conference Call September 10, 2018**

1. **Letters were written to the following thanking them for their help and/or participation at our May 31 – June 2, 2018 AGM:**

* Mark Ramsankar, CTF President
* Samantha Perrin, CTF Chief Financial Officer
* Sylvain Cleroux, CTF Assistant General Secretary
* Susan Dallin O’Grady, CTF Meeting and Event Planner
* Wendy Noble, CTF Executive Assistant Governance/Advocacy
* Geoff Norquay, Principal, Earnscliffe Strategy Group
* Bob Dowden, Vice-President, Affinity Client Relations, Johnson Inc.
* Richard Harrison, Vice-President, Plan Benefits, Johnson Inc.
* Barbara Farrell, Clinical and Research Co-ordinator, Bruyere Research Institute
* Alyson Hillier, Vice-President, Retired Teachers Organization of the Nova Scotia Teachers Union

1. **Greetings and best wishes letters were sent to the following Presidents on their upcoming Annual General Meetings:**
   * Ken Nash (YRTA) September 6, 2018
   * Patricia Clough (BCRTA) September 22, 2018
   * Jacques Albert (SERFNB) September 29-30, 2018
   * Doreen Noseworthy (RTANL) October 2-4, 2018
   * Marilyn Bossert (ARTA) October 3, 2018
   * Cynthia MacDonald (PEIRTA) November 1, 2018
2. **Letter to Minister of Seniors Filomena Tassi**

I wrote the letter on July 22, 2018 after her appointment was announced by Prime Minister Trudeau on July 18, 20918. I received an acknowledgement letter from Prabh Tambor, Manager Ministerial and Executive Correspondence on August 20, 2018. I have a meeting with Member of Parliament Sackville-Preston-Chezzetcook Darrell Samson on September 4, 2018 to review the letter and explain the need for a National Pharmacare Program and a national health care strategy for seniors. I am awaiting a meeting with Member of Parliament Annapolis Valley Hants Scott Brison to also review the letter

1. **Canadian Medical Association “Demand a Plan”**

I sent an e-mail to members requesting sending a “thank you” letter to Prime Minister Trudeau for establishing a Ministry of Seniors and call upon him to provide Minister Tassi with the resources and tools she will need to improve care for seniors.

1. **Canadian Labour Congress “Pharmacare: A Plan For Everyone”**

During the 2017-2018 year the Canadian Labour Congress held 23 town hall meetings across Canada to provide information to Canadians on the need for a National Pharmacare Program. I have sent information on their 2018-2019 campaign with the following:

* Respond to the Advisory Council on the Implementation of National Pharmacare portal at [www.letstalkhealth.ca](http://www.letstalkhealth.ca)
* Participate in webinar on August 8, 2018
* Participate in webinar on August 29, 2018

1. **Promoting Medication Safety: Inspiring Initiatives from Nova Scotia August 15, 2018**

I participated in this webinar along with Dr. David Gardner and Dr. Andrea Murphy on insomnia, sleeping pills and safer alternatives as they relate to initiatives to raise awareness and create change around use in Nova Scotia. This webinar was sponsored by the Canadian Deprescribing Network and 59 participants joined by computer or phone. My role was describing how the Seniors Advisory Council advises the Department of Health and Wellness and Department of Seniors on these kinds of initiatives.

1. **Community Dialogue – “National Pharmacare: What Should National Pharmacare Look Like”**

I would like to thank Marg for providing this information on meetings arranged by Dr. Eric Hoskins’ Advisory Council. You have received a report from Gerry who attended the August 15, 2018 session in Vancouver and I was impressed to hear that this was an implementation exercise. It is imperative that we now provide meeting dates and locations for our members to participate in their region. It would also be to our advantage to be able to participate in the Round Table in various regions.

1. **“Debunking the myths about Canadian pharmacare program”**

I would like to thank JoAnn for making this document available to the Executive and Directors. These documents are going to be extremely important as some provinces and pharmaceutical companies will try to subvert a national pharmacare program with their version of “fake news”.