

[**Seniors' Voice / Voix des Aînés**](https://www.facebook.com/seniorsvoice/?tn-str=k%2AF)

### Seniors’ Voice is a collaboration of organizations that have come together to celebrate Canadian seniors on October 1, which the United Nations has designated as the International Day of Older Persons (IDOP). ACER-CART is a member.

### The collaboration attempts to raise the concerns of seniors at all three levels of government and has professed areas of ongoing focus: health, pensions, housing and inequality. Its *raison d'être*, however, has been the International Day of Older Persons, and the official acknowledgment of that day for the purpose of highlighting Canadian seniors annually on October 1.

### The Website been set up in both official languages with donations from the steering committee member organizations, and it is currently maintained by the National Pensioners’ Federation.

### Seniors’ Voice member organizations have urged Canadian municipalities and provinces to declare October 1 formally as the International Day of the Older Person as a way of recognizing both the contributions of older adults to Canadian society and their concerns. Many of the Declarations are posted on the website.

### October 1 events are planned annually and often centre around an IDOP flag which can be ordered through the website.

### Many events were held on October 1, 2018. These 2018 events, which are typical, have been posted on the website:

* A “coffee party” at Prince Albert City Hall, (SK) with the mayor present
* A flag raising in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island
* NPF Rally at the Legislature in Regina, Saskatchewan
* A performance of the 411 Rising Stars sing-along group and Ukulele players at the 411 Seniors Centre, Vancouver, BC
* A gathering at Oshawa City hall and Oshawa Seniors Centre
* Municipal Proclamation, Flag Raising, and Guest Speaker, followed by lunch in Peterborough, ON
* Flag Raising, Reading of the Municipal Proclamation, Greetings from the Mayor and Jennifer French MPP, followed by reception at the Oshawa Senior Citizens Centre
* CURC South Central Ontario Annual General Meeting: Guest Speaker: Bill Woodbeck, President of Unifor Local 524 Retirees, on ‘Fighting for Retirees’ Rights’, Peterborough, ON

Although many organizations support the efforts of Seniors’ Voice, the following have declared their membership on https://www.seniorsvoice.org

1. Place des Aînés Laval Québec (an organization of 6000+ providing cultural and physical exercise programs)
2. ARM – Chapter 22, Niagara (retired education workers in the Niagara Region)

### Active Retired Members of OSSTF (4000 retired education workers in Ontario)

### CUPE Retirees’ Association/Association des retraités du SCFP

### Canadian Postmasters and Assistants Association

1. CWA/SCA Canada Retirees Council retired media workers
2. PIPSC Retired Members GuildP: 55,000 professionals and scientists across Canada’s public sector.

### Canadians for Tax Fairness

### Alberta Federation of Union Retirees

1. ATU Canada; Amalgamated Transit Union in Canada

### Canadian Alliance of United Seniors (CAUS)

### National Pensioners Federation (NPF) Steering Committee member\*: President Trish McAuliffe; Herb John, Past President, recently retired from the position.

### Congress of Union Retirees of Canada (CURC) Steering Committee members: Lucienne Bahuaud, CURC Treasurer, and another member pending; Pat Kerwin, Past President, wishing to retire from the position.

### National Association of Federal Retirees Steering Committee member: Sayward Montague, Advocacy Director

### Coalition citoyenne pour mieux vivre et mieux vieillir (C2V2)

### Association Canadienne des enseignantes et des enseignants retraités, Canadian Association of Retired Teachers (ACER-CART) Steering Committee member: JoAnn Lauber, a past president

1. British Columbia Federation of Retired Union Members (BCFORUM)

### Prince Edward Island Federation of Union Retirees

### Ontario Federation of Union Retirees

### Nova Scotia Federation of Union Retirees

### Manitoba Federation of Union Retirees

### New Brunswick Federation of Union Retirees

### Alberta Federation of Union Retirees (AFUR)

### Newfoundland Labrador Coalition of Pensioners Retirees & Seniors Organizations (includes Retired Teachers’ Association of Newfoundland /Labrador)

### Steelworkers Organization of Active Retirees

### British Columbia Retired Teachers’ Association

### British Columbia Old Age Pensioners’ Organization

### Saskatchewan Union Retirees Federation

\*Another Steering Committee member is Deborah Duffy of the National Union of Public and General Employees. (NUPGE).

An email on May 20, 2019 from Steering Committee member Lucienne Bahuaud of the Congress of Union Retirees of Canada (CURC) reached out to the rest of the steering committee members suggesting a conference call to set up this year’s Seniors’ Voice plans for October 1. So far there has been conversation only about the website and its maintenance.

Both Pat Kerwin, who was the facilitating force of Seniors’ Voice, and Herb John have expressed their feeling that rightfully, members of the steering committee should be active officers of their organizations.