

Bill Berryman
President of ACER-CART 2018-2020

Bill began his teaching career in 1970 as a French and Social Studies teacher. During his teaching career he was heavily involved in activities with the Nova Scotia Teachers Union. He served as President of the Hants West Local for two terms, was a member of the NSTU Provincial Executive for four years, served as NSTU First Vice-President for two years and participated in numerous NSTU provincial committees.

In 1996 Bill was hired as Executive Staff Officer for the NSTU in the areas of provincial and regional negotiations, grievance procedures, occupational health and safety and public affairs. He co-negotiated the first contract with the Nova Scotia Community College and negotiated the first French contract with the Conseil Scolaire Acadien Provincial.

Bill retired in 2008 and immediately began volunteering with the Retired Teachers Organization (RTO) of the NSTU. He served as President of the West Hants Branch from 2008-2012. He served as Member-at-Large from the Annapolis Valley on the RTO Provincial Executive from 2010-2012. He served as Vice-President of the RTO from 2012-2014 and is now completing his fourth year as President.

Bill began attending ACER-CART meetings as an observer for the RTO in 2014. He was very fortunate on having been selected to serve on the ACER-CART Political Advocacy Committee the next year which produced the pamphlet "A Vision for Canada" which intended to help support member organizations and their retired teachers to engage the candidates and their political parties during the 2015 Federal election.

During the 2017-2018 year he was elected Regional Representative East on the ACER-CART Executive. During that year he served as Chair of the Political Advocacy Committee and in that role researched and wrote articles on a National Pharmacare Program and the ACER-CART Elder Abuse pamphlet.

At the 2018 ACER-CART AGM Bill was elected President for a one-year term and was re-elected President in 2019 for another one-year term.

Bill has been very active on dealing with Seniors' issues in Nova Scotia. He has served as Chair of the Seniors Advisory Council of Nova Scotia from 2014-2020. The Council is comprised of nine seniors' organizations representing over 120,000 seniors in Nova Scotia. The Council acts as an advisory body to the provincial government on all seniors' issues and meets monthly with the Deputy Minister of Seniors. As Chair of the Seniors Advisory Council he also serves on the Board of the Centre on Aging at Mount Saint Vincent University. This centre hires academics to provide research on seniors' issues and collaborates with other universities across Canada with similar departments.