



HEALTH SERVICES COMMITTEE 2023 AGM

Membership

Margaret Urquhart, Chair, Regional Representative-East
Alyson Hillier RTO-NSTU
Peggy Prendergast RTAM
Bill Berryman RTO-NSTU
Adeline Wuschenny STS
Albert Legge NLTA
Helen Sukovieff STS
Dolaine Koch, ARTA
Rich Prophet, RTO/ERO

Report

The committee met by zoom, courtesy of NBSRT, five times in 2022-2023. Recording each meeting assists in the preparation of meeting notes and begins with an overview of items and information from A/C Executive Meetings. September welcomed two new members and the timely suggestion from the Political Advocacy Committee that we have a joint meeting regarding the AC priorities of Long-Term Care and Aging In Place.

Members agreed to submit suggested strategies and points for consideration relative to the 2022- 2023 A/C priorities. It was agreed a national seniors' strategy, national pharmacare and dental care were all pertinent to the priorities. Also considered was having Members provide 1 or 2 page overviews of their Group Insurance Plans.

After a positive joint meeting with PAC we reviewed possible points and strategies and a summarized version (Appendix A) was submitted. The idea of a special meeting of the Board, separate from the AGM, was strongly supported. Also noted was that Johnson Insurance was looking into the possibility of providing an overview of Group Insurance Plans.

In February Committee members were pleased to learn that PAC proposed a special meeting of the board to "educate" Members regarding the issues and discuss strategies to support the priorities within their organizations. At the request of the Executive an RTO/ERO presentation of a proposal regarding Group Insurance was received and discussed and a recommendation made at the April Executive Meeting.

The final meeting of the year considered topics for the coming year – ageism, creeping privatization of health services, seniors’ poverty. Postings for the website were determined and forwarded. Group Insurance Plans also received consideration after the committee received a comprehensive overview of plans from Johnson. The consensus was the overview could form a template for sharing in the coming year. Additional information from some members would be needed. As well, given the concern there was no reference to National Pharmacare in the federal budget the committee recommended

That ACER-CART work with Members to plan and initiate a campaign for a national Pharmacare program using New Mode

As there will be a new chair in 2023-2024 the committee felt an overview of the work of the committee from the fall of 2018 through June 2022 would be helpful. (Appendix B)

Committee members are dedicated and committed. They offer their experiences and perspective, raise questions, share information/documents and concerns from their respective provinces, report on meetings/connections with MLA’s and other groups with which they are involved relative to health care. Working with them has been a privilege.

Respectfully submitted

Margaret Urquhart, Chair and East Coast Representative