**President’s Report**

**December 1, 2023 / Special Meeting**

Since our last Executive meeting on November 1, 2023, I have received numerous e-mails from Directors, former Directors and former Executive members congratulating me on becoming President of ACER-CART. I was truly impressed with the heartfelt thank you for keeping ACER-CART alive as a vibrant and powerful advocacy organization for retired teachers and seniors in Canada. Many offered assistance in making our presence known to members during this time of transition.

On November 3, 2023 I participated in the Health Services Committee’s first meeting of the year. I was impressed with Sharon Penney’s grasp of the issues as Chair of the Committee. There was excellent discussion on a National Pharmacare Program, creeping privatization of health care, national standards for long-term care facilities and Aging-in-Place.

On November 8-9, 2023 I attended the Canadian Medication Appropriateness and Deprescribing Conference in Montreal. I am the Atlantic representative on the Public Awareness Committee and we organized a national webinar on November 27, 2023 to get seniors off sleeping pills. I introduced myself as President of ACER-CART, a national organization of 85,000 members whose mandate is to advocate on behalf of retired teachers and seniors.

On November 14-15, 2023 I participated in the fall RTO-NSTU Branch Presidents Meeting. I provided an update to the 35 participants on the changes to ACER-CART and the members were extremely happy to see the organization continue and indicated they were willing to have the organization increase the annual dues.