



**Association canadienne des enseignantes et des enseignants retraités
Canadian Association of Retired Teachers**

**ACER-CART Directors Meeting
February 1, 2024**

1. Present: Sharon Penney Jan Langelier
Marilyn Bossert Katherine Snow
Roger Regimbal Bob Fitzpatrick
Gabe Mercier Dale MacRae
Joe Lafitte Helen Sukovieff
Lawrence Hrycan Luc Handfield
Grace Wilson Françoise Beaulieu
Alyson Hillier Deb Gerrow
Murray Wall David Denyer
Doug Sill Phyllis Horne
Bill Berryman

2. Motion to approve agenda at 12:05 PM Eastern time.
MOTION: That the amended agenda be approved
Moved: Ambrose White, Seconded: Bob Fitzpatrick
MOTION CARRIED

3. Future of ACER-CART
Bill provided background information on the following:
 - RTO/ERO letter of withdrawal dated October 19, 2023.
 - Letters of resignation from Martin Higgs and Martha Foster dated November 1, 2023.
 - The first meeting of the reconstituted Executive on November 1, 2023.
 - Bill's letter to Presidents, Directors, Alternates and Executive Directors on reconstituted Executive November 2, 2023.
 - Executive meeting in Toronto January 14-15, 2024.
 - Drop in membership from 163,864 to 84,204.
 - Assets are \$132,833 with membership dues of \$28,000 and Johnson grant of \$7,500.
 - Question on if ACER-CART can survive with finances and Bill explained where savings could be achieved in today's meeting report.

4. Corporate Changes–Executive Members
 - Bill indicated a motion was passed at the January 14, 2024, Executive meeting increasing the Board by one with 2 members East and 2 members West.
 - Bill said terms of office would be 2 years with elections in even years (2024, 2026, 2028).
 - Questions on should there be a representative from Quebec, staggered elections and renewal of terms.

5. Corporate Changes–Future Annual General Meetings

- Bill indicated motions were passed at the January 14, 2024, Executive meeting having in person AGMs in even years (2024, 2026, 2028) with Executive elections taking place.
- In odd years (2025, 2027, 2029) there would be an abbreviated AGM via ZOOM as Industry Canada requests annual meetings.
- In the odd years, there would be conferences in the East and West with guest speakers, reports, etc.
- In odd years conferences could be held at any time to save costs
- Questions about locations out of Ottawa for in-person AGM and if ACER-CART would provide funds for conferences in odd years.

6. AGM 2024

- Bill explained the need for a special AGM at 1:00 PM on Thursday, June 6, 2024.
- Members were told meetings would be at CTF to save costs and there were no objections.
- Bill planned to make changes in Bylaws, Constitution and Protocols available to President, Directors, Alternates and Ex-Directors at the April ZOOM meeting.
- Bill said there would be a presentation by Gary Sawatzky (ARTA) on “The Top 10 Trends Affecting Benefits in Canada” on Thursday afternoon.
- AGM will take place at CTF Building Friday from 9:00 AM–4:00 PM.
- AGM Banquet would be at Delta Friday evening starting at 6:30 PM.

7. Priorities

- Bill indicated ACER-CART Committees will focus on 2 key issues this year–National Pharmacare Program and Aging in Place.
- Bill also said we will be continuing to work on the Strategic Plan.
- Questions about Ontario no longer member of national organization and will there be attempts to bring them back “in the fold.”
- Question also about continuing to work with CTF with Ontario’s withdrawal (Roger indicated CTF continues to support ACER-CART).

8. Strategic Plan (SWOT Analysis)

- Marilyn explained how this was used when the Western group met December 6-7, 2023.
- We are asking all Members to have a discussion with their Executive and complete the 4 boxes before the end of April 2024.
- The Executive will review the responses at their June 6, 2024, meeting.
- More work will be done in the fall of 2024.
- Sean Seywright (RTAM Executive Director) has volunteered to help in the analysis and determine our direction going forward.

9. PAC Initiative

- Lawrence reported on the two PAC meetings and the motions passed in particular support for a National Pharmacare Program.
- Using New Mode the decision was made to send the letter to the members, Member of Parliament, Member of the Legislative Assembly, Federal Minister of Seniors and Federal Minister of Health.
- More information will be sent after Marilyn and Tony have completed their work.
- Bill’s document will be posted on the ACER-CART website and can be posted on Member’s website and print productions.

- Bill explained his letter was similar to what he produced to explain to the RTO members what was at stake in supporting the petition to defeat Bill C-27.
10. Communications Committee
 - Marilyn reported on her committee's work in updating the website and looking at a publication to highlight ACER-CART events that Members can use on their website and print publications.
 11. Health Services Committee
 - Sharon reported on the work the Committee has provided on the need for a National Pharmacare Program that will be used in the New Mode advocacy.
 - Sharon indicated the next major project is working on Aging in Place.
 12. Pension and Retirement Income Committee
 - Roger reported on the survey sent to Members on the cost-of-living increases in their pension plan and is working on the implications of Alberta's decision to possibly leave CPP.
 13. Legislation Committee
 - Bill reported on updating the Constitution and Bylaws with the changes proposed by the Executive.
 - The expectation is that the documents will be ready to provide at the next Directors' meeting in early April.
 - These documents will need to be approved at the Special AGM on the afternoon of June 6, 2024.
 - There are no changes needed in the Belief Statements and the Executive approves changes in the Protocols.
 14. Nominations and Elections Committee
 - Roger will be sending application forms in April for the 2024 AGM elections.
 - The elections will be for President, Vice-President, 2 Regional Representatives West and 2 Regional Representatives East.
 - The election of one more Regional Representative West and East is dependent on changes in the corporate documents at the Special AGM on June 6, 2024.
 - A question was raised why not have staggered elections and this will be discussed at the March 25, 2024, Executive meeting.
 15. National Pensioners' Federation
 - Bill reported on an e-mail he received from Trish McAulife, President of the National Pensioners Federation.
 - Bill read the motion passed at the January 14, 2024, Executive meeting indicating ACER-CART agreed to have both organizations work collaboratively on national projects/issues affecting seniors in Canada.
 - A question was raised about having Members joining provincial branches on NPF and this will need to be discussed by the Executive.
 16. Motion to adjourn at 1:30 PM Eastern Time by Phyllis Horne.

Bill Berryman

Bill Berryman
President ACER-CART