**ACER-CART Directors Meeting**

**April 10, 2024**

1. Present: Marilyn Bossert Gabe Mercier

Gerry Tiede Joe Lafitte

Sharon Penney Grace Wilson

Bill Berryman David Denyar

Roger Regimbal Lawrence Hrycan

Alyson Hillier Helen Sukovieff

Ambrose White Jan Langelier

Bob Fitzpatrick Katherine Snow

Lise Morin Luc Handfield

Linda Blair Francoise Beaulieu

1. The meeting started at 11:05 AM Ottawa time
2. President’s Report – March 25, 2024 Executive Meeting

- Bill provided the Executive’s response to three issues that were discussed at the February 1, 2024 Directors meeting

* The Executive was not agreeable to having a designated officer from Quebec
* The Executive agreed to have the two-year terms of office renewable for consecutive terms
* The Executive reacted positively to member associations working with like-minded organizations at the provincial/regional level if there was a good fit and alignment between them, for example: the National Pensioners Federation, Canadian Health Coalition, National Association of Federal Retirees

- The Executive approved the 2024-2025 Priorities to be submitted to the AGM

- The Executive approved the Legislation Committee report and the agenda for the June 6-7, 2024 AGM

- The Executive had a discussion on the Canadian Dental Care Plan

1. Notes from the February 1, 2024 Directors meeting

- All members received copies of my notes from the meeting and there were no errors or omissions or any business arising

- Marilyn indicated she did a synopsis of the notes and posted a report under the Communications line on the website

1. Legislation Committee Report

- Bill and Roger provided details on the changes in the By-Laws, Constitution and Protocols due to motions from the January 14-15, 2024 Executive meeting

- Changes were made in the By-Laws, AGM and Board Meetings 6.05 and 8.03

- Changes were made in the Constitution Elections 10.1 (d)

- Changes were made in the Protocols Nomination 1(c)(d)(e)

1. Political Advocacy Committee

- Chair Lawrence Hrycan reported on the April 10, 2024 meeting

- Lawrence was pleased that Motion 3 (Moved by Gerry Tiede, seconded by Katherine Snow that the President of ACER-CART, Bill Berryman, write a follow up letter regarding National Pharmacare) was enacted

- Members received copies of my third President’s Message dated April 10, 2024 which emphasized the development of a national formulary of essential prescription drugs and provide for the development of a national bulk purchasing strategy. The letter also requested the expansion of the list of covered drugs to include antibiotics, cholesterol medicines, blood pressure medications and psychological medications such as antidepressants

- Lawrence reported that the next topic for the committee will be Ageing in Place in collaboration with the Health Services Committee

- There was also some discussion on the Canadian Dental Care Plan

1. SWOT Analysis

- Bill requested member associations to have their SWOT analysis completed by the end of May

- The Executive will begin reviewing the information at the June 6, 2024 Executive meeting in Ottawa

1. Dental Plan

- There was lively discussion on the lack of information and conflicting information in the Canadian Dental Care Plan

- There have been some exceptions made that do not cover all members who might have opted out of their dental insurance plan

- There is concern with many elderly retired members who opted out of their dental insurance plan due to affordability

- This could be grounds for discrimination whereby members had the insurance plan available to them at one time but they could not afford the premiums

- There was also concerns raised about dentists refusing to participate in the program and Alberta and Quebec opting out

- ACER-CART will be writing a letter to the 3 political parties asking the government to change the rules causing unfortunate confusion and consequences for many retirees with low incomes

- Gabe Mercier asked if there could possibly be a New Mode campaign on the dental plan

1. AGM 2024

- Roger updated the agendas for the AGM and requested members complete their

registration no later than April 20

- Roger requested that member organizations’ reports be submitted no

later than May 15

- Roger also provided details on the hotel and AGM meeting place

1. Other

- Bob Fitzpatrick requested copies of the priorities document that he could present to his NBSRT AGM in May

- Gabe Mercier and Bob also asked if short messages on ACER-CART happenings could be sent to the member organizations that could be included in their publications

- Marilyn will follow up and have discussions with the Communications Committee

- Alyson Hillier suggested member organizations share written materials among each other

- There was discussion on providing information on the Canadian Dental Care Plan to members, but there is concern at this time that we do not have all the information on the plan

1. The meeting adjourned at 12:30 PM Ottawa time