

Retired Teacher's Association of Manitoba (RTAM)

Report to ACER-CART AGM, June 6, 2025

Jayesh Maniar, President

Sean Seywright, our Executive Director, resigned and moved on to a more challenging position. We will miss his leadership, passion, and enthusiasm. We are in a process of hiring a new Executive Director.

At the AGM in November 2024, RTAM Membership approved a new special associate member classification, Education Community Member, that allows for non-teacher retiree who worked in an educational institution to join RTAM. They can not run for office of any position on the Board of Directors nor be a Committee Chair. We have already begun enrolling retired members from the University of Manitoba.

RTAM's Special Interest Groups (SIGs) are thriving. The SIGs are like Chapters, but aren't based on region, rather they are based on interests. SIGs include RTAM Choir and Club de Lecture Francophone (French book club). We are trying to set up an English Book Club but it is in the works.

RTAM's monthly electronic newsletter, E-Newsletter, helps improve frequency of communication with our members as our print magazine, The KIT, is a quarterly publication. The "e-news" goes to just over 8,000 of our 10,500 members and has a 75% or higher "open rate" each month. It has become a very popular vehicle for information sharing.

To encourage our Chapter Members to be more involved and active, RTAM will top each Chapter account to \$2,000.00 each July, starting in July 2025. This was well received by both Chapter leaders and their members.

RTAM has increased engagement with our political parties in Manitoba. We held a town hall with our members to engage with the Conservative and Liberal party representatives. We are in the process of planning a town hall with the NDP representatives in the Fall. RTAM Executive will be meeting with the new Minister of Education and Early Childhood Learning, Tracey Schmidt, later this June. We are also meeting with the Leader of the Liberal Party, Cindy Lamoureux, in June. After we learned of the communication RTOERO sent to our politicians, we sent all our political parties a letter that refuted Ontario's claim that they represent retired teachers in Manitoba or across Canada.

To increase member engagement and make partnerships in the community, RTAM was one of the sponsors of the IG Wealth Management Walk for Alzheimer's 2025. In June, The Winnipeg Goldeyes Club is honouring retired teachers and welcoming our members to the June 22 game. RTAM will offer our members a special tour in each of the two weeks, on August 5 and August 12, of our annual cultural festival, Folklorama. The annual golf tournament is scheduled for September 5. We are in the process of partnering with the Winnipeg Blue Bombers for the 2025 season.