

**Canadian Association of
Retired Teachers**

**Minutes of the 2023
Annual General Meeting**



Delta Hotel Ottawa

Thursday, June 1, 2023 – 1:00 pm

Friday, June 2, 2023 – 8:00 am

Canadian Teachers Federation

2490 Don Reid Drive, Ottawa, ON K1H 1E1

Thursday, June 6, 2024, –1:00 p.m.

Friday, June 7, 2024, –9:00 a.m.

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AGM Participants.....	A/11-12
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NOTE: These minutes reflect the business of the meeting only. They do not reflect what was said, except in special circumstances, or where required to support motions.



ACER-CART AGM MINUTES June 7, 2024

1. Welcome/Call to Order

President Bill Berryman called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

2. Agenda

- a) Approval of Agenda - [AGM24-T2-001](#)

**Moved by Gerry Tiede seconded by Marilyn Bossert
THAT the agenda be adopted as presented—CARRIED**

3. Conflicts of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

4. Adoption of the minutes of the 2023 AGM

- a) Approval of 2023 AGM Minutes - [AGM24-T3-001](#)

**Moved by Gerry Tiede seconded by Marilyn Bossert
THAT the minutes of the 2023 ACER-CART AGM held June 1-2, 2023, be approved as presented—CARRIED**

4. Business Arising from Minutes

- a) Disposition of the 2023 AGM Resolutions—AGM24-T4-001

M-1 2023—BCRTA - That ACER-CART priorities for 2023-2024 include the following:

- a. A continuation of the goal of establishing support mechanisms for seniors to “age in place” for as long as possible
- b. Advocacy for public control and the establishment of national standards for care homes
- c. A Universal Pharmacare Plan

M-3- BCRTA - That ACER-CART develop a campaign to push for a universal Pharmacare plan for all Canadians—Referred to PAC, included in advocacy goals.

No question was asked.

5. Correspondence

- a) List of correspondence sent/received was shared with participants—AGM24-T5-001 - Bill Berryman highlighted correspondence received from the Prime Minister’s Office and subsequently the Conservative Party Leader.

6. Financial

- a) 2021-22 Year-End Final Financial Report - AGM24-T6-001

Roger Régimbal shared that the financial situation is in good standing and provided a copy of the year-end financial report—no questions.



Moved by Gerry Tiede, seconded by Marilyn Bossert
THAT the Year End 2022-23 financial report be received—CARRIED

- b) 2023-24 Year to date Financial Report - AGM24-T6-002
- i. Roger Régimbal presented the 2023-24 financial report dated May 10, 2024.
 - ii. Roger Régimbal presented a long-range forecast on fees.
 - Question 1 - on the criteria for the Contingency Fund.
 - Response: Unforeseen expenses require this fund.
 - Question 2 - on long-range membership recruitment requirements by conducting a 5-year plan.
 - Response: Spreadsheet maintained to identify trends and further discussion.

Moved by Gerry Tiede, seconded by Marilyn Bossert
THAT the 2023-24 year to date Financial report be received.—CARRIED

- c) Presentation of the Budget 2024-25—[AGM24-T4-007c Revised](#)

Roger Régimbal presented the 2024-25 Budget.

- d) Membership Statistics - [AGM24-T6-004](#)

Roger Régimbal presented 2023-24 data. We have 88,234 members across the Country, and this represents an increase of 383 members from last year.

We had a drastic fall of our membership this year nevertheless; the remaining members did show an increase in their membership.

Attendees shared their concerns on the current membership numbers highlighted and on the number of recent deaths. Challenges, governance structures and access to information on retirees discussed.

A request was made for inclusion of trends from years past. The ED presented a document titled “ACER-CART Membership 2012-22” to track membership numbers year to year.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 PM and reconvened at 9:00 Am on June 7, 2025

7. Executive Reports

- a) **President -** [AGM24-T7-001](#)

Bill Berryman presented his report. A special thank you to Sharon, Marilyn, Gerry and Roger who have provided tremendous leadership to the organization after the Ontario Withdrawal. Appreciation was extended to Roger Régimbal, Executive Director for his diligence, experience, knowledge, and respectful advice. Bill provided members with a document developed by Sean Seywright (Executive Director RTAM) on the SWOT analysis provided by ten members.

- b) **Insurance—Key Facts—**[AGM24-T7-002B](#)

Roger Régimbal shared key facts of non-profit organization and charity highlights—policy



features from Markel International Insurance.

c) **Executive Director**—[AGM24-T7-002](#)

Roger Régimbal presented his report. He thanked members and the Executive for their diligence and friendship. This year started more business as usual. It took a drastic turn as one Member decided to withdraw. The Executive has held multiple meetings to face the new challenges. Committees are functioning at their best as they have more representative from across the country. Overall, we are stronger than we were one year ago. That is thanks to the work of the Executive, the committees and the members.

Moved by Gerry Tiede, Seconded by Marilyn Bossert
THAT the Executive reports be received. CARRIED

Moved by Gerry Tiede, Seconded by Marilyn Bossert
THAT the actions of the ACER-CART Executive since the 2023 AGM be approved.
CARRIED

8. Member Resolutions - [AGM23-T9-001](#)

- a) No resolutions received

9. Elections - [AGM24-T11-006](#) (timed item—10:45)

Gerry Tiede, past President and Chair of the Nominations and Election Committee presented the report. The chair called for nominations. None were received.

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| a) President: | Bill Berryman, RTO-NSTU |
| b) Vice-president: | Marilyn Bossert, ARTA |
| c) Regional Officer East: | Kathrine Snow, QPARSE |
| d) Regional Officer East: | Sharon Penney, RTANL |
| e) Regional Officer West: | Helen Sukovieff, STS |
| f) Regional Officer West: | Lawrence Hrycan, ARTA |

Moved by Gerry Tiede, seconded by Marilyn Bossert
THAT the slate of candidates be approved for the 2024-25 Executive Committee.
CARRIED

10. Member Reports

- a) Retired Teachers' Association of Newfoundland and Labrador (RTANL)—[AGM24-T10-001](#)—Joe Lafitte presented the report.
- b) Retired Teachers Organization of the Nova Scotia Teachers Union (RTO-NSTU)—[AGM24-T10-002](#)—Alyson Hillier presented the report.
- c) New Brunswick Society of Retired Teachers (NBSRT) - [AGM24-T10-003](#)—Rod Campbell presented the report. Added item—Getting their foot in the door with Pension and Benefit Boards.
- d) Société des enseignantes et enseignants retraités francophones du Nouveau-Brunswick (SERFNB) - [AGM24-T10-004](#) - Françoise Beaulieu presented the report.



- e) Prince Edward Island Retired Teachers' Association (PEIRTA) - [AGM24-T10-005 Lise Morin](#) presented the report.
- f) Québec Provincial Association of Retired School Educators/Association provinciale du personnel d'enseignement retraité du Québec (QPARSE/APPERQ) – [AGM24-T10-006 Katherine Snow](#) presented the report.
- g) Retired Teachers Association of Manitoba (RTAM) - [AGM24-T10-007](#) - Gabriel Mercier presented the report.
- a) Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan (STS) - [AGM24-T10-008](#) - Helen Sukovieff presented the report.
- b) Alberta Retired Teachers' Association (ARTA) - [AGM24-T10-009](#) - Deb Gerow presented the report.
- c) British Columbia Retired Teachers' Association (BCRTA) - [AGM24-T10-010](#)–David Denyer presented the report.
 - i. Added–relationship with the local Union and distribution of materials/information and
 - ii. access to information on retirees via blind communication.
- d) Québec Association of Retired Teachers (QART)–no report submitted.

General discussions:

- i. Distribution of Member information by hard copy versus electronically, due to the cost of mailing, updates, newsletters, travel, insurance, workshops, as well as discussing various transition options.
- ii. Roger Régimbal suggested and offered that if groups would like to share information and workshops amongst other groups; send it to him and what is received including upcoming events/workshops will be forwarded via email.
- iii. If a chapter was developed in Ontario, which would create the National designation.

Moved by Gerry Tiede, seconded by Marilyn Bossert
THAT the Member reports be received–[CARRIED](#)

11. Committee Reports

a) **Communications Committee** - [AGM24-T11-001](#)

Marilyn Bossert Chair of Communication committee presented the report and shared pertinent information on the website.

- i. In response to the request for current ACER-CART information going directly to the Members for use in their publications, the Communications Committee is examining two possibilities: (1) a one-page document that would be produced three or four times a year and (2) a one-topic document that would be shared in a timely manner, depending on the urgency of the issue. Challenges include (1) different Member publication deadlines, (2) determining who will write, edit, and proofread, and (3) determining how much vetting is necessary before it is shared. We welcome your suggestions, recommendations and feedback.
- ii. The website is a bilingual site.

b) **Health Services Committee** - [AGM24-T11-002](#)



Sharon Penney presented the report and highlighted the mandate of the Committee. As part of fulfilling the mandate, it was agreed that some of the articles received from the Canadian Health Coalition and the National Pensioners' Federation, which directly relate to the work of the Health Committee will be forwarded to the Communications Committee for inclusion on the website.

c) **Political Advocacy Committee** - [AGM24-T11-003](#)

Lawrence Hrycan, Chair of PAC presented the report and shared that the Political Advocacy Committee, with its new format, met for the first time on December 15, 2023. The Committee has expanded to include the Chairs of the Communications, Health Services, and the Pension and Retirement Income committees, the President of ACER-CART, and the Executive Director, Roger Régimbal, making a Committee of ten.

d) **Pension and Retirement Income Committee**—[AGM24-T11-004](#)

Gerry Tiede Chair of Pension and Retirement Income Committee presented the report and stated that achieving full cost-of-living-provisions continues to be an issue of concern for the Pension and Retirement Income Committee. While inflation has somewhat abated this past year, many of our members do not receive full indexing and their pensions continue to lose purchasing power. Receiving 1% less than the full-consumer price index in one year may be manageable, we need to remember that losing 1% each year, compounding over 25 years means a greater than 25% lose in your purchasing power.

Invitation to attendees for any interested individuals wishing to join the Committee.
Alan Laughlin to be added to the Committee report.

e) **Legislation Committee** - [AGM24-T11-005](#)

Bill Berryman Chair of the Legislation Committee presented the report. The proposed changes were adopted at the special AGM June 6, 2024.

Question raised on who is eligible to attend Directors meeting. Roger Régimbal provided a response.

Moved by Gerry Tiede, seconded by Marilyn Bossert

THAT the 2024 AGM acknowledge that RTOERO has withdrawn their membership from ACER-CART—[CARRIED](#)

f) **Nominations and Election Committee** - [AGM24-T11-006](#)

This item was dealt with in Item 9.

Moved by Gerry Tiede, seconded by Marilyn Bossert

THAT the Committee reports be received—[CARRIED](#)

12. Priorities 2024-2025

1. Priorities—[AGM24-T12-001](#)

ACER-CART will continue elevating the profile of our National Association in our provincial associations and at all levels of government and beyond.



Priority

ACER-CART will, in collaboration with like-minded organizations, to develop strategies for aging at home.

Strategies

- a. Advocate for the development and implementation of National Senior's Strategy which includes a universal national Pharmacare program and combats the move towards privatization;
- b. Advocate for a public health care system that prioritizes care **properly supported** in seniors' own homes for as long as possible;
- c. Support members in their efforts to achieve the full cost of living pension adjustments; and
- d. Complete the strategic plan.

Notation and highlights from discussions:

- Under b) added the words **properly supported**
- Bill Berryman highlighted a program in Nova Scotia called CAPABLE with three individual professionals to assess a safe home and decide if maintenance issues exist.
- Consider adding aging in the strategies for aging at home.

Moved by Gerry Tiede, seconded by Marilyn Bossert

Recommend that the Executive adopt the 2024-25 priorities as presented—CARRIED

13. Resolutions

a) Procedural Resolutions—[AGM24-T12-002](#)

All procedural motions were dealt with.

b) Executive Resolutions—[AGM24-T12-003](#)

All Executive resolutions were dealt with.

14. Adoption of the Budget—[AGM24-T4-007c](#)

Roger presented the amended budget.

Moved by Gerry Tiede, seconded by Marilyn Bossert

THAT the Budget 2024-25 be adopted as amended - CARRIED

15. New Business

- i. Discussion on the issue of "National voice of Retired Teachers"
- ii. RTO ERO withdrawal from ACER-CART—speaking on behalf of all retired Teachers at the United Nations. Risks - promotion, marketing, encroachment, pensions, benefits.
- iii. Ontario representation missing from ACER-CART.



16. Closing remarks, Bill Berryman thanked all involved on the Executive and in particular Roger Régimbal who does magic in organizing meetings.

It has been a challenging, but productive and rewarding year for ACER-CART. I believe the organization continues to be a vibrant and effective voice for retired teachers and seniors at a national level in Canada. We continue to be a powerful voice for our members and that will strengthen as we work collaboratively with the National Pensioners Federation on national projects/issues affecting seniors in Canada.

Information was tabulated by Sean Seywright, Executive Director Retired Teachers Association of Manitoba and will be used by the Executive over the next year in preparing the Strategic Plan.

Finally, a warm thank you for your attendance at this years' Annual General Meeting and your input on discussions that have taken place over the last day and a half. I want to give advance notice that there will be three (3) Directors meetings via ZOOM next year before the 2025 AGM.

I want to start by expressing my appreciation for the work our Executive after November 1st. It has been great to work with such interested, interesting and dedicated people. Our Executive meetings have been both productive and pleasurable.

We should all be especially appreciative of the work of our Executive Director, Roger Régimbal for his wise counsel, his expertise and knowledge of the organization and his respectful advice. I greatly admire his organizational skills in organizing this Annual General Meeting and acting as the ZOOM coordinator for the Executive, Director and Committee meetings.

I would also like to thank the members of our various committees who have worked diligently to prepare advice for the Executive and whose reports you have read in the AGM materials. This was the first year of restructured Political Advocacy Committee and its campaigns using the New Mode software.

I would also like to thank the Directors, Alternates, Presidents and Executive Directors who participated in our February 1, 2024, and April 10, 2024, Directors meetings. I want to especially thank you for conducting the SWOT analysis with your Executive.

Our hope is that the information emanating from these meetings will filter down to our 88,000 members to show that ACER-CART is a strong and unified organization.

Safe travels home and enjoy the banquet this evening.

17. Meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Moved by Gerry Tiede, seconded by Marilyn Bossert
THAT the ACER-CART 2024 assembly be adjourned - CARRIED



AGM 2024/AGA 2024
LIST OF PARTICIPANTS–[AGM24-T1-002](#)
LISTE DES PARTICIPANTES ET DES PARTICIPANTS

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Gerry Tiede, Past-President/Président sortant

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Regrets/Désolés

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