



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Update on a number of issues:

- the Toronto District School Board's Co-Management Team has *grandfathered retiree benefits premiums* for those who will have retired before 16 May, 2004. From this date, premiums will be based on usage of the retiree group. A significant increase in premiums is anticipated for new retirees who remain with the TDSB benefits plans after this date.
- OECTA awaits their Board's decision re non-Catholic TCDSB retirees supply teaching and standardized religious tests.
- your Executive has taken a position *opposing any move by RTO/ERO to direct monies to any charities*. We appreciate those who took the time to contact the President on this matter. All contacts were 100% in support of the Executive. We hope that other RTO/ERO Districts and Provincial Executive will be of like mind. Keep letting us know what you think!
- our **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Artisans'/Craft Show** participant Registration Form is found on Page 3.
- thanks to the 40-or-so Members who participated in the January Mailing ~ our next mailing is Thursday, May 27, 2004.
- your Executive will propose to the RTO/ERO Senate that District Goodwill Grants be turned over directly to Districts without the need for seeking approval from an external body.
- our combined **AGM and SPRING LUNCHEON** Registration Form is on page 7 - please consider attending both. Your Executive has lowered the cost of the Luncheon (it's subsidized by over \$7/person) and an information session on Estate Matters will be presented by lawyer Eric Bundgard from **Evenson, Bundgard, Flynn Lawyers**.

Now, about your Annual General Meeting. It is recognized that attending AGM's may rank in the negative portion of a scale measuring your favourite things to do. Your Executive has taken steps to try to make the event more attractive by removing it from being tied to the Luncheon itself (now you don't have to pay to attend). Light refreshments are provided, business is kept to a minimum (finance and elections) and a topical information session is arranged. Being an open meeting, it is another opportunity for Members to renew acquaintances while authorizing District initiatives.

Budget-wise, your District receives about \$10/member (\$33,000/year) to run the local organization (the 2003 Audit and 2004 proposed budget is found elsewhere in this Newsletter). Your Executive is of the view that Members' Fees should be available for use by the Members from whom it was collected; and that a large 'stash' of funds is inappropriate for an organization that is unlikely to have an emergent issue for which thousands of dollars will be required to remedy.

Therefore a deficit budget designed to start whittling down the current \$47,000 reserve is proposed for 2004. Your president's personal view is that the surplus should be gradually reduced to about a half-year's income.

Election-wise, the process has been to present a slate of officers for the AGM to approve (as may be amended with nominations from the floor). Our experience is that this is the most efficient way to carry on the selection of your Executive. Since a negative view of a 'slate' can be the appearance of an 'in-group' always being chosen, we have tried this year to handle the slate in a different way: we advertised in the January Newsletter for new executive members; we have published a slate in this Newsletter and encourage those wishing to participate to contact **Bob Neal** (416. 694.9683).

As we go to print, there will be an election for Members-at-Large. Job descriptions for the various executive positions are available on our website ([www.rtoerotorontodistricts.org](http://www.rtoerotorontodistricts.org)). Remember, we are thankful to those who serve multiple years ~ they add a stability to the on-going business of the District. Some Districts elect multi-year executives. **(Cont'd. P4)**

### DATES TO REMEMBER ~ 2004

**Executive Meetings** ~ April 8, May 13

**Newsletter Deadline** ~ May 1, September 1

**Newsletter Mailing** ~ May 27, September 30

**Annual General Meeting** ~ May 4, 2004

**SPRING LUNCHEON** ~ Tuesday May 4 (details page 7)

**WINSTON CHURCHILL COL.** 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion ~ May 28/29, 2004

**ARTISANS' SHOW/FALL LUNCHEON** ~ October 18, 2004

**NEW MEMBER BREAKFAST** ~ December 1, 2004

RTO/ERO District 16 Executive 2002 ~ 2004

**President:** Bill Menagh

**Second Vice-President:** Peter Morris

**Secretary:** Mary Ann Fedchak

**Goodwill:** Sue Booker

**Mailing:** Arlene Freeman

**Retirement/Pension:** John Bratton

**Past President:** Bob Neal

**Third Vice-President:** Charles Carr

**Archives:** Rosalina E. Bustamante

**Hospitality:** Anne Fraser

**Membership/Recruitment:** Charles Carr

**Social/Recreation - Club 16:** Val Fiedler

**First Vice-President:** Kay Jeffery

**Treasurer:** Robert Putnam

**Communications:** Paul Rowney

**Health/Insurance:** Bill Tajer

**Political Action:** Pat Carson

**Travel:** Jack De Groot

**Members-at-Large:** Ian Baird Marjorie Blake Loeland Parliament David Shanoff Shirley Young

**CLUB 16 ~ Val Fiedler, Co-Ordinator ~ 416.510.1861**

SPRING IS HERE... at least I think so, by the grass I see, and the puddles of melting snow... so it's time for you to take that walk, run, or stroll and renew yourself. It's also time to continue your activities with Club 16. Bring a friend to make crafts, see a travelogue or enjoy a game of bridge. We'd love to see you. The BRIDGE, CRAFTS and TRAVELOGUE programs are held at St. Margaret's Anglican Church on Avenue Road at Burnaby (one block north of Eglinton). Call the Convenors for the location of the other programmes.

**MARCH 2004**

**BRIDGE**            March 30            Tuesday    1:00pm            Convenor: **John Lane**    416.486.0697

**APRIL 2004**

**BRIDGE**            April 6, 20            Tuesdays    1:00pm            Convenor: **John Lane**    416.486.0697

**CRAFTS**            April 27            Wednesday    1:30pm            Convenor: **Bernice Iles**    416.651.4378

**TRAVELOGUE**    April 28            Wednesday    1:30pm            Convenor: **Val Fiedler**    416.510.1861

*Sojourn in Utopia... Teaching in France, 1958* Presented by **June Knudsen**

**MAY 2004**

**BRIDGE**            MAY 4, 18            Tuesdays    1:00pm            Convenor: **John Lane**    416.486.0697

**CRAFTS**            May 25            Tuesday       1:30pm            Convenor: **Bernice Iles**    416.651.4378

**TRAVELOGUE**    May 26            Wednesday    1:30pm            Convenor: **Val Fiedler**    416.510.1861

*Enjoying South East Asia... Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia and Hong Kong* Presented by **Val/Dennis Fiedler**

**BOOK CLUB** ~ Meetings are on the first Monday of each month from 1:00pm to 3:00pm and the group selects different authors each month. These are the selections upcoming:

APRIL            ~ *The Colony of Unrequited Dreams*            Wayne Johnston

MAY             ~ *The Life of Pi*                                        Yann Martel

JUNE            ~ *Nobody's Fool*                                     Richard Russo

For further information, call **Joan Johnston** at 416.691.5368 or **Elaine MacIntosh** at 416.463.2637

**MOVIE CLUB** ~ Our group is having a great time. If you would like to start another group, to attend films in the afternoons or in the evening, call **Brenda Wilson** 905.640.6549 or **Kelly Todesco** 416.693.0216 for information.

**SUPER TEES GOLF GROUP** ~ The opening date has arrived... hurrah. April 28, weather permitting, the opening game will be held at Fox Run Course, Hunter's Glen. **Rosalie Parente** is our Convenor and tells me that 20 people have already joined and have had great fun. Call her at 905.856.6936 for more detailed information.

**FRENCH CLUB** ~ **Céline Lalancette** has offered to restart our French club/group class. The opportunity is here for you to brush up on your conversational French or to increase your present knowledge of the language. The club's purpose will be defined by the participants. Call **Céline** at 416.699.1800 for details.

**ART/SKETCH GROUP** ~ This cold winter weather has not been kind to those wishing to sketch, but don't worry, the time has now come for you to get out and enjoy Toronto's lovely architecture and scenery. Take your sketch pad, watercolours, fold-up seat (if available), any of your favourite art materials and meet the Convenor, **Anita Davies** inside the front door of UNION STATION, on Thursday, April 15 at 10am. You will have a good time, and perhaps enjoy a lunch together to follow. Call **Anita** at 416.531.3408 early in April for further information or details.

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**SPECIAL HIKING NOTICE ~ Canopy Walk in the Haliburton Forest and Wildlife Reserve**

Wednesday, September 29, 2004 from 1:30 to 5:30pm This 4-hour excursion includes a guided van tour of the forest, a short voyageur canoe ride, the ½-kilometre canopy boardwalk and a tour of the wolf centre ~ all in the Haliburton Forest about 3½ hours north of Toronto. The cost is \$75 per person (12 or more) and \$85 if fewer than 12 (snack included). \$25 per person will secure your spot, cheque payable to Judy Cole. The remainder is paid to Haliburton Forest the day of the excursion. The deposit is refundable *only* if someone can take your spot. People wishing to stay overnight can make their own arrangements. Cabins and camping are available at Haliburton Forest. Check out the website at [www.haliburtonforest.com](http://www.haliburtonforest.com) or call **Judy Cole** at 416.604.9507. For reservations call **Judy** between April 2 and 15 only.

### AUTUMN 2004 DAYTRIPS

Two more daytrips have been planned for your pleasure. Please contact Jack DeGroot as indicated below. If your booking is firm, please send a deposit (payable to CLUB 16) of \$40.00/ticket to:

**Jack DeGroot, 19 Elmview Drive, Scarborough, ON M1N 2W3**  
*Cheques are payable to CLUB 16. N.B. Ordering of tickets begins at 8:00am*

**ROYAL MAIL SHIP SEGWUN - Fall Colours Galore** Cost: \$60.00  
Wednesday, September 22, 2004 - enjoy a luncheon/cruise of this beautifully refurbished steamship  
For SEGWUN reservations, call **Jack DeGroot** at 416.691.3046 on *Friday, April 2, 2004 beginning at 8:00am.*

**ST. JACOBS & SCHOOLHOUSE THEATRE & DINNER** Cost: \$87.00  
Thursday, November 18, 2004 - enjoy the Farmers' Market and 'It Runs in the Family' (a madcap, medical farce)  
For ST. JACOBS reservations, call **Jack DeGroot** at 416.691.3046 on *Friday, April 2, 2004 beginning at 8:00am.*

All trips listed above include your theatre ticket, transportation by motor coach, two meals and all gratuities and taxes. Look for more trips in your next newsletter.

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Many of you have expressed an interest in more extensive and long-stay holidays. You are encouraged to contact **TRAVEL GUILD INC.**, official affinity program supplier to RTO/ERO. Their telephone number is 905.760.9229 or 1.800.268.4284 or you can visit their website at [www.travelguild.com](http://www.travelguild.com)

### THANKS TO ANN FRASER AND VAL FIEDLER



**Ann Fraser**, for health reasons, is departing your Executive after 23 years of selfless service in three different positions, mostly Hospitality. Her gracious manner and friendliness to all will be sorely missed. It has been an honour for anyone to have worked with her.



**Val Fiedler** has completed 9 years on your Executive as Club 16 and Membership Chair - sometimes both at once. She has also organized our monthly Travelogue presentations. She is pursuing other interests with husband, Dennis. Her tireless skills have benefitted many.

### RTO/ERO TORONTO 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL CRAFT/ARTISANS' SHOW

We were so pleased with the success of our first annual Craft Show that we're doing it again. **Mary Ann Fedchak** (905.624.4316) and her committee have volunteered to be responsible. If you would like to participate in this activity, complete the form below and forward it as indicated. A copy of this form will appear on our website and in subsequent Newsletters as space permits. If your product is too big, consider having photos and be ready to take orders. This event, at The Old Mill, will take place on Monday, October 18, 2004 from about 10:00am to 2:00pm. Set-up details will be sent separately to registrants. There is room for 30 participants. Space will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Should multiple Registration Forms arrive on the same date, post-mark dates will determine order of receipt. A waiting list will be kept should a registrant drop out. **While there is no charge for participants who must be RTO/ERO District 16 Members, participants will be required to register for the Fall Luncheon (a subsidized cost of about \$25).**

Photos of product will be available on our website ([www.rtoerotorontodistricts.org](http://www.rtoerotorontodistricts.org)) and in a catalogue to be included in the September Newsletter and distributed at the event.

\* \* \* \* \*

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION: \_\_\_\_\_

(Forward a good quality photo of your product for our catalogue ~ we may not be able to return it.)

Send to: **Bill Menagh**, 674 Oriole Pky, Toronto ON M4R 2C5 Phone: 416.488.3372 Email: [bmenagh@eol.ca](mailto:bmenagh@eol.ca)

## REMEMBER THE AGM AND SPRING LUNCHEON

Your AGM will be held on Tuesday, May 4, 2004 at The Old Mill. The Registration Form is on page 7. Your Executive has determined that there be an information session about legal matters pertinent to retirees ~ wills, powers of attorney, consent/capacity issues, etc. Light refreshment will be available. Come early to speak to Executive members to minimize business arising from the floor. There will be three draw prizes for the AGM and three more at the Luncheon.

### HIKING SCHEDULE

Our hikes are non-strenuous walks exploring the Bruce Trail or Toronto's parks and ravines. New members are very welcome. Please call the hike leader to get detailed information and to register for the walk.

- Wednesday, March 31 at 1:00pm (This an afternoon walk)  
*Neilson Park to Centennial Park* with a visit and rest stop at the arboretum.  
Meet in the parking lot at the Neilson Park Creative Centre. **Bill and Nancy Rose** 416.233.9979
- Wednesday, April 14 at 10:00am  
*Dufferin Quarry Bridge* (Milton area) **Marianne Psica** 416.499.0324
- Friday, April 30 at 1:00pm (Note: This is an afternoon walk)  
*Old Mill to Humber Bay Park East and the Butterfly Habitat and Garden*  
Meet at the Old Mill subway station **Bill and Nancy Rose** 416.233.9979
- Wednesday, May 5 at 10:00am  
*Hilton Falls* (Milton area) **Marianne Psica** 416.499.0324
- Wednesday, May 19 at 10:45 (Note: Ferry leaves promptly at 11:00am)  
*Toronto Island*. Meet at the ferry docks at the foot of Bay Street **Alan Warren** 416.486.6334 (4-6pm)
- Monday, May 31 at 1:00pm (This is an afternoon walk)  
*Old Mill through Lambton Woods to James Gardens and Etienne Brulé Park*.  
Meet at the Old Mill subway station. **Bill and Nancy Rose** 416.233.9979
- Wednesday, June 16 at 10:00am  
*Niagara Wine Region* with an optional lunch and/or wine tasting at Vineland Estates.  
Reservations are required for this hike. **Keith Pankhurst** 416.757.0365
- Thursday, June 24 at 10:30am  
*Rouge Valley* **Jon and Lynda Mason** 416.759.3131

### TSSAA GOLF TOURNAMENT 2004

Following the success of our 100th Anniversary Reunion we have planned another golf tournament.

**Date:** Friday June 25, 2004    **Location:** Bushwood Golf Club    **Time:** Golf Registration at 12:00N  
**Tee Off:** 1:00pm (Best ball or Scramble)    **Cost:** Golf and Social: \$75.00    **Social only:** \$40.00  
**Social:** Grilled Sirloin Steak Dinner, at the Clubhouse, beginning at 6:30pm    **Register by June 15<sup>th</sup>**  
For information/registration, go [www.ntci.on.ca](http://www.ntci.on.ca) (follow the TSSAA Reunion Golf link) or contact Peter Stille at [stille106@rogers.com](mailto:stille106@rogers.com) or 416.636.6812.

### Presidents' Message Continued

On a related matter, a replacement is needed for **Val Fiedler**, retiring from her position as Convenor of the Travelogue Group. Responsibilities include lining up guest presenters for a monthly presentation and posting information in our Newsletter. For information, contact **Val** at 416.510.1861.

Speaking of Travelogues, your president went to Uzbekistan and Kirgystan on The Silk Road (via St. Margaret's) in February and met former District 16 President and RTO/ERO President **Al Robb** (pictured to your right) trudging along - amongst others of course. It sure is a small world!



### Your Executive - 2002/04



*In No Particular Order, in fact, some are missing:*  
Shirley Young, David Shanoff, Loeland Parliament, Marjorie Blake, Ian Baird, Jack De Groot, Pat Carson, Bill Tajer, Paul Rowney, Kay Jeffery, Bob Putnam, Val Fiedler, Bob Neal, Chuck Carr, Anne Fraser, Rosalina Bustamante, John Bratton, Arlene Freeman, Sue Booker, Mary Ann Fedchak, Peter Morris, Bill Menagh



## ~ PENSION INFORMATION ~

### Teachers' Pension Plan (TPP)/Canada Pension Plan (CPP) Old Age Security (OAS)/Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) Supplement to RTO/ERO Toronto Newsletter, March, 2004



The following material is supplied to remind members of information related to pension opportunities. The material is also available at the respective websites and through contact information supplied below.

#### **SPOUSAL PENSIONS (TPP)**

Members may have selected a 10-year guarantee option in exchange for a nominal reduction in pension. With this option, if you die within 10 years of the start of your pension, your full pension, less the CPP reduction, will be paid to your spouse for the balance of the 10 years. After, your eligible spouse receives the percent of pension chosen at retirement. Spousal pensions cannot be increased or decreased after you retire and are only payable to the surviving spouse you were living with when your pension started.

To minimize the disruption in pension payments, a spouse or family member should call us as soon as possible to report the death of a member.

After we confirmation of the spouse's eligibility, a package containing the information the spouse needs to apply for a pension is provided. This includes a few simple forms to complete, plus a reminder to contact the Ontario Teachers' Insurance Plan or Johnson Inc. to arrange for continued health insurance as necessary.

In addition to the completed forms, a copy of the member's death certificate or funeral director's statement of death and a void cheque for the new account where the pension will be deposited is required.

Usually a survivor pension begins the month after receipt of all the required forms and supporting documents, but advice of the amount payable is available almost right away.

*Sometimes a spouse takes months to notify us of the member's death because pension payments continue to be available through a joint account. But the delay could cause financial problems because the spouse must repay any pension paid to the deceased member after the month of death.*

#### **CANADA PENSION PLAN (CPP) AND YOUR TEACHERS' PENSION PLAN**

As with most pension plans in the country, the Teachers' Pension Plan is designed to work with the Canada Pension Plan (CPP). When you turn 65 (or when you begin receiving a CPP disability pension) your teachers' pension is reduced by an amount similar to the pension you'll receive from CPP. If you don't take your CPP pension early, the amount of the teachers' pension you receive before age 65 should be about the same as your combined teachers' and unreduced CPP pensions after age 65.

You may be eligible to begin collecting a reduced CPP pension at age 60. Your teachers' pension will be reduced at 65 by an amount roughly equivalent to the unreduced CPP pension you would have received at age 65. The CPP Offset is the amount your teachers' pension is reduced when you turn 65. You're eligible to take a *reduced* CPP pension after age 60 *without* affecting your teachers' pension.

Deciding when to take your CPP pension is a personal decision. You can choose to take a reduced CPP pension early, or wait until 65 to collect your unreduced CPP pension. The CPP is reduced by 0.5%/month received before age 65 (i.e: take CPP at age 60 and it is reduced 30%.) Note there is a yearly cost of living increase.

To obtain an estimate of your reduced and unreduced CPP pensions, contact your local office of Human Resources Development Canada.

#### **OLD AGE SECURITY PENSION (OAS)**

The Old Age Security pension is a monthly payment available to most Canadians aged 65 or older. It also provides for cost-of-living increases. *You must apply to receive benefits.* If you meet the eligibility requirements explained below, you may be entitled to receive the Old Age Security pension even if you are still working or have never worked. Your age and your years of residence in Canada determine if you can receive the Old Age Security pension.

You should apply for the Old Age Security pension six months before you turn 65. Normally, you must apply on your own behalf. If you are applying for someone else, please contact us for more information.

You will have to provide up to two kinds of documents with your application: Birth or baptismal certificate - if born in Canada; Citizenship or immigration documents - if you were not born in Canada.

**RETAIN  
INSERT FOR  
REFERENCE**

## GUARANTEED INCOME SUPPLEMENT (GIS)

In addition to the basic OAS pension, *low-income seniors* may qualify for other retirement benefits such as the Guaranteed Income Supplement, and the Allowance which includes the Allowance for the survivor. These benefits are based on income and marital status. *You must apply for them.* If you are single and have an income less than \$13200 (not counting the OAS Pension, you may be qualified for the GIS. The GIS is based on yearly income so if you do not qualify one year, you might in another. One must renew their GIS - easily done by filing an income tax return by April 30.

## OTHER PUBLIC RETIREMENT BENEFITS

Disability benefits and survivor benefits are also available under the Canada Pension Plan and the Quebec Pension Plan if sufficient contributions have been made. You must apply to receive any of these benefits.

You may be entitled to benefits under the Employment Insurance Program or from other federal programs such as War Veterans Allowances from Veterans Affairs Canada.

### SUMMARY OF TEACHERS' AND GOVERNMENT PENSIONS

AGE	TPP	CPP	OAS	GIS
To age 59	pension as at retirement	not available	not available	not available
At age 60	pension as at retirement	may be eligible for reduced CPP	not available	spousal allowance available
At age 65 +	reduced by amount of unreduced CPP	eligible for unreduced CPP	eligible but clawback begins ~\$55300	GIS + survivor allowance available

### PENSION CONTACT INFORMATION

#### TPP

416-226-2700 or 1-800-668-0105  
weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.  
www.otpp.com

#### CPP

1.877.454.4051  
1.800.255.4786 (TTD/TTY)  
www.hrdc-drhc.gc.ca/isp

#### OAS/GIS

1.800.277.9914  
1.800.255.4786 (TTD/TTY)  
www.hrdc.gc.ca/isp

**RETAIN  
INSERT FOR  
REFERENCE**

You can print an application kit from the HRDC Forms Web site.  
Phone to request that a kit be mailed to you.

### IS YOUR TEACHERS' PENSION PLAN SAFE? YES!

There has been some media coverage recently regarding the security of *some* pensions (Air Canada, Stelco, etc.). You can be reassured regarding the safety of your Teachers' Pension Plan (TPP). It is a Defined Benefit Pension Plan whereby the legal responsibility to retirees is to provide pension payments in accordance with the terms of the plan on the date that the individual retired. (Plan sponsors are under no obligation to make any change [improvement or reduction] to benefits being paid to pensioners). The legal protection for retirees resides in the Ontario Pension Benefits Act ~ 'an amendment to a pension plan is void if the amendment purports to reduce the amount or commuted value of a pension or deferred pension accrued under the pension plan'. Should the Plan be in a deficit, all pensions in pay remain secure.

The Teachers' Pension Plan is a full partnership between the Ontario Teachers' Federation (OTF) and the government for the management, governance, design, administration and funding. The OTF represents all members of the pension plan in the administration of the plan and the management of the pension fund (Teaching Profession Act). OTF has a fiduciary duty to all members of the Plan and obtains input from all members through their professional organizations, even if they are not members of OTF (e.g. principals, supervisory officers, some private institutions, etc.) RTO/ERO's Executive Director is a member of the OTF Pension Committee.

The current reality for active teachers is that if the plan is in a deficit position at the time of a required filing, active teachers and the government must eliminate the deficit by either or both a contribution rate increase or/and a reduction in benefits for future retirees. The next required filing is January, 2006.

Today's economic climate would indicate that improvements for current retirees, as last occurred in 2001, are not anticipated in the foreseeable future.

**PROPOSED RTO/ERO TORONTO BUDGET ~ 2004 (recommended by your Executive)**

	<b>Budget<sup>1</sup> 2003</b>	<b>Audit<sup>1</sup> 2003</b>	<b>Budget 2004</b>
<b>Income</b>			
RTO/ERO Provincial Fee Rebate	33 000.00	33 462.59	36 500.00
Subscriptions	74.00	30.00	30.00
Interest	1 000.00	677.87	600.00
Donations	10.00	20.00	20.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>34 084.00</b>	<b>34 190.36</b>	<b>37 150.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Annual General Meeting	1 200.00	1 678.30	2 200.00
Bank Charges	50.00	85.85	60.00
Legal and Audit	200.00	0.00	200.00
Club 16			
Rentals St. Margaret's	2 000.00	2 000.00	2 000.00
Day Trips	100.00	0.00	100.00
Refreshments	500.00	167.43	400.00
Equipment	200.00	0.00	200.00
Contingency	250.00	33.94	250.00
Senate/Workshops	0.00	475.94	1 000.00
Executive Meetings	700.00	335.27	500.00
Fall Luncheon	500.00	560.31	1 000.00
Craft Show	0.00	999.95	1 000.00
Goodwill	500.00	751.00	1 000.00
Membership	500.00	136.86	500.00
Newsletter	16 600.00	18 259.58 <sup>1</sup>	17 000.00
Office Expenses	300.00	625.47	700.00
RTO/ERO 16 Web Site	300.00	267.50	0.00 <sup>2</sup>
Spring Luncheon	600.00	491.75	1 000.00
Rentals St. Margaret's Church	1200.00	1 200.00	1 400.00
New Member Breakfast	2 500.00	2 286.92	2 500.00
Political Action	500.00	175.21	500.00
Service to Others	4 000.00	2 100.00	5 000.00
Toronto Districts	1 600.00	1 615.20	1 800.00 <sup>2</sup>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>34 200.00</b>	<b>34 210.20</b>	<b>40 510.00</b>
Contingency	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>BALANCE</b>	<b>- 116.00</b>	<b>- 19.84</b>	<b>- 3 360.00</b>
<b>RESERVES</b>			
GIC Can Trust	20 000.00	20 000.00	20 000.00
GIC Club 16	10 000.00	10 000.00	10 000.00
CLub 16 Trips Operating Capital	2 115.17	5 930.75	5 000.00
<b>Total December 31, 2003</b>	<b>32 115.17</b>	<b>35 930.75</b>	<b>35 000.00</b>

**Notes re Budget :**

- 1 The Toronto District School Board billed District 16 for the printing costs of the September, 2002 and November, 2002 Newsletters too late for inclusion in the audit for 2002. This amount (~\$2 000) appears in the 2003 audit.
- 2 Joint Toronto Districts Website paid via 'Toronto District' line.

**Audit : Total Assets as of 12 December, 2003 are \$47 366.21**

Complete File of Reports and Auditor's Report available at Annual General Meeting.

## RTO/ERO DISTRICT 16 EXECUTIVE NOMINEES, SPRING, 2004 ~ Spring, 2005

This Slate may be amended by the time the AGM occurs. Should you wish to join your executive in one of the vacant positions, please contact **Bob Neal** at 416.694.9683 or [bneal@sympatico.ca](mailto:bneal@sympatico.ca). Constitutional amendments (below) will be recommended to make slight changes in the structure of your executive. *Nominations from the floor are accepted.*

POSITION	No Constitution Amendments	With Amendments ( <i>Recommended</i> )
Past President ~	Bob Neal	Bob Neal
President ~	Bill Menagh	Bill Menagh
First Vice-President/Program ~	Kay Jeffery	Kay Jeffery
Second Vice-President ~	John Bratton	John Bratton
Third Vice-President ~	vacant	n/a
Treasurer ~	Bob Putnam	Bob Putnam
Secretary ~	Mary Ann Fedchak	Mary Ann Fedchak
Archives ~	Rosalina Bustamante	Rosalina Bustamante
Communications Chair ~	Paul Rowney	Paul Rowney
Goodwill Chair ~	Sue Booker	Sue Booker
Health Services and Insurance Chair ~	Bill Tajer	Bill Tajer
Hospitality Chair ~	vacant	n/a
Mailing Chair ~	Arlene Freeman	Arlene Freeman
Membership ~	Charles Carr	Charles Carr
Political Action ~	Pat Carson	Pat Carson
Retirement/Pension Concerns Chair ~	David Shanoff	David Shanoff
Social/Recreation (Club 16) Chair ~	Valerie Mah	Valerie Mah
Travel Chair ~	Jack De Groot	Jack De Groot
Members-at-Large: ( <i>'up to five'</i> required by Constitution)	Ian Baird, Marjorie Blake, Tom Castor, Linda Grieve, Carmelita Salazar, Shirley Young	Ian Baird, Marjorie Blake, Tom Castor, Linda Grieve, Carmelita Salazar, Shirley Young

### CURRENT CONSTITUTION

**2.01.02** three Vice-Presidents;

**3.06.04** *Removal* - Any member of the Executive may be removed from office by resolution passed by at least three-quarters of the Executive, provided that notice specifying the intention to pass such a resolution has been given at least thirty days in advance to any meeting held at which such motion is presented.

**6.01** *The First Vice-President* shall perform the duties of the President when the President is unable to carry out such duties, and shall also chair the Resolutions Committee.

**6.02** *Second Vice-President* shall perform the duties of the President or First Vice-President if neither is available, and also chair the Program Committee.

**6.03** *Third Vice-President* shall perform the duties of the President or First Vice-President or Second Vice-President if they are not available, and shall chair the Constitution Committee.

**9.02.05** The Hospitality Committee:

**9.02.05.01** shall provide refreshments for Executive Meetings and to assist in planning District Membership Meetings.

**9.02.07** The Membership Committee:

### PROPOSED AMENDMENTS ~ May, 2004

**2.01.02** **two** Vice-Presidents; (third position redundant; chances of the past-president, president and two vice-president being unavailable are low; see duties)

**3.06.04** This was NOT included as a specific motion when originally presented in May, 2003 and is re-presented here for proper disposition.

**6.01** *The First Vice-President* shall perform the duties of the President when the President is unable to carry out such duties, and shall also chair the **Program** Committee.

**6.02** *Second Vice-President* shall perform the duties of the President or First Vice-President if neither is available, and also chair the **Executive Committees (Awards, Constitution, Resolutions)**.

**6.03** *Third Vice-President* **delete**

**9.02.05** The Hospitality Committee: **delete** (function included under Program Ctte and Social/Rec Ctte)

**9.02.07** The Membership/**Recruitment** Committee:



## Minding Your Money - Annual Tax Tips ~ Chuck Carr

**File It Or Lose It!** Many taxpayers who have no taxes payable do not file a tax return. This is most unwise! Not only do they lose the GST and Ontario tax rebates that are available to low/no income taxpayers, but, if they are part of a family, (including common law and same gender couples) they prevent the transferring of tax credits to the higher-income taxpayer. If you have a child/grandchild 16 years or older, that child should submit a tax return to claim the Ontario Tax Credit and, if 19 years old, the GST rebate. Failing to file a tax return complicates the tax return for the year of death.

**Income Splitting:** Income splitting (including tax credit transfers) is probably the most fertile area for tax reduction. You will be amazed at the number of items that may be transferred among family members, *after* they are no longer needed to reduce the lower-income taxpayer's *Tax Payable* (Line 435) to *zero*. Such transferable items include: Age Amount, Attendant Costs, Charitable Donations, Child Tax Credit, CPP, Disability Amount, Education Amount, GST Credit, Medical Expenses, Pension Amount, Political Donations, Provincial Credits, Spousal Amount, Tuition Fees and Canadian Taxable Dividends Credit.

Lending money to a family member is an excellent way of splitting income. However, it must be done very carefully with meticulous records kept or the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency (CCRA) might disallow the loan and attribute the income earned back to the lender. A family member, usually the highest income earner, may lend money to another family member to invest. A formal contract must be drawn up and the CCRA prescribed rate of interest charged. The income from investing the money received as a loan is reported and taxes paid on that amount by the family member who received the loan. The interest received from the loan must be reported by the lender. Reference CCRA Interpretation Bulletin IT-510 and IT 511.

**Charitable Donations:** Charitable donations and medical expenses merit special attention. Both may be claimed by *either* spouse, and, in addition, have special characteristics. Charitable donations may be accumulated for up to five years and claimed up to 75% of Net Income (100% in the year of death). Choose the claimant who will provide the better *family* tax credit.

**Medical Expenses:** Medical expenses may be claimed for *any* 12 month period ending in the tax year. This allows taxpayers to choose the most costly 12 months to claim expenses, e.g. If a taxpayer experienced large medical expenses from July to September in 2XXX, he/she could designate July 1, 2XXX to June 30, 2XXY as the fiscal year for medical expenses. **Note:** Only expenses that have *not* been reimbursed are eligible, and the total of such expenses must exceed the *lesser* of \$1,728 or 3% of Net Income to generate a credit. Eligible expenses include premiums paid to non-governmental, medical or hospital care plans in 2003, e.g. your portion of your Health Benefits plan and any travel insurance that you have paid. Don't forget the \$100 deductible you pay if you are 65 or over and the deductible portion of all prescriptions. Johnson Inc. provides RTO members with a totalled summary of all deductibles.

**Claiming Tuition Fees:** Students attending post secondary education and students who have been IPRCed may claim tuition/tutoring fees on their income tax returns. In each case you will need to submit either a T2202A from the educational institution or a copy of the IPRC letter that confirms that your child is exceptional. For students attending university outside Canada, obtain two forms from CCRA – *Education Amount Certificate (T2202E)* and *Tuition Certificate – University Outside Canada (TL11A)*. Be sure to instruct the university to complete column C (Number of months for full time credit) on the Education Amount Certificate. In all cases, the children must submit their own tax returns and complete the back of the T 2202A/TL11A form to transfer their unused tuition fee and education amount to the higher earning taxpayer. An accompanying letter to CCRA to explain the T2202E and TL11A forms would help in processing these forms.

**Long Term Tax Planning for Young Children:** Parents with children or grandchildren, nieces or nephews eight years or older may wish to engage in long-term tax planning to reduce taxes in both the short and long term. Stated simply, the concept involves attributing money to children eight years or older, assigning tasks that they must perform to *earn* this money and keeping records on how the money is spent. The children submit tax returns starting at age eight and begin building up *unused* RRSP room that will be used later when they earn money to help pay for their post secondary education. When the post secondary aged children's income exceeds their personal amount deduction and they have to pay taxes, the children buy just enough RRSPs to reduce their taxes payable to zero and then may transfer their tuition fees and education amount to the higher tax-paying parent.

**Disability Credit:** If you (your spouse, relative or loved one) have experienced a severe trauma, (e.g. heart attack, stroke, Alzheimer's) or severe health deterioration that leads to an *enduring disability* (You must be markedly restricted all or most of the time.) in hearing, seeing, speaking, walking, thinking, loss of bladder or bowel control, ability to dress, or feed oneself, perceive, think or remember, then you are eligible for a disability credit. Have a CCRA form T2201 signed by a qualified medical doctor, optometrist, audiologist, psychologist or occupational therapist.

**Attendant Care Credit:** New this year, retirement home residents, who have had a T2201, Disability Tax Credit form signed may now claim up to an additional \$10,000 for attendant care credits on top of their medical expenses.

**Tax Shelters:** Tax shelters are investment vehicles that defer taxes until you withdraw money from the shelter. Common tax shelters include RRSPs, RRIFs and RESPs. A *sheltered* investment of \$10,000 returning 8% for 25 years will be worth \$68,485. An unsheltered investment of \$10,000 returning 8% for 25 years in a 40% tax bracket will be worth \$32,387. Maximize your RRSPs. Tell your children.

**RRSPs:** RRSPs represent the single most effective method of reducing taxes payable. RRSP contributions provide a dollar-for-dollar reduction in taxes payable. At the same time, your RRSP investments compound exponentially because they are sheltered from taxation. It is a serious investment error not to maximize RRSP contributions. RRSPs *defer* income taxes until a later date when your marginal tax rate is lower. If you have unused RRSP contribution room, use it up before you turn 69 and are unable to contribute to an RRSP.

**RESPs:** Registered Education Saving Plans (RESPs) provide excellent vehicles to shelter your investments while you are saving to help pay for the exorbitant, post-secondary tuition fees that your children, grandchildren, nieces or nephews will face in the near future. Each year that you contribute, the federal government provides a Canadian Education Saving Grant (CESG) of 20% on the first \$2,000 of the money that you contribute that year. This grant is invested in a fund of your choice. When RESP money is withdrawn, it is taxed in the hands of the beneficiary, who will have a much lower tax rate than the contributor. Not all RESPs are alike! See me for more information. Grandparents reign supreme when it comes to RESPs. Only grandparents may set up a *family* RESP that includes children from different families. This is because there must be a direct blood relationship between the contributor and the beneficiary and only grandparents have that relationship.

**Tax Efficiency:** CCRA taxes different investment returns at different rates. Capital gains are taxed at 50% of reported value, dividends at 67% and interest income at 100%. Thus, investors would retain the following amounts of a \$1,000 investment return: capital gains \$800, dividends \$733 and interest \$600. Bonds, CSBs, GICs, T-Bills, etc. pay returns as *interest*, so are the least tax efficient form of investing. The *effective rate of return* is more important than the published rate of return when investing in non-sheltered securities.

**Trusts:** I don't usually include trusts as part of my annual tax tips column because formal trusts are expensive to set up and benefit wealthy investors more than average ones. However, people are winning lotteries and receiving large inheritances and are asking about this tax-saving strategy. If your estate (excluding your primary residence) is worth \$1 million or more, then you might want to consider trusts as part of your tax saving strategies. There are many types of trusts, each set up for a specific purpose, e.g. testamentary, inter vivos. Contact an estate planning specialist lawyer for more information. Remember that a trust is merely the container that holds your assets. You still require the help of a licenced, independent financial advisor to assist you in investing those assets.

**Editor's Note 1:** Chuck is a certified income tax specialist, licenced mutual fund specialist and a retirement specialist. He was an auditor in chartered accountancy before becoming a teacher. He would be pleased to assist if you have questions about finances, taxes or managing retirement. There is no charge for this service. For a fee, he will process income tax returns.

**Editor's Note 2:** Advertisements for Reverse Mortgages are reappearing. We highly recommend the *AVOIDANCE* of Reverse Mortgage Plans. Also note that these plans, despite their name, have no relationship to *any* government program. (See our March, 2003 Newsletter.)

**Editor's Note 3:** CCRA Bulletins and Forms mentioned in this month's article are available as follows:

**Phone:** 1.800.959.2221

**Internet:** [www.cra-adrc.gc.ca](http://www.cra-adrc.gc.ca)

# ANNUAL SPRING LUNCHEON

District 16 is pleased to present:

## TWO SEPARATE EVENTS

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Come to *EITHER* or *BOTH* on *Tuesday, May 4, 2004*  
at *'The Old Mill'*

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING/LEGAL ISSUES

**YOU MUST REGISTER ~ FREE**  
(Registration aids in planning amenities)

- 09:15 - Coffee, Light Refreshments  
Talk to Committee Chairs at during this period so more time available for Presentation
- 09:45 - AGM - Part One - Treasurer's Report
- 10:15 - **Presentation:** Wills, Powers of Attorney, Estate Matters (*Evanson, Bundgard, Flynn*)
- 11:15 - AGM - Part Two - Elections
- 11:45 - Adjournment - mingle with the lunch crowd?

**NOTE: BOTH EVENTS AT  
THE 'OLD MILL' ~ BRULÉ ROOM**

### SPRING LUNCHEON

**YOU MUST REGISTER ~ \$25.00**

- 11:30 - Cash Bar/Mingle
- 12:15 - Luncheon

*Crisp Romaine Salad with Croutons in Ranch Dressing*  
*Grilled Top Sirloin Beef with Cumin/Oregano Marinade*  
*Carrots in Tomato Chipotle Glaze*  
*English Trifle*  
*Rolls, Butter, Tea, Coffee*

**POPULAR ENTERTAINER ~ ADAM TIMOON**  
Singer ~ Guitarist ~ Comedian (1:00pm start)

Registration Form for **EITHER** or **BOTH** Events - **RETURN BY MONDAY, APRIL 19, 2004**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
email: \_\_\_\_\_

GUEST: \_\_\_\_\_

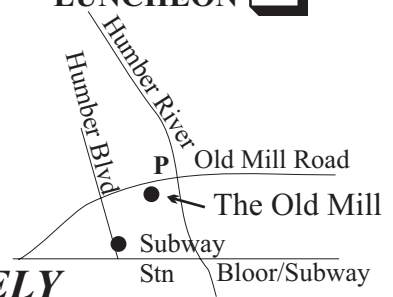
**NOTE 1:** The AGM is FREE to members. Registration is requested for amenity planning.

**NOTE 2:** Please indicate any dietary restriction here: \_\_\_\_\_

I/We will attend (check EITHER or BOTH) the:      AGM       LUNCHEON

Remit \$25.00 for the Luncheon by cheque (no post-dates)  
payable to **RTO/ERO District 16**  
to the Registrar: **BOB PUTNAM, 1208-15 King Street, Weston, ON M9N 3X1**

Additional Registration Forms available at [www.rtoerotorontodistricts.org](http://www.rtoerotorontodistricts.org)



**SHORT TIMELINE - PLEASE RETURN IMMEDIATELY**

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS (& Current Member Change of Address)

We welcome our new members who have joined us since December, 2003. We trust our District will provide useful services and information. Consider joining our activities as a participant or a leader. (*On occasion, new members have joined us in error – there are 3 other Districts in Toronto (Etobicoke/York-22, North York-23, Scarborough/East York-24 and others in the region (Durham, Peel, York County)). Call Diane Vezeau at the Provincial Office (416.962.9463) to correct this if necessary or to make other changes in address/status.*

Adams, John	Clough, Paula C	Greenberg, Penny	Mock, Cynthia F
Basa, Geraldine	Cronin, Sr Joan	Jardine, Margaret	Nefsky, Phyllis
Bawa, Riviadh	Cuff, Anne	Kambanis, Margaret	Nelson, John B
Berardo, Emilio	Draffin, G Stanley	Kennedy, Sheila	Radcliffe, Dorothy
Bongard, Carol A	Elson, Brigid	Koski, Evelyn	Richardson, Lois
Browne, Carmel	Flow, Alexander F	Lester, Elaine	Savino, Francis
Browne, Colin	Freitas, Fernanda	Liphardt, John	Scherer, Brenda
Bucz, Maria	Gelfand, Hosna	MacArthur, Elizabeth	Schwartz, John
Chaudhery, Olga	Gilbert, Kathleen L	MacLaverty, Heather	Smith, Sally A
Childs, John	Gola, Wanda	Maludzinski, Miron	Viggars, Edith
Christie, Alan V	Goldstein, Paul	McEachern, Joan	Watkins, Ruth
Christie, James W	Goodfellow, Phyllis	Milne, Marywinn S	Wood, Ruth M

### WHO ARE WE? (*actually, how old we are*)

As of January 1, 2004 Toronto District numbered 3295 members. Our ages follow as we reach our birth date in 2004:

Age >= 100 ~ 7 || Age 90...99 ~ 130 || Age 80...89 ~ 421 || Age 70...79 ~ 921 || Age 60...69 ~ 1371 || Age 50...59 ~ 445

### 50th Anniversary Reunion - F. D. Roosevelt Public School, London, Ontario

Spread the word to all former Falcons! The Reunion, set for Saturday, June 5, 2004, from 2-4pm, will celebrate the school's rich history. The celebration continues in the evening with our buffet dinner in the gymnasium at 4:15pm. Tickets are on sale now! For details and registration forms, check out our website at [www.tvdsb.on.ca/fdroosevelt/](http://www.tvdsb.on.ca/fdroosevelt/) (click the reunion icon). E-mail your contact information to [fdr-reunion@tvdsb.on.ca](mailto:fdr-reunion@tvdsb.on.ca) or call **Brenda Savage** (Weinstein), Reunion Co-Chair, Class of '77, at 519.455.8742.

### WINSTON CHURCHILL REUNION CONTACT

May 28/29, 2004 ~ **Sandra Marsh**/416.491.3198/[www.winstonchurchill50th.ca](http://www.winstonchurchill50th.ca)

### ~ IN MEMORIAM ~

RTO/ERO District 16 extends condolences to families, friends and colleagues of those deceased.

May we, together, share in the mourning of the loss and in celebration of service rendered

Millwood Bhatti	David Farmer	Edward Dale (Ted) Lewis	Irene M. Prior
Edward (Ted) Copeland	Edwin Hart	Willa Marshall	Donald A. Scott
Maxine M. Cuthbert	Kathryn E. Johnson	James G. O'Neill	Estella Spergel
Joseph Carrol (Carl) Evans			Jean M. Stirling

### EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Your Newsletter Committee produces five Newsletters per year. We welcome submissions that a member considers of interest to others: travels, events, life milestones, etc. Of course, as with any publication, the editor reserves the right to modify any submission to fit space available and to determine the appropriateness of any submission in a particular issue. Other RTO/ERO Districts are welcome to use any of the material contained in this document providing that appropriate attribution is made regarding source.

#### Submission standards:

**Electronic TXT file preferred, (or Word DOC or WordPerfect WPD file) emailed to the editor at ([rtoero16news@aol.com](mailto:rtoero16news@aol.com))**

If you create your submission in another program, save it as a TXT file.

Typed or hand-printed submissions accepted but earlier submission is requested.

**2004 Publication Schedule: Submissions:** 01/05/04, 01/09/04, 01/11/04 **Mailings:** 27/05/04, 30/09/04, 25/11/04