



Newsletter

Retired Teachers' Association

Vol 30 No 2 • June 2019

President's Message

Albert Legge

The broadest, and maybe the most meaningful definition of volunteering: Doing more than you have to because you want to, in a cause you consider good. ~ Ivan Scheier

After a long, cold, windy winter, the warmth of spring and the hopes of summer awaken in us a new energy for getting active and offering ourselves in the service of others. At the RTANL, we have been quietly and relentlessly working behind the scenes to bring forth some momentum to our Association for the coming months. In October, we elected a new executive for both our Association and our Foundation, and we got down to business almost immediately. We attended the ECRTA conference in Charlottetown in October, where members from the five eastern provinces focused on the issues that are unique to our part of Canada and identified those that need improvement and support from our national membership. We were able to compare our associations and then gather ideas from the other members that may be used to strengthen our local groups. The dialogue and interchange of ideas gave us a united approach to tackling the issues that we, in Atlantic Canada, would like to submit to ACER-CART at the upcoming AGM in June.

In November, we held our RTANL executive meeting in Gander, where we mapped out our committees and assigned responsibilities to our members to help us accomplish our plans for 2019 and put plans in place for the BGM in October 2020. At the executive meeting we took some time to attend a meeting and live auction hosted by Central Division to raise funds for the Foundation. This gave our members the opportunity to mingle with the devoted members of Central Division and pick up a few bargains from their auction. The highlight for the day occurred when our entire executive took some time off from our meeting to attend a 100th birthday celebration of Rosalie (Patey) Spurrell of Gander.

I was invited to attend the Con-Tri Christmas Banquet on November 30 and I extended greetings to their members on behalf of the RTANL Executive. A \$100 donation was presented to me for my guest appearance, which I forwarded to the Foundation on behalf of Con-Tri. I also received an invitation from Western Division to attend their Christmas Dinner but due to prior commitments, neither I, nor Vice-President Sharon Penny, was able to attend. I sent along a message to President Wayne Park extending my best wishes to his members.



Throughout the fall and winter some very interesting developments have taken place, resulting in the organization of a group of 130+ retired teachers in the Clarenville area who have been working relentlessly to form a new Regional with the ultimate goal of becoming RTANL's newest Division. This was approved at the Provincial meeting on May 1, 2019. Suffice to say, a great deal of consultation and cooperation has occurred between the Boundaries Committee, (Beverley Fisher, Debbie Lewis-Clarke and Don Carter), Provincial Executive, Central Division, who showed immense cooperation in this initiative, and the group of volunteers in the Clarenville area. This illustrates what a bit of organization and commitment on the part of our members can do, to involve members in certain areas to help make the RTANL a stronger and more vibrant Association, in which the social well-being of members is held to its highest standard.

Our last Executive Meeting was held in the Coast of Bays Division on May 1 and 2. This afforded our Executive Members the opportunity to meet and mingle with retired teachers in their own local area and to share in the activities of our Association.

Two members of Provincial Executive will be attending the ACER-CART AGM in Ottawa on June 6 to 8. This will assure us the opportunity to represent RTANL on the national stage and take part in the activities that will define our national involvement throughout the coming year.

The common theme running through my message is the importance of volunteering. We, as members of the RTANL, take upon us the responsibility of extending a helping hand to our provincial members as well as members across our province and country. The time you devote to establishing support opportunities to our fellow members will continue to bring members together and find activities that will strengthen our Association for the future. Reach out and spread the good news. Become an advocate for your Association.

Thank you to our Executive members, Division Presidents and all of our devoted members for your support and involvement!
Best regards!

Provincial Executive 2018-20

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EDITING POLICY

Items accepted for publication reflect the views of the authors and do not necessarily express RTANL policy or imply endorsement by RTANL. We reserve the right to edit material for publication.

Provincial Executive Standing Committees 2018-20

Table Officers President, Vice-President,
Secretary, Treasurer

Benefits Beverley Fisher (Chair)

Finance Clayton Rice (Chair)
Albert Legge, Sharon Penney, Don White

Liaison Albert Legge (Chair)
Sharon Penney

Newsletter Don White (Chair)
Clayton Rice, Albert Legge

Biennial Award Sharon Penney (Chair)
Eric Ayers, Thomas Kendell

Provincial Executive Ad Hoc Committees 2018-20

BGM/Reunion: Beverley Fisher (Chair)
Geraldine Wall (Reunion), Sharon Penney,
Eric Ayers, Clayton Rice & Don White
(Co-Chairs of BGM)

Political Action (Coalition)
Sharon Penney (Chair), Doreen Noseworthy,
Patricia Parsons (Alternate)

NLTA Group Insurance Managers

RTANL Representative

..... Sharon Penney

ACER-CART Albert Legge (Director)
Sharon Penney (Observer)

Tales Told by Teachers
Thomas Kendell

Provincial Executive Handbook
Don White, Clayton Rice



ACER-CART website: www.acer-cart.org

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We accept ads to be printed in our Newsletter. However, we reserve the right to refuse all ads, or to edit them after consultation with the advertiser. The RTANL does not endorse or promote any product, service, or event presented in paid advertisements or in free public service announcements, unless so specified. Cost of ads will be determined by size and purpose. Please contact: Clayton Rice, 709-782-8914; email: clayton@warp.nfld.net.

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ADVANCE NOTICE

**16th Reunion of
Retired Teachers
and RTANL
BGM 2020
Corner Brook, NL
October 6-8, 2020**

NLTA Website

To receive information that may become available between Newsletters, please go to the NLTA website: www.nlta.nl.ca and click on RTANL on the QUICK LINKS page. Please share any information with fellow RTANL members who do not have access to the Web. (Once again, we thank the NLTA for letting us avail of this website.)

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NEVER MISS AN ISSUE OF THE RTANL NEWSLETTER AGAIN.

You can read each issue on your desktop or mobile device as soon as it's available by signing up to receive your copy electronically. Simply send an email to rtanl@nlta.nl.ca and be sure to type "RTANL Newsletter" in the subject line and include your name, mailing address and email address in your message. (You will receive a confirmation email.) By providing your email address we can also ensure that you receive important information between newsletters (i.e. Group Insurance, Pensions, etc.).



DON'T HAVE AN EMAIL ADDRESS?

No worries! Our newsletter is also available on our link on the NLTA website at www.nlta.nl.ca/rtanl. If you do not have access to the Internet, you may continue to receive a printed copy by contacting Clayton Rice, Treasurer, RTANL, c/o 3 Kenmount Road, St. John's, NL, A1B 1W1, Tel: 709-782-8914, clayton@warp.nfld.net.



HAS YOUR EMAIL OR MAILING ADDRESS RECENTLY CHANGED?

Please send an email to rtanl@nlta.nl.ca requesting that we update your email and/or mailing address, and we'd be happy to take care of it.



MISSING EMAILS? Have you checked your SPAM or JUNK email folder? Email service providers' spam filters are very good but occasionally they can send legitimate emails to your spam folder. It's a good idea to regularly check your spam folder if you don't want to miss important emails that may have been sent to spam by mistake.



NEWS & VIEWS

Avalon East Division

Nina Beresford

Warm greetings to all of our friends in the retired teachers' community. We, in Avalon East, have had quite a successful year bringing together hundreds of our members for various social events and raising significant money for our Retired Teachers' Foundation. Thank you to all who worked tirelessly to plan and facilitate these events and to all who attended.

RTANL BGM

Our year began by hosting the Provincial RTANL BGM at the Holiday Inn, October 2-4, 2018. Thank you to all members who volunteered time to assist in setting up, filling conference bags, registering candidates and dealing with any issues which arose. Lots of fun entertainment was provided and a great banquet and dance were enjoyed by all. It was such a pleasure to renew acquaintances with those of you who attended from around the province. Our sincere appreciation to Doreen Noseworthy and other outgoing executive members for all you have done over your years in service to ensure the issues of the RTANL and other seniors are addressed. We congratulate and welcome Albert Legge, President-elect and our new executive. We look forward to working with you in the coming years.

Octoberfest

On October 29, 2018, we held Octoberfest at Glendenning Golf Club. A hot turkey dinner was enjoyed by 130 members. Dianne Squarey, on behalf of the Retired Teachers' Foundation for Children's Charities, presented several of their annual donations. Congratulations to all our members for your continued support of our Foundation. The pre-luncheon activities were a great success. Attendees were able to participate in yoga, walking or glass painting. A special thank you is extended to Mary Kelsey, Joe Ryan and Carmel Strong who facilitated these activities.



Christmas Craft Fair and Luncheon

On December 2, 2018, our members gathered at Holiday Inn for our annual Christmas Craft Fair and Luncheon. Three hundred and twenty-four members and guests enjoyed a hot chicken dinner. Following the dinner, we were entertained by a local community choir, Avalonia. Their non-traditional Christmas vocal selections were a wonderful way to start the Christmas season. Again this year, we had a great showing from all of our talented crafters. Each year we look forward to Christmas shopping at the various craft tables.



Fun Day

The annual Fun Day took place at Bally Haly Country Club on Logy Bay Road on Monday, February 11. Eighty-two retired teachers and friends had a wonderful day playing bridge, auction or board games! A delicious lunch of fish and chips, cod au gratin with salad, or chicken wrap with salad, which were prepared by Bally Haly staff, was served. Many prizes were won by various individuals. As well, there were ticket draws for 50/50 and a beautiful painting donated by our very own Carmel Strong. All proceeds from these draws go back to the Retired Teachers' Foundation for Children's Charities. Close to \$400 was raised from these ticket sales. Fun Day is an ideal time to get together with friends and acquaintances, see old friends and colleagues or just have a chat to catch up on recent or past events. A great day was had by all!

Visitation

Members of Avalon East continued to connect with retired colleagues who live in nursing homes and retirement homes, as well as members who are sick in hospital or at home. Personal visits have been made or cards have been sent on behalf of our division. We want to let our retired teachers know that they have not been forgotten.

Sadly, several members of Avalon East have passed away since our last report. We have visited the wakes of many of these teachers, spoke with family members and passed on

sympathy cards in order to bring comfort and consolation.

If you know of a retired teacher in the St. John's/Conception Bay area who would welcome a visit or if you have information regarding a deceased colleague, please contact one of the visitation committee members:

- Gloria McDonald, gloriarn9@eastlink.ca
Tel: 229-7061 (Conception Bay)
- Elizabeth Hamlyn, ejhamlyn1@gmail.com
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- Sharon Reddy, sharon.reddy@nf.sympatico.ca
Tel: 579-8169 (St. John's)

Important Announcement Re: "Keeping In Touch" Newsletters

Effective **September 1, 2019**, if you have not requested to receive your newsletter either by email **OR** by postal mail, you will **NOT** receive any further newsletters from the Avalon East Division.

If you have not already requested an **electronic copy** of future newsletters, please do so by submitting your request to rtanl@nlta.nl.ca. In the subject line, type: RTANL Avalon East Newsletter. Be sure to include your name, your regular mailing address, as well as your email address in the email.

If you wish to continue to receive a **printed copy of future newsletters**, please mail this request, including your full name and address to: Avalon East Newsletter, c/o 3 Kenmount Rd., St. John's, NL, A1B 1W1.

We will only provide print copies to those who have made the written request.

Please notify us if your email address or your personal mailing address changes at any time, so we can update your information in our database.

Please note: if you have made either of these requests to the RTANL Provincial Newsletter or recently completed a form at one of our functions in St. John's in October or December 2018, or February 2019, you do not have to re-submit as we share the list of subscribers.

Thank you to all who have either requested the electronic copy or printed copy already.

AGM

Our AGM is scheduled for June 5, 2019 commencing at 10:30 in the boardroom of our NLTA building. All members are invited to attend but since we will be serving a light lunch, we would like to confirm numbers. Please **RSVP by June 3rd** to ninaberesfordnl@gmail.com. We would love to see you there.

We wish you good health and much joy and happiness during what we hope to be a warm and lovely summer. Get out and stay active, keep in touch with family and friends, and do the things you love to do.

We look forward to having even more of you join us for our activities next year.

Bonavista Division

Beverly Fisher

Well, spring has finally sprung and it's time to get down to the business of enjoying the great outdoors. I am sure most of us have already started cleaning up our gardens and are looking forward to lazy days in the sun. We have survived another winter; it didn't treat us too badly here on the Bonavista Peninsula, but we certainly welcome the early arrival of warmer temperatures.

Since our last report we have held several activities and meetings in our Division. Our Christmas Social was held on December 19 at the Fireside Restaurant in Port Union. Over half of our members and their guests attended. The evening began with a Happy Hour, which gave us a chance to mingle and chat. This was followed by a Turkey/Roast Beef Dinner with dessert, after which we enjoyed the musical talents of Samantha Rolls.



Members of Bonavista Division at the Christmas Social.

In December, we received an invitation to attend a meeting in Clarenville. This meeting was sponsored by a group of retired teachers in the area with the purpose of forming a Regional within Central Division. All seven members of our executive attended the January 7 gathering to show our support, and to discuss with them how our Division works and explain the roles of our executive members. It was a very positive meeting, and before it ended, they elected an executive. We certainly look forward to sharing in some activities with them as time goes on.

On January 21 we held a Fun Day at the Bonavista Lion's Club. Lots of laughter could be heard throughout the afternoon as some members played board games, while others challenged each other to a game of darts. A lunch was served before we headed home.

A general meeting was held on February 20 at The Commons in Bonavista. The Commons is a new space in the former Federal Building on Church Street. The building still houses the Post Office, but other areas of the building are utilized as medical offices, offices for the Bonavista Trinity Regional Chamber of Commerce, and a space for youth activities which is coordinated by Baynet. The newest addition to the building is a marketplace that allows local entrepreneurs to get assistance with start-up and growth, and offers a space for them to sell their wares. Guest speakers for the afternoon were John Norman and Shane Hayes. John talked about the benefits of joining the Chamber of Commerce and the impact that the Chamber is having on business and the general economic health of the region it serves, while Shane spoke on The Commons and what it has to offer to our communities and visitors to the area. It was a very interesting and informative afternoon.

The Curling League's Funspiel was held on the weekend of March 22-24. As in the past few years, we entered three teams. This year, the curling league honoured one of our members by naming the Funspiel after him. Dave Smith, who was an avid curler and a former Vice President of our Division, passed away suddenly in January. He had played in the league for many years and continued to curl on Thursday mornings with our group. He always skipped one of our teams in the Funspiel and certainly was missed by the curlers that weekend. In his memory, his family donated a plaque to be presented at the end of the weekend to the most sportsmanlike team, as voted on by the curlers. It seemed fitting that the first winners of this award was one of our RTANL teams. Skipped by Gord Fudge, the team consisted of Peggy Duffett, Roseann Ryder, and Stephen Bursey.

Maybe next year, one of our teams can bring home the championship trophy.



Winners of the Dave Smith Curling Funspiel.

Since Christmas we have had three executive meetings, during which we planned activities for the winter and spring. We still have a few busy months of activities ahead before we retire for the summer. On our agenda is a general meeting, a trip to Clarenville for some bowling, a walk for mental health and addictions awareness, and our spring social.

On behalf of the members of Bonavista Division, I wish you all a safe and restful summer!

Con-Tri Division

Don Case & Isabelle Cole

To err is human, but to admit it isn't.

Spring greetings everyone. It seems like spring has finally arrived and gardening and outdoor activity time have begun, as have our RTA Spring Meetings.

We are happy to report our scholarship recipients for 2018 as follows: Ascension Collegiate – Chelsey Lynn Barrett; Baccalieu Collegiate – Matthew Kelly; Carbonear Collegiate – Blake Loveys; and Crescent Collegiate – Megan George. Congratulations to all these recipients.

On November 27, 2018 we held our Annual Christmas Dinner and Dance at Fong's Banquet Hall in Carbonear. This was well attended by members and guests. Provincial President, Albert Legge, brought greetings on behalf of his executive. Isabelle Cole brought greetings on behalf of Con-Tri Division executive. As usual, we had our Food Bank Drive and Toonie Drive. Food bank items were sent to Helping Hands in Bay Roberts and our Toonie Drive proceeds went to the Retired Teachers' Foundation. In honour of the 100th Anniversary of the end of WWI, an act of remembrance was done by Don

Case and Ruth Davidge. Recognition of the presentation of Honorary Membership Certificates (90 years plus) was done by Joyce Roberts. This year's recipients were Wilbur Sparkes and Jack Barrett. In addition, our annual scholarship presentation to the Dzogazde School in Ghana was accepted by Gerald and Rose Andrews. The presentation of our newly developed Con-Tri Division Policy and By-Laws Handbook was made to then President, Isabelle Cole, by Don Case on behalf of the Policy and By-Laws Committee. Committee members were Pauline Welsh and Don Case.

Con-Tri Division has been thinking about developing a new banner for some time. After considerable discussion and review during the fall, a new banner became a reality and was presented and displayed at the dinner. Our new banner will be used at our future meetings and other events and will be displayed at the next BGM.

The evening ended with a slide show of past Con-Tri events, followed by socializing and a dance.

Don Case presented our Kiwanis Music Festival Awards at one of the Kiwanis Grand Concerts in Carbonear. This year's recipients were as follows: St. Anne's Primary Choir in Placentia and St. Peter's Intermediate Choir in Upper Island Cove. As members of Con-Tri Division, we are proud to be able to support the children and youth of the various schools in our region by presenting awards and scholarships.

We are now looking forward to our annual spring event. This year it has been decided to have a luncheon including entertainment by Smiley Mac from St. John's. This event will be taking place Tuesday, May 28, 2019 at the Whiteway Memorial Building and Community Centre at 12:00 noon.



Con-Tri Division Executive: (back row l-r): Ruth Davidge, Laura Cooper, Peggy Hiscock, Don Case, Albert Legge; (front row l-r): Sharon Penney, Joyce Roberts, Isabelle Cole; (Missing: Daphne Harnum)

Our next scheduled general meeting will take place Tuesday, May 14, 2019 at 12:00 noon at Hotel Harbour Grace. Guest speaker for that meeting will be retired teacher and writer Patrick Collins from Harbour Grace. We are hoping this meeting will be well attended.

We wish all our members and all readers of this newsletter a wonderful summer.

Are you sure you are right? How fine and strong! But were you ever just as sure - and wrong?

Western Division

Wayne Park

The best teachers are those who show you where to look, but don't tell you what to see. ~ Alexandra K. Trenfor

Good day all, and on behalf of Western Division, greetings retired teachers all across our beautiful province of Newfoundland and Labrador. I am delighted to address you through this forum.

Again, it has been a busy season for Western Division Executive with meeting regularly to deal with the business of the Western Region. Again, as well, I need to acknowledge the diligence of the Executive in meeting attendance and the strong focus for conducting the work of our Division. In October 2018, the following members were elected to Western Executive: Elizabeth Alexander (Secretary), Shirley Dawe, Mary Smith, Lily (Lil) Critch, Maxine Reardon, Selina Pieroway, Roberta Pafford (Treasurer), Geraldine Wall (Past President), and yours truly (President). An advantage presented by our 'NEW' Executive is there are NOW Executive Members from Deer Lake, Pasadena, and Kippens/Stephenville area, which should better represent our membership.

The major thrust of recent meetings, and will continue until completion, is the update of the Western Membership List. A concern often heard from members is, "I did not get that notification." So an updated list, with current phone numbers and email addresses, is meant to solve this problem. Thanks Shirley Dawe for leading this effort.

Western Division continues to support students in the western area. To this end, a \$300 donation is presented to two schools in our jurisdiction to support breakfast programs. Recipient schools for the 2018-19 school year are Grandy's River Collegiate, Burnt Islands, and Hampden Academy, Hampden. Breakfast programs are important, and we are delighted to support these staffs and parents in their efforts in providing for students.



Hampden Academy, Hampden, was the proud recipient of a \$300 donation from RTANL-Western to their Breakfast Program. Pictured here, Cathy House, Principal, presents the cheque on behalf of RTANL-Western to Dale Randell, Breakfast Program Coordinator, as students and staff look on.



RTANL-Western donated \$300 to Grandy's River Collegiate, Burnt Islands, for their Breakfast Program. Pictured here, Christina Bryan, retired teacher, presents the cheque to participating students and staff of Grandy's River Collegiate.

Western Division Constitution and By-Laws were presented to the general membership at the Fall BGM scheduled for October 10, 2018 at Bennett Hall. The Constitution and By-Laws were adopted, and this represents a major piece of organisational work.

Western Executive provides support to members by reaching out to retirees who may be ill or hospitalized. A hospital or home visit may be arranged with a card and/or gift of encouragement. As well, The Honor Guard is a tradition to show respect and support during a time of bereavement. Again, we rely on members to let Executive Members know if this support is needed.

To raise membership and promote awareness, Western Executive proposed a series of socials throughout the region. Luncheon socials are planned for Deer Lake, Corner Brook and Stephenville. The invitation has gone out to members in other communities served by Western to organize and host similar events. These events will be supported by our Division. In the meantime, by way of this newsletter, if a retired member is interested in organizing a social in 'their neighbourhood', then please call me (Wayne @ 709-630-2412) or any member of our executive.

I'm always asked to remind readers of Western Division's major fundraiser, which is the Bake-less Bake Sale. In October 2018, a donation of \$6,431 was presented to the Newfoundland and Labrador Retired Teachers' Foundation for Children's Charities from retired teachers of Western Division. Western Division also made a donation of \$3,000 as its annual donation to our Foundation, making a total contribution to \$9,431. THANK YOU to all who contributed to a great cause. The Bake-less Bake Sale is now ongoing for 2018-19. As well, I am delighted to report the Board of Directors of the Retired Teachers' Foundation for 2018-20 is located in Western Division.

In closing, and on behalf of Western Division Executive, thanks to all members who follow our Region and our Association because your support is much needed and greatly appreciated! At the time of writing this report, I can say a Happy Mother's Day to all Moms! By the time you read this report it will be appropriate to say Happy Father's Day to all Dads!

On the Road Again

On May 1, 2019 the Provincial Executive of the RTANL went “on the road” as we travelled to the Head of Bay d’Espoir for our meeting. We arrived at the Vancor Motel (where the service was excellent and the food delicious, by the way) on Tuesday, April 30 and on May 1, we had a full day and evening of meetings and also had lunch with some members and the Executive of the Coast of Bays Division. This was the first time that the Provincial Executive travelled to that Division for a meeting and it was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Special thanks to Margaret Power, President, and her executive for taking care of the hosting details. Thanks are also extended to the management and staff of Vancor for making our stay so pleasant and enjoyable.



RTANL Provincial Executive members enjoy lunch with members of the Executive of the Coast of Bays Division.



Pictured (l-r): Georgina Meade, Margaret Wilcott, Margaret Power, Albert Legge.

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Positive Results in Clarenville

by Beverly Fisher

The Retired Teachers' Association of Newfoundland and Labrador, at present, has over 5,000 members. Our membership takes in retired teachers of all ages who live in all areas of our province and abroad. Some of our members are associate members who may be spouses of departed teachers, or teachers who retired from another province and are living in Newfoundland and Labrador.

It has been a concern for a few years now that participation in activities sponsored by the divisions and the Provincial Association has waned, and that only a small percentage of our membership avails of the services provided by the RTANL. As a result, in the fall of 2017, then President, Doreen Noseworthy appointed a committee to look at the organization of the RTANL and to come up with a plan by which we could improve the delivery of our services and encourage more involvement by our members. This committee, called the Division Parameters Committee, consisted of three Provincial Executive members - Don Carter (Central Division), Debbie Lewis-Clarke (Burin Division) and Beverly Fisher (Bonavista Division). After studying maps, membership lists, distances between communities and Division sizes, we suggested the formation of Regionals. A Regional is a subgroup of a Division run by its own executive, but still a part of that Division. It allows people who live in communities in close proximity to each other to get together more easily, have greater access to resources, activities and socials, and still attend events sponsored by their Division, of which they would still be a member.

The RTANL Constitution and By-Laws, Article VIIA states:

The RTANL shall be composed of a Provincial Executive plus a number of Divisions, each Division having the authority to set up a Regional where deemed necessary, provided that twenty-five (25) or more interested active members of the association in a distant area indicate that they wish to form a Regional.

Presently, there are two Regionals in our province – Labrador, which is part of Western Division, and Plaisance, which is a Regional of Avalon East.

In November, our committee took the first step in what we hope will be a trend around the province. We, along with several members of the Provincial Executive, attended a meeting in Clarenville to investigate the possibility of setting up a Regional there. This area has a large population of retired teachers who previously had not been active in Central Division's activities, due to distance. As a result of this meeting a committee was

formed, and they then took the bull by the horns. They gathered signatures of retired teachers in the area who supported the idea of forming a Regional and then, in January, they held another meeting at which they formed an executive. A letter, containing more than 25 signatures, was then sent to Central Division requesting that the area from Chance Cove to Swift Current to Terra Nova to Lethbridge be accepted as a Regional. Within weeks, their application was accepted, and Central Division sent them a cheque to help with their activities. Once this area became a Regional, their members went another step and applied to Provincial Executive to become its own Division. Article VIIB2 states:

Where a majority of the active members of an existing Regional so desire, the Regional may, with approval of the Provincial Executive, become a Division in its own right.

After a meeting between these two entities, the proposal was brought to the next meeting of the Provincial Executive and approval for the new TriBay Division was given. This Division has approximately 150 members. We certainly look forward to hearing more about the activities of this already active group.

There are many other areas around our province where there are large pockets of RTANL members who could benefit from having a smaller, more tightly knit group. You and your former co-workers are not alone. If you think your area could benefit from becoming a Regional and could use some help in becoming more active participants in the activities sponsored by the RTANL, please contact a member of your Division's executive or contact me for information on how to go about it. My contact information is listed below. Our goal is to make you feel more a part of the RTANL. This can be achieved by bringing the RTANL to you, in your own communities with retired teachers who are more familiar to you, and by addressing the needs of members in your immediate area. The RTANL members in the Clarenville area are already experiencing positive effects from their move, and they've only just begun. Now it's up to you to take up the torch and explore all that the RTANL can be to you.

Beverly Fisher
Tel: 709-468-2827
bev.fisher@hotmail.com

Report on Seniors' Round Table

hosted by MP Churence Rogers and the Honourable Bernadette Jordan, Minister of Rural Economic Development, March 27, 2019, Clarendville

by Albert Legge

According to Minister Bernadette Jordan, the Round Table was held to discuss ways to focus on helping seniors in rural communities.

There were 15 people in attendance, most of them represented various Fifty-Plus groups across the District. Leo Bonnell, Advisory Member, Reference Group on Age-Friendly Communities at Public Agency of Canada, was in attendance. Ralph Morris was there representing the Coalition. Robert Rogers, President of the NL Fifty-Plus Federation was also in attendance. I represented the RTANL, ACER-CART and Con-Tri RTA, as well as the Whiteway Fifty-Plus Club. I prepared a handout explaining the concerns of the seniors groups that I represented and gave it to Minister Jordan's Executive Assistant.

Each invited guest was given the opportunity to present views on issues relating to seniors.

In my oral presentation I explained that I was representing the RTANL on a provincial level, and as an ACER-CART Director on a national level, and informed of our advocacy role in opposing Bill C-27 and that we were promoting universal pharmacare as a national program. I also outlined other issues that we promote through our provincial and national support groups. As a member of our local Fifty-Plus Club, I also emphasized the need for more assistance to help seniors take part in age-friendly activities without having to rely on fundraising to be able to hold their meetings and activity nights. Issues like elder abuse, better long-term care, and affordable housing were also brought up.

MP Rogers and Minister Jordan acknowledged many of the concerns and made reference to areas in which the new federal budget addressed some of the financial concerns that were raised. They also highlighted the measures taken by government in response to the requests for universal pharmacare and explained that this was a series of steps toward a future full pharmacare program.

In his role as co-chair of the seniors committee, MP Rogers gave assurance that pharmacare was high on his government's agenda.

Some discussion took place on the New Horizons for Seniors Grants Program. It was disclosed that some funding was available due to some applications being turned down and that more funds were made available in the new budget. There were also special grants up to \$5,000 to smaller groups for Special Funding Projects.

Reference was made to special initiatives in the new budget to increase the GIS and other benefits to needy seniors, especially surviving spouses who face the challenges of affordable housing and increasing food and heating costs.

The Minister disclosed that the new budget has allocated \$50 million dollars to address dementia in seniors. They are also looking for more ways that government can help seniors in rural areas.

There was also some discussion relating to the provision of Age-Friendly Grants for Seniors, especially in the area of transportation and recreation for seniors with limited mobility and limited incomes.



Many problem areas were raised such as: improving seniors' financial literacy; addressing literacy problems in general; making applications, like the New Horizons for Seniors, less complicated and more user-friendly for seniors; and requesting assistance for fifty-plus groups and other senior organizations to help meet the costs of having a building where they could hold their meetings, etc.

The meeting ended with the Minister and Mr. Rogers thanking the group and assuring them that their concerns are being addressed and that they will be presented to their caucus members, committees and the Minister for Seniors.

Presentation Made by Albert Legge to the NLTA BGM, April 25, 2019

It is indeed my pleasure to bring greetings from the Retired Teachers' Association to NLTA delegates and executives on the occasion of BGM 2019. We can proudly attest that our members now enjoy Life Membership in this dedicated, professional association.

Our Association came into being in 1971, and with the leadership and guidance of the NLTA, we have enjoyed complete cooperation ever since.

Our current membership is approximately 5500 province-wide and is administered by a nine-member executive. Our Association is comprised of 7 Divisions and 2 Regionals and over the past six months and through a lot of hard work, we have assisted in the birth of a new regional which is about to morph into a new Division.

We ordinarily communicate with our members through our newsletters which are published semi annually in June and December. Within the past year we are proud to announce that our newsletter has switched from a predominately paper version to a complete online edition. We have gone GREEN. The only mailouts now are to those members who do not have online access or have opted to receive the hard copy editions.

In 1996, a book of memories was established and lots of stories were collected. This resulted in the publication in 1998 of *Tales Told By Teachers, Volume I*, which recounted the experiences of 98 retired teachers. The book became so successful that in 2010, a second volume, *Tales Told By Teachers, Volume II*, was launched. Just recently it was disclosed that *Tales Told By Teachers, Volume I* is now regarded as a heritage document. At the present time, Volume I has completely sold out and Volume II has about 150 copies left. If I am permitted to put in a plug for our Association, I can suggest that when NLTA branches hold their recognition nights for retiring teachers, these books make excellent retirement gifts at just \$10 a copy, and are available from our local division treasurers.

Our Association holds its BGM every two years during the first week of October. The next one is being held in 2020. These meetings have been held since 1990. The decision to hold a Reunion is voted upon at each BGM and to date, a Reunion has been held in conjunction with our BGMs.

In 1994, the RTANL took over sponsorship of the Retired Teachers' Foundation, which was initially set up by Central Division in 1982 to "honour all Retired Teachers of this Province". The Foundation accepts donations from all members in all Divisions and over the years has contributed a total of \$371,000 to charities for

children who are incapacitated. We are very proud of our Foundation and the support provided by our members.

Our Association holds two executive meetings per year, and we invite Division Presidents to attend one of our executive meetings every BGM cycle. All of our business and organizational duties are conducted at those meetings. Each meeting will include one or more social components to ensure that our members get the opportunity to interact and engage in activities that provide an element of entertainment and fun.

The main focus for our Association and its divisions is to make its members the centre of attention and valued members of our organization. The primary purpose is to organize and arrange activities that provide information, opportunities for social engagement and updates on issues that relate to members' benefits and welfare.

What we do: We have a Political Action Committee which was established in 2001 to lobby Government for improved benefits for retired teachers. This committee is very active on a number of fronts and have partnered with other groups to advocate for improvements in services to retired teachers – everything from pensions, health services and group benefits, to rising electrical costs and improvements in long term care.

Partnerships: We are members of ACER-CART and have become active in fighting for the issues that affect us nationally.

1. Issues like Bill C-27 – which attempts to change our pension plans. We say "NO CHANGES".
2. Universal Pharmacare, which would make medications available and affordable no matter where we live in Canada. If the government can do it for Medicare, then why not pharmacare! The word from some political sources is that pharmacare will be part of the next political election platform. We anxiously await.
3. Better pension protection and improvements in CPP, OAS and GIS. Affordable housing and improved nutrition are others.

We have partnered locally with the Coalition of Seniors, Retirees and Pensioners Association. Along with these other groups, we actively pursue issues of concern and advocate for changes and improvements so vital to our members.

We encourage all of our members to actively engage their political representatives, provincially and federally, on the issues that concern them personally and collectively

with other members. This becomes especially vital in an election year as is the case now, as we strive to maintain a lifestyle that threatens to get stripped of some of the benefits we have so far enjoyed. With our aging population, pensioners are becoming a very formidable political force and we need to become more proactive.

Today, our Association is benefitting from increased communication and the advantages that result from it, much the same as your members do. With the increase in access to personal computers, and devices like tablets and smart phones, along with improved internet services, more and more RTANL members are becoming linked together in email groups and other social media networks. We are now able to connect with each other more frequently and exchange information on a regular basis. We can use the links to update on all activities and address problem issues much more quickly and thoroughly. Our membership is becoming more involved and aware, and this is helping us recruit new members who are anxious to join our information networks.

One problem we have is reaching new retirees. It is only through pre-retirement seminars sponsored by the NLTA that we are able to make retiring teachers aware of our existence and encourage them to join our Association. It is our hope that through continued partnership with the NLTA, that we can attract more potential members and persuade them to come on board as soon as they retire.

Another issue confronting many of our divisions is the reluctance of our members to offer themselves for executive positions within the divisions, and provincially. Again, with improved communications and renewed advocacy for issues that matter to pensioners, we hope to awaken the volunteer spirit in retired teachers, especially those who have served in executive positions within the NLTA and convince them to offer their expertise to the RTANL. We look forward to having you join us.

We are very pleased to announce that our present seven divisions will soon increase to eight. A group of retired teachers from the Clarenville area started a membership drive and set up a new Regional last fall. As a result of

intense recruitment, along with cooperation from Central Division, the regional group elected a new executive and have applied for approval to become a new Division known as Tri Bay Division RTA. Approval in principle has been given and the new Division should be up and running by mid-summer. This is very encouraging, and it may serve to involve more and more retired teachers to become active members of the RTANL and enjoy the social activities that are so much a part of the other divisions.

Things we are thankful for:

- 1) Our dedicated membership who volunteer so tirelessly to make the RTANL the social and fraternal association that values the contribution and dedication of our membership.
- 2) The improvements in communications that help us keep in touch with each other and committed to preserving the welfare of all.
- 3) The partnerships that we have formed in an effort to advocate for all of our members and their families as they face the challenges that come with being pensioners.

We are especially thankful for our continued relationship with the Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association, who give so freely to our Association.

You have made a home for us – our mailing address is 3 Kenmount Road – we share YOUR headquarters. Our newsletters could not be assembled or sent without your help. You help us by providing office space and boardroom space for some of our committee meetings. You support us financially. You provide a lot of other supports for which we are extremely grateful. We benefit from our group insurance coverages, which we acquired as active teachers and now enjoy as retirees. You are also part of that. And the list goes on.

To the NLTA, for all of these benefits and more, we have to say a very sincere THANK YOU. We support you in every way we can, and we look forward to many more years of the level of cooperation that we now share. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to be part of your BGM.



RTANL Executive:

Front row (l-r): Doreen Noseworthy, Sharon Penney, Albert Legge, Geraldine Wall, Beverly Fisher
Back row (l-r): Eric Ayers, Thomas Kendell, Don White, Clayton Rice

NL Retired Teachers' Foundation Report

by Geraldine Wall

The Newfoundland and Labrador Retired Teachers' Foundation continues working to fulfill its mandate of providing assistance to provincial charities for children with special needs, and honouring the life and work of deceased colleagues through our Book of Remembrance. We are dependent on the generosity of our members and friends to achieve these goals. Funds are generated through an annual donation from our sponsoring body, the RTANL, donations from our seven Divisions, In Memoriam donations, bequests, and various other means initiated by the Divisions such as craft fairs, bakeless bake sales, etc., which have proven to be very successful and have generated large amounts. In Memoriam cards are available from any member of the Board and at funeral homes throughout the province (not all funeral homes display them, so you need to ask for them). It's a great way to remember a colleague and at the same time assist our special children. Your Foundation is a registered charity, and 100% of funds raised go directly to services for children.

All operational costs of the Foundation are provided by our sponsoring body, the RTANL. To assist in keeping operational costs minimal, a new method of Board of Director Election has been initiated. The Board will consist of seven members, all from the same Division, plus the Past Chairperson (to serve a one-year term), and the President of the RTANL. It is our desire to rotate every two years, at which time another division would take on the operation. This would enable more members to get familiar with our Foundation and encourage greater participation of newer members. The Foundation Constitution was updated following BGM 2018 to reflect minor housekeeping items, and to be consistent with RTANL Constitutional changes.

The newly elected Board of Directors are from Western Division. The first meeting was held on November 13, 2018, at Sobeys Community Room in Corner Brook. This location is provided free of charge. The purpose of this meeting was to familiarize new Directors with Foundation goals,

the means by which they are achieved, and the criteria followed in selection of eligible charities to receive donations. The spring meeting has been scheduled for May 10, 2019. The purpose of this meeting is to consider any new request from charities. Such requests will be considered, as well as discussion around other eligible charities to receive donations this year. These donations are dependent on availability of funds for the year. This is not a guaranteed annual donation. Each charity is evaluated annually according to need and funding they receive from other sources. The decision on charities of choice for 2019 will be decided at that time and they will be informed at that time.

We are still not getting information on our deceased colleagues for the Book of Remembrance. To date, we have received just a few information forms. We encourage all members to submit information for deceased colleagues so they can be recognized in our Book. We ask Divisions to encourage families of deceased members to submit the information as well. Previously compiled books are housed at The Rooms in St. John's. We presently compile information electronically on the RTF site (which is included on the NLTA webpage under the RTANL link). The form is available and can be completed easily and quickly.

Once again, we extend a sincere thank you to the RTANL, our seven divisions, and all members and friends who donate so generously to our Foundation. We could not continue to build on our legacy without your help.

Members of the Retired Teachers' Foundation:

Geraldine Wall	Chairperson (Corner Brook)
Lily Critch	Vice-Chairperson (Steady Brook)
Roberta Pafford	Treasurer (Corner Brook)
Jane Murphy	Secretary (Benoit's Cove)
Agnes Hughes	Member at Large (Corner Brook)
Selena Pieroway	Member at Large (Pasadena)
Elizabeth Thomey	Member at Large (Deer Lake)
Dianne Squarey	Past Chairperson (St. John's)

Overview of the Purpose and Activity of the Retired Teachers' Foundation

The purposes of the Foundation are two-fold:

- (a) to honor the life and work of former teachers of the province; and
- (b) to operate exclusively as a charitable organization to assist institutions and groups that provide medical treatment and/or educational training for children who are incapacitated.

The recipients of our help are registered charities as well, so we are complimentary in helping them reach their goals, for example, in providing specific equipment that meets a child's special need. This Foundation is unique in that:

- (a) no part of the principal fund is used except to produce interest;
- (b) the Board of Directors are volunteers and receive absolutely no expenses from the Foundation;
- (c) the interest earned annually is disbursed by contributions to other charitable children's organizations;
- (d) expenses incurred for postage, stationary and other office supplies are paid by the sponsoring group, which is the Retired Teachers' Association.

The Foundation was conceived by the late C. Lloyd Buffett in 1983 and created with the assistance of the RTANL Central Division, who provided sponsorship for many years. It was incorporated in 1985 and received official status as a charitable organization in 1987. The RTANL, during BGM 1994, voted unanimously to assume responsibility for sponsorship. All seven Divisions support the Foundation by undertaking various fundraisers (i.e. bakeless bake sales, auctions, ticket sales on various paintings and craft items, socials, donations in memory of individual deceased members) plus "lump sum" donations from Divisions in memory of deceased teachers passing away during each year. The Sisters of Mercy also donate money upon the death of a member. Thus, each year the Foundation is able to donate approximately \$30,000 to children's charities **to bring our grand total since 1987 to \$369,750**. Contributions may be made to the Foundation from anyone who wishes to honor the memory of deceased teachers: **Newfoundland and Labrador Retired Teachers' Foundation, 3 Kenmount Road, St. John's, NL, A1B 1W1**.

RTANL MEMBERSHIP FEE INCREASE

On **January 15, 2019** the fee for members of the Retired Teachers' Association of Newfoundland and Labrador (RTANL) increased from \$0.75 per pay period to **\$1.00 PER PAY PERIOD** for a total annual membership fee of \$24.00.

The increase, recommended by the RTANL Provincial Executive, was endorsed by the Biennial General Meeting held in St. John's on October 2-4, 2018.

In order to work effectively, the Provincial Executive members (who often reside at great distances from each other) need to meet at least twice each year. The Provincial Executive will also meet with the Division Presidents and the Retired Teachers' Foundation at certain times. The cost of transportation, hotel accommodations and meals has all increased considerably since the fee of \$18.00 was approved at BGM in 2002. The RTANL also has financial commitments to the Newfoundland and Labrador Coalition of Seniors and Retirees, the Canadian Association of Retired Teachers (ACER-CART), and the Eastern Canada Retired Teachers' Organization (ECRTO). Be assured that the Executive and Committee members endeavour to keep a careful eye on expenses to get the greatest value for the dollar.



Macular Degeneration: The Leading Cause of Age-Related Blindness

by Beverly Fisher

Age-related macular degeneration (AMD) affects the macula – the central most part of the retina, which is the inner layer at the back of the eye responsible for detailed central vision. The macula is used for reading, driving, and recognizing people's faces. Macular degeneration causes the center of your vision to blur or distort while the side or peripheral vision remains unaffected. It is generally related to the aging process and is the leading cause of blindness in North America in adults over the age of 55. While there is no cure, early detection and preventative measures can delay or reduce vision loss.

There are two types of AMD: dry and wet, with the dry form being the most common. It is also the milder form, where there is a gradual degeneration of the central retinal tissues that make up the macula, and symptoms generally develop slowly over time. The wet form is a sudden leakage, or bleeding, from weak blood vessels under the macula and symptoms progress rapidly. Wet AMD accounts for approximately 10 percent of all cases, but the dry form can develop into the wet form over time.

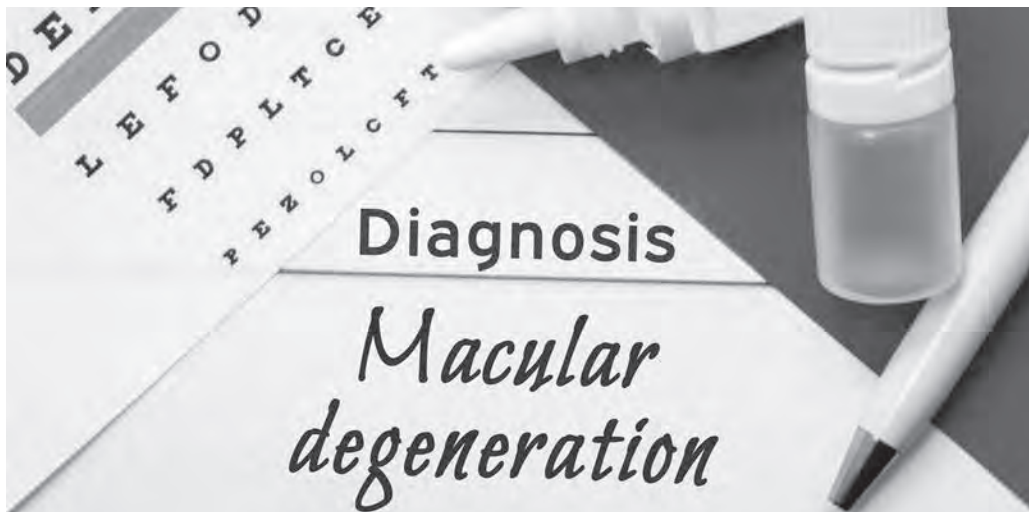
In the earliest stages, macular degeneration is entirely symptom free, but can be detected during routine examinations by your Optometrist. The most common initial symptom is slightly wavy or distorted central vision when performing tasks that require seeing detail. This blurred spot, or sense there is dirt in the way of clear vision, cannot be corrected with eyewear.

Over time, the damaged area may increase in size and interfere with reading and recognizing faces. Patients don't experience pain with AMD.

Early detection is crucial, as there is currently no cure for AMD. Dry AMD is treated with lifestyle modifications like exercise, wearing sunglasses to reduce UV radiation, and stopping smoking. Many cases of wet AMD can be treated with injections of anti-VEGF therapy into the eye to stop leaking blood vessels. Ocular vitamin supplements, including lutein, zeaxanthin, and vitamins C, E, and Zinc, can also assist in slowing the progression of AMD.

Lifelong UV protection and good nutrition are believed to play key roles in preventing AMD. Living a healthy lifestyle by keeping your blood pressure down, reducing your intake of fatty foods, and not smoking are all recommended. A diet high in antioxidants, such as those found in fruits and leafy vegetables, may help prevent AMD. Regular eye examinations by your Optometrist are also important in the early detection of AMD.

Information in this article was obtained from a pamphlet produced by NL Doctors of Optometry. For more information on this and other eye-related issues, contact your Optometrist, visit the 'Ask a Doctor of Optometry' Facebook page at facebook.com/AskadoctorofOptometry, or go to nl.doctorsofoptometry.ca.



KIDS EAT SMART BREAKFAST CLUBS ARE VOLUNTEER RUN

If you want something done, ask a busy person. How many times have you heard that old saying, especially since retirement?

Kids Eat Smart Foundation is built on the premise that we are volunteer run. We rely on the dedication and commitment of volunteers to ensure children receive a nutritious breakfast at school. Many of those volunteers are people like you who are retired from the education system.

It's been a difficult winter for many people in our province – cold, lots of snow and ice and just all around miserable. The cost of heating your home is rising, and we have seen an increase in the cost of food. For many families, it's becoming more difficult to put food on their table. That is why our Kids Eat Smart Breakfast Clubs are so important.

Breakfast is one less thing a family has to worry about. A mom at a school told us she sends her children to the Breakfast Club because she knows they will get milk there and she cannot afford to buy milk at home. Every school day we serve over 29,000 meals to children and youth in schools throughout our Province. We could not do this without the support of so many donors and partners who fund the programs.

Volunteer Week was April 7-13. The theme for this year was *The Volunteer Factor Lifting Communities*. Thank you for your volunteer time during Volunteer Week and every day for ensuring our children start their school day well nourished and ready to learn.

School staffs are constantly recruiting new volunteers for their Breakfast Clubs. If you are interested in giving some of your time for an incredibly rewarding experience, please contact your local school. They will help you get started.



For great menu ideas, healthy recipes, fundraising updates and inspirational stories regarding our Breakfast Clubs, please follow us on Facebook and Twitter @KidsEatSmartNL. For more information or to make a donation, please visit our website at www.kidseatsmart.ca, call us at 722-1996, toll free 1-877-1996 or email info@kidseatsmart.ca.



**Kids Eat Smart
Foundation**
NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR



April 23, 2019

Dear Plan Member,

You will recall that as part of the Pension Reform Agreement dated June 15, 2015 and the Joint Sponsorship Agreement (JSA) dated March 15, 2016, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador (Government) and the Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association (NLTA) became joint sponsors of the Teachers' Pension Plan (Plan or TPP). The Teachers' Pension Plan Corporation (TPPC or Corporation) was established, on August 31, 2016, as Trustee and Administrator of the Plan. Since the Corporation's inception, the Plan has been overseen by independent, expert Board members who are required to make decisions in the best interest of all beneficiaries of the Plan. In accordance with the JSA, the Plan sponsors each appointed four individuals to the TPPC Board of Directors. This governance structure is key to the Plan's success. The Board has been working diligently to fulfill the terms of the Pension Reform Agreement and JSA.

The Board is pleased to report that a significant milestone was reached during the 2018 Fall sitting of the House of Assembly when Bill 45, an act respecting a pension plan for teachers, was passed. Bill 45 provided for the continued operation of the Corporation, committed Government to continue its special payments to the TPP fund along with regular contributions and outlined Government's obligations to the TPP. On April 15, 2019 the Teachers' Pensions Act, 2018, c.T-4.01 (TPA 2018) was proclaimed and came into force. You can find the TPA 2018 on our website at: www.tppcnl.ca.

Prior to pension reform, the TPP was subject to the Pension Benefits Act (PBA), the provincial act that regulates all pension plans in the Province. Under the terms of the Pension Reform Agreement and JSA, the TPP is no longer subject to the PBA. The primary PBA protections have been replicated in the TPA 2018 or the Plan. Such protections include locking-in and marriage breakdown provisions.

Changes to the Teachers' Pension Plan

These changes to the TPP do not change or impact the amount of pension accrual for active teachers or regular payment of pension to pensioners.

From your perspective as a plan member, the most significant outcome of the enactment of the new TPA 2018 is related to the administrative provisions for the TPP. As required under the JSA, those provisions have been removed from the legislation and are now included in the non-statutory **Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Pension Plan Text (the Plan Text)**. The Plan Text is now the official document governing the operations of the TPP and will enable the Corporation to effectively administer the plan on behalf of members. The Plan Text is available on our website at: www.tppcnl.ca.

The adoption of the Plan Text is positive for both active and retired teachers. The following is a discussion of the key areas where the provisions of both the Plan Text and new TPA 2018 differ from the previous act.

Designation of Beneficiary

Under the former act, a plan member could only name a beneficiary if they did not have a Principal Beneficiary, a dependent child or an other dependent and then only if the named beneficiary was dependent upon the member for financial support. Upon the death of a member with no principal beneficiary, any death benefits would be paid to the plan member's estate, with no option for the benefit to be paid to a named beneficiary. This could potentially have negative financial implications for the member as the member's estate is subject to tax and accountable to creditors. Payments to a designated beneficiary would mitigate these considerations.

Section 7 of the Plan Text now provides that a plan member may designate a beneficiary to receive a benefit payment. As the Corporation moves towards full implementation of this benefit, we will provide a separate communication to all plan members outlining all necessary actions.

Appeal Provision

Under previous administrative practices, if a plan member disagreed with a decision of the administrator with respect to a pension decision, their only option was to appeal that decision through the courts. The Corporation is committed to ensuring that plan members have a fair and efficient structure in place to address their issues regarding the administrative practices, policies and decisions of the Corporation. As a result, Section 18.5 of the Plan Text provides for the establishment of an Appeals Committee. The Appeals Policy is available on the Corporation's website at: www.tppcnl.ca.

Technical Clauses

As you review the new Plan Text, you will also notice several technical clauses that are included as a result of the transition from a statutory to non-statutory Plan Text. These clauses have no impact on the entitlements of plan members.

The various Plan documents are available on the Corporation's website. We routinely provide communications related to the Plan via the Corporation's website in order to increase the efficiency of communication. You may request a paper version of any documents by contacting us.

We would encourage you to review the Plan Text and the TPA 2018. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the Corporation by telephone: 709-793-8772 or toll free at 1-833-345-8772; or via e-mail: memberservices@tppcnl.ca.

We would be pleased to assist you.

Yours sincerely,

Paula McDonald,
Chief Executive Officer



**Keep us
together**

Become a Family-based
carer for siblings!

 **keyassets**
THE CHILDREN'S SERVICES PROVIDER

info@keyassetsnl.ca

 Key Assets Newfoundland and Labrador

Key Assets is a non-profit organization providing family-based care and support services to children and young people with complex needs.

Family-based care is a way of providing family life for someone else's child in your own home when they are unable to live with their birth family.

We offer comprehensive training, 24/7 support, opportunities to take breaks, and a generous tax-free career allowance

If you would like to receive more information, please email us at info@keyassetsnl.ca, contact us through Key Assets Newfoundland and Labrador on Facebook, or call us at (709) 690-8290.

Some of our most successful careers are or have been teachers.

It seems like a natural fit.

Start your journey to becoming a family-based career now!



IMPORTANT NOTE FOR RETIRED TEACHERS re: GROUP INSURANCE

All information regarding the NLTA Group Insurance Program will now be sent directly to all members of the program (active and retired) electronically, as well as placed on the NLTA website for access. Given the ever-increasing costs of postage, no longer will direct mailing be an option. Any changes to the insurance program will also be provided to the Retired Teachers' Association for inclusion in their Newsletter. If you have an email address and have not already provided it to the NLTA, please do so as soon as possible by emailing: mail@nlta.nl.ca or by contacting the NLTA office at 709-726-3223 or toll free in the province at 1-800-563-3599. If you do not have an email address, please contact the NLTA office.

VOLUNTEER AS A CULTURAL AMBASSADOR AT THE ROOMS

The Rooms is looking for volunteers with traditional skills to knit, split fish, hook rugs and mend nets in our exhibition galleries this July and August one afternoon a week. Training will be provided in mid-June.

To volunteer as a Cultural Ambassador, or for more information, please contact:

Gillian Davidge at 757-8109
gilliandavidge@therooms.ca

Welcome to All New Retirees

We extend a warm welcome to all new members of our Association and encourage you to get involved. You'll find participating in Division activities is an enjoyable way to begin your retirement, especially since so many of your friends are already members.

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND BLACKHALL HOUSE REUNION 2019

Event Dates:

Friday, August 9 to Sunday, August. 11, 2019

Target:

All Blackall House Alumni from 1967 - 1985

Location:

MUN Campus, St. John's NL (various locations)

Organizing Committee Contact:

Email blackallreunion@gmail.com

It's been 50 years since Blackall House on MUN's St. John's campus opened. That was 1967, and up until 1985 it was an all-male residence. A committee is in place planning a resident's reunion for those early years 67-85.

August 9 - 11, 2019 will be a fantastic weekend of activities that will get you and your former housemates reminiscing about past stories while creating a host of new memories.

To ensure it is a success, we need YOU ... the former residents of Blackall House from 1967 to 1985! If you lived in Blackall during those years and you want to stay in the loop of what is being planned and when registration goes live, please go to this link, www.mun.ca/alumni/reunions/blackallreunion.php, click on "REGISTER FOR UPDATES" at the bottom of the page and submit all contact information requested. We are missing a lot of names and contact information and we want to reach as many people as possible

We look forward to seeing you in August 2019!!



VISITATION

All Divisions have Sick-Visiting Committees. Please notify your Division as soon as you hear that any member is ailing at home or in the hospital, so that visitations can be arranged. Members from other Divisions sent to hospital in St. John's will be visited by Avalon East members, if requested by those Divisions. Early notification is essential. Contact person in St. John's: Clayton Rice at 709-782-8914.

REMINDER re DECEASED MEMBERS

Please notify your Division President if you hear that any Member in your area has passed away. All Divisions make an annual donation to the Retired Teachers' Foundation in memory of their deceased members. Also, your Provincial Executive extends sympathy to their families and friends through our *In Memoriam* column, and honours their memory as we read their names from the *Honour Roll* during the Church Service portion of our Biennial Reunions. We need your help to make sure that every name is included in the *In Memoriam* column and on the Honour Roll.

MEMBERSHIP CARD BENEFITS

All members are reminded to shop around for best prices. Pharmacies charge varying dispensing fees. If you live in an area where more than one pharmacy operates, it might be worth your while to check such fees. It is impossible for the editors of this Newsletter to publish details for all areas of the province so members, be vigilant. It may be of benefit to show your RTANL Membership Card to avail of discounts.



Please be advised that the Teacher Discount List can be accessed on the RTANL Link on the NLTA website (www.nlta.nl.ca). Go to Quick Links, R for Retired Teachers' Association, and then click "Retired Teachers' Discount List".

RTANL Newsletter Submissions

Our members are invited to contribute to their newsletter. We are pleased that many of you continue to respond with personal articles, stories, and letters of interest and we look forward to receiving many more. **On our website there are Guidelines to follow re type and size of print etc. For consistency in our Newsletter, it is very important that you follow these guidelines particularly to use Times New Roman Font Size 12.**

The RTANL, however, does not accept excerpts from books or promotions of printed materials or other items which may be construed as unpaid advertising.

Please send your submissions
(preferably in electronic form) to:

Don White, don.white01@bellaliant.net or
76 Glendale Avenue, Mount Pearl, A1N 1N6
prior to **October 15** for the Fall edition and
prior to **March 15** for the Spring edition.

The Newsletter Committee reserves the right to edit all submissions.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

From time to time your Provincial Executive receives requests to advertise "job opportunities" which may be of interest to our retirees. We view these as potential "Benefits" to our members and therefore deem them important to include in our Newsletter. Often though, we receive such queries between our newsletter publishing dates, so to be timely for our members we have decided to include them on our website. It is suggested that members check our website from time to time to view these ads.

IMPORTANT NOTICE • AUTO REGISTRATION

As of April 30, 2018, renewal reminders for Driver License AND Motor Vehicle Registration are longer sent by mail.

Vehicle registration renewal reminders can now be received by email. Make sure your email address is updated with Motor Registration Division. **If you do not have email**, your vehicle registration must still be renewed annually. The registration expires the last day of the month shown on your registration document and on your vehicle stickers. We advise that you mark this date in your calendar yearly.

Do you need extra help remembering when to renew your registration? The next time you renew your vehicle you can sign up to change your renewal date to your month of birth. For example, if you were born in the month of November, your vehicle registration would expire on November 30. This request can be made in person at any Motor Registration Division office. For further information about this option, please call 1-877-636-6867.

How will I know when to renew my driver's license?

You must renew your driver's license every 5 years, on or before your birthday. Your expiry date can be found on your driver's license card.

If you have email, you may also sign up to receive a renewal reminder re your Driver's License by email. It is your personal responsibility to maintain a **valid Vehicle Registration and a valid Driver's License**. There is a **\$250.00 fine** if either is expired!



NL MOTOR REGISTRATION DIVISION



Tales Told By Teachers, Vol. II

(Note: Volume I now **SOLD OUT!**)

Need a great gift idea (birthday, Christmas, retirement)?

This is it!

And what a bargain: a special price of \$10.⁰⁰

*(*plus postage where applicable)*

Contains stories, poems, amusing anecdotes – recalled by retired teachers:

“tales out of school” to make you laugh or cry – nostalgia at its best!

Volumes I and II were published by the Retired Teachers' Association of Newfoundland and Labrador:

Volume I in 1998 and Volume II in August 2010.

Order by phone, e-mail or post:

Clayton Rice: clayton@warp.nfld.net;; (709) 782-8914

Albert Legge: a.legge@eastlink.ca; (709) 683-2782

Don White: don.white01@bellaliant.net; (709) 368-7269

RTANL, 3 Kenmount Road, St. John's, NL A1B 1W1

In Memoriam

We mourn the passing of the following retired teachers and extend sincere sympathy to their families and friends:



<i>Viola C. Annable (St. John's)</i>	<i>Donald Leonard (Corner Brook)</i>
<i>Karl Arnold (Hare Bay)</i>	<i>Jane Martin (Mount Pearl)</i>
<i>Marcella Ash (Carbonear)</i>	<i>Elizabeth McCrowe (St. John's)</i>
<i>Simeon Barter (Port aux Basques)</i>	<i>Thomas F. McGrath (St. John's)</i>
<i>Byron Bursey (St. John's)</i>	<i>Allister Mesh (Lewisporte)</i>
<i>Ronald Churchill (St. John's)</i>	<i>Margaret Molloy (St. Lawrence)</i>
<i>James Cook (St. John's)</i>	<i>Tobis Moulard (Bonavista)</i>
<i>Jean Coombs (Corner Brook)</i>	<i>Madonna A. Murphy (St. John's)</i>
<i>Allan Cranford (Northern Arm)</i>	<i>Jessie Myles (Mount Pearl)</i>
<i>Brother Joseph Darcy (St. John's)</i>	<i>Mary F. Parsons (Rocky Harbour)</i>
<i>John Dillon (Colinet)</i>	<i>Kenneth Penney (Lewsiporte)</i>
<i>Joan Drodge (Torbay)</i>	<i>Roberta Pomeroy (St. John's)</i>
<i>Victor Duffett (Toronto)</i>	<i>Dallas L. Rose (St. John's)</i>
<i>Allan George Edwards (Grand Falls-Windsor)</i>	<i>Kevin Samson (Brig Bay)</i>
<i>Audrey Foster (Springdale)</i>	<i>Josephine M. Shea (Gambo)</i>
<i>Alice M. Griffin (Corner Brook)</i>	<i>David Smith (Bonavista)</i>
<i>Sidney J. Harris (Hermitage)</i>	<i>Rosalie Spurrell (Gander)</i>
<i>Newman Head (Ragged Harbour)</i>	<i>James W. Starkes (South Brook)</i>
<i>Rosemary Hedderson (Marysvale)</i>	<i>Marina Loretta Sullivan (Pouch Cove)</i>
<i>Amelia Hodder (St. John's)</i>	<i>Agnes M. Thistle (St. John's)</i>
<i>Sr. Sarah Hynes (St. John's)</i>	<i>Mary Traverse (Placentia)</i>
<i>Hazel Ingram (Clareville)</i>	<i>Beaton Tulk (Musgravetown)</i>
<i>Victor Keeping (Victoria)</i>	<i>Raymond Walsh (Bay De Verde)</i>
<i>Sr. Barbara Kenny (St. John's)</i>	<i>Andrew Woodfine (Goulds)</i>

May They Rest In Peace
