



Newsletter

Retired Teachers' Association

Vol 33 No 2 • June 2022

President's Message

Sharon Penney

As I write this report, I am grateful that COVID has loosened its grip a little and permitted us to resume some activities in a somewhat more normal way.

The work of our Association has continued uninterrupted on all fronts. Since our last newsletter we have continued to liaise with our member organizations via a combination of Zoom meetings, face-to-face meetings and emails. Through this combination of formats, we have maintained an active and vocal advocacy on issues that concern us as retired teachers and seniors.

Through our membership on the Coalition of Seniors, Retirees and Pensioners we have actively met with both the local Members of the House of Assembly and the local Members of Parliament. We have identified the proposed provisions concerning pensions in the PERT Report as possibly having serious implications for our future retirees. The Coalition has reviewed the Home Care Standards document and made representations to various committees regarding the regulations being proposed as well as the policing of these policies. A more in-depth report, authored by Executive Member Patricia Parsons, on the activities of the Coalition is found elsewhere in this newsletter.

COVID has thrown a real monkey wrench into the planning of events by Memorial University's Faculty of Education to celebrate their 100th Anniversary. The planned "A Time", a symposium to celebrate the history, the contribution to the overall development of the province, the innovations in education, and future of the Faculty has had to be postponed from the Spring of 2022 to the Fall of 2022. The celebratory banquet has also been rescheduled. As part of the initial recognition of the Faculty, the RTANL was invited to have a number of its members take part in a Round Table Discussion focusing on the evolution of teaching over the years. Unfortunately, this Round Table format had to be canceled completely. Instead, the RTANL was invited to be an audience participant during keynote speaker Dr. Gerald Galway's presentation *Reading, Writing and Religion: A Brief*

History of Teacher Education in Newfoundland and Labrador on May 4 and a panel discussion on May 5, 2022, *Visualizing Teachers and Education During the Pandemic – the Lessons of Resilience*. We were represented



at this event by 25 members from across the province. Both events were super interesting and well received. Our own plans to commemorate this momentous occasion have also been delayed. The RTANL commissioned a piece of artwork to hang in the lobby of the Hickman Building, but because of the delayed celebrations we have decided to delay the presentation of the artwork to the Faculty of Education to coincide with the official celebrations this Fall.

ACER-CART will hold their AGM in Ottawa from June 2-3, 2022. Vice-President Joe Lafitte and I will attend. Further details of that meeting will be reported in the next newsletter. Last year's AGM was, by necessity, a Zoom format. A report from that meeting is found elsewhere in this newsletter.

Since our last newsletter, the Group Insurance Managers have received and analyzed the results of the survey completed as part of the overall market study of our Health Plan. As a result of that study, changes were made to our plan. All teachers enrolled in the Group Health and Dental plans have been informed of the changes. Starting in May, dental procedures will be reimbursed at 80% of the 2022 Provincial Dental Fee Guide. Additionally, the reimbursement rate for prescription glasses will increase from \$125 every three calendar years to \$175 every two calendar years. For a more detailed outline of the benefits in our plans please visit our website which is hosted at the NLTA website: www.nlta.nl.ca/rtanl

Table Officers Meetings took place on July 29, 2021, in Carbonear and in St. John's on April 19, 2022. These meetings were an opportunity to deal with day-to-day issues of the Association and to make plans for the

(cont'd. on page 4)

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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 2021-22

Table Officers
President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer

Benefits and Wellness
..... Beverly Fisher (Chair)

Finance Clayton Rice (Chair)
Sharon Penney, Don White

Liaison ... Sharon Penney (Chair), Joseph Lafitte

Newsletter Don White (Chair)
Clayton Rice, Joseph Lafitte

Biennial Award Eric Ayers (Chair)
Thomas Kendell, Joseph Lafitte

Provincial Executive Ad Hoc Committees 2021-22

BGM/Reunion: Beverly Fisher (Chair)
Patricia Parsons (50th Anniversary Committee)
Sharon Penney & Eric Ayers (Liaison)
Clayton Rice & Don White (Co-Chairs of BGM)

Political Action (Coalition)
Patricia Parsons (Chair), Sharon Penney

Boundaries Beverly Fisher

50th Anniversary Celebrations
Beverly Fisher (Chair), Patricia Parsons (Co-Chair)

**NLTA Group Insurance Managers RTANL
Representative** Sharon Penney

ACER-CART Sharon Penney (Director)
Joseph Lafitte (Observer)

Tales Told by Teachers Thomas Kendell

Divisions Liaison Thomas Kendell

Foundation Liaison Eric Ayers

Provincial Executive Handbook
Don White (Chair), Clayton Rice



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

ADVERTISING POLICY

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: Treasurer@rtanl.ca.

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BGM and Reunion 2022 back cover

RTANL 17th BGM/REUNION

"Celebrating 50 Years"

October 4-6, 2022

Greenwood Inn & Suites

Corner Brook

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.)

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. **For consistency in our Newsletter, we have included Submission Guidelines under the "Publications" link on our website at www.nlta.nl.ca/rtanl.**

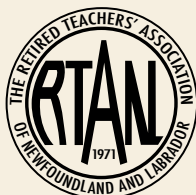
The RTANL, however, does not accept excerpts from books or promotions of printed materials or other items which may be construed as unpaid advertising.

Please send your submissions to:

Don White, Secretary@rtanl.ca

prior to **October 31** for the Fall edition and
prior to **April 30** for the Spring edition.

The Newsletter Committee reserves the right to edit all submissions.



Nonagenarian Birthdays

If you know of any RTANL members in your area who are **90 years of age or over**, please forward their NAME, ADDRESS, and BIRTH DATE to Secretary Don White at **Secretary@rtanl.ca**.

We would love to keep in touch with them by sending a birthday card.

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.

RECEIVE NEWS & INFORMATION ELECTRONICALLY FROM THE RTANL

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, Treasurer@rtanl.ca.



HAS YOUR EMAIL OR MAILING ADDRESS RECENTLY CHANGED?

Please advise your Division President and RTANL Vice-President c/o 3 Kenmount Road, St. John's, NL, A1B 1W1 or VicePresident@rtanl.ca. When sending a change of address, please include your previous address.



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.



(President's Message continued from page 1)

Executive Meetings and the BGM. These are very busy meetings with long agendas.

Executive Meetings are in effect where the majority of the work of our Association is conducted. As an Executive, we meet twice a year. Since our last BGM we met in Clarendville on October 21-22, 2021, and in Marystown on April 27-28, 2022. At our meeting in Marystown, we also officially recognized the newest member to the Provincial Executive, Richard Duffy. Richard was elected as an Alternate at the last BGM to join the Executive at the end of the Past President's term. While in both communities, we had the opportunity to luncheon with RTANL members from the respective Divisions. The Executive finds these gatherings a great time to glean information on the concerns expressed by our members. We extend an invitation to any member of the RTANL to contact us at anytime with an item of concern.

As we gather for the next BGM, we will also celebrate our 50th Anniversary as an Association. To add to the celebration, the Executive will recognize one long-time member of the Association for unparalleled devotion to the running of the organization, with an achievement award. This Award will be named the 50th Anniversary Award for Service. The winner will be announced at our BGM in October in Corner Brook. At that time, we will

also recognize a member for exemplary service to the RTANL via our Biennial Award. The BGM Committee has planned a number of events and happenings to celebrate our 50th Anniversary to coincide with the BGM. If you have not already registered, register now online, so you don't miss out on the fun of "Celebrating 50 Years".

On a personal note, I have a new title since our last newsletter, "Grandma". Our first grandchild, a boy named Jack, joined our family on March 6. We are so happy and proud to welcome him into our family.



Provincial Executive: Front (l-r): Joseph Lafitte, Sharon Penney, Beverly Fisher, Patricia Parsons
Back (l-r): Albert Legge, Clayton Rice, Thomas Kendell, Don White, Eric Ayers



Retired teachers attend MUN's 100th Anniversary Celebrations at The Rooms, May 4 & 5, 2022.

NEWS & VIEWS

Bonavista Division

Beverly Fisher

COVID has continued to impact our Division. Due to the sharp rise in cases in our province, and especially in our area, our executive has had to cancel tentative plans that had been made in the fall. These events included our Christmas social, a games afternoon, and a general meeting. We continue to think of the safety of our members and have held off on planning any indoor gatherings until next fall.

As in previous winters, some of our members took part in the recreational curling held at Bonavista Stadium on Thursday mornings; however, the annual funspiel, sponsored by the curling league, was cancelled again for the third year in a row. The physical activity and time spent together in a more open venue helped to build camaraderie among the members who attended.

We continue to communicate with our members via email and through our Facebook page. Any pertinent information is also delivered by telephone if a member doesn't have internet access. Our card secretary has been kept quite busy dispatching sympathy, get well, and special birthday and anniversary cards.

Hopefully, this fall will bring us back together again with a greater sense of normalcy than we have known in a while! We are hoping to have a group at the BGM in Corner Brook and will be planning some activities for our membership here at home. As the days warm up, let us embrace all the beauty that awaits us. Best wishes for a safe and enjoyable summer from Bonavista Division!



l-r: Frank Burt, Treasurer; Linda Hicks, Member at Large; Theresa White, Vice President; Barbara Duffett, Member at Large; Peggy Duffett, Member at Large; Sandra Carpenter, Secretary; Beverly Fisher, President

Burin Division

Donna Mary Walsh

After two years of COVID-19 restrictions, the RTANL could finally partake in face-to-face meetings. Eric Ayers, Member at Large on the Provincial RTANL, suggested in October that the Provincial Executive hold their April meeting in Marystown. Thus, the Provincial Executive held its meeting in Marystown on April 28, 2022, at the Marystown Hotel and Convention Centre.



Luncheon in Marystown.

Following the executive meeting, the Burin Division of the RTANL, headed by President Deborah Lewis-Clarke, was invited to a luncheon. This luncheon was sponsored by the Provincial Executive of the RTANL and retired teachers on the Burin Peninsula were invited. Approximately 35 retirees, including the Provincial Executive, were in attendance.



Deborah Lewis-Clarke, President of Burin Division.

After the luncheon, President Sharon Penney addressed the group and highlighted such topics as the RTANL Foundation and the charitable organizations supported by the provincial body. Also, since this is the 50th anniversary of the Faculty of Education at MUN, several retirees from our branch attended the celebration at The Rooms on May 4 and 5. This year the BGM will be held in Corner Brook on October 4-6, 2022.



President Sharon addresses luncheon attendees in Marystown.

At the end of the luncheon the Burin Division of the RTANL set May 5, 2022, for the election of officers for its new executive. Overall, it was great to put the faces to names of the Provincial Executive and vice versa. It was also a great opportunity for the Provincial Executive to visit our area.

During our annual meeting on May 5, 2022, we elected a new executive for our Division, namely: Donna Mary Walsh, President; Mary Beth Farrell, Vice President; Kevin Glavine, Secretary; Susanna Glavine, Treasurer; Susan Brockerville and Brenda Best, Members at Large.

Central Division

William Kelly

Central Division was greatly impacted by COVID-19 and its variants. Most of our meetings and activities were postponed. In the present year, the Executive met in September 2021 and held a general meeting in November in Gander. Very few members attended. Usually Central Division “rests” until April and Executive and general meetings are held. It was planned to have a dinner meeting for members in April 2022 in Gander and one in October at Grand Falls-Windsor. We were optimistic that COVID would give us a break by then.

The Executive met in early April 2022. At that time there were approximately 40 people in hospital with COVID, several in critical care, several hundred new cases being reported each day and a death rate averaging two per day. With that in mind, we postponed the dinner meeting and the June banquet. These ideas will be revisited in the Fall. Hopefully there will be a sense of normalcy by then.

In early May 2022, I had the opportunity to attend Memorial University’s presentations at The Rooms. On May 4, Dr. Gerald Galway, Interim Dean of Education

gave a presentation on the history of Teacher Training in this province since the early 1800s: *Reading, Writing and Religion: A Brief History of Teacher Education in Newfoundland and Labrador*. It was a most interesting presentation. The following day a panel discussion was held. The speakers, two primary teachers, Angela Rose, Kim Pelley, (substituting for Joanne Anthony), NLTA President Trent Langdon, Tony Stack, CEO/Director of the English School District, and Dr. Leslie Redmond, Associate Dean, Undergraduate Education, Faculty of Education, discussed teaching during the pandemic. Many challenges had to be overcome but it appears that teaching and learning were very successful.

I wish to convey my thanks to President Sharon and Provincial Executive for the invitation. It is greatly appreciated.

Coast of Bays Division

Bridget Kelly

Summer greetings from the Coast of Bays Division.

We are up and running with a luncheon meeting on June 1, 2022 attended by nine members. Our current Executive includes: President, Margaret Power; Secretary, Georgina Meade; and Treasurer, Bridget Kelly. Like all Divisions, we had two years of the pandemic so there were no meetings; however, we did keep in touch through messaging and emails. Like everyone else, we survived and were looking forward to seeing our colleagues recently.

Our Division has approximately 80 registered retired teachers and all are in the Coast of Bays region: Bay d’Espoir (34); English Harbour (16); Harbour Breton (12); Hermitage and Sandyville (6); Pools Cove (2); with Boxey, Seal Cove, English Harbour West and Conne River having one teacher each. Some of our teachers have relocated to other places but are still registered with our Division.

The following is some of the history of our Division, which had its first luncheon meeting on December 1, 1997 with over 20 teachers in attendance as well as Mr. and Mrs. Bill Day. Bill was Provincial Vice-President at the time. Our first Executive consisted of: President, Bridget Kelly; Vice-President, Monica Willcott; Treasurer, Gord Kearley; and Secretary, Melita Barnes. I am pleased to say all four of these teachers were in attendance at our recent get together.

Over the last 25 years we tried to switch our meetings to different towns in our region but found that did not work well, so for now all meetings are held in the Bay d'Espoir area.

We have endeavoured to remain active and involved with guest speakers attending our meetings to inform us of current updates on RTANL policies. We were pleased to have the full Provincial Executive attend a local luncheon here in May 2019 so we could finally match faces to the names. We support the In Memoriam program and send a donation every year to The Janeway Foundation.

We have developed our own Book of Remembrance with our contact person, Mark Courtney, who resides in English Harbour West. Copies of this special book were placed in town museums and/or libraries or town council offices so people in the communities could read of teachers who had taught in the area. This book was launched on October 7, 2008 and is updated as needed.

This is an overview of our 25 years as a retired teachers' group. We are still small in numbers, but try to remain active.

Con-Tri Division

Pauline Warren Welsh/Don Case

Spring greetings everyone! The Con-Tri executive has had several meetings this Spring to deal with the business of our division. As you are aware, we are still not out of the pandemic. We are trying to bring back some sort of the normal routine; however, it is not easy. We are hoping as time moves on, things will get better.

We are considering holding a general meeting in the Fall, sometime after the BGM, but before that happens we need to secure a place to meet and the COVID

situation must become much better. In the meantime, communications with members will continue electronically.

We have arranged a 'Heritage Tour' for our membership in June. It will mostly be an outdoor event with a lunch provided. Let's hope our members take the opportunity to participate in this event.

The Con-Tri executive is in the process of establishing an award of merit to be given every two years to a member in the Con-Tri Division. More details will be announced in the Fall.

At our April 25 executive meeting, a presentation was made to the RTF of \$1,000. Our treasurer, Pat Parsons, presented this donation to Foundation chairperson, Mona Rose on our behalf. We believe it is important to support our Foundation because of the wonderful contribution it makes to children's charities.



Treasurer Pat Parsons' presentation to Mona Rose, RTF Chairperson.

Several executive members attended the celebration of '100 Years of Education in Newfoundland' at The Rooms in St. John's on May 4 and 5.

We attempt to keep a record, in addition to sending a card, to all those members who reach the age of 90. If you know of anyone in our division who is or will be 90 this year, please contact any member of Con-Tri executive. Thank you.

We have our 'Not Back to School Walk' (NBTSW) scheduled for September 8, 2022. This year the walk will be held in Heart's Content. We hope to see you there! A reminder will be sent out close to the date of the walk.

Our BGM and reunion this year will be held at the Greenwood Inn and Suites in Corner Brook from October 4-6. We encourage all our members to attend.



Gary Moulton presenting a donation to the Trinity-Conception-Placentia Health Foundation.

You'll have a great time! Check out: www.nlta.nl.ca/rtanl to register and get more information.

The summer promises to be better for many of us. We can enjoy more of the outdoors and will likely have had the second booster shot. Hopefully this will improve our chances of having better overall health.

On behalf of the Con-Tri executive, have a safe, happy and healthy summer.

Of all the troubles great and small are those that never happened at all.

Tri-Bay Division

Cathy Bailey-Reid

We are now into our third spring since the COVID-19 pandemic began and unfortunately, it is still very much with us. We realize there are varying levels of concern amongst our members; however, many of us may be of higher risk so group gatherings continue to cause anxiety. It is our hope that a group gathering, in late May or June, might be possible in an outdoor setting. A possible old-fashioned "end-of-the-year" picnic may be in the works.

Tri-Bay executive met on March 2. We planned our virtual Spring activity which ran from March 18 to April 1. Members were invited to submit a list of at least five activities they have engaged in during the past months. The winners, who received \$25 gas gift cards, were Colette Oldford-Short, Bill Reynolds and Paulette Porter.

An ad hoc committee consisting of Bill Reynolds, Colette Oldford-Short and Linda Thistle was established to develop our Constitution/By-Laws and to also propose a design for our Division Banner. Our Constitution/By-Laws were reviewed at an executive meeting on April 28. A final draft of our Constitution/By-laws will be shared via email with members prior to our next AGM in September 2022. We have also invited members to submit photos of the three bays in our division. Three photos will be selected to include in a collage on our banner.

We will be holding an Annual General Meeting in September 2022. Date and location will be finalized by early September. A review of division activities since the formation of our division, a financial report, presentation of our Constitution/By-Laws and a reveal of our banner will be on the agenda. Also, the current executive has been in place since January 2019; therefore, elections will be held during this meeting. We encourage members

to attend this very important meeting to ensure we continue in a positive direction with a strong executive in place.

Western Division

Geraldine Wall, Acting President

Greetings to all members of RTANL from Western Division. The past two years have indeed been a challenge. COVID-19 has restricted the Division from continuing regular activities. The last face-to-face meeting, prior to restrictions being imposed, was in October 2019. Since that time we have tried as best we could by telephone, regular mail or electronically. We are hopeful that with restrictions being lifted, we can resume our regular activities.

In October 2021 the annual donation of \$500 was made to Western Memorial Regional Hospital. This donation is to assist with care for pediatric patients. In mid-December of 2021, when restrictions had started to ease up, Executive members resumed the annual Christmas visitations to our members currently in hospital, shut-in at home, residing in Personal Care Homes, and residing in Long-Term Care facilities. The traditional poinsettia was given to each member. This was one of the most rewarding visitations ever. Members were so happy for outside contact with a visit from their Association. The emotion expressed by recipients was grateful and heart-warming. One member was moved to tears; it was evident that this is a worthwhile project. The 18 area contacts in outlying areas of the Division also assist by visiting members in their immediate area. The Division also expresses thanks to these contacts through a Christmas card. These members are a valuable part of the Division; they keep area members in touch and informed.



Current Executive (l-r): Shirley Dawe, Libby Alexander, Theresa Dollimont, Roberta Pafford, Geraldine Wall, Maxine Reardon, Selina Pieroway, Lil Critch.

Western Division currently has two Regionals. Labrador West has been an active component of the Division for many years; however, the recent passing of the Regional President, Jean Kelly, has certainly left a void in that region. Our condolences go out to Jean's family and friends. She was a valuable and dedicated member of the Association for many years. We are hopeful that a member from that region will step up and fill that position. Communications Chairperson, Lil Critch, will be happy to hear from you. Please contact her at (709) 639-7212. In October 2019 a new Regional was formed in Stephenville with great enthusiasm and member support. They have also been under restrictions since that time. President Theresa Dollimount has informed the Division that the Executive will meet on May 20, 2022, to move forward with plans for their next Social. We wish them luck in all their future endeavours.

While being respective of COVID restrictions, Division Executive met on December 9, 2021 to discuss plans for the future. A decision was made to continue with the annual donation to the School Breakfast Program. Since donations had not been made during the restrictions, six schools were chosen in various areas which had not previously received a donation. Each school received \$300. Recipients for 2020 were: Belanger Memorial, Doyles; Canon Richards, Flower's Cove; and J.J. Curling, Corner Brook. Recipients for 2021 were: St. Peter's Academy, Benoit's Cove; Jens Haven Memorial, Nain; and Labrador Straits Elementary, L'Anse au Loup. At the end of that meeting, President Wayne Park announced that he was resigning his position in Western Division as of that date due to personal and family responsibilities. We extend a sincere "thank you" to President Wayne for his contribution to Western Division during his many years of service to our members and wish him well in all his future endeavours.

Prior to an Executive Meeting on March 10, 2022, twelve members of the Division met with the Executive to help prepare the mail out information for the Annual Bakeless Bake Sale for Western Division. Executive members assisted, but then moved their meeting to another area. The remaining members continued to complete the envelope stuffing, adding stamps and address labels and the project was completed. At the end of the Executive meeting, members who had assisted were invited to lunch as a thank you. These members expressed their support for this project and appreciated the opportunity to meet with other members and share lunch together. This project has reaped great benefits

for the Newfoundland and Labrador Retired Teachers' Foundation; all donations received are forwarded to the Foundation. Treasurer Pauline Bishop has advised that to date an amount of \$5,455 has been received and deposited to the Foundation account. Donations are still coming, but are fewer now. A heartfelt "thank you" to all members of Western Division who have, once again, generously donated to their Foundation. This project has been funded by the membership of this Division for many years to assist the Foundation in providing funds for specific children's charities that provide services to Newfoundland and Labrador children. In addition, the Division also makes an annual donation to the Foundation. For the past three years we have increased the donation and presented \$5,000 each year. The donation for 2022 has been approved and \$5,000 will be forwarded to the Foundation.

On May 18, 2022, Western Division Executive met to plan for the Division, moving forward. The meeting was followed by a luncheon with 27 members in attendance. Following the meal, Acting President, Geraldine Wall, shared information that had been discussed earlier at the meeting as well as information pertinent to Division issues. This prompted what turned out to be a great around-the-table exchange of information and discussion. Members were not aware that they needed to notify the Division of any change of address, or the passing of a Division member. These items are forwarded to Provincial Executive who will update the information. Unless we are notified of changes, members may not receive information from their Association to keep them informed. We don't want to add stress for a grieving family by sending mail addressed to their deceased loved one. Many members have indicated they no longer receive their copy of the Newsletter. They were reminded that if you did not request a hard copy of the Newsletter, it is currently distributed electronically and can be received by providing your email address or by visiting the web page. You must request if you prefer a hard copy. Members were reminded that if they have not already done so, and if they wish to attend, it is time to register for the Provincial BGM 2022 which will be held at the Greenwood Inn and Suites in Corner Brook, October 4-6. This promises to be a great celebration for the 50th Anniversary of the Provincial RTANL. Western is the host Division for this event. We hope to see many of you there. The discussion between members and Executive was relaxed and informative, questions were asked, suggestions were offered and concerns for the

future of the Division were expressed. It was a relaxed and informative exchange of ideas. Positive feedback from members suggested they enjoyed the exchange of ideas. It was the type of exchange that could attract more members to attend. Not only was information given, but member dialogue was also acknowledged. No one was in a hurry to leave. That might be a route to explore to improve attendance at future events.

Western Division has always been vibrant and active. During recent years, participation has declined. Not as many new retirees are joining the Association and many who do join do not participate. All but one member of the present Western Division Executive will be resigning at the Division BGM on September 15, 2022. A Nominating Committee has been formed. You can contact any member of the Committee if you wish to nominate a member to serve, or if you are interested in joining the new Executive, you can be nominated as well. Please contact Geraldine Wall, Chairperson, Tel: 634-4965, Lil Critch, Tel: 639-7212, or Selina Pieroway, Tel: 686-2829. We would like to see our Division rejuvenated and flourishing once again. Incidentally, November 19, 2022, will also be the 50th Anniversary of Western Division. We are hopeful that we will have a new Executive elected at that time to celebrate the past success of our Division and our hopes moving forward.

On May 4 and 5, 2022 three members from our Division – Geraldine Wall, Lil Critch and Roberta Pafford (two funded by Provincial Executive and one by Western Division) – were able to attend the MUN 100th Anniversary celebrations at The Rooms. Dr. Gerald Galway, Interim Dean of Education gave a presentation on the history of Teacher Training in this province since the early 1800s: *Reading, Writing and*

Religion: A Brief History of Teacher Education in Newfoundland and Labrador. It was a most interesting presentation. The following day a panel discussion was held. The speakers, primary teachers Angela Rose and Kim Pelley, (substituting for Joanne Anthony), NLTA President Trent Langdon, Tony Stack, CEO/Director of the English School District, and Dr. Leslie Redmond, Associate Dean, Undergraduate Education, Faculty of Education, discussed teaching during the pandemic. Both events were thoroughly enjoyed, and special thanks are extended to Provincial Executive for this opportunity.

This will be my last Newsletter report. I would like to thank all members of the RTANL for their kindness and support given to me during my involvement in the Association. My journey began in 1996, the year of my retirement, and has continued up to present. I have served Western Division Executive during that time, and I also served on Provincial Executive for a total of 10 years. Anita Finn introduced me to the Retired Teachers' Foundation in 2003 and I have been a Board member up to the present. It's heart warming to see the tremendous growth in the Foundation. I am proud to say that Western Division has been very supportive of the Foundation, helping, with the other Divisions, to make the Foundation the success it is today. I have enjoyed all my experiences that came with membership in this great Association. I visited seven Divisions, and two Regionals as Provincial President. I made many friends and renewed old acquaintances along the way. The RTANL has been a large part of my retirement years. I hope to continue my membership with Western Division and the RTANL well into the future. Thank you all!



President Geraldine Wall presents Roberta Pafford with the Western Division's award for unselfish and dedicated service to the Division.

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Labrador West (*Vacant*)

The RTANL extends sincere sympathy to the family of Jean Kelly. Jean was the Regional Contact for Labrador West for many years.

REMINDER re DECEASED MEMBERS

Please notify your Division President (who will then notify Don White, Provincial Secretary) 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.

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.

Note: Visitations cancelled until further notice due to COVID-19.

ECRTO Report

by Sharon Penney, President

The ECRTO Committee met via Zoom on March 10, 2022. It was announced that the ACER-CART AGM would be a face-to-face event in Ottawa on June 2 and 3, 2022.

Funding to branches was discussed. Like the Retired Teachers' Association of Newfoundland and Labrador (RTANL), both New Brunswick (SERFNB) and New Brunswick Society of Retired Teachers (NBSRT) provide rebates to branches – NBSRT \$1 of \$3/month and SERFNB \$12 of \$50/year and there are no local dues, although funds may be raised to support specific activities through such things as 50/50 draws. The RTANL rebates 50% of dues to the Divisions. Quebec (QPARSE) has no branches and most activities that require funds, for example luncheons, are “pay as you go”. The idea of annual dues does come up from time to time. PEI does not rebate to its four regions as things are done locally; however, funds can be provided on request. In Nova Scotia dues are collected by Johnson Insurance, who charge an administration fee. Some Nova Scotia branches collect dues locally, but none of those monies go to the provincial association, meaning those paying local dues get all benefits of the provincial association anyway. They feel that this is a matter needing attention. Although rebates are not provided, \$1,000 grants and \$100 for every 100 members are provided to branches.

Membership Engagement, which is a major concern for all the East Coast Retired Teachers' Organizations was discussed. The results of the AEFNB Membership Survey highlighted the suggested ways in which to engage with their membership. These same ideas were shared by others in the group:

1. Increased visibility on social media.
2. Collaborate with other professional groups.
3. Plan regular review of policies and procedures and seek member input.
4. Survey members to find out what they want and need, thus change goals as necessary.
5. Work to engage/involve branches, the “grass roots”. Some examples might be for local branches to have some of the same committees the provincial organization does and the development of subdivisions within large geographical areas. Also noted was that many do not live in the communities where they taught; hence, there is no/little community connection.

ACER-CART has a number of sub-committees which make regular reports to the Association. The following is a brief synopsis of these reports.

Communications: Linda LeBlanc shared that the photo gallery will continue indefinitely, and that the Executive felt now is not the time to pursue a social media presence. The website is typically updated every Friday.

Advocacy: Bob Fitzpatrick reported that information about “aging in place” should be released shortly with one-pagers and backup information. Katherine Snow has also been newly added to the committee.

Health: Marg Urquhart reported that topics for consideration in preparing the “aging in place” documents to the Advocacy Committee were provided. A series of website “pieces” was submitted, and these will be posted over time. Other considerations are elder abuse, and the need for more “teeth” in the Criminal Code relative to financial abuse. This was also identified by the RTANL. The UPEI survey of seniors is an ongoing work. It was determined the original timeline for participating was too short. This survey examines aging in place and topics included supports, services, transportation. Wayne Denman will share results when available.

Recommendations for Executive Consideration that were presented at the March Meeting were:

1. **Consideration of continued use of hybrid meeting.** Hybrid meetings are expected to become the norm. Those who have participated in such meetings report positively on them. Zoom is still used for many; however, face-to-face meetings are also resuming for some in larger venues allowing for spacing.
2. **Liaison with Seniors Advocacy Groups.** Most of the member organizations of ACER-CART maintain a liaison with the various senior groups in their province. Most noted retired teachers are actively involved in many organizations in their local communities. PEIRTA has members that are “connected” and who give feedback/share information. The seniors' group is always invited to PEIRTA's AGM. NBSRT just appointed a person to the Coalition for Seniors and Nursing Home Residents Rights. They had previously had a representative and have contributed financially for several years. SERFNB participates with the NB Francophone Association of Elders, especially in the

area of Wellness, and belong to the NB Society of Acadians with about 30 other groups. QPARSE is not currently formally involved and getting involved politically is a challenge. The RTANL has two executive members who regularly attend the Coalition of Seniors, Retirees and Pensioners Association meetings. This is our main area of political action. The RTANL maintains an active association with the Teachers' Pension Plan Corporation. NS is part of the Seniors Advisory Council whose members represent 100,000+. Since the fall election, the government representative who used to regularly engage with the group is less available for dialogue.

3. **Special Events.** While special events are not being planned by most, all are looking forward to getting "back to normal"; thus, face-to-face AGMs. SERFNB plans to survey members regarding their feelings about an in-person Congress in the fall. NBSRT noted one of their branches had surveyed members and of those responding, less than half were interested in face-to-face, 30% were not ready and some would hesitantly participate. QPARSE and RTANL have anniversaries this year and plan special events.

4. **COVID.** PEIRTA noted COVID is still having a significant impact in schools and thus nothing is being planned at this time. The concern around COVID, given the age grouping of our memberships, was echoed by all in attendance.

5. **AGM/BGM.** QPARSE will hold an AGM, as will NBSRT and NS, while RTANL will hold a formal BGM.

Every provincial association has identified some high points for the coming months.

QPARSE will celebrate their 60th Anniversary. The celebration will feature speakers from over the years and the hope is to have a photographic history. There will also be a recognition of Special Service Awards including those that have not been done in person due to COVID. The facility will allow for distancing and provide for outdoor socializing with no meal. Zoom sessions have been so successful and brought in people not otherwise participating in events so they will continue in 2022-23 with social events being in person.

QPARSE looks forward to the October 19th and 20th in-person meeting of the ECRTO and will have a full day on the 19th and half day on the 20th. Attendees felt a list of things one could do on their own, should they wish, the afternoon of the 20th would be helpful; however, QPARSE did not need to plan something for

then. Membership, and various facets of it, will be a key topic and plans are for two roundtable sessions and ideas for speakers have been considered.

NS's pension has an unfunded liability, and the pension reform report is expected in June. RTO is participating in the review. They are also participating in a mail out, with their input, to all retirees through the group insurance trustees in April.

RTANL will celebrate 50 years this fall and plan a special newsletter to commemorate the event. To celebrate 100 years of the Faculty of Education we have commissioned a painting. We are, as well, looking at cessation planning as our membership is getting older and the numbers joining the RTANL upon retirement are not near the numbers we are losing due to natural attrition.

NBSRT has offered two webinars and anticipates more as interest was high and included retired teachers who are not NBSRT members. An open Facebook page has been set up in addition to the long-standing closed Facebook group.

It was noted that several jurisdictions have signed supplements to the Bilateral Health Accords relative to Long-Term Care Funding. NB's government seems to be saying the right things. Nova Scotia now has a Minister of Seniors and Long-Term Care. Their Seniors Council has some concerns including dedicated funding and in-home care. The RTANL has identified that the Long-Term Care Standards do not have compliance obligations embedded in the document. Furthermore, in many cases the standards are vaguely written and are not measurable.

The Retired Teachers of Ontario noted the Wellness Symposium helped focus Branches that the experience of current members needs to be enriched, programs need to be revamped/reviewed and younger retirees want active programming. They must ensure an information package is given to new retirees and posters placed in every school. They feel there needs to be consideration of early, mid and late retirement members as well as male and female in planning programs. New Brunswick Teachers' Association (NBTA) cooperated with the New Brunswick Society of Retired Teachers, in sending invitations and applications to retirees both at the end of the year and this past Christmas to all retirees in the last three years. They support the retired teachers of their province, in other ways – financial, provide meeting space, and the newsletter.

Face-to-face meetings are preferable as long as there is consideration of such precautions as spacing and masks are acceptable. NBSRT noted one branch did a survey and less than half of respondents were interested in face-to-face at this time. Over half would attend with hesitation. SERFNB plans a survey to see if members would attend the fall Congress in person.

There is no anticipated need to meet prior to the ACER-CART AGM. Attendees were reminded to consider and encourage those who might offer themselves as the East Coast Representative.

Gerry Tiede, President of ACER-CART thanked the Members for the invitation and noted he had learned a lot during the course of the meeting.

ACER-CART Report

by Sharon Penney, President

On Friday, June 4, 2021, myself as a Director, and our Vice-President Joe Lafitte, as an observer, virtually attended the Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Association of Retired Teachers. All 10 provinces, plus the Yukon, were represented.

Like many organizations, the executive of the Canadian Association of Retired Teachers agreed to an extended term of office due to the limitations posed by the pandemic. Continuing in their positions will be: President, Gerry Teide; Vice-President, Martin Higgs; the regional representatives will continue to be Margaret Urquhart for Eastern, Martha Foster for Ontario, and Marilyn Bossert for Western. Remaining on the Executive will be Past President, Bill Berryman and Executive Director, Roger Regimbal.

This AGM reaffirmed the prime goals for which ACER-CART will advocate in the coming year as:

1. Advocate for the development and implementation of a National Seniors Strategy including using the information from "A Declaration Concerning a National Strategy for Seniors".
2. Monitor the Federal Government's implementation of a universal pharmacare program including the establishment of a Canada Drug Agency and implementation of a national formulary.

3. Monitor effects of COVID-19 on the Canada Health Act and on the Bilateral Funding Agreements with the provinces and territories.

4. Advocate for a healthcare system that prioritizes care in seniors' own homes for as long as possible.

5. Advocate for regulations governing Retirement and Long-Term Care Homes with emphasis on improving patient respect, working conditions, staff training and staff wages.

ACER-CART will continue to monitor the effects of the global pandemic and defined benefit pension plans assets and liabilities as solvency funding applications could be affected. A change in pension plans in one group could signal a change in other pension plans down the road. ACER-CART is always cognizant of the importance of our pension plans and their defined benefits to our membership.

The AGM for 2022 will take place on June 2-4 in Ottawa. A report on that meeting will be published in our December Newsletter.

ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DES ENSEIGNANTES ET DES ENSEIGNANTS RETRAITÉS CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED TEACHERS



Do you enjoy taking photos of our beautiful Canadian landscapes? ACER-CART invites you to submit up to five of your favourite local landscapes to be shared on their website.



For more information: acer-cart.org

Retired Teachers' Foundation

by Bev Fisher

I'm sure most of you are aware that the RTANL has its own charity – the Retired Teachers' Foundation (RTF). You've seen its reports in Newsletters and you've heard members talk about it in meetings and maybe in conversations, but how much do you really know about the Foundation?

The RTF was set up in 1983 by the Central Division to honour the life and work of all retired teachers. It is a Canada Revenue Agency regulated children's charity with funds raised being given to institutions and groups that provide medical treatment and/or educational training for children who are incapacitated. The funds are generated by annual lump sum donations from our Provincial RTANL and its eight Divisions, individual donations from members and friends, and In Memoriam donations for deceased members. Some Divisions fundraise and donate the proceeds to the Foundation, others have elected to donate money from their share of member fees, and some do both.

Since the 1994 BGM, the RTANL has been sponsoring the Foundation, and all Divisions play an active role in supporting its mandate. The provincial body covers any expenses incurred by the Foundation (stationary, postage, travel for meetings, etc.), since all funds raised by the RTF are given to charities. The Foundation is run by a volunteer board of retired teachers. Prior to 2018, the board was elected at each BGM, with members coming from all over the province. At the 2018 BGM, it was proposed that the board be made up of volunteers from a particular Division, to make it easier for members to get together for meetings and, as well, to save on travel costs. Western Division volunteered to take the reins, followed by Con-Tri Division in 2021. At the 2022 BGM we will be looking for another Division to take over the running of the RTF. If anyone in your Division would be interested in taking on such a role, please let President Sharon Penney know and she can get you the information you would need to form such a committee. Five people would be needed for the board.

Since 1987 the Foundation has donated approximately \$462,250 to children's charities in our province. Our recipients are registered charities, and the Foundation assists them in reaching their goals. To avail of these donations the charities must apply to the Foundation and meet the selection criteria that are in place. Some of the charities that have benefited from our donations in recent years are the War Amps CHAMPS program, Down Syndrome Society, Canadian Diabetes Camp Douwanna, CNIB Youth Orientation Program, Mazol Shriners for the Patient Transportation Fund, Rainbow Riders, and the Candlelighters Camp Delight.

If you wish to donate in memory of a retired teacher, or anyone for that matter, you will be given a tax receipt and, if you wish, the family of the deceased will be advised of your donation. Donation cards should be available at funeral homes; your Division President should also have some on hand, or can arrange to get some, if you wish to donate.

The RTF has another role, that of managing the *Books of Remembrance*. The Books of Remembrance were made to commemorate the lives of deceased retired teachers. A memorial page is dedicated to each teacher and contains biographical information, and a photo, provided to the Foundation by the family of the deceased teacher. At present there are six of these books, which are arranged chronologically by year of death. Book One: 1986-1998, Book Two: 1992-2000, Book Three: 2001-2006, Book Four: 2000-2010, Book Five: 2005-2010 and Book Six: 2018-2021. The Books are housed at The Rooms in St. John's, in the Provincial Archives Division. If sometime you are visiting The Rooms, you can have a look. Since 2018, all submissions have been recorded for online viewing as well. For more information on the Books of Remembrance, to submit a biography of a deceased teacher, or to view the online book, go to www.nlta.nl.ca/rtfrooms or www.nlta.nl.ca/rtf-remembrancebook/

RTANL and the Coalition

by Patricia Parsons, Coalition Representative, RTANL

The Seniors Coalition continued its advocacy for seniors with a follow-up meeting with Minister John Abbott in December 2021 (from a previous meeting in May) to monitor his department's commitment to seniors' issues. This was followed by a virtual meeting in January 2022. This last meeting centered on the Building Accessibility Act. After a group discussion, the following points were identified as important:

- The Act said that buildings built before 1981 were to be exempt from the Act. The Coalition recommended that this exemption be removed from the Act.
- Tax exemptions would be made available to businesses and property owners to ensure compliance to the Act.
- There would be an increase in fines to ensure compliance.
- Name changes for the Act.
- Minimum standards for buildings be embedded into the Act for all buildings going forward.

The Coalition will write letters to Ministers John Hogan and John Abbott about amendments to the Criminal Code re Elder Abuse, reminding them of the Coalition's commitment to this issue. The Coalition also wrote letters to Ministers Sarah Stoodley and John Abbott about the many government services now offered online. There is a concern that online government services are an issue for many seniors who may not have access to technological devices. They ask the government to do all it can to ensure no senior is left behind due to technology. A meeting will also be requested with Minister John Haggie to discuss seniors' issues such as pharmacare, vaccinations other than COVID-19 and availability of rapid tests, to name a few.

The Premier's Economic Recovery Team (PERT) Report was discussed at a meeting of the Coalition. It was felt the report glosses over many concerns of seniors and doesn't commit to any particular approach. It was felt we must remain cognizant of the government's long-term plans for pensions, both those in effect today and those going forward. The Coalition will respond to this report encompassing The Pensions Act and the implementation of the Health Accord.

The Coalition continues to monitor the national Standards for Long-Term Care and recently engaged in a

comprehensive review of the plan. It was concluded there were many shortfalls including no mention of family involvements, no way to measure implementations and no one to do it, and no mention of quality of care. There is an online response form to this draft and two Coalition members agreed to write a response to the report on behalf of the Coalition and fill out the online response form.

The Newfoundland and Labrador Public Service Pensioners' Association (NLPSPA) is in the process of updating their website. They have invited the Seniors Coalition to have a home base on their website. It was decided to accept this offer. It would provide a place for the Coalition to house their documents and information as well as provide links to member organization's websites.

In separate Zoom meetings in January 2022, the Coalition met first with the Federal Liberal MPs and then with Federal Conservative Member Clifford Small. The Coalition reviewed a Letter of Intent previously sent out to the MPs which pointed out senior issues the Coalition is wishing to keep in the forefront. Being a new MP, Minister Small was made aware of these issues and agreed to advocate as much as possible for seniors. The Federal Liberal MPs discussed some senior initiatives they are presently engaged in and pledged to advocate for seniors whenever the opportunity arises.

The Coalition met with Consumer Advocate Dennis Browne over Zoom in January as well. The moderator indicated in her introduction that one of the main issues many seniors are facing today is the rising cost of living. Many people are struggling to make ends meet and to make sensible choices when they shop. Mr. Browne explained his role as a Consumers' Advocate. This position is one of a rate payer advocate and he represents consumers about rate paying and rate increase applications by NL Hydro and NL Power to the Public Utilities Board. From a Coalition perspective, it was hoped amendments to the Public Utilities Board would be enforced. Mr. Browne agreed to keep the Coalition informed of any developments in change of legislation. He also pointed out that we, as members of the Coalition, can also be the eyes and ears of any hearings.

Group Insurance Managers' Report

by Sharon Penney, RTANL Representative

A Group Insurance Managers meeting was convened via Zoom on November 6, 2021. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss Funding Policy, Training and Education, and Deeds of Trusteeship. Using the rotation for additional training and the schedule that was determined in 2020, it will be the RTANL representative who will receive the next training that becomes available.

The Group Insurance Managers met in the Zoom format on November 24, 2021. There was only one item on the agenda. The meeting was called to finalize the wording of some recommendations to the NLTA Executive.

At our meeting on February 12, 2022, we discussed *Mind Beacon*. This is an online mental health program that is being considered for inclusion in our program. During April we were given access to *Starling Minds*, another online mental health program. We are looking at including this type of program in our offerings as it is hoped an online mental health program would alleviate some of the delay caused by a shortage of therapists and deal with the COVID backlog. Both programs were discussed as part of our oversight of the plan.

The meetings in February dealt with the Market Study we commissioned to review our Health Programs. The objectives of the Market Study were to:

- 1) Assess the competitiveness of the existing rate structure, retention expenses and pooling charges.
- 2) Assess the competitiveness of the current benefits and levels of coverage.
- 3) Obtain costings on alternate benefits and levels of coverage.
- 4) Ensure that the policy provisions meet current industry standards.

As a result of the Market Study, the following decisions were made regarding which company would be providing different parts of our overall plan:

BASIC LIFE AND DEPENDENT LIFE

Recommended Carrier: Manulife Financial

RETIREE LIFE INSURANCE 65 AND OVER

Recommended Carrier: Manulife Financial

BASIC AND VOLUNTARY ACCIDENTAL DEATH AND DISMEMBERMENT

Recommended Carrier: SSQ

HEALTH INSURANCE

Recommended Carrier: Manulife Financial

DENTAL INSURANCE

Recommended Carrier: Manulife Financial

VOLUNTARY LIFE INSURANCE

Recommended Carrier: Manulife Financial

LONG-TERM DISABILITY

Recommended Carrier: Manulife Financial

BASIC AND VOLUNTARY CRITICAL ILLNESS

Recommended Carrier: SSQ

Two items of note were a direct result of the Market Study. Members were adamant that there not be changes to the paramedical components of our program and that the provisions for eye care be increased. Eye care will now be provided at a rate of one new pair of glasses every two years and rebated at a rate of \$175 every two years.

I attended a Group Insurance Zoom meeting on February 23, 2022. At this meeting a discussion took place regarding the Medoc Travel Insurance. It was decided that Johnson Insurance would continue to supply this portion of our overall insurance options. It was affirmed that Manulife would continue to provide our Long-Term Disability component.

At every meeting we review the usage of the health plan, dental plan and the long-term disability plan to monitor the costs of this to our overall plan.

At the May 28, 2022, meeting various online mental health programs were reviewed. It will be discussed further in the hopes that we can add such a feature to our plan.

We say good-bye to Darrin Pike as he retires from the NLTA, and hello to John Veitch, his replacement. Darrin has been a great source of knowledge and support during his tenure at the NLTA. We look forward to a continued collegial and supportive relationship with Mr. Veitch.

Why Attend BGM/Reunion 2022?

by Bev Fisher

Our BGM/Reunion is fast approaching! By the time you read this you will have only a few months to register for what we hope will be not only a learning experience, but also a fun event. The theme is ***Celebrating 50 Years*** and, even though it's actually 51, we have planned our **Reunion** activities around this.

Photo Gallery: Bring a little bit of your past to share with us at Reunion 2022. Where were you in 1971 when our association was formed? Some of us were well into our teaching careers and others were just beginning, and some of us were still in grade school completely unaware we would choose to become a teacher. Dig out an old photo of yourself from 1971. We'll be setting up a photo gallery at the banquet to show 'The Way We Were'. ***Please make sure to label your picture with your name and the stage of your life (high school grad, grade 8 school photo, etc.) and pass it in to Beverly or Patricia at registration on Tuesday, October 4.***

Grenfell Observatory Visit: We don't want the only thing you see in Corner Brook to be the inside of the hotel, so we have planned a little outing for you and your guest. We have set up a tour of the Observatory at Grenfell College for Tuesday evening. The bus will leave the Greenwood Inn at 7:30 and our tour will take in one of Atlantic Canada's largest telescopes (let's hope for good weather so we can view the night sky). This facility also houses a meteorite collection and 3D printers, conducts spectroscopy demos, and allows you to use fully immersive virtual reality equipment to explore the solar system or the underwater world. There is no fee for the tour or the transportation so come along and see what MUN has to offer. After our visit the bus will return us to the hotel where we will have a 'lunch'. Our anniversary cake will be cut and distributed, and a cup of tea/coffee will be served. ***Please indicate on the registration form if you will be joining us on this jaunt. We need to know numbers in order to reserve the right transportation and to organize our attendees into manageable groups for the tour.***

Banquet: We always look forward to the banquet. It's the time when we get all dressed up and enjoy a fancy feast together. This year we will not be having a guest speaker at our banquet. Instead, following the meal, we will enjoy a couple hours of entertainment by **The Sharecroppers**, a well-known folk and traditional trio that has been entertaining Newfoundlanders and Labradorians for 34 years. The band has not only played locally, but has traveled

outside the province and has also been chosen to represent our province internationally on several occasions.

Ed Humber, Guy Romaine, and Mike Madigan first sang together in 1988 in Pasadena, where they taught high school. They were asked to sing in a cabaret being produced at Pasadena Academy and, as they say, the rest is history. Since then, they have been sharing the culture and heritage of our province with anyone who will listen.

In 1992 the Sharecroppers were sent by the Newfoundland and Labrador Department of Tourism to an I.S.M.E. (International Society of Music Educators) festival in Seoul, Korea; musicians from 72 countries attended this event. A few years later, in 1996, they were asked by the same department to play at the International Festival of the Sea in Bristol, England and in 1997 they were kept quite busy performing at various Cabot 500 celebrations around the island, including the one in Bonavista celebrating the arrival of *The Matthew*. Also, in that year the group was presented with a Certificate of Recognition for being Outstanding Ambassadors of NL Hospitality. In 1999 they represented our province at the Canada Summer Games in Brandon, Manitoba.

Although they have done three provincial tours, in recent years The Sharecroppers perform mostly for cruise ships, coach tours, conventions and conferences that visit the west coast. During these shows they sing their original songs from their three CDs: *Natural*, *This New Founde Lande*, and *Home Boys!* With humour, wit, stories, great three-part harmony and fine instrumentation (guitar, stand-up bass, fiddle, mandolin and tin whistle), the trio make their show a time to remember.

If you have seen The Sharecroppers before then you know what to expect, but if you haven't yet had the opportunity to be entertained by these true-blue Newfoundlanders, then here's your opportunity to do so. Unfortunately, the trio will be down to a duo at our banquet as Mike has a prior commitment; however, the group has adapted its show on several occasions for such circumstances so we will still be getting a quality Sharecroppers performance. We are certainly in for a treat as we celebrate 50 years as an association with some home-grown talent that just happen to be retired teachers just like us!

So, what are you waiting for? Fill out the registration form and return it. Plan to join us from **October 4-6 at the Greenwood Inn and Suites in Corner Brook**. Let's make BGM/Reunion 2022 the best one yet!

BGM 2022 – Tentative Agenda

Day One: Tuesday, October 4

Check in at the hotel reception desk and get settled into your room when it is ready. Be sure to make your reservations early. **Registration for the Reunion and BGM begins at 3:00 p.m. and will continue until 5:00 p.m.** This will offer you an opportunity to meet and greet people you may not have seen in a while. Coffee/tea will be available during the registration.

In keeping with our theme, *Celebrating 50 Years*, we are inviting attendees to bring along a picture to represent the question: What were you doing in 1971?

Dinner (supper) will be **on your own**.

7:30 p.m. Bus leaves the hotel at **7:30 pm sharp** for the Observatory.

9:00 p.m. Bus returns to the hotel

9:10 p.m. Cutting of the Anniversary Cake (*light lunch before bedtime!*)

Day Two: Wednesday, October 5

9:00 a.m. • Call to Order – President Sharon Penney (Chairperson)

• Introduction of Provincial Executive

• Greetings

• Honor Roll/Prayer/Moment of Silence

• First Business Session:

Agenda

Minutes of BGM 2021 (Virtual Meeting)

BGM Motions

President's Report

Treasurer's Report

12:00 p.m. **LUNCH** (*guests included*)

1:30 p.m. Retired Teachers' Foundation Report – Mona Rose

2:00 - 2:30 p.m. **Guest Speaker** – Brenda Hansford, Director of Finance and Pension Administration with the Teachers' Pension Plan Corporation

2:30 p.m. • BGM Business Continues – Chaired by Parliamentarian

• Report from Nominating Committee

• Election of Provincial Executive 2022-2024

• Further Business (if time permits until 5:00 pm)

7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Banquet (Menu: Garden Salad, Stuffed Chicken Breast, Dessert)

9:00 p.m. Entertainment – **The Sharecroppers**

Day Three: Thursday, October 6

9:00 - 10:00 a.m. • Third Business Session

• Prize Draws

• Closing

Proposed Changes to Constitution and By-Laws

The following are some proposed changes/additions to The Constitution and The By-Laws as proposed at the Provincial Executive meeting on April 28, 2022. These changes will be voted on at BGM 2022 in October.

Changes to The Constitution

ARTICLE VIII: PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE

Rationale: The Provincial Executive feels that some changes made to The Constitution at BGM 2018 are overly restrictive. Any member of the Provincial Executive should retain the right to resign from office if personal situations warrant such action. Furthermore, the Provincial Executive feels it is not a viable option to elect an alternate Member-At-Large at a BGM and expect that person to “wait in the wings” so to speak in case there might be a resignation (vacancy) on Provincial Executive.

Whereas the election of an Alternate Member-At-Large at a BGM now requires that Alternate wait 12 months before holding office while the Immediate Past President completes their Term of Office for ONE year;

And whereas such duly elected Alternate might not be interested in such a waiting period;

BE IT RESOLVED that the following changes be made to our Constitution:

Current Wording:

ARTICLE VIII: PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE

- A. The Provincial Executive shall consist of: President, Vice-President, Immediate Past President, [By-Law Article VII: A (4)], Secretary, Treasurer, and four (4) or five (5) Members-at-Large [By-Law: VII: A.], provided that there are not more than three (3) Members of the Executive from any one (1) Division and that the total Executive Membership shall not exceed nine (9).
- B. The Members of the Provincial Executive, with the exception of the Immediate Past President, shall be elected at the Biennial General Meeting (BGM) of the Association for a term of two (2) years.
- C. Election of the Provincial Executive shall be by secret ballot.
- D. Any vacancy occurring among the members of the Provincial Executive of the Association, through any cause, shall be filled by the Provincial

Executive from the Alternate Members provided under By-Law Article III (G), in order of the number of votes received, provided that there are not more than three (3) Members of Provincial Executive from any one (1) Division.

Proposed Wording: *(To read as was prior to BGM 2018)*

ARTICLE VIII: PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE

- A. The Provincial Executive shall consist of: President, Vice-President, Immediate Past President, Secretary, Treasurer, and four (4) Members-at-Large, provided that there are not more than three (3) Members of the Provincial Executive from any one (1) Division and that the total Provincial Executive Membership shall not exceed nine (9).
- B. The Members of the Provincial Executive, with the exception of the Immediate Past President, shall be elected at the Biennial General Meeting (BGM) of the Association for a term of two (2) years.
- C. Election of the Provincial Executive shall be by secret ballot.
- D. Whenever a vacancy occurring among the members of the Provincial Executive of the Association, through any cause, the Provincial Executive shall name an Active Member of the Association to fill the vacancy until the next BGM provided that there are not more than three (3) Members of Provincial Executive from any one (1) Division, provided that the appointment adheres to Item A of this Article.

Whereas all Members to the Provincial Executive work for the common goals of the RTANL regardless of their Division;

And whereas many Divisions are having difficulty attracting Members to run for office on Provincial Executive;

And whereas the “no more than three (3) from any one Division” rule could potentially be a hindrance to obtaining a full Provincial Executive at BGM, the Provincial Executive is recommending the removal of the words: “**provided that there are not more than three (3) Members of the Executive from any one (1) Division**” from The Constitution, Article VIII. A.

Addition to The Constitution

ARTICLE X: WINDING UP OR DISSOLUTION OF RTANL

If/when the Retired Teachers' Association of Newfoundland and Labrador (RTANL) is unable to form or maintain a Provincial Executive, a motion must be presented and voted upon by delegates at the next RTANL Biennial General Meeting (BGM) to dissolve the RTANL. If this situation arises during a non-BGM year, the motion to dissolve the RTANL must be presented and voted upon during a meeting of the current RTANL Provincial Executive when a quorum is present. A motion to dissolve the RTANL shall require a simple majority approval (50% + 1) to be carried.

If, upon dissolution of the RTANL, and after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities, any funds remain in the RTANL account(s), said funds shall not be paid or distributed among the members of the RTANL, but shall be donated to one or more registered charities whose primary goal is to support and advance the rights and well-being of children. For greater clarity, any such funds must be donated for the purpose of supporting and advancing education and/or well-being for children with disabilities or children who have a mental or physical illness.

Changes/Additions to The By-Laws

Whereas Gander is the Central location for the Island of Newfoundland;

Whereas most of the RTANL members who attend BGM are seniors;

Whereas the price of gasoline continues to increase;

Whereas many members, because of the distance, spend a night in Central NL along the way;

BE IT RESOLVED that **beginning in 2024 and continuing thereafter, ALL RTANL BGMs be held in Gander.**

ARTICLE I: QUORUM

Whereas the number of RTANL members attending the BGM continues to decrease:

BE IT RESOLVED that the current **By-Law Article I: Quorum** be amended:

Current Wording:

ARTICLE I: QUORUM

- A. At the Biennial General Meeting and at Special/ Emergency Meetings (either in person or virtually), a majority of the Provincial Executive plus twenty-five (25) Active Members who attend, having been given at least thirty (30) days notice, shall constitute a quorum.
- B. At Provincial Executive Meetings, a majority of the Executive Members shall constitute a quorum.

Proposed Wording:

ARTICLE I: QUORUM

- A. At the Biennial General Meeting and at Special Meetings (either in person or virtually) **thirty (30)** Active Members including a majority of the Provincial Executive, having been given at least thirty (30) days' notice, shall constitute a quorum.
- B. The deadline for Registration for any BGM shall be the end of August of the BGM year. This will allow for cancellation of the BGM should a Quorum not be met. Following a cancellation, a second call for a BGM with at least thirty (30) days' notice shall be given. **A Quorum shall then constitute the number of Active Members present.**
- C. At Provincial Executive Meetings, a majority of the Executive Members shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE III: ELECTION OF PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE

Current Wording:

- G. Ten (10) Provincial Executive members shall be elected biennially, and the four (4) who have the greatest number of votes shall with the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and a person holding office under [By-Law VII A 4], where applicable, form the Provincial Executive and that the total Provincial Executive Membership shall not exceed nine (9). The remaining elected members shall be classified as Alternate Members.

Proposed Wording:

- G. Eight (8) Provincial Executive members shall be elected biennially, namely: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and four (4) Members-At-Large PLUS the Immediate Past President, provided the total Provincial Executive Membership shall not exceed nine (9).

ARTICLE VII: DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Current Wording:

4. Upon the election and swearing in of a new President, the Immediate Past President shall serve as an ex-officio Provincial Executive member for the first year of the new President's term of office.

Proposed Wording:

4. Upon the election and swearing in of a new President, the Immediate Past President shall serve as an ex-officio Provincial Executive member.
(*removing the phrase "for the first year of the new President's term of office"*)

EVERY BREAKFAST. EVERY CHILD. EVERY SCHOOL DAY.

Together, with your support, we ensure access to food at no cost to families

So much continues to change, and the pandemic has had a tremendous effect on everyone's daily lives.

But the one thing that has remained constant, is that we know children and youth are coming to school hungry. We know children are living in homes, with no food, and sadly, this pandemic has brought to the forefront that families are struggling – and they continue to do so.

It is through the generous financial support of our partners and donors, and the dedication and commitment of you, our school administrators and teachers, that during times of uncertainty, together, we were able to help our school-age children and youth when they needed it the most through our Breakfast at Home Emergency Fund.

As we continue to adjust and look forward to the remainder of this school year, one thing we are certain of is that together, we are here to ensure that our children and youth have access to food, and that we will always find a way to serve.

Every Breakfast. Every Child. Every School Day.
We will be there.

Kids Eat Smart Breakfast Clubs will continue to be there for our children, to provide them with access to food at school at no cost to families.



If you would like more information, visit our website at www.kidseatsmart.ca, or you can contact Celina Stoyles, Executive Director directly at 1-877-722-1996 or e-mail cstoyles@kidseatsmart.ca.



**Kids Eat Smart
Foundation**

NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR

Glaucoma: The Silent Thief

by Beverly Fisher

The optic nerve is the nerve that transmits information from the eye to the brain. Elevated pressure within the eye damages the optic nerve. This damage, if not detected and treated early, can lead to serious vision loss.

Glaucoma refers to a family of diseases that damage the optic nerve; it is one of the leading causes of blindness in Canada. Glaucoma is a progressive disease that most frequently affects individuals over the age of forty, with the risk of the disease increasing with age. People with diabetes, high blood pressure, a history of eye diseases or a family history of glaucoma are at a higher risk to contract this disease.

Open angle glaucoma, the most common form of the disease, presents no symptoms until an individual experiences peripheral vision loss. Because of this lack of symptoms, glaucoma is referred to as 'the silent thief'. In a rarer form of the disease, closed angle glaucoma, there is a sudden rise in pressure within the eye and the individual may experience pain, blurred vision and see halos around lights. Left untreated, both forms can lead to complete loss of vision.

There is no way to prevent glaucoma; a comprehensive eye examination with your Doctor of Optometry is the only way to detect the disease. Even if you see well or don't wear glasses, regular eye exams help detect glaucoma and other diseases early enough to prevent vision loss. To test for glaucoma your Optometrist will perform a simple and painless procedure, during your routine eye exam, which will measure the internal pressure of your eye. They will also look into your eye to observe the health of the optic nerve and measure your field of vision.

If glaucoma is detected and treated early, eye drops, and laser surgery are usually effective at maintaining your vision and little or no further vision loss should occur. If it is left untreated, peripheral vision will be affected first, followed by central vision loss during the late stages of the disease. Complete blindness may occur. Special equipment may be used by your Optometrist to image your eye to better monitor the progression of glaucoma.

Information for this article was gathered from a pamphlet produced by Doctors of Optometry



Johnson Insurance has worked closely with the RTANL to provide access to helpful services and products that take care of your home and car insurance needs. Plus, you'll have access to:



 up to **\$800.00**
 in savings when you
 bundle home & car insurance*

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Johnson Insurance is a tradename of Johnson Inc. ("Johnson" or "JI"), a licensed insurance intermediary. Home and car policies underwritten exclusively, and claims handled, by Unifund Assurance Company ("UAC"). Described coverage and benefits applicable only to policies underwritten by UAC in NL/NS/NB/PEI. JI and UAC share common ownership. Eligibility requirements, limitations, exclusions, additional costs and/or restrictions may apply and/or vary based on province/territory. *As of March 1, 2021, \$800 combined savings available on home and car insurance if the following discounts are applicable: conviction free, multi-line (home and auto), multi-vehicle, long term, member (home and auto), select in NL, NS, PE, and winter tire in NB, NL, NS. Dollar savings may vary otherwise.

Interesting Study, Important Study, Unique Study

Beyond Retirement: Seniors' Contribution to Community Building and Empowerment in Newfoundland and Labrador (NL)

Share your knowledge and experience as a senior. Talk about what is important for seniors like you. Do you want to talk about your contribution to community life as a senior citizen?

Do you want to share ideas on what a seniors-friendly healthcare system should look like? If your answer is **yes**, then this study is for you.

You are invited to participate in a study on the topic *Beyond Retirement: Seniors' Contribution to Community Building and Empowerment in Newfoundland and Labrador (NL)*

This study is being conducted by Dr. Paul Issahaku, Associate Professor at the School of Social Work, Memorial University of Newfoundland.

Purpose of study: To learn from seniors how they contribute to building their communities and what they expect of a healthcare system that is friendly to seniors.

The proposal for this research has been reviewed by the Interdisciplinary Committee on Ethics in Human Research and found to be in compliance with Memorial University's ethics policy. If you have ethical concerns about the research, such as the way you have been treated or your rights as a participant, you may contact the Chairperson of the ICEHR at icehr@mun.ca or by telephone at 709-864-2861.

Who qualifies to participate? All persons aged 65 years and above living in the St. John's Census Metropolitan Area, Clarenville, and other communities who can respond to an interview in English.

Nature of participation: You will participate in a one-on-one interview which will take 50-60 minutes to complete at a location convenient for you. Participation is absolutely voluntary, and you can skip any questions you do not wish to answer during the interview.

If you are interested in participating in the study, please call or send a text message to **709-986-2008**. This study is not a government project and participation will not be reported to the government.

For further information contact: Dr. Paul Issahaku, (709) 864-8688 or pissahaku@mun.ca

New Department of Education Pre-Kindergarten Pilot Program

Have you retired within the last five years? Are you a primary teacher, or elementary teacher with primary experience? If so, perhaps you would be interested in participating in the Department of Education's Pre- Kindergarten (Pre-K) Pilot Program. The provincial government is launching this pilot program in September 2022 to offer more regulated child care spaces.

The program involves working with children the year prior to Kindergarten.

Joining this pilot project will have NO implications on the pension you receive.

This initiative is part of the new Early Learning and Child Care agreement with the Government of Canada with a target of having Pre-Kindergarten available for all four-year-olds in the province by 2025-26.

We will need teachers in every region of the province.

If you are interested and would like more information, email **PreK@gov.nl.ca**.

Teachers' Pension Plan Designation of Beneficiary

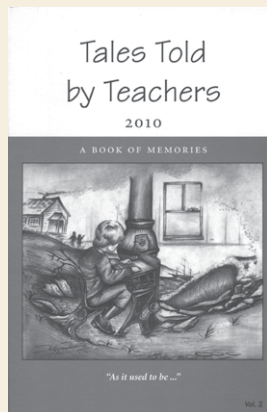
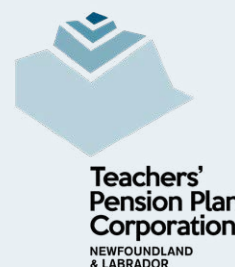
Under the former Act, a plan member could only name a beneficiary if they did not have a Principal Beneficiary, a dependent child or another dependent and then only if the named beneficiary was dependent upon the member for financial support. Upon the death of a member with no principal beneficiary, 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. A separate communication was mailed to all plan members outlining all necessary actions to be taken in order to designate a beneficiary.

This is a reminder to all members to visit the Teachers' Pension Plan Corporation (TPPC) website (www.tppcnl.ca)

to download the Designation of Beneficiary Form, complete and forward it to:

Teachers' Pension Plan Corporation, Newfoundland and Labrador
130 Kelsey Drive, Suite 101, St. John's, NL, Canada, A1B 0T2
Tel: (709) 793-8772 OR 1-833-345-8772
Email: memberservices@tppcnl.ca



Tales Told By Teachers, Vol. II

(Note: Volume I is 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: Treasurer@rtanl.ca; (709) 782-8914

Sharon Penney: President@rtanl.ca; (709) 596-2365

Don White: Secretary@rtanl.ca; (709) 368-7269

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

TUTORS NEEDED!

Come work with the Learning Disabilities Association of NL

The Learning Disabilities Association of Newfoundland and Labrador (LDANL) is a registered charity committed to raising awareness about, advocating for and supporting individuals with Learning Disabilities and those that support them.

- Build your resume.
- Give back to the community.
- Gain experience working with adults and at-risk populations and service providers.
- Gain not-for-profit work experience.

LDANL is recruiting tutors for our new project designed to support adults who want to improve their academic skills. These tutors will help our adult clients in Reading and/or Math using a provided curriculum. These tutoring positions are now available – remote (online from any location in NL) or in-person (in St. John's). This is an excellent opportunity to take your resume to the next level if you are in the early stages of your career and want to give back to the community, if you already have an established career, or are retired with experience in social work or education.

As a tutor, you will gain experience in a sought-after tutoring program that supports persons with Learning Disabilities or people who struggle with Reading or Math. Also, being part of the current projects, you will gain experience working with at-risk and adult populations and collaborating with service providers from across the province.

Hours can be flexible, depending on student needs and tutoring availability, with a minimum of 2 hours per week per student.

Position: Tutor (Reading or Mathematics)

Hours: Part-time

Salary: \$15/hour

LDANL provides all training and teaching materials. If you are working remotely, basic computer literacy is required as you will be delivering the tutoring through an online platform.

For Math positions, experience/knowledge of the K-12 mathematics curriculum and/or ABE Math component would be an asset.

Please send applications to stephanie@ldanl.ca (**Reading**) or dave@ldanl.ca (**Math**)

This program is funded by the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador as part of the Adult Literacy Action Plan.

NOTICE FOR RETIRED TEACHERS re: GROUP INSURANCE

All information re the NLTA Group Insurance Program is sent directly to members electronically, as well as placed on the Group Insurance website (<https://groupinsurance.nlta.ca>) for access. Any changes to the insurance program will also be provided to the RTANL for inclusion in their Newsletter. If you have not already provided your email address to the NLTA, please do so as soon as possible at mail@nlta.nl.ca or Tel: 709-726-3223 or 1-800-563-3599 (toll-free in province). If you do not have an email address, please contact the NLTA office.

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.



In Memoriam

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



<i>Melvin Abbott (Clarenville)</i>	<i>Sherrie Head (CBS)</i>
<i>C. Ann Aylward (St. John's)</i>	<i>Scott Hicks (St. John's)</i>
<i>Percy Billard (Isle aux Morts)</i>	<i>Norman Hiscock (St. John's)</i>
<i>Vimy Blundon (Bay de Verde)</i>	<i>Joseph Hogan (Carbonear)</i>
<i>Winnie (Parsons) Brace (St. John's)</i>	<i>John Hurley (Portugal Cove-St. Philips)</i>
<i>Maurice Budgell (King's Point)</i>	<i>Maxwell Hussey (Twillingate)</i>
<i>Viola Butt (Clarenville)</i>	<i>Bertille Hyde (Red Head Cove)</i>
<i>Sharyn Byrne (Goulds)</i>	<i>Carol Ann Gulliford Keats (Gander)</i>
<i>Ronald Clarke (St. John's)</i>	<i>Jean Kelly (Wabush)</i>
<i>Sadie Clarke (St. John's)</i>	<i>Hubert Langdon (English Harbour West)</i>
<i>Eileen Codner (Torbay)</i>	<i>Mary Patricia Lévêque (St. John's)</i>
<i>Andrew Cole (Bay Roberts)</i>	<i>Joan Bernice Loveless (Seal Cove, F. Bay)</i>
<i>Gertrude Connolly (Harbour Grace)</i>	<i>Sister Patricia Maher (St. John's)</i>
<i>Lloyd Cooper (St. John's)</i>	<i>Wesley Manning (North Harbour)</i>
<i>Lori Crews (Paradise)</i>	<i>Sister Joan Marche (St. John's)</i>
<i>Florence Cross (Badger's Quay)</i>	<i>Mary C. Moulard (Gander)</i>
<i>Cyril Cutler (Centreville)</i>	<i>Edgar Mudge (Mount Pearl)</i>
<i>George Cutler (Trinity)</i>	<i>Katherine Muggridge (Morden, MB)</i>
<i>Eleanor Dawe (Clarke's Beach)</i>	<i>Sister Eileen Osborne (St. John's)</i>
<i>Maureen L. Ellsworth (St. John's)</i>	<i>Madeline Penney (Jerseyside)</i>
<i>Esther Emberley (Carbonear)</i>	<i>Calvert Randell (Oakville, ON)</i>
<i>William Fagan (Portugal Cove-St. Philips)</i>	<i>Thomas Robertson (Lethbridge)</i>
<i>Donald Feltham (Glovertown)</i>	<i>Winston Ruby (Goulds)</i>
<i>Michael Fitzgerald (Steady Brook)</i>	<i>Fred Simms (Burgeo)</i>
<i>John Framp (Stephenville)</i>	<i>Eric Slaney (Mount Pearl)</i>
<i>Greta E. French (Coley's Point)</i>	<i>Mildred Joan Steeves (Grand Falls-Windsor)</i>
<i>Reginald K. Gardner (Kelligrews)</i>	<i>Jean Stoodley (Brampton, ON)</i>
<i>D. Joy Gerner (CBS)</i>	<i>Mary Tapp (Mount Pearl)</i>
<i>Kathryn Gray (St. John's)</i>	<i>Abraham Taylor (Bay Roberts)</i>
<i>Morley Greening (McKays)</i>	<i>Beaton J. Walsh (Marystown)</i>
<i>Peter Hall (Newtown)</i>	<i>Rita Mary Walsh (St. John's)</i>
<i>Joseph "Graham" Hanley (Airdrie, AB)</i>	<i>Joan Williams (Lewistown)</i>
<i>Sheila C. Hanlon (St. John's)</i>	<i>Mary B. Williams (St. John's)</i>
<i>Verna Hayward (Fredericton, NB)</i>	<i>Lucy Woodland (St. John's)</i>

May They Rest In Peace

Retired Teachers' Association of Newfoundland and Labrador

BGM and Reunion

October 4-6, 2022 • Greenwood Inn & Suites, Corner Brook

Theme: Celebrating 50 Years

The tradition has always been to hold a BGM/Reunion during every even-numbered year, and this was planned for October 2020. However, in March 2020 a pandemic, by the name of COVID-19, paid us a visit and basically the whole world was shut down. Consequently, BGM/Reunion 2020 became a casualty. In its place a virtual BGM was held on May 13, 2021 specifically to form a new Provincial Executive and to present a Financial Report. At that BGM it was decided to plan a BGM/Reunion for October 4-6, 2022 in Corner Brook. At this time it is planned to proceed with a traditional "face-to-face" meeting, bearing in mind that changes may have to be made if Government protocols dictate. To that end we are asking that members **register early – by August 31, 2022** in case we have to change and possibly cancel. Early registration would give us time to effectively change plans and inform the agencies involved (members, hotel, caterers, etc.). We thank you for your anticipated co-operation.

Deadline for Registration is August 31, 2022

All persons registered by August 31 will be eligible for one of two BGM/Reunion Draws

Registration Fee: Because it is our 50th Anniversary Year, the Provincial Executive, in its recent meeting, decided to **WAIVE Registration Fees for all members and guests.**
(Note: No meal is provided on Tuesday evening.)

Accommodations: Individuals must make their own arrangements for accommodations. The RTANL has booked a block of rooms at the Greenwood Inn & Suites, Tel: 709-634-5381 or toll free at 1-800-399-5381. *When you reserve, please request RTANL rates.*

Registration: Complete the Registration Form below **or** visit the website at www.nlta.nl.ca/rtanl and complete and submit the form online.

Prior to BGM 2022 all registrants will receive a BGM package by mail.



**Form may be submitted electronically (as noted above) OR mailed to:
RTANL BGM Registration, 3 Kenmount Rd, St. John's, NL A1B 1W1**

Name of retired teacher: (include maiden name if applicable): _____

Division: _____

Locations Taught: _____

Full name of guest (if applicable): _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email: _____ Tel: _____

Please check (if applicable): ☐ 80 plus Member ☐ 80 plus Guest

Please check if you are planning to attend the Observatory Tour by bus (FREE): ☐

Please indicate below if you have any FOOD ALLERGIES or other dietary concerns.

For more information contact:

RTANL c/o Clayton Rice, 3 Kenmount Rd, St. John's, A1B 1W1 • Tel: (709) 782-8914 • Email: Treasurer@rtanl.ca