

RTANL AVALON EAST DIVISION

KEEPING IN TOUCH

Fall 2025

WELCOME BACK

As we start to recover from an eventful summer full of hot days, exciting Canada Summer Games, and devastating forest fires, I want to extend greetings to all Retired Teachers. A special welcome to those of you who have recently retired! We are glad to have you all with us and encourage you to spread the word to your newly retired friends that we wish to provide an arena for you to keep in touch and connected with your colleagues. Our purpose is to provide events throughout the year for you to come together and socialize. We are always open to new ideas and suggestions, so feel free to pass them along.

At our AGM on June 9, 2025, at the Sandman Hotel on Kenmount Road, we elected our new executive. A huge thank you to outgoing members Betty Lou Kennedy, Paula Redmond, and Sandra Shepherd for their years of dedicated service on the executive committee. Outgoing President, Mary Purchase, will sit as past president on this year's executive committee. Her guidance and counsel is much appreciated as I begin my tenure as president of the Avalon East Division of the RTANL.

Members of your new executive are:

President:	Shirley Sheppard
Past President	Mary Purchase
Vice President:	Susan Forward
Secretary:	Marlene Audeau-Joyce
Treasurer:	Pam Bry
Members At Large:	Sharon Reddy Giselle Benoit Linda Thistle Gloria Pynn

Upcoming Events

Octoberfest

Thursday, October 16, 2025

- Lester's Farm Chalet
- 11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- **Cost:**
 - \$20.00 Members
 - \$30.00 Non-Members
- Registration Cap - 150
- **Register by Thursday, October 2, 2025**
- Speaker/Entertainment:
Karen Sherriffs

Christmas Luncheon

Monday, December 1, 2025

- Glendenning Golf Course
- 11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- **Cost:**
 - \$30.00 Members
 - \$35.00 Non-Members
- Registration Cap - 225
- **Register by Monday, November 17, 2025**
- Entertainment:
The Boogie Babes



The new executive held its first meeting on August 28, 2025, at the NLTA Building on Kenmount Road and we are looking forward to a busy and successful year ahead.

Shirley J. Sheppard
President

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Last year our social committee offered four events for our members. Over 100 members attended Octoberfest, which was held at Lester's Farm Market with Joan Dohey as our guest speaker. Joan spoke on Practical Self-Care for Seniors. Over 200 members were present for our Christmas Luncheon which was held at Glendenning Golf Club in early December with the Boogie Babes singing Christmas songs. In March we held a scoff and scuff at the Royal Canadian Legion on Blackmarsh Road. Almost 100 retirees sang and danced away the afternoon. Our BGM 2025 took place in June at the Sandman Hotel with 20 registered members. We elected the new executive committee for the Avalon East Division of the RTANL. We were delighted to have a number of newly retired teachers in attendance, and a complimentary lunch was enjoyed by all.

This year's events are well underway. Our first event, Octoberfest, will be held on Thursday, October 16, 2025, at Lester's Farm Chalet. Our guest speaker will be Karen Sherriffs talking on the impact volunteerism has on our communities. Come and enjoy a turkey or salmon dinner with farm fresh Lester's vegetables. There will be many prizes draws as well as a 50/50 draw.

Our second event is a long-time favorite as it kicks off the Christmas season for many of our members. Glendenning Golf Course will be the venue for our Annual Christmas Luncheon which will be held on Monday, December 1, 2025. Back by popular demand the Boogie Babes will be our entertainment. There will be prizes and a 50/50 draw. Once again, we are asking if any member is interested in donating an item for a fundraising ticket draw, please contact a member of the social committee. We were very fortunate last year to have an exquisite quilt donated by Paula Cramm and many handcrafted items were donated for a Christmas stocking. All proceeds of fundraising go to the Retired Teachers' Foundation. This Foundation supports children's charities in our province.

Please see the attached registration forms and note the deadline for registration for both events. Winter and Spring events are in the planning stages, and we will let you know about these in our Winter Newsletter. We are looking forward to seeing many of our members at the upcoming events.

Social Committee Chair:

Giselle Benoit – gisellebenoit36@gmail.com

VISITATION COMMITTEE

Since our last communication with you, which was through our Avalon East Newsletter dated Winter 2025, we regret to inform you that 48 members of our division have passed away. Sadly, these numbers continue to increase, not only in our division but in many of our districts across the province.

We continued to convey our sympathy to family members through cards and visits to funeral homes, where possible. In this way we hope to bring some comfort to loved ones.

Our obituary section below mentions the names of our deceased colleagues. We thank them for their years of dedicated service to the teaching profession.

There are members of our division who have been battling various illnesses, and we have attempted to contact those whose addresses have been made known to us. Unfortunately, names have been missed, but this does not mean we have forgotten you. Sending you best wishes for good health and happiness.

To members who have moved into nursing and retirement homes, you are utmost in our thoughts. We wish you the best in your new surroundings and hope you fill your days with active engagements while building new friendships.

We have been concerned about the number of sympathy cards and get-well cards that have been returned to us. This is because many of our colleagues, for various reasons, have moved from their homes and we do not have new addresses for them.

If you know of someone who has moved, or you have an updated address for a family member, please pass this information on to an executive member. This will help us keep in touch with our members and their families.

Our thanks to Clayton Rice, Provincial Treasurer, and to Cynthia Fardy, Past Executive Member, and to all others who continue to keep us updated with information so that we can maintain contact with Avalon East members.

Visitation Committee Members:

Gloria McDonald (CBS and surrounding areas)
gloriam9@eastlink.ca
(709) 229-7061

Sharon Reddy (St. John's)
sharon.reddy@nf.sympatico.ca
(709) 579-8169

OBITUARIES

In loving memory of:

*Catherine Abbott
Ronald Abbott
Doreena Ball
Brenda Beresford
Frances Bowering
Eldred Butt
Virginia Carew
Barbara Carey
Sister Loretta Chafe
Gordon Dalton
Sister Elizabeth Daniels
Florence Donaway
William Dunne
Mary Fahey
Father Clem Flaherty
Wallace Fowler
Amanda Gaultois
Eleanor Geary
John Grace
Doreen Green
Patrick Heffernan
Domino Howse
Alana Kennedy
Samuel Lannon*

*Sister Maureen Lawlor
John Lawton
Sister Betty Rae Lee
Kezia Locke
Brenda Maunder
Marjorie Mills
Kathleen Neville
Jessie Newbury
Carmand Oldford
Raylene O'Leary
Joan Penney
Beverly Pope
Carol Pushie
Bridget Rodgers
Anne Ryan
Hazel Ryan
Madonna Ryan-Gorner
Gertie Sesk
Greta Spencer
Reg Stapleton
Arthur Templeman
Geraldine Walsh
Wayne White
Jill Whittaker*

May our Deceased Members Rest in Peace

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

The Communications Committee would like to hear from you! There will be two draws for gift cards (valued at \$50.00 each, and the winners will be given their choice of store/restaurant gift card) after you provide us with the following information:

- Surname/s
- First Name
- Address (including community and postal code)
- Email Address
- Retirement Year
- Referred By

Every name will be entered into the draw when you email us with the above information. Additionally, if you refer a retiree to update their information, the referrer's name will have another chance to win a gift card. Good Luck!

If you wish to receive a printed copy of our newsletter, please indicate it when you provide your information. We would like for you to email your information to lindathistle11@gmail.com before Tuesday, September 30, 2025. Updated information plays an important role in the communication process.

Presently, we have approximately 2100 retirees in our division. Since 2019 (Covid 19), we communicated to our membership through email or Canada Post (if a retiree made a written request). However, some members informed us that they are not receiving our newsletters. If you know of any retirees who have not requested an electronic copy or a Canada Post copy, would you please forward/ inform them about the above information? We would also like to encourage them to attend our upcoming events.

To further increase our outreach and communication with retired teachers we have developed a Facebook page for the Avalon East Division of the RTANL. It would be greatly appreciated if you could visit our Facebook page and spread the word.

<https://www.facebook.com/share/1H3Kj4kE4Z/?mibextid=wwXlfr>

You can also reach the page by searching for "Retired Teachers' Association of NL Avalon East Division"

We hope to hear from you soon!

RTANL Avalon East – Contact Information

President:	Shirley Sheppard (sjsheppard@nf.sympatico.ca)
Past President	Mary Purchase (marypurchase@icloud.com)
Vice President:	Susan Forward (sforward@mun.ca)
Secretary:	Marlene Audeau-Joyce (marleneaj@gmail.com)
Treasurer:	Pam Bry (pambry@icloud.com)
Members At Large:	Sharon Reddy (sharon.reddy@nf.sympatico.ca)
	Giselle Benoit (gisellebenoit36@gmail.com)
	Linda Thistle (lindathistle11@gmail.com)
	Gloria Pynn (glopynn@gmail.com)