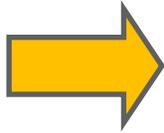




BRANT DISTRICT 40



A better future, together
Ensemble pour un avenir meilleur



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

WOHOO Summer has arrived! And we seem to be coming out of COVID! How wonderful!

As I write this message, we are celebrating the Queen's Jubilee. As around the Commonwealth, we in Brantford-Brant held a celebration in her honour. A Peace Park was dedicated in Mt. Pleasant and a celebration was held at the Bell homestead. It is an important time for us to remember how fortunate we are to live in a country of such freedom and diversity and to renew our efforts to help make it a time of peace and understanding for everyone. In that effort, your Executive has continued to work on your behalf to offer information and safe gatherings.

Our Spring Membership Meeting turned out very well. Everyone enjoyed Tim Philp talk about what's coming in the future. At this point we still mask to keep everyone safe. I'm looking forward to seeing you out to the events in the Fall.

We offered a series of Billiards sessions, thanks to Randy Gallagher's leadership. Those of our members who attended had a great time. We are hoping to do that again in the Fall. But we will need more participation from you to make it worthwhile.

One of the positive spin-offs from COVID has been the transition to on-line information sharing. It has opened up a whole new world of communication. We tried to keep you informed by letting you know, via social media and Updates, what RTOERO has offered on-line throughout the year. They have done an amazing job of presenting webinars, articles and information directly to you about important issues. Most of those, or transcripts, are still accessible on-line at <https://rtoero.ca/resources/videos>.

One of the most important on-line sessions we held was 'Know Your Health Plan'. RTOERO delivered it specifically for Brant 40. It was an outstanding presentation with an opportunity to ask specific questions. If you want a copy of the PowerPoint outline, e-mail Betty Anne.

Your Health Plan booklets are available on line at <https://rtoero.ca/resources/insurance-plan-updates/>

The New Retirees Wine & Cheese went well although we had a smaller turnout than usual. It is difficult to access retirees as the Boards and Unions are hesitant to give us names. If you know someone who is retiring this year or next, encourage them to participate in one of the many on-line Retirement Benefit workshops and tell them about our great Benefit and Travel packages as well as all the work we do for members and seniors in general. They will get '*more bang for their bucks*' if they join RTOERO. (Continued on page 10)

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District forty website

Check out the District 40 Website at
<http://district40.rto-ero.org>

For Events, Newsletters, Trips & Tours,
Opportunities to Volunteer, and more.

“Like” our District 40 Facebook Page
[https://m.facebook.com/
RTOERODistrict40Brant/](https://m.facebook.com/RTOERODistrict40Brant/).

Great page to keep up-to-date with items
of social interest.

Want to promote a community event?

Email Barb Rogelstad, Webmaster & Social
Media. rogieba@rogers.com

Change of address or personal info?
Please make sure to let RTO know!

RTO office: 1-800-361-9888 or

RTO website [http://www.ero-
rto.org](http://www.ero-rto.org)

Best Western Brantford Hotel and Conference Centre

19 Holiday Dr., Brantford



Annual “To Hell with the Bell” Breakfast

September 6th, 8:30 AM

Free for New Retirees within the past school year

Everyone welcome

Cost – \$ 10.00

Annual General Meeting and Fall Luncheon

November 2nd, 11:00 AM before the event

Cost - members \$ 20.00, non-members 25.00

Watch for more information

ONLINE REGISTRATIONS for Breakfast and/or the AGM Luncheon may be completed by going to the Brant District Website. <https://district40.rto-ero.org>. Payment will be made upon arrival at those events

OR EMAIL rtobrant40events@gmail.com

OR CALL Christine Hazell (519-865-9463)1

These events are subsidized in part by Brant District 40 RTO.

Please include the following information:

Name(s) of Member(s) Attending _____

Name(s) of Non-member(s) Attending _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Email _____



RTO A better future,
together
ERO Ensemble pour
un avenir meilleur

Better lives for Canada's education
community retirees

Une vie meilleure pour les retraités du
secteur de l'éducation au Canada



The Ontario Election is over. Many of us talked to our candidates about what is important to us.

RTOERO ran a series of candidate issues webinars.

Locally, we put a flyer in the Expositor highlighting issues important to seniors and encouraging everyone to vote.

Janet Rubas, our Brant 40 secretary, sent our local candidates a survey with relevant questions. The results were posted on our website prior to the election.

But that doesn't mean our job is done. The same issues still exist and we need to keep them at the top of the new government's priority list. A White Paper published by RTOERO to each candidate and each RTOERO District outlines one of the main issues:



KEY MESSAGE: *Canada needs a National Seniors Strategy that optimizes health, financial security and social inclusion so all Canadians can age with dignity.*

THE ISSUE: Older Canadians are the fastest growing segment of our population, but gaps in Canada's healthcare and social policies are creating barriers to seniors' independence and the essential role they play in vibrant, healthy communities and economies.

Tackling these issues independently will not give us the results we need. A coordinated National Seniors Strategy, with dedicated funding and accountable goals will ensure we meet the evolving needs of seniors. This is a matter for all levels of government to tackle.

THE CHALLENGES: Staying healthy and active for as long as possible. Canadians are living longer, and our health care system is not keeping up with shifting demographics. The right care, at the right time, in the right place, at all stages of aging, requires stable funding. We need a quality, accessible health care system that helps address the social determinants of health.

QUALITY OF CARE: Standards of care are inconsistent across the country. Many Canadians do not have access to a primary care giver and with one geriatrician per 15,000 adults, Canada is unprepared to meet the current and growing demands for geriatric expertise.

The need for community care workers and personal support workers is growing. Adequate staffing levels, better training and education and safe working conditions are needed to improve care.

CARE CLOSER TO HOME: Shortfalls in long-term and home care force seniors to stay in hospitals longer than they need. A national strategy should encourage the integration of hospital, community and home care services to enable seniors to receive care in comfortable and familiar settings.

SUPPORT FOR CAREGIVERS: More than 8 million Canadians provide care to a family member or friend, contributing an estimated \$25-billion in unpaid labour. This comes at a cost to their personal finances, and to their physical and mental health.

INDEPENDENT, PRODUCTIVE, ENGAGED CITIZENS: Social isolation, elder abuse and a lack of age-friendly strategies can deteriorate quality of life, and lead to poor health outcomes, higher social costs and loss of vital economic and social contributions of older populations.

TRIVIA : June Szeman Just4fun Trivia Games & Gord Osmond Trivia Challenge

Participants raised \$425 for the RTOERO Charitable Foundation, with an optional on-line donation. This is the 9th time Brant 40 has sent money in this way to the Foundation.

A visual representation of each question was provided, with many having both audio background clues, or video examples. Each question was viewable.

For the 2nd year in a row, June Szeman Just4fun Trivia Games were held on Zoom. Individuals & couples were able to answer a series of 15 questions on a wide variety of trivia such as: *After 3 consecutive days of Canada's record hottest temperatures, what village was destroyed by a wildfire on June 30, 2021?* and, *after watching a summer 2021 Kraft Dinner commercial, participants tried to recall What 1960's singer sang the background song (You Don't Own Me).*

These fun events took a total of 20 minutes, and we held one in late morning, one in early afternoon, and two in the evening in February.

In a similar fashion, the Gord Osmond Trivia Challenge was also held on Zoom. Instead of being a competitive team event, it was again an individual “*keep your own score, but we won't compare them*” scenario. While participants did not have a 2 meter-wide screen to view, everything was visible on whatever home screen was used, from phone, to wall-sized tvs.

Covering a wider range of questions over 6 rounds, there were video, audio, and verbal/visual questions. Miscellaneous questions came in groups of 6 to 8. The first question of the Challenge was: *RTOERO OFFICIALLY BEGAN ON MARCH 14, 1968, NAMED STO. WHAT DID THE LETTERS STO STAND FOR?*

There were several series of 2 to 5 questions on a theme, such as: **5 QUESTIONS: THE PRESSURE'S ON “yoU,”** where all the answers either began with the letter U or had the + letter U as part of the question. (WHAT IS THE NAME OF THIS UNESCO SITE IN AUSTRALIA, OFTEN KNOWN AS “AYER'S ROCK”?) *(answers are on page 6)*



A very challenging – but enjoyable question each year – gave participants a ‘photo’ of a face made from ½ photographs of two different people who had to be identified such as:

And another visual question offered close-ups of various Canadian buildings and asked what the building was, such as:



We are hoping to repeat the Just4fun June Szeman games on Zoom next year in February, and fervently hope that life will allow the Gord Osmond Trivia Challenge to resume in person with teams on the evening of March 2nd.

Perhaps you will join us next winter?

- Noel Beach

Thank you to those who have volunteered to help Brant District 40. Many have worked for many years and find that this is the time for new members to step forward. We continue to recruit volunteers to help with RTOERO District 40 activities, committees and executive roles. I know many of us are at home and feel like we are limited in what we can do, or think we are too busy, but that is not the case! Being a volunteer helps us utilize skills we already have in a different role, and at the same time get to know new people, socialize, develop new friends in a safe environment and help make a difference for our retired education colleagues. You have much to share to help this organization and members flourish for the benefit of all.

We are a team and you wouldn't be working alone! We are all proud to live in Brantford-Brant and make this community the best. We have over 1050 members and would love to welcome you to our working group! For further information, please contact Betty Anne at president40@districts.rtoero.ca.

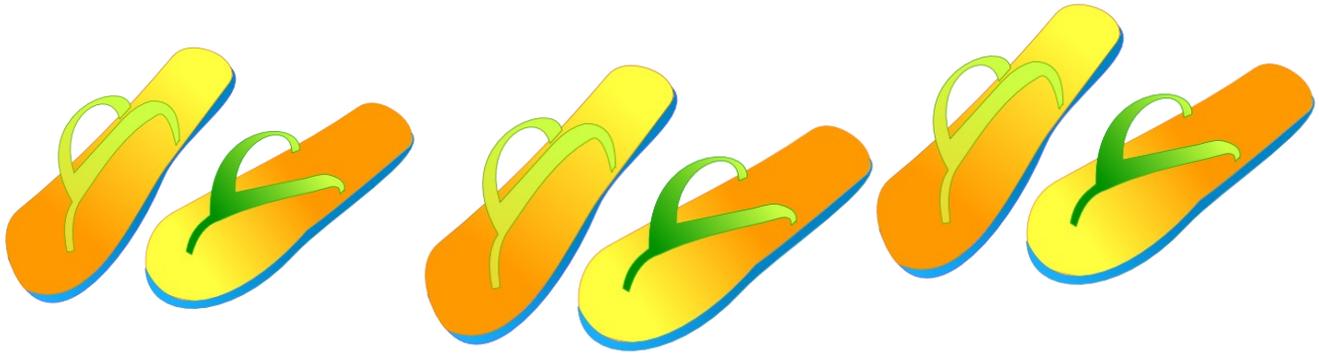
Volunteers!

Brant 40 Supports Ukrainian Refugees Coming to Brantford

At our May Membership we made a donation of \$1000.00 to the *Gospel Slavic* Church of Brantford who are collecting funds to support refugees from the war in Ukraine. We wish them well in their efforts to help these folks in need.



Answers to sample trivia questions from page five : Lytton BC; Lesley Gore; Uluru; Paul McCartney and Angela Landsbury; Dairee Delite.



Pres. ~ Betty Anne Whitney...president40@districts.rtoero.ca

Past Pres ~ Keith Gloster...keithgloster1@rogers.com

Governance~ Dave Haylock...david.hayock@hotmail.com

Sec. ~ Janet Rubas ~ ..rubasil@gmail.com

Treas. ~ Mieke Schroeder...schroederhbj@gmail.com

Goodwill ~ Margaret Gillan ~ ...mlgillan@gmail.com

~ Shirley Latulippe ...shirleylatulippe@rogers.com

Tours ~ Lori Chisholm...lorichisholm@rogers.com

Newsletter ~ Jane Goldspink...gingergoldspink@gmail.com

Webmaster ~ Barb Rogelstad...rogieba@rogers.com

Health ~ Randy Gallagher...rgallagher435@gmail.com

Membership ~ Lynn Haylock... rtobrant40membership@gmail.com

Breakfast/Luncheons ~ Christine Hazell

...rtobrant40events@gmail.com

Political Advocacy ~ open

Members at Large ~

Gerry Fuss ~ jgfuss@hotmail.com

Mary Hrynkiw ...mhrynkiw@cruiseshipcenters.com

Jim Harder...jimharder@hotmail.ca

Charitable Donations and Scholarships

In the annual budget, RTO District 40 sets aside money for scholarships and charitable donations.

The scholarships are for \$300 at the eight secondary schools in Brantford/Brant. We ask the schools to consider awarding the scholarships based on the following priorities:

- i) a graduating student pursuing a career in education
- ii) a graduating student pursuing a career in social work with children
- iii) a graduating student pursuing a career in health care

In addition to scholarships, RTO District 40 sets aside \$1000 for charitable donations. This spring, this money was given to the Brant Music Festival and to The Red Cross for Meals on Wheels. Thanks to Lynn Haylock and Mary Hrynkiw for suggesting these organizations.

Because some of our activities and social gatherings are still limited, it was decided to make an additional charitable donation of \$1000 to support Ukrainian refugees arriving in Brantford.

- Mieke Schroeder

BRANT 40 RETIREES



Best wishes and *Happy Trails* to our new retirees.



Thanks to our members for their continued support of Goodwill. We appreciate your communication. Please keep us informed of passings, anniversaries/, and significant occasions in the lives of our members.

Shirley Latulippe shirleylatluipp@rogers.com

Margaret Gillan mlgillan@gmail.com

RTOERO INFORMATION REGARDING LEGAL DOCUMENTS

Just a reminder that an inventory of essential documents is valuable and helpful for you and your family.

The information sheet on Wills, Powers of Attorney, Estate Planning, and Dealing with Bereavement is available on-line through RTOERO. The website has a template that can be filled in and printed to be kept in a safe location.

<https://rtoero.ca/how-to-create-an-inventory-of-important-documents-and-contacts/>.

You can also use it to create your own personal inventory



It's great to see that the Covid situation is improving and that people are beginning to go out to concerts and events, are travelling and visiting with friends and relatives. Let's hope that the worst of the pandemic is behind us and that we can return to the good parts of our former lives.

Teaching has been a challenge and many teachers could be contemplating a change. If you know of anyone who is thinking of retiring soon or even in the next five years, please direct him or her to the following website for information on **Virtual Retirement Planning Workshops**. It is hoped that we can return to in-person workshops in the future as they are more effective at making connections and convincing that RTOERO is the way to go. We would love to increase our numbers, so please spread the word! To that end, we held a social for new retirees at the Brantford Golf & Country Club. The event was very enjoyable and hopefully most of these new retirees will join us.

<https://rtoero.ca/events/retirement-planning-workshops/>

As of June 1, 2022, RTO District 40 has 1038 retired members, and 32 members who are actively employed. 51 people in our District are 90-99 and 6 are 100+.

In a continuing attempt to save money and to do a bit for the environment, we are once again encouraging members to agree to give up the paper copy of the newsletter and opt to receive the online version only. We now have 749 members on the print mailing list. If you would be happy to be removed from the list of members who receive the print version of the newsletter, please let me know.

This would mean that you would only receive the newsletter by email.

Please contact me at rtobrant40membership@gmail.com

Also, mix-ups can occur at the District level and at the Head Office level. If you know of any members who **should** have but did not receive this newsletter by email, please ask them to contact **Provincial** by phone to get the problem resolved.

Remember that you should always update your contact information (phone, address or email address), so that we can stay in touch.

**Membership department at membership@rtoero.ca
or 1-800-361-9888.**

Have a wonderful summer!

Lynn Haylock, Membership Chair



Some Enchanted Evening

with

Richard Margison Lauren Margison
Geoff Schellenberg and David Warrack

*A celebration of the greatest music selections from
opera and musical theatre*

Sunday, June 26, 2022 7:30 p.m.

Adult: \$40 Student: \$10 Child (Grade 8 & under): Free

Sanderson Centre for the Performing Arts

Presented by Brantford Music Club

BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

July 25—August 12th

School supplies needed:

Backpacks suitable for JK Grade 8 Lunch pails Pens/Pencils/Pencil Cases
Pencil Sharpeners Markers/Crayons Rulers & Erasers Paper/Binders/Duo-tangs
Glue Sticks Highlighters Scissors

Drop off Location: 33 Diana Ave or contact us at 519-752-7814 to arrange pickup. Thank you in advance

Brantford & Paris Community and Family Services



(continued from page one)

Our Website is changing. Watch for the amazing things our webmaster is doing to make it even more informative and user friendly. Click on the very first item: **BRANT D40 VIRTUAL LIVING ROOM** and click around inside to see what's new. Come back to it frequently. If there is something you would like to add to it, contact Barb Rogelstad.

We have been doing our share to generate funds to help our community. In collaboration with the Grand River Council on Aging (GRCOA), we recently submitted a proposal to fund a study to see if the men in our membership and our community would benefit from a Men's Shed. 'Men's Sheds' are modern, shared versions of 'the home workshops' that have long been part of the Canadian way of life. They provide a friendly, inclusive, and creative space for retired men to feel productive and relevant. They may help those retired men who have time on their hands that can contribute to isolation, loneliness and depression and mental health issues. We will find out in the Fall if we can proceed with the study. Many of you may be interested in taking part in the study. Stay tuned.

See information later in the newsletter about the "To Hell with the Bell" Breakfast. Bring your retired member friends and reconnect with other Brant 40 retirees.

We would like to host an Arts & Crafts Show/Sale but we need artists to volunteer to share their work. Please let me know if you will participate.

Finally, we would like to reactivate the Golf Tournaments. They are so much fun for organizers, beginners and real golfers alike. We need your input and help.

Our goal, as an Executive, is to make Brant 40 a relevant and important organization that meets the needs of you, our members. Please let us know what we can do to enliven your Brant District 40 experience and how you might help make it better for everyone.

Betty Anne

Return Address:

ATT. RTO,

17 Chestnut Ave.

Brantford, ON

N3T 4B9