

**Windsor – Essex District 7  
Retired Teachers of Ontario  
Les Enseignantes et Enseignants Retraités de  
l'Ontario  
25th Anniversary Celebration  
1985 – 2010**



**Friday, Sept. 24, 2010  
Fogolar Furlan Club**

EXCELLENCE THROUGH THE YEARS/A TRAVERS LES ANNÉES

# MENU

MINISTRONE SOUP  
MIXED SALAD SERVED IN A TORTILLA SHELL  
PENNE WITH BLUSH SAUCE  
CHICKEN FRANCESCA  
PORK MEDALLIONS  
ROASTED POTATOES  
GREEN BEAN ALMONDINE  
ASSORTED BREAD AND BUTTER  
COFFEE  
TEA  
CAKE WITH VANILLA ICE CREAM



PROGRAM

Master of Ceremonies - Doran McTaggart

Welcome and Introductions - Gord Miall,  
District 7 President

Introduction of Marg Couture, RT0/ERO  
Provincial President - George Merrett

Introduction of Past Provincial Presidents, Past  
District Presidents and 25 Year Members of  
RTO/ERO - Simone Rickerby

Grace

Toast to the Queen

Dinner

ENTERTAINMENT

Barbershop Quartet

Presentation of the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Booklet and  
Slideshow – Emy McBride, John Zangari, Ann  
Cotter

French Choral Group

Closing Remarks

Dancing and Social

## **RTO/ERO STRATEGIC PLAN**

### **A. VISION STATEMENT**

RTO/ERO will continue to be publicly recognized as the primary voice of teachers, as well as school and board administrators, educational support staff, and college and university faculty in retirement in the Province of Ontario, as an organization committed to improving services to members and as the provider of the best group health plans available to its members.

### **B. MISSION STATEMENT**

RTO/ERO's priority is quality service to its members through advocacy, public engagement, coalitions, good governance, and in the provision of group health plans. RTO/ERO will also *pursue the interests* of its members through involvement in promoting seniors and retirees' issues and influencing public policy.

RTO/ERO's motto "Here for you Now, Here for your Future" represents a commitment to accountability, to transparency and to the periodic review of its services to ensure an ongoing alignment with the priorities and needs of its members.

## THE BEGINNING OF WINDSOR-ESSEX DISTRICT 7

In Ontario the organization of retired teachers began in 1966. The Provincial Organization, at that time, was known as the Superannuated Teachers of Ontario, STO/ERO, with the province being divided into 10 areas. Windsor-Essex was a unit of Area 4 which comprised Essex and Kent Counties. In 1972, Provincial changed the area designation from 10 Areas to 25 Districts.



Windsor-Essex remained as a Unit of the Essex-Kent District 7. The other unit was the Kent Unit.

In 1985 the Windsor-Essex Unit made a motion to Provincial that the units become

separate districts. The motion was passed and in 1985 Provincial declared Windsor – Essex and Chatham – Kent to be separate districts. Windsor-Essex became District 7 and Chatham-Kent became District 33.

From 1984 - 1985 Lenore Graham was the president of the Windsor-Essex Unit of District 7. Lenore was also on the Provincial at this time; it was Lenore Graham who made the announcement of the formation of Windsor – Essex District 7 and Chatham – Kent District 33.

DISTRICT 7 PRESIDENTS 1985 - 1989



**First Vice-President - Nelson McKelvie**  
**Second Vice-President - Jim Cummings**  
**Secretary - Dorothy Carthas**  
**Treasurer - Muriel Tetroe**

**Alice Pinsonneault**  
**1985 - 1986**



**First Vice-President - Jim Cummings**  
**Second Vice-President - Eugene Lambert**  
**Secretary - Hope Parr**  
**Treasurer - Muriel Tetroe**

**Nelson McKelvie**  
**1986 - 1987**



DISTRICT 7 PRESIDENTS 1985 - 1989



**First Vice-President - Eugene Lambert  
Second Vice-President - Fred Clarke  
Secretary - Hope Parr  
Treasurer - Muriel Tetroe**

**Jim Cummings 1987 – 88**



**First Vice-President - Lois MacNeill  
Second Vice-President - Bill Courtney  
Secretary - John Zangari  
Treasurer - Muriel Tetroe**

**Eugene Lambert 1988 - 89**



**First Vice-President - Bill Courtney  
Second Vice-President - John Zangari  
Secretary - Chuck Beedle  
Treasurer - Muriel Tetroe**

**Lois McNeill 1989 - 90**

## WHAT HAPPENED PROVINCIAL DURING 1985 - 1989

### Membership

- In 1985 provincial membership of STO/ERO was 19,518; today it is 60,000 plus members.

### Pension Reform

- Prior to 1982, retired teachers' pensions were calculated on the best seven years' salary
- In 1982 retired teachers' pensions became based on the best 5 years salary.
- In 1986 Provincial began the fight for the government to recalculate the pensions of those teachers who had retired prior to 1982.
- In 1997 the pension review board decided that pensions, including those pension years earned prior to 1982, be calculated on the best five years' salary. Over 18,000 affected teachers received a retroactive payment.

### Group Insurance

- In 1986 Johnson Insurance Limited was appointed the administrator of the STO/ERO group health insurance policies.

## WHAT HAPPENED IN DISTRICT 7 DURING 1985 - 1989

- Harold Pillon was the first appointed senator for our newly formed District 7.
- Provincial suggested that each district have a Health Committee. Pauline Lalonde was the first appointed District 7 Chairperson of our newly formed Health Committee.
- Ron Stephen was appointed deputy speaker for provincial senate meetings. He joined Bill Courtney who was also a deputy speaker.
- Under Lois MacNeill's presidency, the District 7 constitution was restructured, modeling the Provincial Constitution. Our new constitution was then passed at the District 7 Annual Meeting.

DISTRICT 7 PRESIDENTS 1990 - 1994



**Bill Courtney**  
**1990 - 1991**

**President- Elect - John Zangari**  
**Vice-President - Marie-Anne Seguin**  
**Secretary - Chuck Beedle**  
**Treasurer - Muriel Tetroe**



**John Zangari**  
**1991 - 1992**

**President-Elect - Marie-Anne Seguin**  
**Vice-President - Doran McTaggart**  
**Secretary - Chuck Beedle**  
**Treasurer - Keith Robertson**

DISTRICT 7 PRESIDENTS 1990 - 1994



**Marie-Anne Seguin  
1992 - 93**

**President- Elect - Doran McTaggart  
Vice-President - John MacDonald  
Secretary - Linda Murphy  
Treasurer - Keith Robertson**



**Doran McTaggart 1993 - 94**

**President-Elect - Shirley Dicker  
Vice-President - Bob Grondin  
Secretary - Linda Murphy  
Treasurer - Keith Robertson**



**Shirley Dicker 1994 - 95**

**President-Elect - Bob Grondin  
Vice-President - Marie-Anne Seguin  
Secretary - Linda Murphy  
Treasurer - Keith Robertson**

**WHAT HAPPENED PROVINCIALY IN  
1990 – 1994**

- Effective Jan.1, 1990, the Ontario Teachers Superannuation Commission is renamed the Ontario Teachers Pension Plan Board (OTPPB).
- Johnson Insurance becomes the claims administrator for Maritime Life, the new underwriter of STO/ERO Health Plans.
- STO/ERO joins the Canadian Association of Retired Teachers (CART).
- Social Contract negotiations lead Ontario Teachers Federation (OTF) and the government to become 50-50 partners in sponsoring the pension plan.

## WHAT HAPPENED IN DISTRICT 7 IN 1990 – 1994

- The newsletter chairperson John Zangari expanded the number of newsletters published per year from two to three. He enlisted Jean Brulé to assist with French language articles.
- Executive member Lois MacNeill introduced the Hell with the Bell Breakfast. The first breakfast was held at Roseland Golf and Country Club.
- Marie-Anne Seguin divided the Goodwill Committee into the Goodwill Committee and the In Memoriam Committee. Donna Hutton was Chair of Goodwill and Mina Grayson was the Chair of In Memoriam. They both served for many years as chairs of these committees.

DISTRICT 7 PRESIDENTS 1995 - 1999



**Bob Grondin**  
**1995 - 1996**

**President-Elect - Marie-Anne Seguin**  
**Vice-President - Emily McBride**  
**Secretary - Linda Murphy**  
**Treasurer - Keith Robertson**



**Marie-Anne Seguin**  
**1996 - 1997**

**President-Elect - Emily McBride**  
**Vice-President - Bob Lamoureux**  
**Secretary - Linda Murphy**  
**Treasurer - Keith Robertson**



DISTRICT 7 PRESIDENTS 1995 - 1999



**Emily McBride**  
**1997 - 1998**

**President-Elect - Bob Lamoureux**  
**Vice-President - Frank Kapasi**  
**Secretary - Linda Murphy**  
**Treasurer - Keith Robertson**



**Bob Lamoureux**  
**1998 - 2000**

**President-Elect - Frank Kapasi**  
**Vice-President - Helen Biales**  
**Secretary – Sheila Wright**  
**Treasurer - Keith Robertson**

## WHAT HAPPENED PROVINCIALY DURING 1995 -1999

- STO/ERO began studying the feasibility of providing independent regional Retirement Planning Workshops (RPW) throughout the entire province.
- Bill Courtney from District 7 was Provincial President from 1996 -1997.
- The organization's new name (The Retired Teachers of Ontario/Les Enseignantes et Enseignants Retraités de l'Ontario) and new colours (navy blue and gold) were implemented as of July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1998.
- During the time period 1996 - 1998, provincial membership increased by over 50 percent, partially due to the reduction of the retirement factor from 90 to 85.
- Ontario Teachers Federation (OTF) agreed to give RTO/ERO a permanent, voting position on its Pension Committee and Pension Negotiations Committee, thus allowing RTO/ERO to participate in matters to be taken to the pension partners before their negotiations.

## WHAT HAPPENED IN DISTRICT 7 DURING 1995 - 1999

- John Zangari was appointed Chair of the Provincial Membership Committee.
- Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Election of Officers was moved from the fall luncheon to the spring luncheon.
- The Retirement Planning Workshops previously organized by Emy McBride were then taken on by Barb LaFlamme.
- District 7 membership in 1999 was 1,476 members and RTO/ERO Provincial membership was over 42,000. Dorothy Clement was Membership Chair at this time.

DISTRICT PRESIDENTS 2000 - 2004



**Frank Kapasi**  
**2000 - 2001**

**President-Elect - Helen Biales**  
**Vice-President - John Zangari**  
**Secretary - Sheila Wright**  
**Treasurer - Keith Robertson**



**Helen Biales**  
**2001 - 2002**

**President-Elect - John Zangari**  
**Vice-President - Martin Lanoue**  
**Secretary - Sheila Wright**  
**Treasurer - Keith Robertson**

DISTRICT PRESIDENTS 2000 - 2004



**John Zangari**  
**2002 - 2003**

**President-Elect - Margaret Clarke**  
**Vice-President - Ken Attridge**  
**Secretary - Sheila Wright**  
**Treasurer - Keith Robertson**



**Margaret Clarke**  
**2003 - 2005**

**President-Elect - Ken Attridge**  
**Vice-President - Al Linnell**  
**Secretary - Eleanor Douglas, Judy**  
**Bowden**  
**Treasurer - Jim Sparrow**

## WHAT HAPPENED PROVINCIALY DURING 2000 - 2004

- The permanent 85-factor for retirement and the implementation of the best five years of service as the means to calculate pension was put into place after many years of pursuing this goal by RTO/ERO.
- The RTO/ERO Provincial newsletter was renamed “Renaissance”. This name was selected as “it suggests a new spirit, a reaching out to new and younger members and a revitalization of the existing membership.”
- The Canadian Association of Communicators in Education chose Renaissance as one of the recipients of its 2003 BRAVO Award of Excellence.
- Ron Stephen from District 7 was elected Provincial President for 2001 - 2002.
- RTO/ERO surpassed 50,000 members in 2002.

## WHAT HAPPENED IN DISTRICT 7 DURING 2000 - 2004

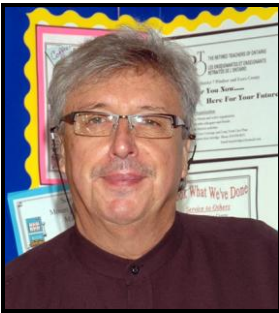
- District 7 Retirement Planning Workshops (RPW) had been effectively in operation for a number of years. Provincial became more actively involved in the presentations at local District Retirement Planning Workshops. In order to encourage the development of these district workshops, Provincial provided financial and material assistance.
- Simone Rickerby initiated the District 7 Retired Teachers Golf Tournament. They were held at the Dominion Golf Course and they continue even today in the spring and the fall, still at Dominion Golf Course.
- Frank Kapasi designed and launched District 7's first website.
- Helen Biales (District 7 president 2001 - 2002) was awarded the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal in recognition for her service to education and to her community.

DISTRICT PRESIDENTS 2005 - 2010



**Ken Attridge 2005 - 07**

**President-Elect - Al Linnell  
Vice-President - Gord Miall  
Secretary - Judy Bowden  
Treasurer - Jim Sparrow  
Assistant Treasurer - Ann Cotter**



**Al Linnell 2007 - 09**

**President-Elect - Gord Miall  
Vice-President - Simone Rickerby  
Secretary - Judy Bowden  
Treasurer - Jim Sparrow  
Assistant Treasurer - Ann Cotter**



**Gord Miall 2009 - 11**

**President-Elect - Simone Rickerby  
Vice-President - Marg Clarke  
Secretary - Judy Bowden  
Treasurer - Jim Sparrow  
Assistant Treasurer - Ann Cottter,  
George Merrett**



**WHAT HAPPENED PROVINCIALY FROM  
2005 – 2010**

- Helen Biales from District 7 was the Provincial President from 2004 – 2005.
- Our membership fees were reduced from \$1.25 to \$1.10 per \$1000 of gross pension.
- District 44 Region du Ciel Bleu, the first francophone District, was formed. It has the same boundaries as District 43, Nipissing.
- District 46, Muskoka, and District 47, Vancouver Island, were formed.
- District 7 was well represented on Provincial Committees by Bob Lamoureux, Jim Sparrow, Marg Clarke, and Norm Renaud.
- In March 2008 RTO/ERO celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of existence.
- Provincial membership reached 60,000.
- Our membership fees were restored to the \$1.25 in 2010.

**WHAT HAPPENED IN DISTRICT 7 FROM  
2005 – 2010**

- John Zangari received the Founding Member Award. One award is given annually for outstanding service to RTO/ERO locally and provincially.
- In 2005 District 7 began its program of distributing grants of up to \$500 to non-profit groups and organizations who have projects that benefit children, seniors or the community in general.
- In 2006 the first annual craft/artisan show was introduced at the Fall Luncheon by Gord Miall, Seven retired teachers were involved in selling their wares.
- Sheila Wright's Bursary Committee initiated giving bursaries of up to \$500 to three University of Windsor Faculty of Education students.
- In 2007, Lorenzo Pinazza was honoured as the 2,000<sup>th</sup> member of District 7.
- In 2008 Harriet Stone from District 7 was honoured as the 60,000<sup>th</sup> provincial member of RTO/ERO.
- In 2010 our membership is 2132.

**DISTRICT 7 COMMUNITY SUPPORT THROUGH  
PROVINCIAL AND LOCAL GRANTS, BURSARIES  
AND DONATIONS  
- Since 2000 -**

The logo for Windsor/Essex District 7 is a circular emblem. It features the text "WINDSOR/ESSEX DISTRICT 7" around the top inner edge. In the center, there are large, stylized letters "E", "O", and "S" in yellow and blue. Below these letters, the number "25" is visible, likely commemorating a 25th anniversary.

**Project Service to Others  
Grants Recipients**

A Book of My Own Literacy Campaign  
Well-Come Centre for Human Potential  
Children's Safety Village  
Children's Rehabilitation Centre  
North American Black Historical Museum  
Art Gallery of Windsor Education Outreach Program  
Send Kids to Windsor's Symphony Orchestra Educational  
Concerts

## **District 7 Grant Recipients**

Centre for Seniors – Step Training Programme

Sports Fest Windsor

Parents Time Out

Treats and Treasures for Nick

Windsor Scottish Rite Charitable

Foundation Learning Centre

Special Equestrians Therapeutic Riding Association

Barbara Parry Pediatric Oncology Association

Special Equestrians Therapeutic Riding Association

Wonder Broads

BookFest Windsor

Maidstone Historical Society

Queen Elizabeth School Symphony

Ready-Set-Go Parent Support Coalition

## **Bursaries**

Since 2006 to present District 7 has granted 13 bursaries of \$500 each to deserving University of Windsor Faculty of Education Pre-Service Students

## Other Donations

University of Windsor Food Bank

Fountainbleau Public Library

University of Windsor Food Bank

Cancer Society

RWTO Annual Convention in Windsor

Windsor Rotary Club

Holy Names' Music Department

Windsor Star Spelling Bee

Silver Ambassadors

Teachers Have Heart

Villanova Music Department

Drouillard Place

Amherstburg Food Bank

St. Mary's Food Cupboard

Downtown Mission

St. Vincent de Paul Society of Amherstburg

## Acknowledgments

AEFO - Association des enseignantes et enseignants  
franco-ontarien

Bella Vino Winery of Windsor, Ontario

CAW Local 444 – Canadian Auto Workers Local 444

Fogolar Furlan Club – Lou Villata, General Manager, and  
Staff

RWTO – Retired Women Teachers of Ontario

United Communities Credit Union – Essex, Ontario

**Thank-you for your generous support.**

**25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee**

Simone Rickerby, Chairperson

Helen Biales

Bill Bowden

Judy Bowden

Marg Clarke

Ann Cotter

Bob Lamoureux

Al Linnell

Emy McBride

George Merrett

Gord Miall

John Zangari



Booklet Created by Emy McBride, John Zangari and Ann Cotter

