

Highlights Spring Senate May 16-17, 2017

- The following items were contained in President Martha Foster's report to Senate:
District Summary Financial Statements for 2016; the 2017 budget for 1316342 Ontario Inc., the numbered company that owns the building at 18 Spadina Road; District Grants report; Status of Reserves; Interim Statement of Revenue & Expenses at March 31, 2017, and the report of the Constitution Committee.
The President noted that investments had performed two times better than the benchmark and funds had attained 9% interest last year. She also outlined that various meetings with Government officials provided for an opportunity to expand RTO/ERO's position on various business matters, to share concerns on Bill C27 (federal legislation that provides a framework for the establishment, administration and supervision of target benefit plans) and Bill 33 (an Act to amend the Long-Term Care Homes Act, 2007 - to establish a minimum standard of daily care), and to reiterate that we are a trusted voice.
- In his report, Jim Grieve, Executive Director, summarized his activities since the last Senate, stating that RTO/ERO is at the crossroads of charting its future and is well underway to achieving the strategic plan objectives, set at the previous Senate. He outlined the importance of the decisions that will be made by Senate in terms of Governance, Membership Rights, and potential discussions with OTIP.
- Gayle Manley, Chair, Health Services and Insurance Committee, reported that the Semi-Private and Convalescent Care plans have done well, wherein the premium rates were maintained and the Dental Plan rates increased by 1%. The transition to Sun Life is going smoothly.
She pointed out that although we take in \$149 million in our plans, a deficit of 0.9% of premium was recorded, largely attributed to inflation, the Canadian dollar and increased utilization.
Work continues in conjunction with Sun Life, on building a Wellness portal featuring articles on healthy retirement that will be introduced at the District Health Representative (DHR) workshop taking place in June.
An open enrollment period occurred from February 1, 2017 to April 30, 2017, in which over 200 applications were received from other insurance plans.
Issues raised regarding experiences with Allianz will be investigated.
- The Chair of the Ad Hoc 50th Anniversary Committee, David Kendall reported on the various events and activities being developed for this year and next. Helen Szydlowski was commended on her work in compiling the history of RTO/ERO. Districts were reminded to send in the name of a 50th Anniversary liaison.
The new 50th Anniversary logo for use on RTO/ERO communications will be posted online and available for use by Districts immediately.
A sample of a new 50th Anniversary District plaque was showcased and a special European cruise arranged by Merit Travel in honour of the 50th Anniversary, will set sail next June.

- Committee chairs highlighted the activities of the Audit, Communications, Member Services, Pension and Retirement Concerns, Political Advocacy and Project to Others committees.
- Martha Foster, Chair of the Governance Committee, shared statistics from the Senators' and Presidents' Workshop that indicated strong acceptance of the new governance framework proposal. The propositioned omnibus motion to incorporate concepts and principles into the Constitution and/or By-Laws were presented and discussed as stand-alone motions and are recorded in the Resolutions Passed portion of this report.
- Guest speaker, Rochella Vassell from Elder Abuse Ontario, spoke on the work of addressing, preventing and combating elder abuse in Ontario. She outlined that there are seven regional consultants available as expert resources for consulting on cases, providing community resources and connecting with agencies. Elder Abuse Ontario will be working in partnership with RTO/ERO in contributing articles in *Renaissance*, providing training to facilitate community discussions, and providing volunteer opportunities for RTO/ERO members to spread awareness of the 'It's Not Right' campaign.
- Joanne Murphy, Chair, RTO/ERO Foundation Board of Directors, announced the Foundation's 2017 Social Isolation grant recipients. The recipients reflect excellence in community collaboration and represent diverse communities across the province, from London, Ottawa, Guelph and Prince Edward County. She also announced that Johnson agreed to move their four-year pledge forward and donate \$75,000 in 2017.
- Entering into discussions with OTIP/RAEO to investigate the possibility of forming a business partnership for the purpose of providing a comprehensive and affordable RTO/ERO health plan for all retirees from the educational community was considered but not supported by Senate.

Resolutions Passed Spring Senate, May 16-17, 2017

FINANCIAL

1. THAT the Consolidated Financial Statements for 2016 be approved.
2. THAT RTO/ERO issue a request for proposals in 2017 to firms interested in providing a full range of audit and tax services for the organization, with a recommendation and suitable motion that the winning proponent be appointed at the October 2017 Senate.

CONSTITUTION

3. THAT Senate approve in principle, that all retired members have the same membership rights and privileges, regardless of member category.
4. THAT the RTO/ERO Provincial Constitution, By-Laws and Policies document be amended by the addition of a new Policy Statement entitled Defined Benefit Pension Plans: "RTO/ERO believes that Defined Benefit Pension Plans provide the best retirement income security."
5. THAT Article 4.01 Full Member be amended by the addition of the following:

"An associate member elected to represent a District at Senate shall have all the rights of a Full Member for the duration of that Senate."
6. THAT Bylaw 6 – The Provincial Executive, Bylaw 6 (h), be amended by substitution with the following:

"Upon request by the RTO/ERO Charitable Foundation, the Provincial Executive may appoint an executive member(s) to the RTO/ERO Charitable Foundation Board of Directors."

PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE

7. THAT the actions taken by the Provincial Executive since the Fall 2016 meeting of Senate be ratified.
8. THAT the StopGap Foundation be the recipient of the Annual Charitable Donation 2017, with the request that they apply these funds in Ontario and British Columbia.

GOVERNANCE

9. THAT Senate approve the following concept in principle and authorize the Provincial Executive to have it prepared for incorporation into the Constitution and/or By-Laws, where appropriate:

THAT the Annual Meeting (AM) for RTO/ERO be held in May each year at the meeting of its corporate members, who will be referred to as Senators.

10. THAT Senate approve the following concept in principle and authorize the Provincial Executive to have it prepared for incorporation into the Constitution and/or Bylaws, where appropriate:

THAT the Provincial Executive shall be replaced by the Board of Directors consisting of up to eleven (11) voting members;

- a. Nine (9) members who are RTO/ERO corporate members at the time of the election by the Senate and;
- b. May have up to two (2) members who are external experts, appointed by the Board of Directors and confirmed by Senate at its next meeting.

11. THAT Senate approve the following concept in principle and authorize the Provincial Executive to have it prepared for incorporation into the Constitution and/or Bylaws, where appropriate:

THAT the Board of Directors shall elect from its members, a Chair and a Vice-Chair.

12. THAT Senate approve the following concept in principle and authorize the Provincial Executive to have it prepared for incorporation into the Constitution and/or Bylaws, where appropriate:

THAT the Board of Directors shall have full authority to manage the affairs of RTO/ERO.

13. THAT Senate approve the following concept in principle and authorize the Provincial Executive to have it prepared for incorporation into the Constitution and/or Bylaws, where appropriate:

THAT there shall be four (4) standing committees: Audit, Benefits, Governance and Human Resources. Each of these committees shall be chaired by a member of the Board of Directors.

14. THAT Senate approve the following concept in principle and authorize the Provincial Executive to have it prepared for incorporation into the Constitution and/or Bylaws, where appropriate:

THAT the Board of Directors shall have the authority to create Advisory Committees and appoint their Chairs from the membership. Currently there are five (5) Advisory Committees: Communications, Member Services, Pension and Retirement Concerns, Political Advocacy, and Project Service to Others.

15. THAT Senate approve the following concept in principle and authorize the Provincial Executive to have it prepared for incorporation into the Constitution and/or Bylaws, where appropriate:

THAT all Provincial committees shall be accountable to and report to the Board of Directors.

16. THAT Senate approve the following concept in principle and authorize the Provincial Executive to have it prepared for incorporation into the Constitution and/or Bylaws, where appropriate:

THAT the elections for the Board of Directors be held by an individual and open vote for each candidate.

17. THAT the Provincial Executive take the appropriate steps to cause RTO/ERO to make an application to transfer from the jurisdiction of Ontario to the federal jurisdiction including formalizing all documentation and presenting resolutions at the October Senate for approval to:

1. Make an application for export from Ontario to transfer to the federal jurisdiction and present the form of Application at the October meeting;
2. Deliver to the Ministry of Government and Consumer Services ("MGCS") the Application for Export and all other required documents;
3. Make application for a Certificate of Continuance (import), continuing the Corporation under the provisions of the Canada Not-For-Profit Corporations Act (CNCA); and
4. Pass a bylaw and take all required steps to organize RTO/ERO after it is continued under the CNCA.

18. THAT a dedicated communications link be created so that all RTO/ERO members can forward to all members of the Governance Committee suggestions/thoughts on the operationalizing of the 'new' organization.

GENERAL

19. THAT the Rules of Procedure for conducting the 2017 Spring Meeting of the RTO/ERO Senate be approved.
20. THAT the Minutes of the RTO/ERO Ninety-First meeting of the Senate held on October 25-26, 2016, be approved as amended.
21. THAT the Agenda of the Ninety-Second meeting of Senate held on May 16-17, 2017 be approved.

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