



OCRA™ - 8th General Meeting – October 28, 2010

Fennell Campus, Mohawk College – Hamilton

Room i109 - 10:30 a.m.

1. **Opening remarks and Welcome** – Linda Choptiany, (Centennial) OCRA President. Maureen Adamson, Vice President Corporate Services, Mohawk College

Linda welcomed OCRA members and guests to OCRA's 8th General Meeting at Mohawk College where OCRA was formed in 2001. She acknowledged the excellent retiree attendance and greeted guests Dr. Tony Tilly, Chair of the Committee of Presidents; Maureen Adamson, representing Mohawk President Rob MacIsaac; Diane Posterski, Executive Director of OCASA; and Mary Hofweller, Director Benefits and Compensation, CEC. Mr. Derek Dobson, CEO of the CAAT Pension Plan would join the meeting after lunch.

In bringing greetings from Mohawk College, Maureen Adamson welcomed everyone to the College. She recognized the many contributions retirees make to society. Maureen acknowledged the number of Mohawk retirees present and noted that the College is proud to host OCRA.

Linda thanked Mohawk College for its support in providing the beautiful meeting space, refreshments, lunch, overall hospitality and parking for OCRA's 8th General Meeting.

2. **Adoption of Agenda**

It was Moved and Seconded by BILL TOTTEN (St. Clair)

and SANTOSH DALAL (Mohawk)

THAT the Agenda be approved as presented.

Carried

3. **Governance and the Committee of Presidents** – Dr. Tony Tilly

OCRA Vice-President Lorna Plunkett welcomed Dr. Tilly and spoke of his lengthy career in the Ontario college system. He is the President of Fleming College, and provincially serves as Chair, Committee of Presidents.

Dr. Tilly greeted all, including his former colleagues from Seneca, Fleming College retirees and Dr. Brian Desbiens, past President of Fleming College.

Using a power point presentation, Dr. Tilly reviewed the legislation and changes in college governance in the Ontario CAATs. He discussed the impact of the new legislation to the colleges.

The College Employer Council (formerly College Compensation and Appointments Council, aka Council of Regents) is now registered as a corporation, outside of the Ministry of Colleges and Universities. 24 Board Chairs (or Vice-Chairs) and 24 College Presidents make up the 48 members of the Governance Review Committee along with a smaller Management Board (six college presidents). Officially, the Governance Review Committee is the Employer in collective bargaining. The CAATs employ approximately 15,000 full time employees, and 20,000 part time staff. Stressing his optimism about the college system Dr. Tilly described opportunities, strengths and weaknesses as they relate to the mandate of the colleges and delivery of education. Funding and demand outstrips financial resources and space. Cost pressures and aging facilities are ongoing challenges and the relationship of colleges and universities is developing but has taken a long time.

Questions and answers followed about college under-funding; communication from the colleges regarding benefits; board appointments; pension outcomes due to part-time staff numbers; the ability of retirees to provide input into new structures. Dr. Tilly indicated he would endeavour to look into the matters raised.

Linda Choptiany thanked Dr. Tilly for his informative presentation and presented him with a gift.

4. Adoption of MINUTES of General Meeting Oct. 29, 2009 (Fleming)

**It was Moved and Seconded by IAN SKAITH (Fanshawe)
and ANITA BLAIR (St. Clair)**

THAT the Minutes be approved as presented. Carried

Note:

General Meeting Minutes are presented at the next GM but are posted for reading, on the OCRA website well ahead of each GM,

5. OCRA REPORTS (Print copies were provided at the meeting).

Copies of the Officer Reports: President, Membership, and Communications, reside on the OCRA website www.ocraretirees.ca

5 (a) President – Linda Choptiany (Centennial)

Linda introduced the OCRA Executive members to the assembly. She sincerely thanked Anita Blair and Bill Totten for their work on the Executive as they leave the Executive of the Association. Bill was a founding member of OCRA in 1991, and more recently returned to the Executive. Both brought extensive knowledge and skills relative to retiree issues, pension matters, and the organization of retiree associations. Their ongoing leadership and commitment to the St. Clair Retiree Association underscores their active involvement on behalf of retirees.

(continued...)

Linda highlighted OCRA's work over the past year under the topics of Advocacy, Benefits and Pensions. She noted that the website holds current records, reports, updates and various documents for information and review.

Advocacy

- Meeting, discussing current retiree issues relative to the CAAT Pension Plan.
- Presentation at the CURAC national Conference at York University in May, 2010 focussed on pension indexing concerns and profiled the Ontario colleges' pension issues
- Meeting in August with OCASA Executive Director, Diane Posterski, relative to relationship building.
- "OCRA" – a power point presentation is now available to colleges and/or retiree associations. This presentation was running at the GM for members to view.
- Brief prepared to the Committee of Presidents recommending an advisory committee to provide formal input to committees of the Pension Plan and the College Employer Council (the Council).
- Address to the Durham College Retirees Association annual meeting

Benefits

- OCRA interacts with CEC (College Employer Council) – the policyholder for the colleges' group insurance currently with Sun Life – on an ongoing basis. For a copy of OCRA's 'comparison of health benefit plans' document, contact communications@ocraretirees.ca

Pensions

- OCRA communicated concerns about the loss of pension indexing to its members, local retiree associations, OPSEU, OCASA, sponsors and trustees of the CAAT Plan and college presidents. Hundreds of retirees have responded to OCRA and the CAAT Plan with their questions and concerns.

5 (b) Treasurer – Gil Callingham (Seneca)

The financial reports were provided and highlighted. The Treasurer sought approval for motions:

- i) It was Moved and Seconded by DONNA DUNLOP (Mohawk) and GEOFF BROOKER (Mohawk) THAT the firm of Smith, Sykes, Leeper & Tunstall, Chartered Accountants be appointed for next year, 2011. Carried**

- ii) It was Moved and Seconded by CHRISTINE GAUTHIER (Centennial) and JOAN NOAH (Humber) THAT the Financial Reports be accepted as presented. Carried**

- iii) **It was Moved and Seconded by**
PATTI STOLL (Seneca) and MEL SPARKS (Lambton)
THAT the OCRA Budget for 2011 be accepted as presented.
Carried

In his Treasurer's remarks, Gil Callingham included OCRA's appreciation to CEC (College Employer Council) for its support by providing meeting space and teleconference facilities in Toronto for the Association's Executive meetings over the past year. In addition he thanked Mohawk College for its full support of today's General Meeting. Also, from time to time, other colleges assist OCRA with fee collection and/or some mailing costs -- all of which assists OCRA to effectively manage your retiree association.

5 (c) Membership – Jennifer Moore (Fleming)

Jennifer invited the members to review her written report which had been handed out. She stressed that the association continually works at increasing its membership numbers. It is important that members advise OCRA of changes to their home address or email address and of course encourage other retirees to join OCRA.

5 (d) Communications – Joan Cunnington (Seneca)

Joan referred members to her written report in the handouts. She noted that she updated the health benefits comparison chart dated November 15. Upon request, Joan will email out the comparison chart. Her email is communications@ocraretirees.ca

6. Proposed changes to the CAAT Pension Plan – Derek Dobson

Linda Choptiany introduced Mr. Dobson, CEO of the CAAT Pension Plan, thanking him for his ongoing direct communication with OCRA about pension matters. Mr. Dobson indicated that OCRA's campaign on the indexing issue had gained the attention of the Funding Review Committee.

In a comprehensive presentation he discussed the Plan's overview and inflation protection priorities under the topics of:

- . Structure of the Plan and overview of membership
- . Pension reform legislation; solvency valuation exemption
- . Retiree representation on the Board of Trustees
- . Assets and Liabilities
- . Investments and Funding Policy and status
- . Funding Task Force formed 2011
- . Steps toward deficit reduction
- . Inflation Protection and effect of, and Inflation protection service periods
- . History of pre-1992 ad hoc commitments
- . History of contribution changes since 2000
- . Questions from OCRA

A full question and answer period followed the presentation which is posted on the OCRA website: www.ocraaretirees.ca

A summary of key points from Mr. Dobson's presentation follows as page 6 of these Minutes.

OCRA executive member, Jim Martin thanked Mr. Dobson for his comprehensive presentation, for being so receptive to the many questions, and his full answers. He noted though, that OCRA will continue to pursue solutions and ask questions of the Pension Plan regarding loss of indexing, inflation protection and other matters, on behalf of retirees.

7. Election of OCRA Executive

(Nominating Committee: Jim Martin, Peter Bartram)

Jim Martin reviewed the nomination and election process noting that **Five positions** are normally up for election at each General Meeting.

Present status:

- . Director **Anita Blair (St. Clair)** has completed her two-year term, and is not standing for re-election
- . Director **Bill Totten (St. Clair)** has completed one year, and is leaving the Board. Thus the second year of his term (One-Year) needs to be filled.
- . Completing a two-year term, the following directors are eligible for and willing to stand for re-election:

Joan Cunnington (Seneca)
Jennifer Moore (Fleming)
Lorna Plunkett (Fleming)
Stella Pulkinghorn (Fleming)

Jim announced that two Nominations were received prior to this meeting from:

Ruth Tracy (St. Lawrence)
Rod Rork (Humber)

There being no further nominations,

It was Moved by KENT GARRETT (Fanshawe) and Seconded by DAVID GRIMES (Fanshawe), THAT the Nominations be closed. Carried

Thus, the six nominees named above, are acclaimed. Jim Martin thanked everyone for their commitment to OCRA. He concluded the process by welcoming the 2 new directors and 4 returning directors to OCRA's executive.

8. Other Business/Wrap Up

Linda Choptiany thanked all members for their active participation and support for OCRA and its work, during today's General Meeting.

9. Draws for door prizes were conducted by Joan Cunnington.

10. Adjournment : 2:15 p.m.

(continued...)

Excerpts from Derek Dobson's Presentation at OCRA's 8th General Meeting, October 28, 2010

Inflation Protection Service periods

Service prior to 1992

Ad hoc

Funded to 2014

Service from 1992-2007

Guaranteed

Service after 2007

Conditional

Depends on funding

History of pre-1992 ad hoc commitments

Commitment made	Commitment ends
1992	1996
1996	1999
1998	2002
1999	2005
2000	2014

Future ad hoc commitments will be based on Funding Policy

History of Contribution Changes – since 2000

Year Change Made	Size of increase
2003	+ 1.5%
2008	+ 1%
2009	+ 1%
2010	+ 1%

Future contribution rates will be based on Funding Policy

What is the impact on pensions in payment?

- All inflation protection is cumulative and **permanent** once paid
- No decrease in pension is possible

Questions from OCRA

- What statistics support cancelling indexation?
- What benefits will this provide the Plan?
- What other options are being considered?
- Why discriminate based on service?
- Why now?
- Age discrimination?