



OCRA™ Executive Meeting #49, September 1, 2011
College Employer Council – 16th Floor – Enterprise Boardroom
20 Bay Street – Toronto

MINUTES

Present: Linda Choptiany (Centennial) – President
Peter Bartram (Seneca)
Gil Callingham (Seneca)
Joan Cunnington (Seneca)
Jim Martin (St. Clair) – Teleconference
Derrick May (Mohawk)
Jennifer Moore (Fleming)
Lorna Plunkett (Fleming)
Stella Pulkinghorn (Fleming)

Regrets: Ruth Tracy (St. Lawrence)

1. Welcome and Chair's remarks.

- With regret, Linda Choptiany announced that Rod Rork had resigned from OCRA's board. She noted that he will be sincerely missed.
- Received copy of Georgian college's retiree association's correspondence to Derek Dobson. Former OCRA Board member Susan Murphy requested that CAAT pension cheques be deposited into bank accounts on the first day of each month.
- Linda has a meeting scheduled with Derek Dobson on September 21. She is compiling discussion points.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Moved and Seconded by Jennifer Moore and Joan Cunnington
THAT the Agenda be adopted with one addition. Carried

3. Adoption of Minutes, OCRA Executive Meeting #48, June 2, 2011

Moved and Seconded by Lorna Plunkett and Peter Bartram
THAT the above Minutes be adopted as presented. Carried

4. Business Arising from Minutes of June 2, 2011

4.1 Pension calculator info to OPSEU & OCASA.

Linda Choptiany sent pension calculator information to Diane Posterski (OCASA) and Shirley McVittie (Retiree, OPSEU). OCRA's link on the OCASA website seems to have disappeared and Linda will check into this.

4.2 Local retirees group collection and remittance of OCRA membership fees

Jennifer Moore reported on the survey she sent to the 5 colleges who collect and remit OCRA membership fees as part of their retiree association's procedures. Fee notices and collection patterns coincide with a particular year-end. Allowing for collection periods, there is a time lapse before fees are remitted to OCRA. Some groups collect full personal information, others very little. Jennifer will create a comprehensive chart of the cycles for her own records, for clarity and ongoing tracking of fees.

4.3 Status of CAAT Plan Pension Advisory Committee

Establishment of Pension advisory committees was an Ontario Expert Commission on Pensions recommendation.

The Plan has advised that the Board of Trustees has started a preliminary examination of an advisory committee. There are several procedural and privacy related questions which first need to be addressed through provincial regulation.

4.4 Year-end reports to accountant

Gil Callingham reviewed his 2010 final reports which will be finalized for the General Meeting. Lorna Plunkett will present the financial report at the November 2 General Meeting on behalf of Gil Callingham.

4.4.1 Volunteer Canada - Director and Officer Insurance

This insurance option will be investigated in 2012 and compared with the costs and services currently provided by OCRA's insurance carrier.

4.5 Speakers for GM

Lorna Plunkett confirmed the engagement of Judy Suke "Aging isn't for Sissies" for an afternoon presentation at the General Meeting.

4.6 Nomination committee - recruiting

Joan Cunningham and Peter Bartram discussed recruitment of directors for the OCRA Board. Joan and Derrick May will coordinate the election at the November 2 General Meeting.

Elections at the General Meeting

Nominations are being sought for three new positions vacated by:

Peter Bartram (2 year term ending), Gil Callingham (2 year term ending), and Rod Rork (resignation prior to one-year term ending).

Two directors, completing their 2-year terms, have agreed to stand for re-election: Linda Choptiany and Jim Martin.

5. Reports

5.1 Treasurer

Gil Callingham provided updates of the bank balances and finances for the Board's information. To facilitate final updates of all accounts, before turning the records over to Lorna Plunkett, he requested that board members submit any expense statements promptly.

5.2 Membership Coordinator

Jennifer discussed the membership statistics, using her report previously distributed. Membership fee notices are cyclical and collection is continuous. She noted that life membership is increasing in numbers.

5.3 Communications Officer

Joan Cunnington provided her report and described her recent activities. The June 2011 bulletin was emailed to members and the pension calculator is regularly being requested. Joan updated the benefits comparison chart (which has been checked by CEC staff) and has emailed copies to OCRA members upon request. Medipac, a travel insurance company, has agreed to provide a display table at the General Meeting. On June 16 Joan attended the Humber College Retirees Association for a seminar on post-retirement benefits available through RTO, RTIP and CARP, and she attended the OCRA meeting with RTO officials on August 23. Joan will attend the rate-setting (for benefits) meeting of the CRGIAC on September 27.

5.4 RTO (Retired Teachers of Ontario) Meeting with OCRA

Four members of OCRA's executive met recently in Toronto with senior administration of RTO. RTO has over 70,000 members, primarily in Ontario with 2 groups in British Columbia. At the introductory meeting both RTO and OCRA described their organization and services.

Jim Martin summarized key areas from the meeting.

- RTO's membership criteria
- Retirees' interest in comparing and shopping for health benefits insurance with travel insurance access
- RTO goal to build its organization and grow its membership.
- OCRA's next step is to define what it wants from a relationship with RTO

General Meeting November 2, 2011, Humber College - final plans

- The agenda and planning of the November 2 General Meeting was extensively discussed and work assignments confirmed.
- Waterloo Insurance and Medipac will set up two display tables.
- Jim Martin is preparing the General Meeting brochure. Lorna Plunkett and Jennifer Moore will coordinate the printing.
- The Canada Post mailing will take place by or on September 23 – by Lorna Plunkett, Jennifer Moore and Stella Pulkinghorn

6. Other business

6.1 Via Rail update - No Report

6.2 CAAT Support Staff Negotiations

It was noted that Support Staff from the 24 CAATs have begun a legal strike today, across Ontario.

6.3 Benefits

Joan Cunnington will provide a benefits report highlighting the upcoming changes to the Sun Life Plan.

7. Next meeting

It has become OCRA's practice that immediately following the General Meeting the full executive will meet to set the date for its next meeting.

8. Adjournment 3:10 p.m.