

RTO District 41 Annual General Meeting
Keystone Complex, Shedden
May 5, 2010
Minutes

1. **Welcome Wayne**-President Wayne opened the meeting at 10:30

Welcome to each of you and thank-you for your continuing support throughout this year. It has made for a very rewarding year. I bring you greetings from Arnold Hull, past president at the provincial level and long time friend of District 41. Arnold has been very ill, but is recovering and wanted to send his best wishes to us today.

2. **Introduction of Guests:** Wayne

I'd like to welcome our members who are today celebrating 25 years in RTO. That is a major accomplishment and they will be introduced individually later. I want to welcome Heather Robinson the Children's Librarian from St Thomas to our meeting and I would also like to welcome our guest speaker Paul Collins, CEO of the St Thomas Elgin General Hospital.

3. **O Canada** Ric Murray

4. **Introduction of the Guest Speaker** Wayne

Paul Collins, has been with our hospital for 20 years, the last nine as President and CEO. As well as his responsibilities at the hospital he sits on numerous boards and has a great grasp of where health care is at in Elgin County. Back in the fall, I communicated with Paul over the closure of a wing at the hospital. I was impressed with the depth of understanding and the empathy he showed in explaining the situation. I look forward to learning more this morning.

Mr Collins discussed the bright future of STEGH. A Rebuild of some sections of the hospital should occur in the next 4-5 years.

5. **Appreciation** Martha

Martha thanked Mr. Collins about his words regarding the future of the hospital and presented a gift.

6. **In Memoriam** Goodwill Chair Marg Hulls

This past year we have lost 11 of our members. Each was special, a teacher who touched the lives of many young people in their careers and many others in retirement as they interacted in their communities. A quote I found recently says, "Those who weave colour into our lives leave us with a tapestry of beautiful memories". There is an emptiness we feel as we remember them but our memories are forever. As I read the names of our fellow retirees who have passed away, think of the wonderful tapestry they have created as we consider each of their unique personalities and talents. These are our honoured ones today:

Donald McNabb May 17 2009, Charlotte Michalson May 18 2009, Francis Jean Drummelsmith June 7 2009, Phyllis Thompson Aug. 10 2009, Catherine Sorrenti Sept. 2009,

Terry Heeney Sept. 20 2009, Kay Attridge Oct. 2 2009, Linda Willsdon Oct. 4 2009, Eileen McLean Nov. 2 2009, Heather Armstrong Nov. 10 2009, Pauline Batzold Feb. 15 2009

Les Brayford Mar. 12 2010, Doris M. Clark Apr. 2 2010

I'm sure that each of you knew at least one of these RTO/ERO members. When we share our lives with others, it is hard to say goodbye but while memories stay within our hearts, our caring will continue. We have been enriched by their lives and now we need to carry on being true ourselves and those with whom we interact.

7. **Minutes of AGM 2009** (Circulated)

Motion Bill Haight/Gus Walton THAT we accept AGM minutes of 2009 as circulated. CARRIED

8. **Business Arising from Minutes**

None

9. Correspondence

No correspondence at this time.

10. Treasurers Report and proposed budget – Dennis Collins

Motion by the Executive (Dennis Collins/Carolyn Cameron) THAT we accept the financial report and budget as circulated and discussed. CARRIED

11. Committee Reports circulated

Additional Comments—Marg Hulls requested assistance in the distribution of flowers for those who were physically unable to attend.

Motion Ric Murray/Carol Gagen THAT the Committee reports be accepted as circulated. CARRIED

Questions arising from the reports - none

12. New Business

Proposal for Geriatrics Chair at the U of T: This is such a new concept, that the executive has not even had time to address it. In 2007 the provincial Executive began a process to have RTO take on a major project. As they refined this idea over the next 2 years they identified three goals:

1. to find a project that really suited our members and their concerns
2. to make sure the project would enhance the image of RTO in the public, with other organizations and with governments of all levels.
3. to make sure the project would attract outside funding

They have now come up with such a project and to get the ball rolling there is a motion coming up at Senate to establish a charitable foundation, which is the first necessary step.

The purpose of this foundation would be to serve as an umbrella for all of our charitable work such as STO and emergency relief donations and to fund the

major project.

The major project would be to endow a chair at the U of T in Geriatrics. Geriatrics is a field that is really underserved in Canada. Sweden with half our population has twice as many geriatricians. Great Britain has twice our population, but 5 times the number of doctors of this discipline.

Geriatric medicine requires a multi disciplinary approach to not only deal with the physical, but the emotional and mental aspects of aging.

Creating a Chair of Geriatrics would fund a Doctor who could then devote his time to research, mentoring, teaching and collaborating with other researchers rather than be restricted to clinical work.

The price tag is steep. To create a Chair that would self fund, requires fund raising over a three year period of 3 million dollars. Some of this would come from our corporate partners such as Johnson's and Merit travel. I'm sure it would also necessitate fund raising at the district level as well.

I would be interested in your comments and questions that we can then take to Senate.

13. Motion to Ratify and confirm the actions of the executive for 2009-2010

Motion Carole Watson/Marg Brewster that the actions of the executive for 2009-2010 be confirmed. CARRIED

14. Presentation of 25 Year awards Rosemary

It is my pleasure today to give out the 25 year certificates. This year we have 12 recipients, who through their dedication and early efforts have helped to shape our organization. A donation on their behalf will be made to the St. Thomas Railway Museum

Attending Bill Haight, Margaret Brewster, Jean Georgevich, Angus Walton, Marion Thompson, Laverne Sim, Marian Harries, Grace McIntosh

Not able Bill Bowyer, Ann Elizabeth Vermey, Berniece Sinden, Lorna Lozon, Alma Houghton

15. Recognition of those serving on the Provincial Executive-

a. Fran Wren(Chair STO), Ric Murray(Constitution), Dave Giles(Chair

Pensions & Benefits)

16. Recognition of Departing Executive: Marg Hulls has held the portfolio of Goodwill Chairman for the last 8 years. Goodwill has correctly been called the Heart of RTO and With Marg at the helm, our heart has been in good hands. It has been my privilege as president to receive a number of cards and letters from members who were thanking us for the kind words, flowers and thoughts. Those were the efforts of Marg and her committee. She will be sorely missed. To recognize Marg's work we have established a scholarship at her former school. This scholarship will recognize a student who has exemplified community spirit just as Marg has. I would like Marg to come forward and accept the plaque that will be presented in June at Dunwich Dutton School.

17. Report of the Nominating Committee- Fran Wren

Call for nominations from the floor—Wayne- None forthcoming

18. Elections and Introduction of the 2010-2011 Executive

President- Martha Foster	Vice President- Rosemary Moreau	2nd Vice
President & Health Services- Ron Daykin	Past President- Wayne Grosvenor	
Treasurer- Dennis Collins David Giles	Secretary- Gord Park	Pension & Benefits-
Telephone Co-ordinator- Judy Upsdell	Newsletter- Jack Couckuyt	
Webmaster- Ron Ellsworth		
Service to Others- Fran Wren	Membership- Ric Murray	
Political Advocacy- John Taylor		
Travel Co-ordinator- John McIntyre	Member at Large- Carol Gagen	
Goodwill ?	Archives ?	

19. Announcements

Wine Tour—Rosemary On May 27th a tour of 4 wineries and dinner will occur. Tickets are still available.

Blue Jays –Wayne Aug 28th Seven seats are spoken for so far. Registration

sheets available on line.

Wellness Day-Wayne--19 workshops and Jim Waite as Keynote. Register early.
Use the website **ElginRTO.org**

Recruitment Day-Fran – Day is targeting not only teachers but non teachers as well such as custodians, secretaries, Educational Assistants

20. **Cheque Presentation to the Library**—Sandy Westaway to Heather Robinson

“Backpacks for Reading” an STO cheque was presented to Heather Robinson to fund backpacks of books to prepare children to read.

21. **Grace** Carol Gagen

22. **Dinner**

23. **Appreciation to Caterers** Ron Daykin