



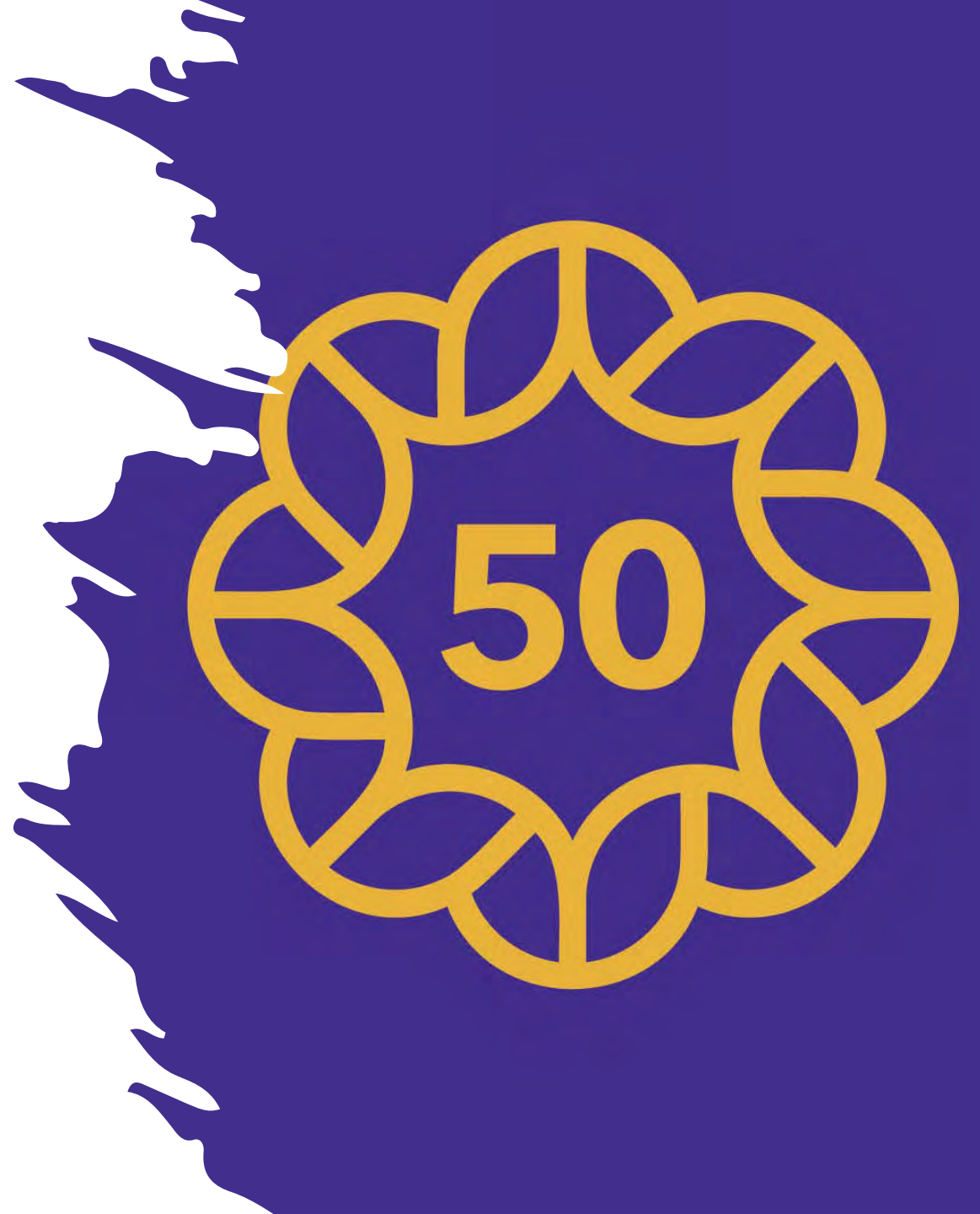
50

*Celebrating
RTOERO
District 23,
North York's
50th Anniversary
2023*

*Prepared by Elisa Arciero, D23 Archivist
Adapted from 2018 Presentation*

RTOERO was founded in 1968. The first provincial president was Art McAdam.

District 23, North York was founded in 1973. The first president of RTOERO District 23, North York was Bruce Dawson.





In the Beginning ...

Murdock McIver, Provincial RTOERO President 1973-1974, District 16, introduced the formation of districts for the Superannuated Teachers of Ontario.

North York, District 23 was officially formed in 1973.

At that time, each district was invited to send a representative to Senate. We were represented by our first president, Bruce Dawson (1973-1974) and Dr. Charles Phillips-Senator.

Our Founding Members



**Bruce
Dawson**



**Jean
Featherstone**

Thanks to our founding members for their efforts to make RTOERO District 23, North York the active and vibrant district that we are today.



**Dick
Webster**

**Dorothy
Young**

**No photo
available**

Viva Heaton

Helen Lang



Presidents of RTOERO District 23, North York

We thank our presidents
for working to develop
and enhance the lives of
members and the larger
community.



Bruce Dawson 1973



Dr. W. John McIntosh 1974



Gertrude Paterson 1975

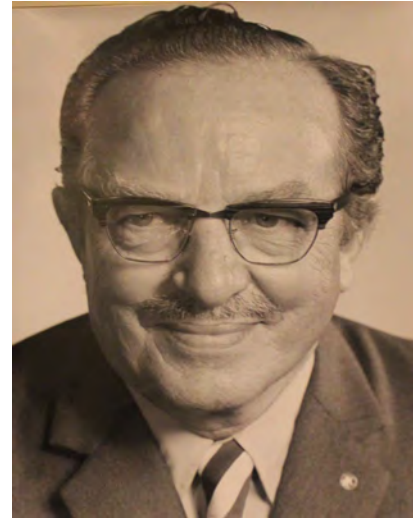


David Tough 1976

Presidents of RTOERO District 23, North York

*I saw enormous growth and
improvement in the image, services
and life of RTOERO.*

Alan Robb
1988-1989
Provincial President
District 16



George Hosie 1977



H. Fraser Bradshaw 1978



Margaret Bates 1979

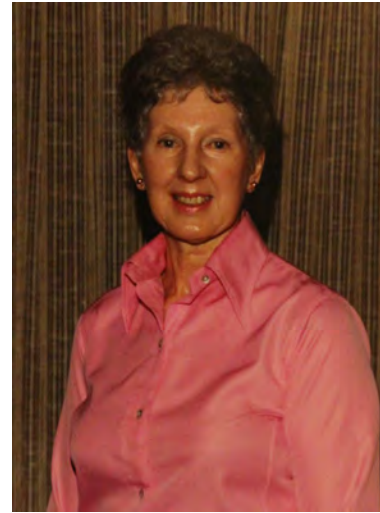


Eileen Carter Ganong 1980

Presidents of RTOERO District 23, North York

*We are fortunate to have a
wealth of experienced members
to help at both the provincial
and district levels.*

Mae Hill
1992-1993
Provincial President
District 12



Ruth Bick 1981



Kenneth McGee 1982



Jack Foote 1983



Ruth Robson 1984

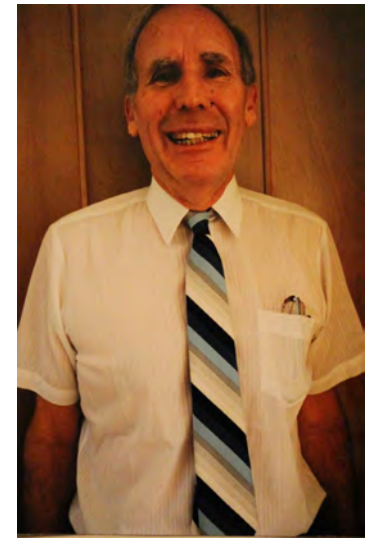
Presidents of RTOERO District 23, North York

*As I enjoyed my Champagne
Breakfast, I heard the call of
service I became part of a
dynamic group – helping others,
organizing activities and creating
new opportunities.*

Luci Soncin



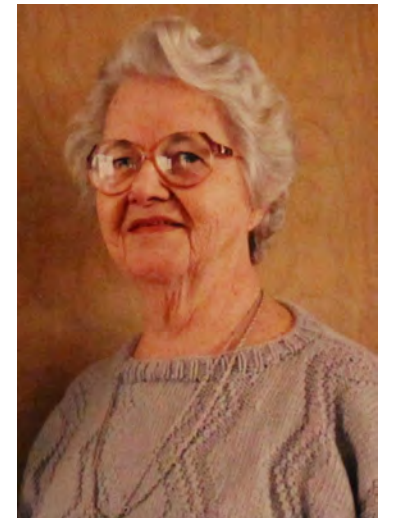
John Allen 1985



Joe Bilson 1986



Elaine Wyles 1987



Mary Scanlon 1988

Presidents of RTOERO District 23, North York

*It was a journey to remember -
meeting with friendly people,
enjoying monthly events such as
the Travelogues, and helping to
steer an organization that still
means so much to so many people.*

John Wilson



Don Hazell 1989



Geoffrey Arnold 1990



John Wilson 1991



Aileen Thomas 1992

Presidents of RTOERO District 23, North York

*I was awarded that front row seat
and was witness to the dedicated
efforts and successes of all the
various committee chairs that year.
It was very much a privilege....*

Gordon Claus



Betty Nagle 1993



Gordon Claus 1994



Mildred Frank 1995



Claire Piché 1996

Presidents of RTOERO District 23, North York

*... reach out to newly retired
colleagues, encouraging
membership in RTOERO and
providing an opportunity to
connect and socialize.*

Mildred Frank



Nancy Walsh 1997



George Meek 1998



Marion Taylor 1999



Rob Fraser 2000

Presidents of RTOERO District 23, North York

*To these devoted, creative
organizers and our enthusiastic
participating members, thanks for
the wonderful memories and
honour of being your President for
2001-2002.*

Beverly Wood



Beverly Wood 2001



Andrée Nottage 2002



David Fleming 2003



Frank Saliani 2004

Presidents of RTOERO District 23, North York

*The outstanding memory for me
from that year was the Senate
decision to open membership in
RTOERO to all those employed in
any aspect of the educational team
... a decision I was proud to
support.*

Mary Ellen Lawless



Helen Wiber 2005



Mary Ellen Lawless 2006



Margaret Schuman 2007



Michael Sheffe 2008

Presidents of RTOERO District 23, North York

... the Service to Others projects is the core of what we are as an organization, sharing our skills and experience to make things better for others and working along with established community groups.

Maureen Capotosto



Luci Soncin 2009



Jan Siegel/Luci Soncin 2010



Maureen Capotosto 2011



Mary Valtellini 2012

Presidents of RTOERO District 23, North York

*... my many opportunities to
partake in the Senate meetings
gave me a solid grasp of our
RTOERO organization as a whole
entity.*

Jan Siegel



Margaret Lato 2013



Courtney Doldron 2014



Maureen Capotosto 2015



Jan Siegel 2016

Presidents of RTOERO District 23, North York

*The Presidency experience has been
both enriching and humbling!
Realizing that you are only a small
part of the whole has been growth.*

Marisa Agostini



Marisa Agostini 2017



Sara Di Nallo 2018



**Maureen Capotosto
2019**



Gwen Scriven 2020

Presidents of RTOERO District 23, North York

*"Alone we can do so little;
Together we can do so
much." Helen Keller*

Mary Valtellini



Mary Valtellini 2021



Maureen Capotosto 2022



Sara Di Nallo 2023

RTOERO Founding Member Award

The RTOERO Founding Member Award, created in 1981, is presented to an RTOERO member in recognition of outstanding voluntary contributions to the work of RTOERO at the provincial level.

To date, two members of RTOERO District 23, North York have received the Founding Member Award: Jack Foote and George Meek.



Founding Member Award Recipient, 1992

- ✓ District president 1983-1984
- ✓ many contributions at Senate
- ✓ long term service on provincial Goodwill and Health Services Committees
- ✓ led preparation of significant District motions for Senate on health and superannuation matters

Founding Member Award Recipient, 2007

- ✓ recognized for outstanding service at the provincial level as a result of his work at Senate 1996-2005
- ✓ Chair of the Health Services and Insurance Committee 1996-2002
- ✓ contributor to the Constitution Committee
- ✓ parliamentarian work as a member of the Speaker's team at Senate 2002-2005



RTOERO - a vibrant organization



*Since it began in 1968,
RTOERO has been the
official voice of the retired
teachers of the province.*

Ruth Campbell
1986-1987
Provincial President
District 27



Recipients of the RTOERO Distinguished Member Award

This award is in recognition of a member's outstanding and long-term contributions to the work of RTOERO at the provincial and district level.

- **Mary Ellen Lawless 2017**
- **Mildred Frank 2018**
- **Maureen Capotosto 2022**
- **George Meek 2023**



The June Szeman Award

The June Szeman Award was created in honour of our 50 year anniversary, to recognize the exemplary service and contributions of individuals to the districts to which they belong.

This year, RTOERO District 23, North York honours three of our own members.



Mildred Frank



David Fleming



Margaret Schuman



**District 23, North York
Spring Luncheon**

*Meeting old friends,
being introduced to new
ones and exchanging
ideas with them gave me
a completely new
outlook on my retired
life.*

Marie Duhaime

1975-76

Provincial President

District 6



The Brass Bell

At Senate in May of 1988, John Allen, a District 23 Past President, presented the brass bell from District 23, North York in recognition of the many varied achievements of the RTOERO on behalf of district members.

This bell is rung to signal the beginning of sessions and ending of breaks.



District 23, North York Annual General Meeting

It is enough to be able to remember that we were involved in a mission to preserve and protect those of us who were incapacitated or without voice, to fight on their behalf.

Clare Perry
Provincial Secretary-Treasurer
1975 – 1984

Year	Service to Others Projects – Paying it Forward
2000	Willowdale Community Centre provides educational assistance to needy students
2001	Daycare Teacher training in Belo supports the training of Horizonte, Brazil daycare teachers
2002	Summer camp vacation for Inner city ESL Single Moms
2004	Circus Circus! The Theraputic Clown program at the Hospital for Sick Children
2006	Peer Support Groups for Young Women experiencing poverty and abuse
2007	Soul to Soul Webcast – Youth Program
2009	Eileen's Project: Supporting Children and Families with HIV and AIDs through The Teresa Group
2010	Every Child a Reader: Supporting the Work of the Children’s Book Bank
2011	Supporting the Children at the North York Women’s Shelter
2012	Soaring Heights
2013	Sensational Seniors: Supporting the Work of the Downsview Services for Seniors
2014	Canadian Helen Keller Center
2015	Academics, Leadership and Learning
2016	Education Beyond Borders
2017	Room for a Child
2018	Turning the Page Libraries

2009 The Teresa Foundation

*Those who serve always
benefit more than those
who are served.*

**Jim Grieve,
RTOERO Executive Director**



2010

The Children's Bookbank:

*Every Child
a Reader*





2014
Canadian Helen Keller Center

*... to help
yourself, you
must help others.*

David Dewar

1976-1977

Provincial President
District 23



Licensed to Learn

2016

This leadership and tutoring program is in place in many Catholic and Public Schools in Toronto.

I applaud its efforts on behalf of retired teachers and I urge all educators to become involved when they retire.

Jack Eastaugh

1981-82

Provincial President

District 10

Education Beyond Borders

2016

This project supported a train-the-trainer model of professional development for over 100 teachers in Kyunga, Uganda.

We are unique in being a professional organization with a wealth of leadership on which to draw.

Gabrielle Levasser
1978-1979
Provincial President
District 27



2017
Room For a
Child

*...the strength of
RTOERO lies in the
commitment and
involvement at the grass
roots level.*

Leonore Graham
1987-1988

Provincial President,
District 33

A photograph showing two men in a room, likely a dormitory or a shared living space, working on assembling a metal bed frame. The man on the right is kneeling and focused on a task, while the man on the left is partially visible, also engaged in the work. The bed frame consists of a metal grid base and a headboard with horizontal slats. The room has a plain wall with an electrical outlet and a wooden floor. A dark, semi-transparent oval is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing white text.

This organization creates beautiful bedrooms for children living in unpleasant circumstances.

All work is done by volunteers, using many donated materials.



... marvelling at the amount of energy spent on these programs by supposed-to-be “retired people”.

Mal Steele
1983-84
Provincial President
District 1



2018

Turning the Page Libraries

The best way to lose yourself is to lose yourself in the service to others.

M.Ghandi

Builds children's libraries in shelters for abused women and their children

Goals:

- to gift every child who leaves the shelter with a favourite book
- to continue to restock the shelves



2019 Supporting the Period Purse Project: Menstruation Nation



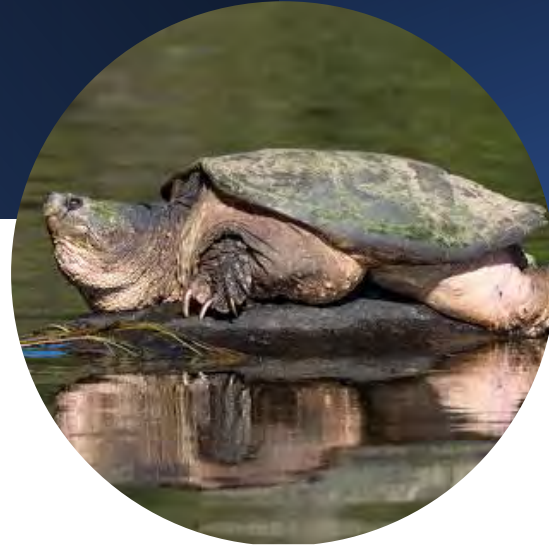
2020
Stronger Minds Make
for Stronger Kids

Prevention and early
intervention strategies for
teachers to support their
students' mental health.



2021

Respecting Urban Wildlife Challenges and Environmental Stewardship



“Life is as dear to a mute creature as it is to a man. Just as one wants happiness and fears pain, just as one wants to live and not die, so do other creatures” – Dalai Lama

2022

Supporting One Voice: Responding to Domestic Violence in our Community



Out of the Shadows:
Empowering Awareness of
Domestic Violence Session
1: Thursday October 13,
2022 (10 a.m. to 11 a.m.)

How to Recognize Abuse
When It “Doesn’t Bleed”.
Session 2: Wednesday,
February 1, 2023 (10 a.m.to
11 a.m.)

Community Response: How
to Validate Victims Convener:
Cheryl Paige Session
3: Community Response:
How to Validate Victims
Wednesday, April 26, 2023
(10 a.m.to 11 a.m.)

2023 2 Choirs! ; Seniors & Music

Expanding the diversity and inclusivity of the music repertoire for 2 senior choirs and supplying equipment.



North York Choralairs



McConaghy Senior Choir



*It is enough, perhaps,
to know that we persevered
... and that we prevailed
in many areas requiring
our concerted attention.*



Clare Perry
Provincial Secretary-Treasurer
1975 – 1984

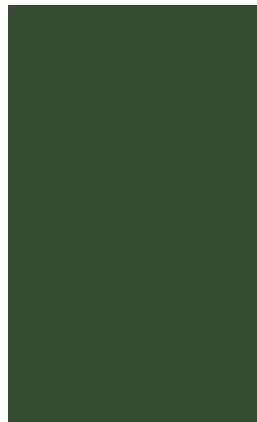
District 23
Keeping Our
Members
Healthy,
Connected and
Active



It had become a very active group getting involved in all phases of change whether it be administrative, political or social.

Juliette Pilon
1989-1990
Provincial President
District 4

Remaining purposefully occupied has been shown to promote personal health.





When We Stay Involved, We Look to the Future



Health in Mind and Body



Senior's Workshop for Lifelong Learners

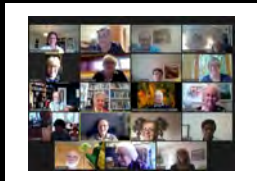


Eat


Reconnect

Enjoy





Memories to Treasure



*Remember to
celebrate milestones
as you prepare for
the road ahead.*

Nelson Mandela

50

A large, bold, gold-colored number '50' is centered on the right side of the image. The background is black with a repeating pattern of gold-colored, stylized, interlocking circular shapes that resemble a lattice or a decorative screen. The pattern is composed of thick, rounded lines that form a series of interconnected loops and arches.