

# ACER – CART EXECUTIVE MEETING

JANUARY 14<sup>TH</sup>, 2022

## MEETING HIGHLIGHTS FOR ECERTO MEMBERS



*Top Row L to R: Roger Regimbal, Executive Director, Martha Foster, Ontario Representative and Political Advocacy Chair, Marilyn Bossert, West Representative and Communications Chair*

*Middle Row L to R: Margaret Urquhart, East Representative and Health Chair, Martin Higgs, Vice President (Ontario) and Pension Chair, Gerry Tiede, President (British Columbia)*

*Bottom Row: Bill Berryman, Past President (NS) and Legislation/Governance Chair*

As with all such meetings initial agenda items were a review of previous minutes, finances, and correspondence followed by regional and committee reports.

In addition, there was preliminary discussion of the June AGM, hopefully an in-person meeting, and possible speakers. An alternate may also be a hybrid meeting with some present in person and others by zoom. Preliminary consideration was also given to making the pre-meeting presentation a webinar as in 2021.

Covid put senior care under a spotlight and the September Executive Meeting decided the focus for the year should be caring for seniors in or near their homes. A document with varied definitions for “aging in place” was shared. Both a national seniors strategy and universal pharmacare are integral to caring for seniors in or near their homes. Excerpts from the mandate letters for the federal Ministers of Health and Seniors evidence statements pertinent to A/C’s priorities.

### Committee Highlights:

- *Legislation/Governance* noted revised ACER-CART Constitution and Belief Statements are on the website and the Bylaws document is under review
- *Health* Committee recommended A/C website postings were approved and will be posted over time – Canada Health Act, Vaccinations, Medical Assistance in Dying, Advance Care Planning. Elder/Senior abuse will receive further consideration. Points for the Political Advocacy Committee to consider were provided
- *Political Advocacy* is gathering information on aging in place and considering the possibility of a position paper. Information for Members will be prepared
- *Communications* reports information is added to the website regularly and that the Canada Coast to Coast photo gallery will continue to accept and post pictures from members at a dedicated email **MyCanada-pictures@acer-cart.org**

- *Pension* advises that a letter to the Minister of finance will be sent advocating a reduction in the amount of RRIF withdrawals (motion from AGM). Members will be advised to seek financial advice when considering reducing their withdrawal. Pension plans are coming under review and the committee will be alert for information/concerns to bring to Member attention. Attention will also be paid to any action on a basic minimum income that may impact retirees.

**Member Highlights (West and Ontario):**

- On line preretirement workshops increasingly popular, partly as a result of ability to choose a convenient time. Some are offered over a series of months
- Executive and Committee Meetings continue via zoom or as hybrids with a combination of in person and zoom attendees
- Discussion/support on how to increase the effectiveness of Zones/Branches engage their members in the pandemic
- Monthly zoom meetings with branch/zone presidents
- Extensive member survey being done by professional company
- Wellness committees continuing to provide workshops – eg decluttering, retirement well being
- Webinars related to priorities/goals
- Committee chairs met with Strategic Planning and Advocacy Committees to review plans
- Orientation meetings for new committee members and directors held after AGM
- Continuing collaboration with senior organizations
- One Member received approval to use ACER-CART's New Mode (letter writing campaign) software

Margaret Urquhart, East Representative