

ACER-CART

MARCH EXECUTIVE MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The ACER-CART Executive Meeting of March 17th, in addition to the usual business of minutes, correspondence and finances, spent considerable time discussing a virtual versus in person June AGM. After considering possible concerns and protocols relative to covid it was decided changes in location, format and duration would make an in-person meeting viable.

Other business included committee and regional reports.

Political Advocacy provided draft Aging in Place documents and expects to finalize and share them very soon.

Communications reported the timeline for “My Canada” photo submissions is extended indefinitely – so get your pictures of NB in by going to the AC webpage for details – and that at this time the executive recommended a social media profile be delayed.

Health recommended contact with the National Seniors Council and a letter has been written with an offer to be available for consultation. Also noted was that there are still jurisdictions where the high dose flu vaccine is not available to seniors as part of medicare and that not all jurisdictions have independent Senior Advocates. As well, covid exposed the need for consideration of and familiarity with respective Power of Attorney legislation.

Ontario’s Regional Report noted their Vibrant Voices campaign of meeting with legislators will continue at both the provincial and federal level and that they will be partnering with CanAge, a national seniors’ organization. Consideration was also given to the advantages and disadvantages of a group versus individual insurance plans and the decision was a group plan is much more to their advantage.

West Regional Reports indicate some are planning in-person AGM’s, others zoom and others hybrid.

Manitoba has done much in the area of advocacy, including using the ACER-CART new mode software to advocate for a seat on the pension board and hiring a lobby firm.

Saskatchewan has developed an ageism policy and has contributed to a home supports program for aging in place. STS will celebrate 50 years in 2023.

Alberta continues their advocacy work with other organizations including a current “Seniors Deserve Better” campaign and working hard to have an independent Seniors Advocate named.

British Columbia had a meeting with representatives from all zones/branches which included breakout sessions for strategic plan input and plans for moving forward post-pandemic.

East’s Regional report (ECRTO) is in a separate document.