**RETIRED TEACHERS’ ASSOCIATION OF MNAITOBA**

**Annual General Meeting**

**Wednesday, May 3, 2023**

**Clarion Hotel and Suites**

**3130 Victoria Ave, Brandon MB**

**In-Person and via Zoom**

1. **Call to Order and Housekeeping Announcements**

President Linda Blair called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

1. **National Anthem lead by John Sushelnitsky**

Members were asked to stand if able and sing “Oh Canada” accompanied by John Sushelnitsky on guitar.

1. **Land Acknowledgement**

The President acknowledged that the 2022 Annual General Meeting of the retired Teachers’ Association is held on Treaty one, Treaty 2 and non-treaty lands, the original lands of the Anishinabaabe, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene peoples and on the homeland of the Red River Metis Nation.

1. **Blessing**

The President introduced Elder Frank Tacan, and Lena Brugghe. Lena, member of BARTA, did the Land Acknowledgement and Elder Frank was presented with an honorarium prior to providing a Blessing upon the meeting.

1. **Naming of Meeting Co-Chairs**

The President Linda Blair named David Harkness and David Najduch as the meeting co-chairs. David Harkness went over some housekeeping items to help the assembly with the day’s activities.

1. **Greetings from Wayne Ewasko, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Learning.** Minister Ewaskowas unable to attend in person and presented via a video. In his presentation, Minister Ewasko talked about the importance of the organization to retired teachers. He was thankful for the work that retired teachers make to K-12 education as Substitute Teachers, and praise the collaboration and partnership with RTAM.
2. **In Memoriam**

The “In Memoriam” PowerPoint was played on the screen. At the end of the PowerPoint, the Chair asked those who are able to stand for a moment of silence to acknowledge those who had passed since the last AGM.

1. **Adoption of the Agenda**

**MOTION:** Moved by Dorothy Young (Winnipeg); seconded by Bill Cann (Winnipeg) that the agenda of the May 3rd, 2023 Annual General meeting be approved.

**Carried**

**IMPORTANT NOTE: NEW BUSINESS ITEMS**

Any item that members would like to be considered as “**New Business”** needs to appear in writing on the sheet provided. This will include the names of the mover and seconder of the motion, the motion itself and a brief rational. These must be submitted to the sign-in table by 1:15 PM to be discussed under New Business. The items will be dealt with in the order in which they are received.

1. **Call For Nominations from the floor for the Executive and the Board**

The call for nominations was made by co-chair David Harkness.

The information was provided by the Past President Bill Cann.

* A list of current candidates, positions they are running for and positions open was provided to the assembly on the screen.
* A call for candidates to run from the floor was made.
* The assembly was informed that nomination papers were available and required the name of the candidate and 10 RTAM member signatures for each new nomination.
* The deadline for receipt of the nominations was 11:00 AM and they are to be submitted to the front desk.

1. **RTAM AGM Minutes for 2022 and Questions**

A number of questions for clarification were asked about last year’s AGM related to the UNC bursaries.

**MOTION:** Moved by Dorothy Young (Winnipeg); seconded by Giselle Gregoire (Winnipeg) that the Minutes of the 33rd RTAM AGM held May 4, 2022 be approved as presented. **Carried**

1. **Reports** 
   1. **President’s Report / Linda Blair**

President Blair mentioned the achievements of RTAM this year in gaining a seat on the TRAF board, and the transition into a governance model for the RTAM board.

**MOTION:** Moved by Linda Blair President; seconded by Kelvon Smith that the Presidents ’s Report be received. **Carried**

* 1. **Executive Director’s Report / Sean Seywright**

Be advised that an extensive printed report can be found on the RTAM web page.

* Acknowledged and thanked Board Members for their efforts and provided a special thankyou to Past President Bill Cann.
* Highlighted that RTAM was a half million-dollar business that represented 10,000 plus retired teachers.
* Reviewed the move toward a governance model.
* Reviewed some of the issues and concerns which arose last year around UCN.
* Highlighted the move to a digital RTAM, but indicated print copies of RTAM materials are available by request to the office.
* Reviewed a list of workshops and activities which will be taking place in the coming year.
* Indicated that if you have concerns about RTAM, they can best be addressed by contacting him first through the RTAM office.

**MOTION:** Moved by Alison Logan (Winnipeg); seconded by Bill Cann (Winnipeg) that the Executive Directors Report be received. **Carried**

**Assembly Stretch Break 10:38 AM – 10:50 AM**

* 1. **Auditor’s Report / Pat Bowslaugh Treasurer**
* Reviewed in detail the reserve account process and investment strategy.
* Revied the Audit page by page highlighting areas and responding to a number of questions for clarification.

**MOTION:** Moved by Pat Bowslaugh (Brandon): seconded by Bob Davies that the Auditor ’s Report of RTAM for 2022-2023 be received as information. **Carried**

**Appointment of Auditor for 2023-2024**

**MOTION:** Moved by Pat Bowslaugh; seconded by Alison Logan that the Auditors for RTAM for 2023-2024 be Reid & Miller Chartered Professional Accountants. **Carried**

* 1. **Draft RTAM Budget 2023-2024 /** Pat Bowslaugh indicated the draft will be reviewed and discussed later in the meeting.

1. **Election Report / update**

The following is the slate of candidates that have been received for the RTAM positions of Executive and Board. All are elected by acclimation.

President Linda Blair

Vice-President Gabe Mercier

Secretary Not filled

Treasurer Not filled

Board Member Shannon Culbertston

Board Member Dennis Kozak

New Members from the floor were:

Board Member Kelvon Gordon Smith (Virden)

Board Member Jayesh Maniar (Winnipeg)

Board Member Dianne Snider (Winnipeg)

**MOTION:** Moved by Bill Cann (Winnipeg); seconded by Pat Bowslaugh ( Brandon) that the Directors and Executive elected by acclamation be approved. **Carried**

* 1. **Chapter Reports**

The written reports were provided in advance of the meeting and no questions were asked.

**MOTION:** Moved by Vaughn Wadelius; seconded by Bill Cann (Winnipeg) that the Chapter Reports for 2022-2023 be received as information. **Carried**

* 1. **Committee Reports**

The written reports were provided in advance of the meeting.

Pension Committee: A number of questions were asked for clarification regarding the selection process employed for the RTAM nominees to the TRAF Board.

ACER-CART: Joan Zaretsky provided an oral report on the ACER-CART activities.

* Commented on the presentation in Ottawa last year by RTAM.
* Commented on the response to the ACER-CART questionnaire.

**MOTION:** Moved by Dorothy Young (Winnipeg); seconded by Bill Cann (Winnipeg) that the Committee’s Report for 2022-2023 be received as information. **Carried**

**LUNCH Timed Item 12:00 PM – 1:00PM**

**1:00 Presentations**

* 1. MTS : Inter-Vice-President, Chris Darazsi / Bill 35 update.
  2. TRAF: : Jeff Norton / COLA and Brad Prokop; Account B update.
  3. Johnson Insurance : Jessica Simpson / Plan changes made this year.
  4. Hearing Life : Lori Vanwjk and Mark Dubious / Information about the new partnership.
  5. BARTA : Catherine McLaren – Chapter President / Chapter Report

**Continued with the agenda….**

* 1. **RTAM Requests for Action / Bill Cann**

The following where approved by the Board and will replace the previous RTAM list of “asks”

* + 1. Advocate that the Province of Manitoba bring Account B to fully funded status (accrued liabilities equal to Account B assets) by increasing its current level of funding.
    2. Establish a seat for RTAM on the Minister’s Council of Education Stakeholders.
    3. Continue to advocate for an improved COLA and other inflation-fighting strategies to enhance pensioners’ financial health.
    4. Work with stakeholders to provide increased support for those cohorts identified in the demographic income analysis who are most vulnerable, particularly females aged 70 and older whose TRAF pension is near or below the poverty line. RTAM proposes to work with the Government, MTS and TRAF to seek solutions to alleviate that hardship.
    5. Place a RTAM nominated member on the Government’s Pension Task Force.

**Source: B. Cann’s proposal for new 5 ASKS.docx**

* 1. **Provincial Election Report / Dave Najduch**

A brief PowerPoint was shared outlining an RTAM provincial election strategy. A few questions were asked for clarification and it was made clear nothing will happen until the new Board has reviewed the materials and approved the actions.

1. **Articles of Incorporation**

Article 1:

To promote the economic and social interests of the members and other retired teachers.

MOTION: that Article 1 be changed to the following:

To promote the economic interests of the members and other retired teachers.

To promote social interactions among the members and other retired teachers.

Article 2:

To maintain a liaison with The Manitoba Teachers’ Society and other organizations of retired persons with like or similar objectives.

MOTION: that Article 2 be changed to the following:

To maintain a liaison with The Manitoba Teachers’ Society.

To establish and maintain a liaison with other organizations of retired persons with like or similar objectives.

Article 3:

To promote and facilitate the formation of local chapters in centres.

MOTION: that Article 3 be changed to the following:

To promote and facilitate the formation of Chapters and support their ongoing existence.

Article 4:

To furnish recommendations and advice to the Provincial Executive of The Manitoba Teachers’ Society on matters affecting the welfare of retired teachers.

MOTION: that there be no change in wording to Article 4.

Article 5:

To give assistance to its members (insofar as resources of the Association make it possible).

MOTION: Article 5 be changed to the following: To provide members with access to benefit plans and partnership services

Article 6:

To stimulate a continuing interest in developments in education.

MOTION: that Article 6 be changed to the following:

To stimulate and support a continuing engagement in developments in education - related trends, initiatives, policies, and issues.

Article 7:

To initiate or promote activities or projects providing creative outlets for its members.

MOTION: that there be no change in wording to Article 7.

**MOTION:** Moved by David Harkness (Winnipeg); seconded by Bill Cann

that the RTAM Articles of Incorporation be approved as presented.

**Carried**

1. **RTAM Bylaws**

A detailed list of the changes was published on the RTAM web page prior to the AGM. It had met the requirements for notification of By-Law Changes.

**MOTION:** Moved by Bill Cann (Winnipeg); seconded by Alison Logan (Winnipeg) that the RTAM Bylaws for 2023-2024 be approved as presented.

**Defeated**

There were concerns from the floor raised about the process by which notification for these changes was sent out. There was a sense that RTAM needs to do a better job highlight the changes in the future and then notifying members that the changes will be discussed at the AGM.

A concern was raised about the gender composition requirement for the Board.

**MOTION:** Moved by Peggy Prendergast; seconded by Lana Rinn that the RTAM Bylaw changes being proposed be referred to the RTAM Board, because of insufficient notice.

**Carried**

1. **RTAM Interim Policies**

***Do we need to publish the list here as one done in previous AGM minutes?***

**MOTION:** Moved by Dorothy Young (Winnipeg); seconded by Bill Cann (Winnipeg) that the RTAM Interim Policies be approved as presented. **Carried**

1. **New Business** 
   1. New Business / Kel Smith

The form included 3 questions, not new business. The first two were answered by a show of hands and the third question was answered with an explanation.

* 1. New Business Form #2

MOTION: Moved by Peggy Pendergast; seconded by Pat Opalko (Winnipeg) that a printed copy of the TRAF presentation be sent to members requesting said copy. **Carried**

1. **RTAM Rate of Reimbursements of Expenses 2023-2024**

**MOTION**: Moved Pat Bowslaugh (Brandon); seconded by Joan Zaretsky (Winnipeg) that the RTAM rate of reimbursements for the 2023-2024 year be the following and be paid out only when itemized receipts have been provided to the Office. **Carried**

The rates are:

Meals Breakfast: $18 Lunch: $24 Dinner/Supper: $30

Travel Private Vehicle: $0.66 Passenger: $0.04 per KM

Air/Bus based on economy round trip: By receipt

Hotel: $180/per night (max.) Private per night $90 per night (max.)

Computer Consumables $120 (once per year/per Board member) This is for the ED and board members

The reimbursement rates for 2023-24 remain the same as 2022-23.

1. **RTAM Budget 2023-2024**

* The draft budget was provided prior to the meeting.
* The Treasurer reviewed the budget section by section.
* A number of questions were asked on specific line items of the budget which were responded to by the Executive Director.

**MOTION:** Moved Pat Bowslaugh (Brandon); seconded by Joan Zaretsky (Winnipeg)that the RTAM 2023-2024 Budget of be approved as presented.

**Carried**

1. **RTAM Fee 2023-2024**

MOTION: Moved Pat Bowslaugh (Brandon); seconded by Joan Zaretsky (Winnipeg) that the RTAM Fee for the 2023-2024 be $3.00 per month ($36.00 per year).

**Carried**

1. **Departing Directors / Acknowledgement and thanks**

Joan Zaretsky (Winnipeg) Vice President & ACER-CART Director

Dave Najduch (Winnipeg) Secretary

David Harkness (Winnipeg) Board Member

Joan Rink (Brookdale) Board Member

Bob Davies (Winnipeg) Board Member

Paul Harland (Winnipeg)/ Acknowledge the work of Paul as a former Chair of the Website Committee Board and Committee member upon his passing.

**Point of Privilege**

Dorothy Young (Winnipeg) on the contribution of Late Paul Harland

Dorothy Young (Winnipeg) on the good job performed by the chair of the AGM

Pat Opalko (WRT, Winnipeg) on members do not have computers, and hence the need for paper copies of the activities.

1. **Adjournment Time: 5:04 PM**