



### **WHAT IS RTAM?** <https://www.rtam.mb.ca/>

The **Retired Teachers' Association of Manitoba (RTAM)** is a, voluntary association of over 10,000 retired Manitoba teachers.

### **WHY JOIN RTAM?**

Our strength is in our collective voice; today our membership is approximately 10,000. We have much to gain by Keeping in Touch with fellow retirees. Since 1989 RTAM has been an active voice in the following areas:

- Free First Year Membership for retiring teachers effective January 1, 2021
- Pension support and Political Advocacy
- Social connections and activities
- Group Travel and Travel Insurance Plans
- Communications
- Health and Welfare

### **HOW DOES RTAM OPERATE?**

Both voluntary and independent, RTAM's work is carried out by:

- Full time staff in the RTAM office
- An Annual General Meeting open to all Full members
- An elected Board of Directors open to all RTAM full members
- Standing committees open to all RTAM full members
- Over 20 Chapters in Manitoba and other provinces.  
<https://www.rtam.mb.ca/chapters/allchapters>
- Membership in **Association Canadienne des Enseignants et Enseignantes Retraités (ACER)** / **Canadian Association of Retired Teachers' (CART)** <https://acer-cart.org/>
- Membership in the Manitoba Seniors Coalition

### **HOW DO YOU JOIN RTAM?**

- Call the RTAM office at 204-889-3660/toll free 1-888-393-8082 for an application, or indicate your intention to join RTAM when you contact the **Teachers' Retirement Allowance Fund (TRAF)** <https://www.traf.mb.ca/>, or download an application from our RTAM Website <https://www.rtam.mb.ca/about/membership-application-forms>
- Full membership requires that you have taught for five years as calculated by TRAF
- Associate membership is available for those with less than five years teaching experience
- Members may have their fees deducted from their TRAF pension or may make payment by cheque, credit card or debit directly to RTAM
- RTAM membership fees are currently \$3.00 per month or \$36.00 per year
- Surviving spouses are eligible to retain the benefits of RTAM

### **ACCESS TO VOLUNTARY RTAM GROUP INSURANCE PLANS**

One of the several key supports of your membership in RTAM is your access to annually negotiated and tailored insurance plans:

- Prestige Travel (full members only)
- MEDOC Travel (full and associate members)
- Trip Cancellation (full members, associates, family)
- Dental Care
- Extended Health Care (Core Plan or Enhanced)
- Home Insurance
- Life Insurance



Our plans are competitive, voluntary and can be single or family based. For any further questions about the above plans, please call a representative at Johnson Inc. <https://rtam.johnson.ca/> who can be reached at 1-877-989-2600, or by email.

### **RTAM TRAVEL GROUPS** - Dream Now, Travel Later

RTAM has partnered with Trip Merchant <https://www.rtam.mb.ca/member-benefits/travel-trip-merchant/383-trip-merchant> which has many benefits:

- Travel destinations (Individual, Group and custom Tours)
- A loyalty program that earns travel dollars
- Travel contests
- Webinars
- A bi-weekly Newsletter
- Information can be found on the RTAM website, password is: **RTAMTM18**

### **ADVOCACY**

- Informs members about pension issues and changes including the annual cost-of-living allowance (COLA) <https://www.traf.mb.ca/your-pension/retired-members/your-pension/cola>
- Our strength is our collective voice and in the development of partnerships with provincial and national organization such as the Government, political parties, the Manitoba Teachers' Society (MTS) <https://www.mbteach.org/mtscms/>, the Teachers' Retirement Allowance Fund (TRAF) the Manitoba School Boards Association <https://www.mbschoolboards.ca/>, the Manitoba Seniors Coalition <https://manitobaseniorscoalition.ca/> as well as ACER-CART.
- To do research and co-ordinate positions with other organizations on emergent issues
- Informs members of the public about ongoing issues such as Pharmacare
- Advocates for the future appointment of an RTAM member to the TRAF board
- Works with local chapters to lobby locally and to assist in provincial campaigns
- Advocates for a better informed public on retired teacher issues

### **RTAM MEMBER SERVICES AND BENEFITS**

- Full time office staff
- Elected Board and Standing Committees open to all full members
- Local Chapters
- Seminars and workshops
- Voluntary Group Insurance <https://rtam.johnson.ca/>
- RTAM Student Awards <https://www.rtam.mb.ca/rtamcommittees/233-student-awards>
- Indigenous Bursary

### **RTAM COMMUNICATIONS**

- Quarterly magazine Keep In Touch (KIT) <https://www.rtam.mb.ca/rtam-media/kit-magazine> and RTAM website provide information on issues affecting retired teachers, as well as information on wellness and travel opportunities
- Highlights from monthly Board and committee meetings are posted to the RTAM website and sent to Chapter Presidents for distribution to local members
- The French language chapter promotes the bilingual aspect of our organization



### **RTAM WELLNESS**

- Provides workshops and seminars organized locally and provincially to inform members and to help them achieve individual wellness
- Works with other senior-oriented groups to advocate on seniors' issues
- Provides grants for promoting member engagement and/or wellness