

# Chapter 9 News

## Save the Date

February 3<sup>rd</sup>March 3<sup>rd</sup>April 7<sup>th</sup>

ARM First Friday

Breakfasts

## CONTACT

[j29aharon@gmail.com](mailto:j29aharon@gmail.com)

to order your regular,  
vegetarian or gluten-free  
meal

**Free for members**

**\$15 for social members  
or partners**

**April 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Health & Wellness**

**Workshop**

**May 10<sup>th</sup>**

**Luncheon at the  
Ciociaro Club**

**Free for members**

**\$25 for social members  
or partners**

Details for each event will  
be provided by email.

Future ARM Chapter 9  
Newsletters will be  
issued as the Spring  
Edition and our Annual  
General Meeting Edition  
being sent before our  
June 16<sup>th</sup> AGM.

*When it snows, you have two  
choices: shovel or make  
snow angels.*

*-Unknown*

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## President's Message from Bruce Awad

Greetings ARM Chapter 9 members and happy new year. I hope you all had a very happy and pleasant holiday season.

In case you are not aware by now, those of you who are OTPP recipients (Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan), effective January 1, 2023 your pension will increase by 6.3%. The last time the OTPP increased over 6% in one year was in 1988. Annual inflation increases are capped at 8%. For those of you who are OMERS recipients (Ontario Municipal Employees' Retirement System) you will be happy to know that your pension will increase by 6% effective January 1, 2023. OMERS inflation protection is capped at 6%.

If you purchase the RTIP health benefit package through OTIP, you will be happy to know your premiums will remain the same for 2023 with a few improvements to coverage. A letter was sent to all members who purchase the benefit plan as to what the improvements are.

Our First Friday breakfasts so far have been successful at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 594. We've had 30 to 35 members attend each month along with some spouses/significant others. The next breakfast is Friday February 3, 2023. Watch for the email with the link to RSVP. (Reminder, the breakfast is free for members and \$15.00 for others). I hope to see you on February 3<sup>rd</sup>.

We also had a very successful financial workshop presented by Corrinne Mallender of Educators Financial Group on November 9, 2022. If you are interested in Educators Financial Group products or services, you can reach Corrinne at 1-800-263-9541 ext. 3755 or by email at [cmallender@educatorsfinancialgroup.ca](mailto:cmallender@educatorsfinancialgroup.ca). Our annual winter luncheon on December 7, 2022 at the Ciociaro Club was also a success with over 60 people attending. The proceeds from the raffle raised over \$400 for the Downtown Mission. The luncheon meal was free for members and \$25.00 for others. Our next luncheon is on Wednesday May 10, 2023 at the Ciociaro Club. Watch for the email to RSVP.

Another ARM sponsored event is our 'Health and Wellness' fair which will be held at the Ciociaro Club on Wed April 19, 2023. Watch for an email with details in the near future.

I would like to point you to two of my favorite media outlets that I think are credible sources: The CONVERSATION, has a great article on "Inflation-How rising food costs affect nutrition and health" read it online here.... <https://theconversation.com/inflation-bites-how-rising-food-costs-affect-nutrition-and-health-196048>.

The GUARDIAN, If you want an update on the war in Ukraine as of day 327 of the invasion, read it here... <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2023/jan/16/russia-ukraine-war-at-a-glance-what-we-know-on-day-327-of-the-invasion>

Yours in Federation, Bruce Awad, President

Email- [armchapter9@outlook.com](mailto:armchapter9@outlook.com) Website- [www.armchapter9.ca](http://www.armchapter9.ca)

## ONTARIO HEALTH COALITION

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Standard Time

### Windsor-Essex Chapter

Windsor Facebook Page  
<https://www.facebook.com/windsorhealthc/>

Essex Facebook Page  
<https://www.facebook.com/WEHealthCoalition/>

Patrick Hannon  
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# The Ontario Health Coalition Action Assembly

## A Submission by Sandra Sahli – Communications Officer

As we have shared with you in previous newsletters, ARM Chapter 9 is a member organization of the Ontario Health Coalition. Recently, we received this thank you letter from Natalie Mehra, Executive Director of the Ontario Health Coalition for our continued support. In addition to the membership fee, your ARM Executive approved an additional donation of \$500.00 to support the Coalition's efforts to fight the Ford government's continued attacks and privatization of Ontario's health care system, including the home care and long-term care.

*Dear OSSTF ARM Chapter 9:*

*I am writing to thank you, sincerely, for your donation. We apologize because we are just catching up and we are late in sending this letter. We are deeply grateful for your support.*

*We hope that you are proud of our collective efforts. We have been instrumental in catapulting privatization and long-term care to the top of the public agenda. We succeeded in getting the Liberals and the Green Party to take a clear position to end for-profit long-term care (and we had a strong part in the NDP adopting that position earlier). We are a trusted media source of information and do anywhere from 500 – 800 media interviews per year.*

*We are continuing to work our absolute hardest to fight against health care privatization, win long-overdue improvements in long-term care, and advocate for improved care and staffing across our public health care system.*

*We have grown enormously over the last year and continue to be an effective opinion leader. I have written multiple op-eds with colleagues published in papers such as the Toronto Star. In addition, we are called upon by reporters daily to provide information and contacts for investigative reports and stories. We have held dozens of press conferences, protests and rallies since the beginning of the pandemic, and we are an extremely active coalition. We now represent more than three-quarters of a million Ontarians.*

*In addition to advocating for systematic measures to improve care and staffing conditions, we have also been working our hardest to raise awareness of the threat of privatization to our public health care. This is a short summary of what your support has enabled us to achieve:*

- *To fight against the Ford government's new law that forces elderly hospital patients into long-term care homes against their choice, we launched a Charter Challenge with the Advocacy Centre for the Elderly (ACE) to strike down the law as a violation of the fundamental rights of the patients affected.*
- *In response to the unprecedented hospital crisis, as the Ford government continued to deny and downplay the hospital crisis and failure, we arranged 13 local online town hall meetings. More than 1000 people registered as we discussed how to make the fight visible and to show real resistance against the Ford government's refusal to take urgent action to address the hospital crisis while at the same time privatizing our hospitals.*
- *To fight back against health care privatization in Ontario we organized a series of emergency summits. More than 800 people joined our two central summits and hundreds of people joined in twenty local summits. We released a series of briefing notes on health care privatization and held a press conference raising the alarm on the privatization of COVID-19 testing in Ontario. Our work has received extensive media coverage and we are making this a key election issue.*
- *I have co-authored multiple op-eds that have been published in the Toronto Star to educate the public on the threat of privatization across all of health care and the terrible record of for-profit long-term care.*
- *We held a press conference with organizations representing more than a million Ontarians to collectively call for emergency measures to address the health care staffing crisis.*

Continued next page....

- *We released a major report **Public Money, Private Profit: The Ford Government & the Privatization of the Next Generation of Ontario's Long-Term Care** highlighting the Ford government's plans to award a majority of new long-term care beds to for-profit chains with horrific records. This report received significant media coverage and became an important public resource of long-term care bed allocations, as the government has not made one publicly available. Out of this report we were able to get a 5-part CTV series on the government awarding beds to the homes that the military went into. Then we got a major **Globe and Mail** investigative report, a **Toronto Star** story and editorial. These were in addition to cross-province media reporting about the release of our report.*
- *We worked extensively to fight against the Ford government's new Long-Term Care Act. We released an analysis, wrote an open letter to MPPs, got a legal opinion, had releases picked up by the media and wrote a submission to the Legislature. While the bill ultimately passed, the pressure we created generated significant attention and has led to new people joining us in the fight to protect public health care.*
- *In May of last year, we held a mass **Pack the Public Galleries** event where more than 570 long-term care families and workers, along with thousands of people on Facebook, came together to hear the Ford government answer their questions and demands for vital improvements to long-term care. Through individual stories sent in by families and staff, we asked the Opposition Parties to challenge Premier Ford to commit to fast-tracking improvements in staffing in long-term care homes.*
- *We coordinated with Health Coalitions across Canada and **Canadians4LTC** and led the work to release a legal opinion advocating for national standards that would improve care, quality, accountability and public/non-profit ownership in long-term care.*
- *Despite the continuing inadequacies of policy and enforcement we have gained some ground. In long-term care alone, we have won improved funding, improved infection control measures in health care, air conditioning improvements in long-term care and a commitment to a 4-hour minimum care standard. Our work in raising awareness of the plans for health care privatization by the government led to them backtracking on statements and the issue receiving significant coverage in media across the province. We are also holding off hospital privatization. It is not enough. The care standard commitment is for four-years from now, for example, but we are moving the ball down the field together, and we have many initiatives planned to do just that.*

*There is much more that I cannot fit in here, but I think I have given you a sense of the work your support has helped to achieve.*

*Thank you very much for your help and support. It has been an honour to stand alongside you in this cause and I look forward to continuing our work together.*

*With warmest regards,  
Natalie Mehra  
Executive Director*

[www.ontariohealthcoalition.ca](http://www.ontariohealthcoalition.ca)

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ARM Chapter 9 is committed to keeping its members up to date with information from the Ontario Health Coalition (OHC) regarding the Ford Government's plan to privatize health care.

Announcements such as the expansion of private clinics and hospitals in the province are shared with you via email for information and to encourage you to take action in defense of public health care in Ontario.

We know that private clinics routinely charge for services. We need you to keep informed and to contact the OHC if you have been impacted by the recent changes to Ontario health care.

Fill in and share this survey with your seniors' organization, patient group, community group, friends, family, and neighbours to collect evidence on what patients are being charged in private clinics. You can fill it in online

here: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd0SYm3eHDxx2tYPxKOCsmSeeR8jiuqPsUH76Uu3vv8tT2jOQ/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd0SYm3eHDxx2tYPxKOCsmSeeR8jiuqPsUH76Uu3vv8tT2jOQ/viewform?usp=sf_link) or the printable version

here: <https://www.ontariohealthcoalition.ca/wp-content/uploads/final-survey-re-private-clinics-extra-billing.pdf>

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# UPDATE: United Way – January 2023

Submitted by: Sandra Sahli, Communications Officer

## **Call for Team Members - 2023 iMove for United Way – Get Moving for Kids’ Sake – February 20 to March 5, 2023**

The Executive has approved, once again, our ARM Chapter registering a team for **iMove for United Way – Get Moving for Kids’ Sake – February 20 to March 5, 2023**. To get the team started, the Executive has approved a \$250.00 donation to the team.

This totally virtual fundraising event focuses on the importance of physical activity as part of a person’s overall wellbeing. By participating in iMove for United Way, we will not only be supporting our own health and wellness, we will be supporting local kids across Windsor-Essex County through **Ignite Academy**. United Way is one of the 40+ partners delivering and facilitating this community strategy.

**Get up, get moving, and challenge yourself and others to move for 200 minutes.** Whether you run, walk your dog, do yoga moves or dance in your living room we want you to get moving and raise needed funds for local kids in our community.

Data shows that in some neighbourhoods 36% of children are behind in reading and writing, and 58% are behind in math. There are also big hurdles that many children have to overcome, like hunger, mental health issues, lack of necessary school supplies, limited help with schoolwork and unreliable transportation options. This situation makes it extremely difficult for many children to keep up with their peers academically. **Ignite Academy** - <https://www.weareunited.com/igniteacademy/> - was built to directly impact these startling statistics.

iMove for United Way’s goal is to not only raise funds to support **Ignite Academy** right now, but also to gather the resources necessary to expand into more schools, helping more kids and families across the community in the future. **All donation stays 100% local.**

Last year, the ARM Chapter 9 team had four members: Bruce Awad, Robert Dunlop, Sandra Sahli and Karen Tomkins. Although our team was small, we received incredible support and were the Top Fundraising Team raising \$4,370! As well, two of our team members, Bruce Awad and Sandra Sahli were in the Top Ten Individual Fundraisers. We know with more members joining our team, we can surpass our 2022 success.

If you are interested in joining the OSSTF ARM Chapter 9 team, email Sandra Sahli at [srsahli@hotmail.com](mailto:srsahli@hotmail.com) and she will send you the link to register. Once we get the Chapter 9 team up and running, we will email members the link to make donations to support our iMove for United Way team.

The mission of the United Way Windsor-Essex County is to:

*IGNITE THE DESIRE IN EVERYONE TO IMPROVE LIVES AND BUILD STRONG COMMUNITIES.*

The vision of United Way Windsor-Essex County:

A GENERATION FROM NOW, WINDSOR-ESSEX COUNTY IS A PROSPEROUS COMMUNITY WHERE ALL CHILDREN HAVE THE ABILITY TO ACHIEVE THEIR DREAMS AND REACH THEIR POTENTIAL.



## CHANGES TO FUTURE NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

### Did you know...?

The CALDWELL FIRST NATION is known as *The People of The Lake*. They are a strong sovereign First Nation fighting assimilation and respecting other nations the Creator has placed in their path. They are working to build a foundation with other nations, that embraces trust, harmony, and honour.

For centuries, many Caldwell citizens were denied the ability to learn their culture and language. Through resilience, they are empowered to support current and future generations through Indigenous teachings available at events and online modules.

Caldwell First Nation also offers support for the mental, physical, emotional and spiritual health & wellness through traditional healing and cultural programs.

To learn more about this local Indigenous organization, visit their website  
<https://www.caldwellfirstnation.ca>

The Executive of ARM Chapter 9 has reviewed the practice of mailing hard copies of each newsletter to individuals. The costs of printing and mailing each issue has increased significantly and, after reviewing current & future costs, the Executive has decided that the final hard copy mailing of the newsletter will be in June 2023. As well, effective immediately, the hard copies of the newsletter will be printed in black and white.

After June 2023, a limited number of hard copies of the newsletter will be available for pick up at the OSSTF District 9 office. Starting in October 2023, the Executive will also bring a small number of copies to First Friday breakfasts.

**Chapter 9 News** will continue to be published four times a year: Fall, Winter, Spring, and the Annual General Meeting editions will be distributed to members by email. While in-person meetings will resume in June 2023, information regarding the Annual General Meeting will be available in print for those members attending at the OSSTF office. Each issue is also available on the ARM Chapter 9 website.

## STAYING CURRENT



ARM Chapter 9 has an electronic resource so that you can stay informed about things that matter to our membership.

### ARM Chapter 9 Website

[www.armchapter9.ca](http://www.armchapter9.ca)

The Chapter 9 website contains information for Retired members of OSSTF. Current and previous newsletters can be found along with details about the work of your Executive.

The website has been created in an easy-to-navigate format offering our membership uncomplicated access to its content.

If you have suggestions about what you might like included in the website please email

[armchapter9@outlook.com](mailto:armchapter9@outlook.com)

## Internet for Low-Income Seniors

The Government of Canada is partnering with 14 internet service providers to bring \$20 a month internet to seniors. This is offered through the Connecting Families Initiative.

Eligible seniors should receive a letter from the government with an access code needed to sign up for the program.

This is being offered to ensure 98% of Canadians have high speed internet access by 2026.

This program was created to assist citizens in rural and remote parts of the country. If you do not have access to broadband service, you may wish to contact your internet service provider to determine if a high speed service is available to you. The decision to subscribe to any new service remains with you, as the customer.



Source: [ic.gc.ca](http://ic.gc.ca) Connecting Canadians

**Due to limited usage, ARM Chapter 9 will no longer be maintaining Facebook or Twitter accounts.**

## **Ambition...No Matter**

Submitted by: Toni Pecaski

My political hopes were dashed at an early age. In Grade 7 I ran for student council class rep. I had a great election team...me...and I came up with a snappy slogan that surely would corral a mass of supporters. "Don't be a silly clarinet...vote for little Antoinette". (I know, I'm doing an eye roll, too.) So, that was the end of my political ambitions. No matter. I had other loftier ambitions not confined to the constraints of an elementary school classroom.

I decided that I was going to be a rock and roll star (Connie Francis, please move over!). I couldn't play a musical instrument, I couldn't read music and in retrospect, I couldn't sing. No matter. When you're 12 these are piddly matters. So, I cajoled my parents into buying me a guitar from the Amazon of the day—the Sears Catalogue. I bought a book, How to Teach Yourself to Play the Guitar. But, when my fingertips became raw and red, I gave up. No matter. I had bigger ambitions not confined to my small world.

I was going to write and record my own songs. I wrote a total of 5, incessantly humming and repeating them, until I had them memorized. True they were a little plagiaristic, but they were still mine. Now, how to get them recorded?

Ah, yes. Joe, across the street played in a Country and Western Band at the Three Bears night club in Windsor. One day I said, "Joe can you play your guitar, and I'll sing, and you can use your tape recorder?" When, you're 12 you're not shy about your next move. Joe was a kind person and agreed. We had a recording session, and now I had a small reel of tape.

My next step was to get it out into the world...Motown, of course! But first I had to copyright my songs. I mean, really, could I chance having them out there, where any Tom, Dick or Connie could snap them up. So, I called my member of parliament, Gene Whelan, and asked him about copyright laws. He gave me a book, a virtual tome, the size of a cinder block. Somehow, I waded through it and sent one song title and two bucks to the Canadian copyright registry. I received a formal document for unpublished material. Now my song was safeguarded for perpetuity or 75 years, whichever came first.

I eagerly mailed my tape to Motown. They promptly mailed it back. (Years later while visiting HitsVille U.S.A, the Motown Museum, I saw the typewriter used for my rejection letter—it was a proud moment.) Anyway, when Motown mailed my tape back, undeterred I mailed it to CHYR radio in Leamington. Every week I'd call the D.J. "Have you heard my tape yet?" He kindly strung me along and then mailed it back.

So, my political career was cut short. My song writing and singing career were quickly aborted, and my lofty plans to be on the radio came to naught. But today I still have that little tape. And when I hear my 12-year-old self singing with a clear and confident voice, I smile and marvel at the ingenuity and wide-eyed innocence of youth.

Connie Francis, I guess, had nothing to worry about. Oh well, no matter.

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*The ARM Chapter 9 Newsletter Editorial Team gratefully acknowledge this, and earlier submissions by Antoinette (Toni) Pecaski. We have enjoyed each article and look forward to more of her work in the future.*

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# **Important Information From our friends at OTIP**

## **The top 5 things that should be on your 'beginning of the year financial to-do' list**

**From making the most of your TFSA and RESP contributions, to getting ahead of the RRSP and tax deadlines, check out the top 5 things that should be on your new year financial to-do list: <https://bit.ly/3VpNTvU>. Brought to you by Educators Financial Group.**

### ***Start the new year off right with ways to save on your home and auto insurance***

The price you pay for insurance can vary by hundreds of dollars, so how can you get the best value for your money? **Here are 10 ways you may be eligible to save on your home and auto insurance and start your new year off right.**

We all want to get the most for our money, and saving a little bit here, and there can add up to a lot over time. The price you pay for insurance can vary by hundreds of dollars, so how can you get the best value for your money? Here are 10 ways you may be eligible to save on your home and auto insurance and start your new year off right:

#### **Bundle and save**

Most insurance providers offer discounts to repeat customers. Consider purchasing all your coverage through one provider to take advantage of these discounts. Plus, having the same provider for multiple policies reduces your paperwork and makes it easier to know whom to contact in case of a claim.

#### **Increase your deductible**

Your deductible is the amount you are prepared to pay in the event of a claim on your policy before your insurance provider covers the rest. Generally, the higher the deductible, the lower your premium will be. Carrying a higher deductible is likely more affordable for paying the cost of a minor repair than paying a higher premium over time. Raising your deductible by just a few hundred dollars could save you a lot of money, but make sure it's an amount that suits your budget and comfort level. Speak with your insurance broker to see if this option is right for you.

#### **Safeguard your home and vehicle**

Increasing your home and vehicle's safety measures will help you protect yourself and your loved ones and save on your insurance premiums. Consider setting up a home security system to ward off break-ins and installing winter tires for safer winter driving. Most insurance providers will reward you for your efforts with a discount. Notify your insurance broker of any safety improvements you make so they can review your discount eligibility.

#### **File your claims strategically**

A history of small insurance claims can increase your premiums. So, before submitting a claim, keep your deductible amount in mind and whether it makes financial sense to risk your rates increasing.

#### **Check your claim protectors' eligibility**

Claim protectors are an endorsement that prevents your insurance rates from increasing upon filing a claim. While there are eligibility requirements, including an upfront fee, you could save thousands of dollars in the long run. Speak with your insurance broker about your home and auto claim protectors' eligibility.

#### **Pay off your mortgage**

Many insurance providers offer a mortgage-free discount once homeowners have paid off their mortgages. Speak with your insurance broker about discount options if this applies to you.

#### **Maintain a good credit score**

The insurance industry has adopted credit scoring on home insurance to determine property owners' premiums. If you have given consent, your insurance provider can use your credit information to help predict your potential for future losses. Research has shown a correlation between credit history and insurance claim history – those with certain credit history patterns are more likely to file insurance claims. If you have good credit and are interested in reaping the benefits, speak with your insurance broker about a Credit Consent form.

### **Ask about usage-based insurance**

[Usage-based insurance \(UBI\)](#) – also known as telematics or pay-as-you-drive – offers drivers more control over how their premiums are calculated. UBI's dynamic pricing relies on your unique driving behaviour and vehicle usage patterns. To participate, you can install a wireless device in your vehicle or download an app onto your smartphone to track your distance, braking, speed, and acceleration. This data is reported back to your insurance provider and can be used to reward good behaviour by customizing the price of your insurance. If you have questions about how your data will be stored and used along with your UBI eligibility, speak with your insurance broker.

### **Ask about retiree discounts**

Have you retired and are no longer commuting to work? You may be eligible for a discount on your auto insurance and an additional retiree discount. Speak with your insurance broker about retiree discounts you may qualify for.

### **Review your policy annually**

Ensure your policy is accurate by reviewing it annually. You may have replaced and updated your furnace, electrical system, plumbing, or roof between reviews. Small details like your home's age, construction, and type should also be reflected accurately – all of them can reduce your premium.

Before it is time to renew your insurance, take advantage of cost-saving opportunities. Keep these tips in mind as you review your coverage to align your insurance with your needs without leaving any discounts on the table.

If you want to review your coverage or discuss your eligibility for any of these savings, contact your OTIP insurance broker at [1-833-494-0090](tel:1-833-494-0090).

## **Resisting rust: How to protect your vehicle from rust damage**

Canadian winters are known for being harsh, especially when it comes to vehicles. The snowy, wet climate and exposure to road salt are all significant contributors to rust damage. While road salt helps drivers get safely from one place to the next by keeping streets clear of ice and snow, repeated exposure can leave your vehicle vulnerable to rust. If not correctly taken care of, rust can cause significant damage to your vehicle and pose serious safety risks.

The good news is that you can take steps to prevent rust from building up on your vehicle. A proactive approach can help you avoid costly maintenance and repairs, prolong your vehicle's lifespan and ensure your vehicle stays safe to drive year-round.

### **1. Invest in rustproofing**

Rustproofing creates an additional barrier between your vehicle and the elements, protecting it against rust and corrosion. The process typically involves spraying a protective wax-based compound over the vehicle's exterior and undercarriage (also known as "undercoating").

Most mechanics and auto service technicians offer the treatment. When done correctly, it should last 1-2 years before it needs to be done again. Speak to a trusted professional to determine which rustproofing treatment is right for your vehicle and how often you'll need to have it done.

### **2. Park indoors whenever possible**

Avoid prolonged exposure to the wet winter climate by parking your vehicle in a garage or other indoor covered parking space. If you don't have access to indoor parking, park your vehicle away from trees and areas prone to puddles and flooding. Consider purchasing a waterproof, breathable cover to put on your vehicle when it's raining or snowing.

### **3. Maintain your vehicle's paint job**

Your vehicle's clear coat and paint act as protective layers against moisture, dirt and rust. When your vehicle's paint is damaged, it is exposed to the elements, increasing the risk of rust build-up. Regularly examine your vehicle's paint job, looking for bubbles and chips. If you find any defects, have them touched up as soon as possible.

### **4. Wash and wax your vehicle**

Washing your vehicle regularly helps to keep its protective layers of clear coat and paint in good shape. Waxing your vehicle adds an extra layer of protection to better shield it from moisture and salt. Aim to wash your vehicle (including the undercarriage) at least once every 2-3 months and wax your vehicle at least twice a year.



## 5. Rinse your vehicle after every winter drive

Road salt, while necessary for road safety, can damage the metal of your vehicle and leave it vulnerable to forming rust. Rinsing your vehicle after driving in the winter removes salt buildup and prevents further damage.

Rust is considered part of a vehicle's general wear and tear and is not typically covered under a standard insurance policy. If you're a current OTIP policyholder and have questions about your car insurance or want to inquire about recommended coverage, connect with your OTIP insurance broker at [1-800-267-6847](tel:1-800-267-6847). If you're shopping for car insurance and want a quote, contact us today at [1-866-561-5559](tel:1-866-561-5559).

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## ***OSSTF DATA BREACH***

On May 30, 2022, OSSTF/FEESO discovered that an unauthorized third party accessed and encrypted the systems between May 25 and May 30, 2022. A cyber security firm was immediately hired by the Federation to contain and investigate the incident.

By November 2022, OSSTF/FEESO reached out to current and former members to notify them of the breach. At that point, the Federation indicated that there was “no evidence of misuse of the data” but did commit to pay for credit monitoring and identity theft protection for members.

On December 5, 2022, ARM Chapter 9 President Bruce Awad, emailed a copy of correspondence from Jim Spray. The letter outlined what had happened, what personal information may have been compromised and advice on what protections are available.

A toll-free number was established to provide more information (1-877-672-4644) and is available Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. to obtain more information.

You are encouraged to review your account statements regularly, change your passwords of online accounts and to be cautious if you receive suspicious emails, text messages or phone calls that request you provide personal information.

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## Noteworthy Dates

Sunday March 12<sup>th</sup>

Daylight Savings Time Begins

Clocks **SPRING** forward one hour



Friday April 28<sup>th</sup>  
National Day of Mourning

## In Memoriam

- **Jim Ciuciura**

Described as a teacher who *loved his job and his 'kids'*, Jim Ciuciura passed away on November 4, 2022. He was a music teacher at Sandwich Secondary School for 30 years.

- **Gerry Pouget**

On November 15, 2022, Gerry Pouget died peacefully with his wife and family. Gerry was a history teacher at Harrow High School for 30 years and was a founding member of the Harrow Early Immigrant Research Society.

- **Gary Wright**

Chapter 9 ARM was saddened to learn of the passing of Gary Wright on January 6, 2023. Gary was a teacher at Essex District High School. He will be missed by family and friends.

- **Jerry Schen**

Chapter 9 ARM wishes to acknowledge the November 5, 2022 passing of Jerry Schen. His loss is felt deeply by his family and many friends. Jerry enjoyed most of his teaching career at Harrow High School.

As an ARM member, Jerry's memory will be celebrated by Chapter 9 ARM at the September 2023 ceremony where a memorial brick will be unveiled in his honour.

Chapter 9 News Issue 02 WINTER 2023

## 2022-2023 ARM Chapter 9 Executive Members

### President

Bruce Awad

### Vice President

Jacques Aharonian

### Recording Secretary

Suzette Clark

### Treasurer

Dan Eberwein

### Communications Officer

Sandra Sahli

### Political Action Officer

Margaret Villamizar

### Membership Officer

Brian Robinson

### Member Services Officer

Margie Sciacca

### Program Co-Ordinator

Jacques Aharonian

### Members At Large –

Rosanne Herold

Toni Michalczuk

Annette Nelson

Scott Hunt

Patricia Morneau

## MEMBERSHIP VOICE MATTERS!

This WINTER edition of Chapter 9 News is the second of four planned for this year.

The Newsletter Editorial Team welcomes submissions for the SPRING 2023 edition.

Contributions for the SPRING edition can be forwarded to [armchapter9@outlook.com](mailto:armchapter9@outlook.com) by April 3, 2023.

We look forward to hearing from you!