

Save the Date**June 16th****ARM Annual
General Meeting**District 9 Office
547 Victoria Avenue,
Windsor**Friday Sept. 8th****ARM Breakfast**Royal Canadian
Legion Br 594
5030 Howard Ave.**CONTACT**j29aharon@gmail.com
to order your regular,
vegetarian or gluten-free
meal**Free for members****\$15 for social members
or partners****September 8th ARM
Brick Ceremony
follows our First Friday
breakfast****First Friday Breakfasts
will be held on October
6th and November 3rd****October 18th****Anti-Fraud Workshop****District 9 Office**Five newsletters are
planned for 2023-24.Print copies will only
be available at the D9
office and at First
Friday breakfasts.*What good is the warmth of
summer, without the cold of
winter to give it sweetness.**-John Steinbeck***In this issue**President's Message **P.1**Ontario Health Coalition **P.3**Did you know? **P.6****Upcoming AGM Information P.9 -19****President's Message from Bruce Awad**

Unifor locals 240 and 1959 workers at the Windsor Salt Mines have been on strike for 100 days as of June 2, 2023. The parent company, Stone Canyon Holdings Inc., have engaged in anti-union tactics and intimidation activities from the start of the strike. It is clear that they have no respect for the union representing the workers or of the collective bargaining process nor of the workers themselves. By refusing to bargain, they are clearly trying to break the union and force them to give in to unacceptable concessions.

Your ARM executive supports the Unifor members one hundred percent and has given them two donations of \$500.00 each to their strike fund. Also, we have visited their picket line several times to show our support. I encourage all of you to take some time to visit their picket line, tell them you are retired OSSTF member and if you can, donate to their strike fund. They receive \$300 per week strike pay which is barely enough to pay for food. Your attendance at the picket line will be greatly appreciated and will show the security company who video tapes the strikers' activities that the community cares about and loathes the company's actions.

It is important for us as union retirees, who have had to strike several times throughout our careers, to support today's workers fighting to protect their careers. For an up-to-date news article and more detailed information on the company's anti-union tactics, please click on this link... <https://empoweryourselfnow.ca/2023/05/29/salt-workers-strengthen-their-resolve-to-stand-against-union-busting/>.

On the Health Care front, the Ontario Health Coalition has been fighting gallantly to protect our health care system from Doug Ford's privatization agenda. Privatizing essential services like health care and education just to name two, do nothing but take funding away from direct service and give to for-profit organizations. It is essentially profits over people. The recent referendum the OHC conducted shows unequivocally that the people of Ontario reject the privatization of health care. Ove 378,000 people voted NO to privatization out of approximately 400,000 votes cast. Thank you to all of you who took part in the referendum and voted. We will continue to keep our membership updated on the activities of the OHC so that you are informed of decisions made by our provincial government.

President's Message is continued on the next page.

President's Message – continued

Every two years the Provincial ARM Council holds a biennial conference for chapter Presidents and delegates from each Chapter. This year, on May 4th and 5th in Toronto, myself along with Jacques Aharonian, Dan Eberwein and Patricia Morneau attended. Mary Lou Cunningham, long-time President of ARM Chapter 11 in London was awarded the BettyAnn Bushel award for outstanding service to ARM. Our own Suzette Clark was awarded the Ian Cameron newsletter Award for the best newsletter out of 9 Chapters. Congratulations Suzette for your hard work in producing an excellent newsletter.



You can view all of our newsletters on our website www.armchapter9.ca . Provincial ARM Council and many of the chapters have initiated a project to identify problems and issues with homecare service in Ontario. We will be conducting a survey for our members and active members of OSSTF who are dealing with the care of relatives or loved ones at home. We will be asking you to complete the survey which will help to identify the problems and issues with home care you are facing. This will be an online survey and your privacy will be protected. Please look forward to this survey in the Fall of 2023.

Our Spring luncheon was a huge success with 57 people attending on May 17, 2023. The raffle proceeds of \$405.00 were given to the Downtown Mission thanks to the many donations of raffle gifts from our members. You also contributed an enormous amount of personal care products as per our request. These products were given to IRIS House - a residential facility that provides services for people with Persistent Serious Mental Illness (PSMI). Thank you to Judy and Ernie Tenzer for all their hard work in putting the event together. Thank you to all the members who purchased raffle tickets to make our donation possible.

Our ARM Annual General Meeting (AGM) is scheduled for Friday June 16, 2023, at the District 9 OSSTF office. Please refer to the agenda and other information elsewhere in this newsletter. At this meeting we will be electing our Executive for next year, approving a financial report including a proposed budget for next year, approving local charities to donate to and other motions including amendments to our Constitution. As always, each of you are welcome to attend.

Yours in Federation.

Bruce Awad, President



Spring Luncheon May 17, 2023

ONTARIO HEALTH COALITION

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Ontario M3C 1Y8

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ohc@sympatico.ca

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09:00-17:00 Eastern

Standard Time

Windsor-Essex Chapter

Windsor Facebook Page

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The Ontario Health Coalition Action Assembly

Results of Huge People's Referendum to stop the privatization of Ontario's public hospitals was announced on May 31, 2023

Note: This article is based on information from the Ontario Health Coalition. ARM Chapter 9 is a member organization of the Coalition.

In an effort to fightback against the privatization of our public hospitals, the Ontario Health Coalition organized a community-run referendum. According to the OHC, almost 400,000 people voted across Ontario, including 100,000 in Toronto in what is being described as a citizen-led referendum organized by the advocacy group Ontario Health Coalition. The ballots were hand-delivered to the provincial government on Wednesday, May 31, 2023.

The question on the ballot was: do you want our public hospital services to be privatized? Ninety-nine per cent or almost 380 thousand people voted no.

Background:

In January, the Ford government announced plans to move forward with the privatization of the core services from our local public hospitals. Among the plans:

- Three for-profit clinics (essentially day hospitals) to be opened in **Windsor**, Waterloo and Ottawa to do 14,000 cataract surgeries to start as well as diagnostics;
- Expansion of existing for-profit clinics to do surgeries and diagnostics currently provided in local public hospitals;
- Expansion of the scope of privatization to include more surgeries including a plan to privatize hip and knee surgeries by next year.

Fact check:

- Despite the claims of the Ford government, these are not temporary clinics to deal with a backlog. They are long-term contracts that start at 5 years and can be longer, at the government's discretion. Once for-profit clinics are in and have taken over our public hospital services, it will be extremely difficult, if at all possible, to get them out.
- Despite claims that patients will not have to pay out of pocket, existing private clinics in Ontario already extra-bill patients illegally and upsell medically unnecessary services to patients, often using manipulative tactics. Patients are being charged thousands of dollars for cataract surgery – far in excess of the \$550 cost under OHIP – and they are being charged on top of OHIP for these services, and they are doing so with impunity.
- Despite claims that the goal of this privatization is to reduce wait times, all across Ontario local public hospitals have operating rooms that are closed every evening, on weekends, and sometimes permanently due to underfunding and staffing. We already have the infrastructure in our public hospitals. The choice not to use public hospitals' operating rooms to their capacity, and instead to rebuild operating rooms only under the ownership and control of for-profit clinics and hospitals, is a political choice to privatize.

On May 8, the Ford government passed Bill 60, which allows for the appointment of directors to regulate for-profit clinics and opens the door for certain publicly-funded surgeries, like cataracts, knee and hip replacements, or MRI and CT scans, to be carried out by private clinics, eventually. The PCs claim this will improve patient wait times, their treatment experience and access to care. The legislation makes it clear that these procedures would be covered by the existing publicly funded provincial healthcare system.

Under the current Bill, three for-profit clinics in Windsor, Waterloo and Ottawa will be allowed to conduct diagnostics and 14,000 cataract surgeries (procedures currently carried out within public hospitals). There are plans to expand the scope of these services to include hip and knee replacement surgeries by next year. The OHC worries this shift to a private healthcare model is a slippery slope that will eventually see Ontarians have a two-tier healthcare system that punishes those who are unable to pay.

Greater Essex Teachers and Retirees Step Up Support for Windsor Salt Workers

Submitted by Margaret Villamizar, Political Action Officer

Unifor Local 240 President Jodi Nesbitt spoke at our Chapter 9 ARM June breakfast and provided an update on the Windsor Salt strike on behalf of striking Windsor Salt workers. It was day 105 for the 240 mine, evaporation facility and clerical workers, members of Unifor locals 1959 and 240. They have been holding the line since being forced out on strike by the U.S. owner of Windsor Salt, Stone Canyon Industries Holdings which refused to bargain unless the workers first agreed to the contracting out of union work and other concessions. Jodi said the company continues to engage in what she called U.S.-based union busting tactics and bad faith bargaining. After providing some details of the company's antics, and how much money it is spending to try and break the workers' spirits by creating the impression that it is all powerful, she said none of it was working. It has only made the workers more determined to carry on the fight.

Jodi also made a point of denouncing the fact that a U.S. hedge fund, interested only in maximizing its profits, is allowed to come in and take over a vital Canadian natural resource like salt, then hold Canadian workers hostage to serve its aims. She urged people to contact their MPs and MPPs to call on government to protect Canada's natural resources from the kind of thing Windsor Salt's owners are doing as they control much of the North American market. She also encouraged everyone to come by the picket lines and spend some time with the workers when we are able. She stressed how much the support is appreciated; all support from union members and retired members of other unions in addition to the Windsor-Essex community. In particular, she stated that they will never forget the solidarity shown by teachers and education workers.

Lively discussion followed Jodi's presentation, including what more could be done about the disconcerting fact that the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan (OTPP) is a major investor in Stone Canyon, even having one of its senior employees on the company's management board.

Our president, Bruce Awad, reported that to date, he has received no response to his letter of April 24th to the President and CEO of OTPP, asking for a response "as to what you and the OTPP could do to encourage Stone Canyon to stop the anti-union tactics and instead bargain in good faith." In light of that and the fact there has been no relief in the company's anti-union activities, Bruce indicated that it is time to adopt the stand recently taken by the District 9 Teachers' Bargaining Unit, and call for teachers' pension funds to be divested from Stone Canyon. This will be expressed in a future letter to be sent to OTPP on behalf of Chapter 9 ARM.

During the breakfast, \$425 was collected by passing the hat, and presented along with a second donation of \$500 from ARM for the workers' strike fund. Following the breakfast, ARM had a presence on the picket line helping striking Unifor members hold up some of trucks driving into and out of the shipping and receiving area of the Evaporation Facility for the 15 minutes allowed by the court injunction. What the company is paying 15 trucks in one day to deliver and/or pick up at a facility manned by only a handful of managers is up to the imagination!



If you can walk with the workers, drop off snacks or donations or even honk your horn as you drive by, the two picket locations are:

- Evaporation Facility - 30 Prospect Avenue, Windsor
- Ojibway Mine - 200 Morton Drive (off Ojibway Parkway at the border of Windsor and LaSalle)



Here For Students

Many of our Chapter 9 ARM members will recall how in the past, we stood up for Education and the students we worked with. Current OSSTF members are now struggling to defend public education as we once did. For the past three years, teachers & education workers have been there for students when needed most. Now we need our government to do the same.

To stay up-to-date on the latest news and learn how you can continue to advocate for Ontario's students, we encourage you to follow @HereForStudents and @OSSTF on Twitter. The decisions we make today will not only decide the caliber of education but the people today's students will grow up to be!

Visit the www.hereforstudents.ca website to learn how you can act and join thousands of Ontarians who are committed to strengthening our public education system and are standing up for Ontario's students.

UPDATE: United Way – June 2023

DO YOU LIKE CARS.... & SUPPORTING GOOD CAUSES?

Chapter 9 ARM Executive members will be supporting the United Way Summer Eats for Kids poverty reduction program that provides children and families in Windsor-Essex with a week's worth of nutritious snacks, fresh fruits, and vegetables during the summer months through 6 locations in West Windsor, Downtown Windsor, and Leamington. Children continue to be the largest group of local food bank users at 33%. When families experience economic challenge, they often end up skipping meals, eating fewer fresh foods, or filling up on other foods that cost less but are less nutrient rich. This is especially the case over the summer months when children are not supported by school nutrition programs and there is a gap in services available.

Members of the ARM Executive were offered the opportunity to sell 50/50 tickets at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 594 Car Expo. The raffle would take place at the Car Expo **every Monday between May 22 to September 25 – 4pm to 8pm** (weather permitting and including holidays). We have committed to being involved each Monday in July and hope you will consider visiting the RCL Branch 594 Car Expo and purchasing raffle tickets in support of this important cause.

The price per ticket is 3 for \$5.00 or 10 for \$10.00 (cash only). Food is available at The Bunker – the same location as our First Friday Breakfasts. The Car Expo has seen 60-100 cars for viewing since May so plan to come out and enjoy these beautiful vehicles while supporting a worthwhile cause. Hope to see you on July 10th, 17th, 24th or 31st.

100th Anniversaries for W.D. Lowe & Walkerville Collegiate Institute

In May 2023, two reunions were held to celebrate a century of memories for these two downtown Windsor schools. Former Tartans, Rough Riders and Trojans gathered to reminisce the spirit of their schools as alumni. Over 700 attended the W.D. Lowe reunion while close to 1,000 were reported to attend the WCI event.

For further information about both reunions, visit the Chapter 9 website at www.armchapter9.ca



Did you know...?

June 21st National Indigenous Peoples Day

This is a day for all Canadians to recognize and celebrate the unique heritage, diverse cultures and outstanding contributions of First Nations, Inuit and Metis peoples.

National Indigenous Peoples Day is part of the *Celebrate Canada* program, which also includes Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day (June 24), Canadian Multiculturalism Day (June 27) and Canada Day (July 1).

September 30th National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

This day honours the children who never returned home and Survivors of residential schools, as well as their families and communities. Plan to wear an orange shirt on this date and attend a local event if you are able.

IMPORTANT REMINDER

CHANGES TO FUTURE NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

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 this is the final hard copy mailing of the newsletter.

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 September 2023, the Executive will also bring a small number of copies to First Friday breakfasts.

Chapter 9 News will begin to be published five times a year: 'End of Summer', Fall, Winter, Spring, and the Annual General Meeting edition.

The newsletters will be distributed to members by email. Please ensure we have your updated email on file.

ARM CHAPTER 9 DOES NOT SHARE INFORMATION ABOUT THE MEMBERSHIP TO ANY OUTSIDE ORGANIZATION.

Current and past newsletter issues are available on the ARM Chapter 9 website. Additional photographs from ARM Chapter 9 events are also posted on the 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

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

National Centre for Truth & Reconciliation

June is National Indigenous History month. This is a time to celebrate the rich history, traditions and culture of Indigenous Peoples and their communities. We encourage everyone to take the time to learn more about First Nations, Inuit and Metis people.

The National Centre for Truth & Reconciliation have a website where you can find information about programs and resources. The Centre's mandate is to raise awareness of the history and creation of the residential school system, its ongoing legacy, and how it has shaped the country we live in today.

As said by former Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC) Chair, The Honourable Murray Sinclair

“Education is what got us into this mess and education is key to getting us out of it.”

Source: nctr.ca



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

Important Information From our friends at OTIP

NEW RTIP TRAVEL ASSISTANCE PARTNER

Effective June 1, RTIP has partnered with CanAssistance to provide the travel coverage included in your RTIP plan. This change applies to emergency travel, trip cancellation, trip interruption, and travel assistance services. Allianz Global Assistance will continue to offer RTIP members optional top-up travel insurance only, past 95 consecutive days per trip.

CanAssistance will be your new OTIP Travel Assistance provider.

What you need to know

There is no change to your travel coverage, travel assistance phone numbers or OTIP ID card. No action is needed from you. We simply wanted to make you aware of this new provider effective June 1.

Any travel claims submitted to Allianz **on or after June 1** will be automatically transitioned to CanAssistance. This includes any travel claims with departure dates and incurred dates prior to June 1,

Any travel claims opened **prior to June 1** will continue to be managed by Allianz Global Assistance.

Beginning June 1, a CanAssistance agent will provide new claimants with access to a claim form either via portal link or by mail. Steps will be provided to complete the form for your travel claim.

Your RTIP travel coverage

If travel assistance is needed, please use the numbers below or listed on the back of your ID card to contact CanAssistance, your new OTIP Travel Assistance provider:

- **Canada and U.S.:** 1-800-936-6226
- **Outside Canada and the U.S.:** 519-742-3556.
Note: If calling collect, you must use a landline.

To learn more about your RTIP travel coverage, please visit otip.com/For-Retirees/Travel for information on coverage, making a claim, and answers to your RTIP travel-related questions.

Are You Planning to Travel Soon?

The federal government recently announced the introduction of a new **Verified Traveller** program to be launched by the Canadian Air Transport Security Authority (CATSA).

This new **Verified Traveller** program will replace the current Trusted Traveller program. By **June 21, 2023**, dedicated **Verified Traveller** screening lines will be available at select domestic and international checkpoints in the following airports:

- Vancouver International Airport
- Edmonton International Airport
- Calgary International Airport
- Winnipeg International Airport
- Toronto-Pearson International Airport T1 and T3
- Montreal-Trudeau International Airport

The new screening lines will be implemented in an effort to ease travel congestion over time. The new lines provide eligible travellers with select benefits at security screening checkpoints, such as keeping laptops, large electronics and compliant liquids and gels in their carry-on, and keeping their shoes, belt, and light jacket on. Eligible travellers include members of NEXUS and Global Entry.

Several airports will also offer verified travellers with front-of-the-line service and additional benefits at transborder checkpoints (flights to the U.S.). For more information and a list of airports, visit CATSA's website at <https://www.catsa-acsta.gc.ca/en>.



Canada has recently updated its Travel Advisory based upon developments that may be relevant to Canadians visiting the United States of America.

*In the update, Canada explicitly mentions **random shootings in the States**, due to a 'high' rate of firearm possession that is unusual among countries. As Ottawa notes, "it's legal in many states for US citizens to openly carry firearms in public".*

According to the Canadian government, while tourists are 'rarely involved' there is still a risk they could find themselves 'in the wrong place at the wrong time'.

This means that you should remain vigilant and familiarize yourself on how to remain safe in these situations.

**Active Retired Members (ARM), Chapter 9, Greater Essex
Annual General Meeting
Friday, June 16, 2023 – 10:00 AM
OSSTF Office 547 Victoria Ave. Windsor**

PROPOSED AGENDA

1. Appointment of the Anti-Harassment Officer and Reading of the Anti-Harassment and Equity Declaration
A member of OSSTF has the right to an equitable work and union environment free from the destructive effects of discrimination and harassment. Anyone who feels targeted by harassment or discrimination must be able to speak up and know their concerns will be responded to immediately in accordance with OSSTF Policies and Procedures which are available on the provincial website. The anti-harassment officer for this meeting is _____.

2. Indigenous Acknowledgement Statement
We would like to acknowledge the original caretakers of this land: The Three Fires Confederacy (Ojibwe, Odawa, and Potawatomi) and the Huron/Wendat peoples. We recognize the relationship outlined in the First Nations Treaties, and acknowledge the contributions made by the Inuit and Metis peoples. We are also mindful of the broken trust and shattered commitments. We need to take responsibility and make things better with our shared past. As a union, we will strive to collaborate, acknowledge, and celebrate important Indigenous events and initiatives and be there in solidarity as allies whenever we are called to do so.

3. Approval of the Agenda

4. Approval of the Minutes of 2022 AGM on Friday, June 10, 2022

5. Business arising from the AGM minutes of June 10, 2022

6. Executive Reports – ALL REPORTS WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE AT THE AGM (including the budget)
 - a) President – Bruce Awad
 - b) Vice-President – Jacques Aharonian
 - c) Member Services Officer – Margie Sciacca
 - d) Recording Secretary – Suzette Clark
 - e) Treasurer – Dan Eberwein
 - f) Communications Officer – Sandra Sahli
 - g) Political Action Officer – Margaret Villamizar
 - h) Program Coordinator – Jacques Aharonian
 - i) Membership Officer – Brian Robinson
 - j) Member-At-Large – Rosanne Herold
 - k) Member-At-Large – Scott Hunt
 - l) Member-At-Large – Toni Michalczuk
 - m) Member-At-Large – Pat Morneau
 - n) Member-At-Large – Annette Nelson

7. Recommendations from the Executive
 - a) Amendments – Constitution and Bylaws
 - b) Amendments – Donation Policy
 - c) Motion – Charitable Donations – 2023-24 Support
 - d) Motion – Windsor District Labour Council (WDLC) – 2023-24 Membership
 - e) Motion – Ontario Health Coalition (OHC) – 2023-24 Membership
 - f) Motion – United Way - Support for 2023-24
 - g) Motion – United Way – Representation on Retiree Volunteer Council

8. 2023-24 Budget

- a) Review of Proposed 2023-24 Budget
- b) Approval of the 2023-24 Budget

Be it resolved that the proposed budget for the 2023-24 fiscal year be approved as presented by the Treasurer, Dan Eberwein.

Moved by Dan Eberwein

Seconded by Bruce Awad

- c) Investment of Surplus Funds

9. Election of Executive Officers for 2023-24

The following advance nominations were received by the Executive. Nominations will be accepted during the meeting.

- a) President – Bruce Awad
Nominated by Jacques Aharonian, seconded by Margaret Villamizar
- b) Vice- President – Jacques Aharonian
Nominated by Sandra Sahli, seconded by Brian Robinson
- c) Member Services Officer – No advance nominations received
- d) Recording Secretary – No advance nominations received
- e) Treasurer – Dan Eberwein
Nominated by Sandra Sahli, seconded by Jacques Aharonian
- f) Communications Officer – Suzette Clark
Nominated by Sandra Sahli, seconded by Jacques Aharonian
- g) Political Action Officer – Margaret Villamizar
Nominated by Bruce Awad, seconded by Annette Nelson
- h) Program Coordinator – Jacques Aharonian
Nominated by Bruce Awad, seconded by Sandra Sahli
- i) Membership Officer – Brian Robinson
Nominated by Margaret Villamizar, seconded by Dan Eberwein
- j) Member(s)-At-Large – Up to Five (5) to be elected

Rosanne Herold

Nominated by Annette Nelson, seconded by Sandra Sahli

Pat Morneau

Moved by Jacques Aharonian

Seconded by Margaret Villamizar

Annette Nelson

Nominated by Suzette Clark, seconded by Jacques Aharonian

- k) *Community Advocacy Officer – if approved by the AGM under agenda item # 7.*

10. Appointment and/Election of ARM Chapter 9 Representative(s) for 2023-24

- a) ARM Biennial Meeting – 2025, in Toronto
No election required at 2023 AGM
- b) CURC Triennial Meeting – 2026
No election required at 2023 AGM
- c) OFUR Biennial Meeting – TBA
No election required as to date no meeting scheduled in 2023-24 budget year.
- d) *WDLC Delegates*
If approved by the AGM under agenda item #7.

11. New Business

12. Adjournment

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

The following is a summary of the changes your ARM Executive is recommending to the Constitution and Bylaws. Following the summary, are the wording changes for each section. If you want to look at the current Constitution and Bylaws, it can be found on the ARM Chapter 9 website at:

<https://www.armchapter9.ca/downloads/Constitution&Bylaws-2021.pdf>.

Summary of Changes

- Article 3 – Objects – addition of a new Object – to be an advocate for volunteerism and community involvement.
- Article 6 – Organization - 6.2 Chapter Executive – addition of a new Executive position titled Community Advocacy Officer.
- Bylaw 2 – Rights, Privileges and Bylaws
 - 2.2 Chapter Executive – addition of a new duty to contribute articles to the ARM Chapter 9 newsletter.
 - 2.4 President – addition of duties to include approving all communications to the membership and to be the Chapter's liaison with the Ontario Teachers' Insurance Plan (OTIP).
 - 2.5 Vice-President – addition of a duty to assist Members with OTIP benefit plans.
 - 2.6 Member Services Officer – removal of the duty to assist members with OTIP benefit plans (moved to Vice-President).
 - 2.9 Communications Officer – duties amended to reflect this position's main duty is to produce the ARM Chapter 9 newsletter and oversee the maintenance of the website.
 - 2.10 Political Action Officer – addition of the duty to be one of the Chapter's delegates at the Windsor District Labour Council (Note - membership in the Windsor District Labour Council is a motion being recommended by the Executive at the AGM).
 - 2.11 Program Coordinator – duties amended to include overseeing the planning for the Winter and Spring ARM Luncheons and monthly breakfasts and to take pictures at all Chapter events for the newsletter and website.
 - 2.13 Community Advocacy Officer – new Executive position – this position will oversee the ARM Chapter 9 Donation Policy, be the ARM Chapter 9 Liaison to the United Way and the Ontario Health Coalition and Windsor Health Coalition and recommend opportunities for donations and/or volunteerism to the ARM Chapter 9 Executive.
- Bylaw 4 – Elections – Process for the election of delegates to the Windsor District Labour Council (WDLC).

Motion

Be it resolved that the ARM Chapter 9 Constitution and Bylaws be amended as presented at the 2023 Annual General Membership meeting.

- Moved by Bruce Awad
- Seconded by Sandra Sahli

Exact Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws (changes are underlined or crossed-out)

ARTICLE 3 OBJECTS

- 3.1 The object of the OSSTF Active Retired Members (ARM), Chapter 9, Greater Essex organization shall be to:
- 3.1.1 foster the development of a strong, united, active body of retired Members;
- 3.1.2 provide a forum for furthering the goals and welfare of retired Members;
- 3.1.3 assist in furthering the objectives of OSSTF, as stated in the Provincial OSSTF Constitution and Bylaws, especially in the area of political action and election readiness; ~~and~~
- 3.1.4 be a strong advocate for Public Education; and
- 3.1.5 be an advocate for volunteerism and community involvement.

ARTICLE 6 ORGANIZATION

- 6.2 **Chapter Executive**
- 6.2.1 There shall be a Chapter Executive consisting of voting Members as follows:
- 6.2.1.1 Past President
- 6.2.1.2 President
- 6.2.1.3 Vice-President
- 6.2.1.4 Member Services Officer
- 6.2.1.5 Recording Secretary
- 6.2.1.6 Treasurer
- 6.2.1.7 Communication Officer *AGM 2019*
- 6.2.1.8 Political Action Officer
- 6.2.1.9 Program Coordinator
- 6.2.1.10 Member Information Officer
- 6.2.1.11 **Community Advocacy Officer**
- 6.2.1.11 Member(s)-at-Large – up to five. *AGM 2020*

BYLAW 2 RIGHTS, PRIVILEGES AND DUTIES.

- 2.2 **Chapter Executive**
- 2.2.1 It shall be the duty of the Chapter Executive to:
- 2.2.1.1 promote with the Chapter, the aims and objectives of the ARM Council and OSSTF;
- 2.2.1.2 meet at the call of the President or at the written request of two members of the Chapter Executive;
- 2.2.1.3 carry out the instructions of the Chapter;
- 2.2.1.4 deal with all matters brought before it;
- 2.2.1.5 consider participation with other organizations that are relevant to the aims and objectives of ARM *AGM 2020*
- 2.2.1.6 keep the Chapter informed of its activities;
- 2.2.1.7 authorize payment of expenses and accounts incurred in the conduct of business of the Chapter;

- 2.2.1.8 plan, co-ordinate, and conduct the Chapter Annual Meeting;
- 2.2.1.9 promote membership in ARM to all eligible retirees;
- 2.2.1.10 **contribute articles to the ARM Chapter 9 newsletter;**
- 2.2.1.11 form, authorize and coordinate whatever Committees that are deemed necessary to conduct essential business; and
- 2.2.1.12 ensure that OSSTF Constitution or Bylaws are not contravened in the process of transacting Chapter business. *AGM 2020*

2.4 **President**

- 2.4.1 It shall be the duty of the President to:
 - 2.4.1.1 attend Executive and Chapter meetings;
 - 2.4.1.2 be the spokesperson for the Chapter;
 - 2.4.1.3 act as a signing authority for Chapter documents;
 - 2.4.1.4 be responsible for the interpretation of current Federation Policy and the release of official communications regarding these;
 - 2.4.1.5 organize, prepare an agenda for, and call meetings of the Chapter, and Chapter Executive;
 - 2.4.1.6 act as an ex officio member of any chapter Committee; *AGM 2020*
 - 2.4.1.7 be the Chapter's representative on the Greater Essex District 9 OSSTF Council;
 - 2.4.1.8 appoint Executive Members, or others as appropriate, as liaison representatives to all external committees to which the Chapter has been invited to have representation;
 - 2.4.1.9 **approve all communications to the membership;**
 - 2.4.1.10 maintain Chapter files; **and**
 - 2.4.1.11 act as co-signer for the financial transactions of the Chapter;
 - 2.4.1.12 **be the Chapter's liaison with the Ontario Teachers Insurance Plan (OTIP);**
 - 2.4.1.11 be the Chapter's representative on the Provincial ARM Council; **and**
 - 2.4.1.12 be the Chapter's representative at any provincial or national union retirees' council.

2.5 **Vice-President**

- 2.5.1 It shall be the duty of the Vice-President to:
 - 2.5.1.1 attend Executive and Chapter General meetings;
 - 2.5.1.2 receive any proposed changes to the Constitution from the membership;
 - 2.5.1.3 accept any nominations for members of the Executive; *AGM 2020*
 - 2.5.1.4 **assist Members with the OTIP benefit plans;**
 - 2.5.1.5 perform the duties of the President in her/his absence, or at her/his request; and
 - 2.5.1.6 perform additional duties assigned by the President.

2.6 **Member Services Officer**

- 2.6.1 It shall be the duty of the Member Services Officer to:
 - 2.6.1.1 attend Executive and Chapter meetings;
 - 2.6.1.2 **assist Members in the area of Members' benefits;**
 - 2.6.1.3 oversee and co-ordinate the annual Chapter Brick Memorial Service; *AGM 2020*
 - 2.6.1.4 recognize important events in Members' lives; and
 - 2.6.1.4 perform additional duties assigned by the President.

2.9 **Communications Officer**

- 2.9.1 attend Executive and Chapter meetings;
- 2.9.2 ~~through the President, oversees the production and distribution of the Chapter newsletter; *AGM 2020*~~ **produce the ARM Chapter 9 newsletter;**
- 2.9.3 oversee advertising by outside businesses and/or organizations in the Chapter newsletter;
- 2.9.4 ~~attend the meetings of the Greater Essex District 9 OSSTF~~ **Communications/Political Action Committee;**

- 2.9.5 ~~maintain appropriate social media to communicate with Members;~~
2.9.6 ~~maintain the ARM section of the OSSTF District 9 website~~ oversee the maintenance of the ARM Chapter 9 website; and
2.9.7 perform additional duties assigned by the President.

2.10 **Political Action Officer**

- 2.10.1 attend Executive and Chapter meetings;
2.10.2 through the President, promote political action and election readiness activities that support the objectives of OSSTF; *AGM 2020*
2.10.3 attend the meetings of the Greater Essex District 9 OSSTF Communications/Political Action Committee; and
2.10.4 **be one of the Chapter's delegates at Windsor District Labour Council Meetings; and**
2.10.5 perform additional duties assigned by the President.

2.11 **Program Coordinator**

- 2.11.1 attend Executive and Chapter meetings;
2.11.2 **oversee** the committee planning **for** the Spring and Winter luncheons for the Chapter; *AGM 2020*
2.11.3 **oversee the planning for the monthly ARM Chapter breakfasts;**
2.11.4 **take pictures at all Chapter events for the newsletter and website;**
2.11.5 coordinate events as approved by the Executive; and
2.11.6 perform additional duties assigned by the President.

2.13 **Community Advocacy Officer**

- 2.13.1 **attend Executive and Chapter meetings;**
2.13.2 **oversee the ARM Chapter 9 Donation Policy;**
2.13.3 **be the ARM Chapter 9 liaison to United Way Centraide Windsor-Essex County;**
2.13.4 **be the ARM Chapter 9 liaison to the Ontario Health Coalition and the Windsor Health Coalition;**
and
2.13.5 **recommend opportunities for donations and/or volunteerism to the ARM Chapter 9 Executive;**
2.13.6 **perform additional duties assigned by the President.**

BYLAW 4 ELECTIONS

- 4.5 **Election of Delegate(s) to the Windsor District Labour Council (WDLC)**
4.5.1 **If approved in the budget, the delegates(s) will be elected at the Annual Meeting.**
4.5.2 **Time will be given at the Annual Meeting for each candidate to speak for up to two (2) minutes.**
4.5.3 **The successful delegate(s) shall be the person(s) receiving the greatest number of votes on the ballot.**

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION FOR AMENDMENTS TO THE DONATION POLICY

The following is the ARM Chapter 9 Donation Policy with the amendments being recommended by the Executive. The following is a summary of the changes:

- Name of the policy changed from Donation Policy to Charitable Donation Policy.
- Responsibility for the administration of the policy will move from the Treasurer to the Community Advocacy Officer.
- Currently the total budget allocated for this policy is \$1,500 annually. Since the ARM revenue changes from year-to-year, the Executive is recommending the specific amount be removed and instead the total allocated under this policy will be identified in the budget approved at the Annual Meeting.
- Currently no donation to a single organization can be in excess of \$300.00 in a budget year. The Executive is recommending removing this language and leaving it up to the Executive to decide the maximum amount to an organization based on the number of requests received and the total allocated to the policy in the budget year.
- Donations in support of United Way will be identified in a separate budget line.
- The date to consider charitable donation requests for the following fiscal year has been removed and replaced with “prior to the Annual General Meeting”.

Executive Motion

Be it resolved that the ARM Chapter 9 Charitable Donation Policy be amended as presented at the 2023 ARM Chapter 9 AGM.

Moved by Sandra Sahli

Seconded by Jacques Aharonian

Recommended Amendments to the ARM Chapter 9 Charitable Donation Policy

Our Goal

To enhance ARM’s profile in the community and, by example, to raise our members’ awareness of the importance of donating to non-profit organizations in the community.

Our Focus

To support organizations in our community who provide services and supports for students, children and/or their families.

Boundaries of Support

ARM Chapter 9 restricts our community support to projects and organizations that serve Windsor and the Greater Essex area.

Sponsorship Values

- ARM Chapter 9 prefers to make donations to organizations with formal charitable status.
- ARM Chapter 9 will only consider support of non-charitable organizations when the use of our funds is fully known.
- ARM Chapter 9 aims to ensure long-lasting beneficial effects as a result of its contributions to the community rather than short-term one-off donations.
- ARM Chapter 9 prefers to consider the nomination of a small number of beneficiaries with whom a relationship can be built over time rather than multiple charities or causes.
- ARM Chapter 9 believes in the value of supporting the community through encouraging our retired members to volunteer their time to support community events and organizations.

Process for Considering Donations

1. A charitable organization must be recommended in writing to the Treasurer **Community Advocacy Officer** by an active member of ARM Chapter 9.

2. Preference will be given to requests that come from a member who is actively involved in the organization they are recommending. The Executive will seek the input of members at its events and/or through a notice in the newsletter.
3. The written recommendation should include: the name of the organization, address, phone number and main contact person; a brief description of the key objectives of the organization; and how the donation will be used by the organization.
4. The decision to support or donate to a charity will be made by a motion of the ARM Executive.
5. ~~No contribution to a single organization can be in excess of \$300.00 in a budget year.~~
6. ~~The total to be allocated in the budget on an annual basis will not exceed \$1,500.00.~~ **The total to be allocated for donations under this policy will be identified in the budget approved at the Annual Meeting.**
7. **Funds allocated for support of United Way will be identified in a separate budget line.**
8. In addition to the amount allocated in the Chapter's budget, the Executive may organize draws and/or silent auctions at Chapter events to generate additional funding for charitable organizations.
9. Charitable donation requests received prior to ~~December 31st~~ **the Annual General Meeting** in any year will be considered by the Executive to be included in the following fiscal year's budget.

Under the ARM Chapter 9 Donations Policy, the Executive is recommending the following motion to the Annual General Meeting:

Be it resolved the Annual General Meeting approve the following charities to receive a \$300.00 donation in the 2023-24 fiscal year:

- Days for Girls – Windsor Team
- Autism Services Inc
- Big Brothers & Big Sisters – school-based mentorship program
- Caldwell First Nation – Pelee Island Guardians
- Knights of Columbus Charity Golf Tournament

Moved by Jacques Aharonian

Seconded by Brian Robinson

Executive Proposal to the 2023 ARM Chapter 9 AGM

Windsor District Labour Council (WDLC) Membership

The Windsor and District Labour Council, along with its affiliates and community partners, are active participants in trying to make our community a better place to live. The Council serves to support not only each other, but our community as well. WDLC is made up of 38 affiliate locals, representing over 32,000 members.

The WDLC acts as a clearinghouse for information of interest to the labour community, and others as well. The Council advocates for the improvement of legislation that affects not only labour, but the community at large. WDLC supports activities of labour Locals and community initiatives and works closely with the United Way. WDLC also promotes a variety of initiatives spearheaded by the Canadian Labour Congress and the Ontario Federation of Labour.

Your ARM Executive believes that our membership in the Windsor District Labour Council is in line with the Objects in our Constitution. Specifically, the objects are to foster the development of a strong, united, active body of retired Members; and to assist in furthering the objectives of OSSTF/FEESO, especially in the area of political action and election readiness. As well, our WDLC membership will support the new object to *be an advocate for volunteerism, charitable giving and community involvement* being proposed by the Executive this year.

The WDLC General Membership meetings are held the second Tuesday of every month, at the UNIFOR 444/200 Hall located at 1855 Turner Road. Meetings begin at 6:30 PM. Meetings are suspended for the months of July and

August. With our membership, we would be entitled to two delegates for up to and inclusive of 100 members, and an additional delegate for each one hundred members. At this time, ARM Chapter 9 would be entitled to 3 delegates.

The cost is 25 cents per member, per month. Our membership fee would be \$750.00 (250 members x \$0.25 each x 12 months = \$750.00). Most Locals pay their dues monthly. However, the education sector pays annually, using their fiscal year of July 1st to June 30th. Your Executive is suggesting we pay our per capita dues annually.

Your ARM Executive is recommending the following motion to the 2023 ARM Chapter 9 AGM:

BIRT ARM Chapter 9 become a member organization of the Windsor District Labour Council (WDLC) effective July 1, 2023 for the 2023-24 fiscal year. Cost: \$750.00

Moved by Sandra Sahli

Seconded by Jacques Aharonian

Note: In anticipation of this motion being approved at the 2023 ARM AGM, language is being recommended for the Constitution and Bylaws to address the selection of delegates to WDLC. Specifically, one delegate will be the Political Action Officer and 2 additional delegates to be elected annually at the AGM.

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION – ONTARIO HEALTH COALITION 2023-2024

Motion #1 - Membership

Be it resolved that ARM Chapter 9 continue its membership in the Ontario Health Coalition for the 2023-24 fiscal year. Cost - \$50.00

Moved by Bruce Awad

Seconded by Sandra Sahli

Motion #2 – Donation

Be it resolved that ARM Chapter 9 make a \$450.00 donation to the Ontario Health Coalition to support their continued campaign against the privatization of our health care system, including home care and long-term care.

Moved by Bruce Awad

Seconded by Sandra Sahli

EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION – UNITED WAY SUPPORT 2023-2024

Motion

Be it resolved that ARM Chapter 9 continue its support for United Way in 2023-24 as outlined in the proposal presented at the 2023 Annual General Meeting. Cost – Up to \$2,500

Moved by Sandra Sahli

Seconded by Suzette Clark

Proposal to Support United Way in 2023-24

ARM Chapter 9 Representation

- Sandra Sahli will continue as our representative on the United Way Cabinet. Sandra has completed one year of her two-year term.
- The Executive is recommending at the Annual Meeting that we rejoin the United Way Retiree Volunteer Council (RVC).

Summer Eats for Kids (July and August 2023)

The Summer Eats for Kids program (<https://www.weareunited.com/summerprograms/>.) provides children and families in Windsor-Essex County with a week's work of nutritious snacks, fresh fruits and vegetables. The program is provided at six school locations across the community, where families can come and receive a food box. In addition to this, the program provides over 500 lunches daily during the first three weeks of July to students in the Greater Essex County District School Board's *Camp Wonder* program. The Executive is recommending a \$1,000 donation to support this program.

United Way Campaign (October 2024)

Your Executive is recommending running a donations campaign in October for our Chapter to encourage our members to make a one-time donation or an ongoing monthly donation to United Way. All donations will be identified as part of our campaign by United Way and credited to our ARM Chapter.

iMove for United Way (February-March)

This annual virtual event empowers participants to come together to support their own well-being, while raising money for Ignite Academy- <https://www.weareunited.com/igniteacademy/>. Ignite Academy provides out-of-school programming four days a week to help kids succeed academically, while wrapping other supports around kids and their families. For the past two years, the ARM Chapter 9 has been the Top Fundraising Team for this event. To get the team started, the Executive is recommending a donation of \$500.00. Members will be encouraged to join the ARM Chapter 9 team and/or donate to the team's efforts.

Tampon Tuesday (March 2024)

Tampon Tuesday is held annually on International Women's Day. This national event is delivered in cities across Canada in partnership with United Way, the Canadian Labour Congress and Bell Media. The purpose of this event is to raise awareness by collecting and distributing menstrual hygiene products to address the local need for such products at local food banks and community services. Your Executive is recommending that members be encouraged to bring their donations to the January and February ARM Friday Breakfast.

Book Drive for United Way – June 2024

Women United is a committed group of women leaders working together to advance and support the programs offered by United Way. Each year, this group hosts a book drive to collect books for United Way's summer programs. In 2022, 2500 books were collected and distributed at United Way's Summer Eats Program. This year at our June Friday Breakfast, members were encouraged to bring a new or gently used book(s) for a child (of any age) or an adult. This initiative encourages literacy for the entire household. Our members donated over 75 books at the June breakfast and your Executive is recommending that we continue our support for this initiative at the breakfast next June (2024).

Attendance at United Way Community Events

- Labour Appreciation Dinner – Fall of 2023 – Purchase three tickets for this event (up to \$200.00). United Way presents awards to labour activists at this event, including the Charles E. Brooks Community Service Award.
- Celebrating Women Who Inspire Us – May of 2024 – Purchase two tickets for this event (up to \$125.00). This annual luncheon which is in its 7th year is hosted by United Way's *Women United* group, a committed group of women leaders working together to mobilize and advance common good in our community. Members pool their annual donations to directly support the *On Track to Success Program* (<https://www.weareunited.com/ontrack/>), This program provides additional support to secondary students and families to ensure successful graduation and post-secondary students.

In addition to the activities in this proposal, we will encourage our members to volunteer for United Way activities throughout the year. We will communicate opportunities to volunteer on our website, in our newsletter and through regular emails.

Retirees are a growing population with a lot to offer our community. The Retiree Volunteer Council is a group of retirees who support the work of United Way in Windsor and Essex County. The Council's role is to strengthen United Way's relationships with pre-retirees, and retirees within our community. United Way has requested that ARM Chapter 9 rejoin the Retiree Volunteer Council. [Motion](#)

Be it resolved that ARM Chapter 9 rejoin the United Way Retiree Volunteer and name one of the 2023-24 Executive members as the representative.

***Moved by Sandra Sahli
Seconded by Annette Nelson***

First Friday Breakfast – Join Us in September!



Noteworthy Dates

Sunday June 18th
Father's Day

Wednesday June 21st
National Indigenous Peoples Day – *chosen because of the cultural significance of summer solstice & a day on which many Indigenous communities in Canada celebrate their heritage.*

July 1st
Canada Day

August 7th
Civic Holiday

August 8-13
Windsor-Essex Pride Festival

September 4th
Labour Day

September 30th
National Day for Truth & Reconciliation

In Memoriam

- **Daniel Bezaire**

Dan Bezaire passed away on April 24, 2023. He was a teacher at Belle River District High School his entire career. He was described as a man dedicated to teaching, music, and his family.

- **Joseph Tomc**

Chapter 9 ARM acknowledged Joseph's February 28th passing in the previous newsletter but did not recognize his membership in Chapter 9 ARM.

- **Bill Van Wyck**

On May 6, 2023, William Van Wyck passed away. His local teaching career included Patterson and Kennedy Collegiates. He is best remembered for his generosity in financing students to attend the Olympics beginning in Montreal in 1976. Following his retirement, he continued to give many others "the thrill of a lifetime"; he is remembered as a "generous man who loved sports and the arts and sharing those interests with others".

As ARM members, the memories of Joseph Tomc and Bill Van Wyck will be celebrated by Chapter 9 ARM at the September 2023 ceremony where a memorial brick will be unveiled in h honour. Former friends and colleagues are welcomed to attend.

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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

PP 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 AGM edition of Chapter 9 News is the final of four planned for this year. The fourth edition consists primarily of information relating to the June 16th Annual General Meeting to be held in-person at the District 9 office at 547 Victoria in Windsor.

Look for a special "End of Summer" edition in late August 2023! The Newsletter Editorial Team welcomes submissions for the FALL 2023 edition.

Contributions for the FALL edition can be forwarded to armchapter9@outlook.com by September 29, 2023.

We look forward to hearing from you!