

*Our Golden Year*



*1973 - 2023*

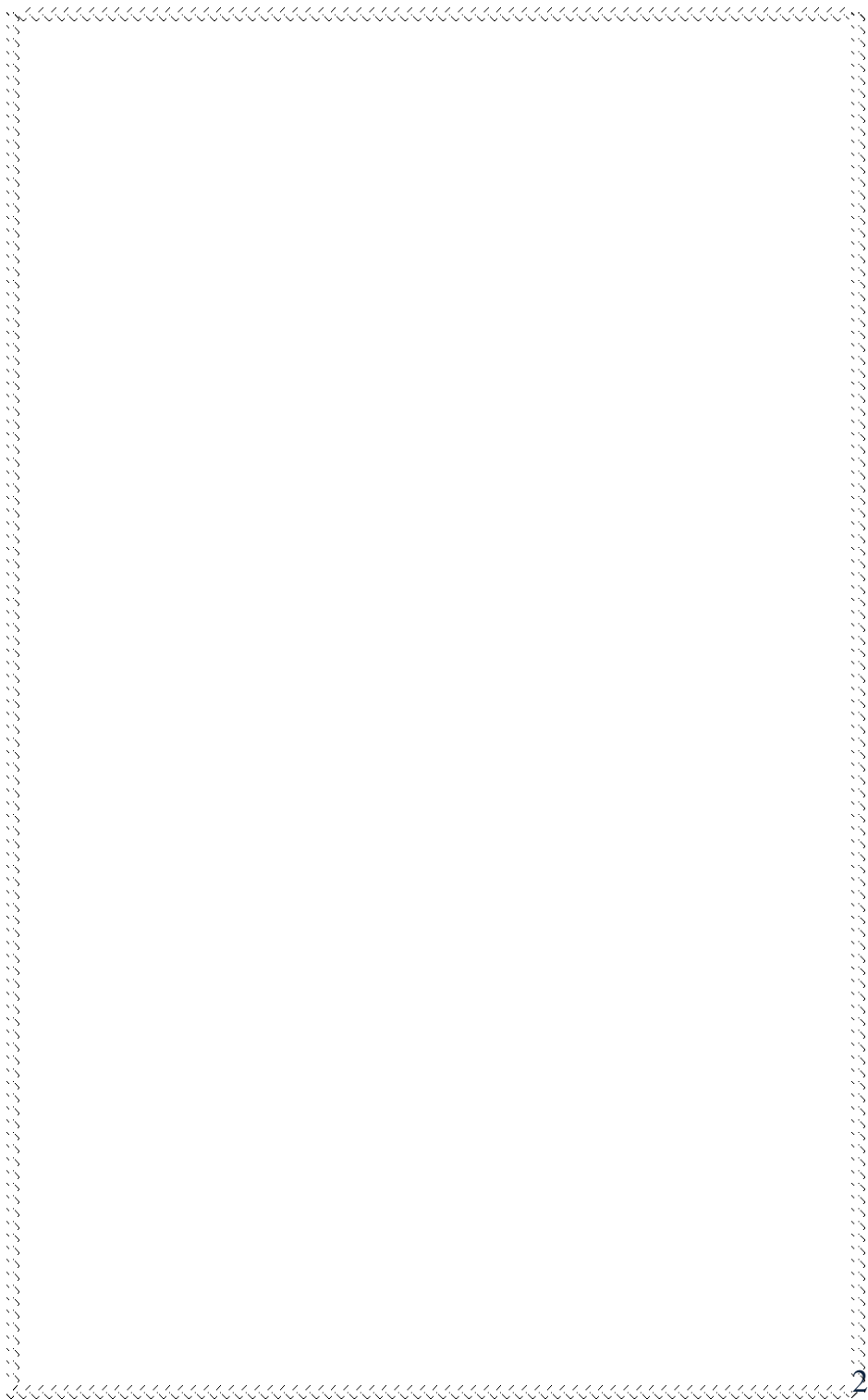


***Looking Back ..... 1973-2023***



**RTO  
ERO**

District 20  
Frontenac, Lennox  
& Addington



Proudly celebrating our Golden Year!!! 1973-2023



Celebrate with US  
ALL Year Long!

**RTOERO**  
**DISTRICT 20**  
**OUR GOLDEN YEAR**

Join us for one or all of our GOLDEN Year activities  
Details will be released each month.

January - Walk 50 km for 50th  
February - Golden Tea Party  
March - Gardening Webinar  
April - Active Member Social  
May - 50th Birthday Bash + AGM  
June - Playhouse Tour

July - Napanee River Boat Cruise  
August - BBQ & Cake  
September - To 'ell With the Bell  
October - Falls Colour Tour  
November - Craft, Chat, Games  
December - Carolling

Events may be subject to change



District 20 RTOERO is proud of its heritage and achievements. It is an organization bursting with opportunities to get involved in both the business of the District and the legacy it is building through community partnerships.

In 1968, The Superannuated Teachers of Ontario (STO) formed an organization to safeguard and promote the professional welfare of their 7,000 superannuated members. They were later known as RTO/ERO and more recently as RTOERO.

When the first Senate Meeting of Superannuated Teachers of Ontario was held in March 1968, the voting delegates were representative of the five affiliates of the Ontario Teachers' Federation (OTF). Later that year, an Extension Committee was established to organize STO into geographic Areas across the province based upon the provincial county board system. On December 4, 1968, the areas were set up:

Area 1 / Fort William	Area 2 / Sault Ste. Marie
Area 3 / North Bay Area	Area 4 / Windsor
Area 5 / Waterloo	Area 6 / St. Catharines
Area 7 / Dufferin, Peel, Malton, Simcoe	
Area 8 / Toronto	Area 9 / Peterborough
Area 10 / Ottawa	

In 1972, to keep the membership informed and interested and to get suitable persons to meet with members of the legislature, the province was reorganized into Districts. In 1973, the necessary changes were made to the Constitution and some adjustments were made to the composition of Districts.

**RTOERO District 20 was formed May 1, 1973**, as STO/ERO District 20. In 1998 The Superannuated Teachers of Ontario became The Retired Teachers of Ontario (RTO/ERO) and District 20 became RTO/ERO District 20. (In 2020 RTO/ERO became a Canada-wide organization with members from various education sector roles and became simply RTOERO.)

RTO/ERO District 20 included retired educators from Frontenac, Leeds & Grenville and Lennox and Addington counties. The first executive consisted of Lawson Orser as President and Helen Hay as Secretary-Treasurer.

Located in eastern Ontario, the District is a blend of both urban and rural communities. The largest city, Kingston, is located along the shores of Lake Ontario. To the west is the town of Napanee and to the east, Gananoque. The District also extends north to include Denbigh and Sharbot Lake. The vast geographical size of the District was a concern from the outset and an attempt was made to address the issue in 1975 by endeavouring to divide the District into more manageable areas. This was not the will of the membership at the time and separation wasn't achieved until 2011 when Leeds and Grenville became District 48 and Frontenac, Lennox and Addington was retained as District 20.

District 20 is rich in history, geography and culture. Residents are proud of their Loyalist heritage as attested to by the geographic domination of Fort Henry in the city of Kingston. Stretching from the Canadian Shield to the Thousand Islands, the area is a lively tourist destination. Kingston is also an academic hub, home to Queens University including Macarthur College Faculty of Education, the Royal Military College, St. Lawrence College, the Federal Staff College and the National Defense College at Fort Frontenac.

District 20 has the opportunity to recruit members from this wide range of institutions as well as from OSSTF, ETFO, OECTA and AEFO and the administrative and support staff of both the

Limestone DSB and the Algonquin and Lakeshore CDSB. Current membership is 1401 members.

District 20's Executive has also expanded since its formation in 1973 and now includes members responsible for Political Action, Awards, Member Services, Goodwill, Benefits, Environmental Stewardship, Travel and Communication.

Reaching the membership has evolved from the initial use of telephone trees to a webpage, email news blasts, Facebook and Twitter usage and continues to engage members through a vibrant newsletter entitled Vision 20/20. The current President is Juanita Everett.

Although District 20 is a large area, it is a tight-knit community of education workers. The District has always endeavored to provide inclusion opportunities for the more rural north, western and central members. Meetings and social events occur regularly in Sharbot Lake, Napanee and Kingston.

District 20 has been able to contribute to the communities within our District through a variety of volunteer opportunities, charitable donations and corporate sponsorships. The scope of the Community Grants have included donations to literacy programmes, food banks, and seniors' associations in Kingston, Napanee, Sharbot Lake and North Addington.

As well, District 20 RTOERO has enhanced its image through corporate sponsorship for local organizations including the Frontenac County Schools Museum, the Kingston Seniors Association and the Kingston Robotics Lab (Machine Mavericks).

In 2001 District 20 established the Irwin Ruttle Award to honour the long-standing contributions of Irwin Ruttle, Secretary-Treasurer for over 20 years. The award recognizes the outstanding voluntary contributions to the work of RTOERO at the District level. It has been awarded six times since its inception. The first award was presented to Irwin Ruttle followed by Wayne Tompkins (2006), Ken Keyes (2007), Meikle Turner (2012), W. Bud Acton (2013), Sylvia Dopking (2014), Nadene Strange (2015) and John Kitney (2018). The recipient receives a certificate and a \$500 donation given to a charitable organization of their choosing.

District 20 is proud of the professionalism and volunteerism of all its members.

Several prominent members have served RTOERO as President of the Provincial Association in Toronto: Lawson Orser (1985-1986) and Wayne Tompkins (1999-2000).

District 20 is also very proud of the contributions of our member and past president Ken Keyes. Ken was mayor of the city of Kingston from 1976 until 1981 and an M.P.P. from 1985 to 1990.

In 2018 Madeleine Wotherspoon received the June Szeman Award created by RTOERO to recognize members in each of the 48 Districts for their leadership and exceptional work in furthering the goals of RTOERO at the District level.

Recently, notable District 20 members include David Kendall who sits on the RTOERO Board of Directors and Ted Whiteland who acts as Chair of the RTOERO Foundation Board. The Foundation awards grants between ten and fifteen thousand dollars to projects that aim to improve seniors' health and

wellness, promote social engagement for older adults and or pursue innovative research in the field of geriatrics and gerontology.

Unique activities distinguish District 20 from other Districts across Canada. One is the annual back to school breakfast, “To ‘ell with the Bell”. This social event, begun by Alice Hogeboom, re-unites former colleagues from across the District to celebrate retirement. We especially encourage new retirees to attend. Today 30-40 members gather to enjoy the annual fellowship and to share memories of past school days.

Another noteworthy aspect of District 20 is its travel programme. This was initiated in 1997 as Meikle and Margaret Turner undertook the first tour to Ireland. Over the years, participants have had the opportunity to visit every continent with multiple excursions to Ireland, Italy and long stays in Portugal. These travel leaders also organized more local selections with theatre excursions and fall colour tours. In 2013 John and Karen Kitney assumed leadership of the Kingston and Area Retired Teachers Travel Committee (KARTTC) in collaboration with Nadene Strange. After a three-year hiatus due to COVID restrictions, KARTTC is looking forward to offering new travel opportunities to District 20 members.

Of special note is the establishment of the Les Forkes Memorial Intergenerational Student Leadership Scholarship in 2022. Two Scholarships are available to secondary school graduating students who show passion and willingness to pursue studies that will benefit seniors.



## 1973 Trivia, Facts & History

### 1973 History Snapshot

Prime Minister – Pierre Elliot Trudeau

Premier of Ontario – Bill Davis

Minister of Education – Thomas Leonard Wells

Mayor of Kingston – George Nicholas Speal

Mayor of Napanee – Lorne Alexander Smart

Secretariat wins the Triple Crown

Work begins in the CN Tower

Montreal announces Canada's first lottery to help pay for the 1976 Summer Olympics

### Statistics

World Population 3.9 Billion People

Canada population 22.5 million people

Ontario population 15 million people

Yearly Inflation Rate **7.47%**

Average Cost of new house \$32 500

Average Income per year \$12 900

Gas per Gallon 40 cents

Average Cost of a new car \$3 200

### Sports

World Series Champions – Oakland Athletics

Stanley Cup Winners – Montreal Canadiens

Super Bowl Champions – Miami Dolphins

### Popular Films

The Exorcist

Deliverance

Jesus Christ Superstar

### Popular Musicians

Elton John

Pink Floyd

Stevie Wonder

## Remember 1973

1973	C	N	O	S	K	O	P	E	C	B
L	A	O	G	E	I	S	C	U	N	I
U	N	I	R	C	N	H	N	A	H	L
W	A	T	E	R	G	A	T	E	O	L
S	D	A	C	E	S	R	O	D	J	Y
I	I	L	A	T	T	B	W	U	N	J
V	E	F	N	A	O	O	E	R	O	E
A	N	N	E	R	N	T	R	T	T	A
D	S	I	T	I	G	L	O	P	L	N
L	L	A	N	A	P	A	N	E	E	K
L	D	B	O	T	E	K	N	Y	E	I
I	A	B	R	D	R	E	A	M	S	N
B	R	A	F	S	K	Y	L	A	B	G

This puzzle is a word search puzzle that has a hidden message in it. First find all the words on the list. Words can go in any direction and share letters as well as cross over each other. Once you find all the words copy the unused letters starting in the top left corner into the blanks to reveal the hidden message.

FRONTENAC  
 ABBA  
 ELTON JOHN  
 DREAMS  
 P TRUDEAU  
 BILL DAVIS

NAPANEE  
 SKYLAB  
 GOAL  
 OPEC  
 WATERGATE  
 INFLATION

CN TOWER  
 SECRETARIAT  
 SHARBOT LAKE  
 CANADIENS  
 KINGSTON  
 BILLY JEAN KING

1973 \_\_\_\_\_ 2023

## DISTRICT 20 RTO/ERO PRESIDENTS

1973 – 1976 Lawson Orser  
1977 – 1978 Charles Timanus  
1979 – 1980 Cleve Hunter  
1981 – 1982 Kathleen Purvis  
1983 – 1984 Lenore Majoros  
1985 – 1986 Aubrey Fudge  
1987 – 1988 Ed Lanigan  
1989 – 1990 Donald Saul  
1990 – 1991 Ronald Callaghan  
1991 – 1992 Helen Dillon  
1992 – 1993 Isabella O’Shea  
1993 – 1995 Wayne Tompkins  
1995 – 1996 Hal Montrose  
1996 – 1997 Ralph Woods  
1997 – 1998 Doreen McDougal  
1998 – 2000 Meikle Turner  
2000 – 2001 Bud Acton  
2001 – 2002 George Lamacraft  
2002 – 2003 Sylvia Dopking  
2003 – 2004 Ken Keyes  
2004 – 2005 Brian Woods  
2005 – 2006 Carolyn Reynolds  
2006 – 2007 Kathryn Derby  
2007 – 2008 Gord Hough  
2008 – 2009 Bud Acton  
2009 – 2010 Mary Lou Smitheram  
2010 – 2011 Nina Jenkins  
2011 – 2013 Harry Murphy  
2013 – 2014 John Kitney  
2014 – 2016 Ted Whiteland  
2016 – 2018 Dennis Quinn  
2018 – 2021 Les Forkes  
2021 – Juanita Everett

## *RTOERO District 20*

A group of educators strong and true,  
Retired, yet their spirit still shines through.  
In the counties of Frontenac, Lennox & Addington,  
Since 1973, the focus: advocacy, diversity, equity and inclusion.

With wisdom and grace, they guide the way,  
To a healthy, active future for every member, in many ways.  
Supporting each other, and the communities they serve,  
Their bond remains steadfast, now and forever.

For fifty years they've stood the test,  
Their passion still second to none, at best.  
They've touched countless lives, with knowledge and care,  
Their legacy endures, a gift beyond compare.

So here's to RTOERO District 20, proud and bold.  
Their unwavering commitment a story to be told.  
In Kingston, Napanee, Sharbot Lake and Cloyne they reside,  
Inspiring others to join, to follow their proud stride.



<https://district20.rtoero.ca>  
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