

June 7, 2023, 10.00 a.m.

## OSSTF ARM Chapter 12, Toronto

### 25th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This **2023 ARM Chapter 12 AGM package** includes the following:

- a) Required Technical Information and Process
- b) Proposed Agenda
- c) Approved Minutes of May 26, 2021
- d) Draft Minutes of June 8, 2022
- e) OSSTF ARM Chapter 12 Toronto Constitution
- f) Candidates for Executive Office May 29, 2023
- g) Executive Reports

## a) Required Technical Information and Process

ARM Chapter 12, Toronto

### **Annual General Meeting**

June 7, 2023

#### **Zoom Instructions**

Once again, (hopefully, for the last time) the ARM Chapter 12 Annual General Meeting will take place online via Zoom.

The day prior to the meeting you will receive an email from the ARM Chapter 12 Executive with the zoom invitation to the meeting. It will include **a link to the meeting, the meeting ID number and the password**. At around 9:55 a.m. on Wednesday, June 7 we recommend that you start to connect to the meeting. It may take a few minutes, and even several tries. There will be a virtual waiting room, so you may have to wait a few moments before you are admitted to the meeting. Please be patient and persistent.

#### **Connecting By Phone**

If you are unable to use the zoom application on a computer, you will be able to connect by telephone. Included in the emailed zoom invitation will be two phone numbers. You dial one of the numbers and, when prompted, enter the Meeting ID number and the passcode from the invitation.

**If you are unfamiliar with zoom**, the instructions below will help you get set up.

1. First of all, you need a computer connected to the internet; a desktop or a laptop. It helps if your computer has a built in camera, **but it is not necessary**. If you do not have a built in camera, you still will be able to see the participants of the meeting. It's just that we won't be able to see you.

You can also use a tablet or a smartphone. We will require that participants identify themselves on screen by their proper name.

2. On the computer or device of your choice, search for **zoom.us via GOOGLE**. This will take you to the Zoom website. Download the application. You do not need to register for an account, although you may, if you wish. It's free. The application, or app, will be placed in your applications folder on your computer or device.
3. When you wish to join a meeting, you select the zoom app from your applications folder and open the app. It may take a moment or two to load up onto your screen. It will ask you if you wish to join a meeting. You enter the **meeting ID number** in the appropriate space. You may also be asked to **enter a password**. You will be asked if you wish to join the meeting with your computer video, and your computer audio. **Select both these options**. It may take a minute for you to be connected. Once you are connected you will be able to see some or all of the participants, depending on the size of your screen and the number of participants. You will also be able to hear any of the speakers.
4. It is recommended that you try out having a zoom meeting with friends or family, prior to the AGM, as this will give you an opportunity to become familiar with the process and the experience. And it will be fun. Please note, you will not be able to host a meeting unless you do have a Zoom account. But, as stated above, there is a free version.

On the morning of the AGM, we advise that you start to connect to the meeting approximately 5 minutes prior to the 10 a.m. start. Once you are connected you will be placed in a virtual waiting room, and let in by the host when we are ready to begin. **Your microphone will be muted by the host. It must remain muted until it is your turn to ask a question.** At the start of the meeting we will go over the order of the agenda, and the processes for voting and asking questions.

### **Voting on Motions and in the Election**

Zoom has a feature that allows for participants to be polled on questions. We will use this feature for both motions and the election of the Executive if necessary. We will do our best to replicate the usual processes of a conventional meeting using electronic means within the limitations of those means. **This will require patience and flexibility on the part of all participants.**

We look forward to seeing you, Wednesday, June 7 at 10 a.m.

## **b) Proposed Agenda**

### **1. Call to Order and Welcome**

President Manfred Netzel

### **2. OSSTF Pledge**

Secretary Bill Pryde

### **3. Indigenous Land Acknowledgement**

Bill Pryde

### **4. Anti-Harassment Statement and Appointment of Anti-Harassment Officer**

Bill Pryde/Manfred Netzel

### **5. ZOOM Technical Operation and Process**

Vice-president Christos Aslanidis

### **6. Approval of the Agenda**

### **7. Silent Memoria for Deceased Chapter 12 Members during 2022-23**

### **8. Introduction of invited Guests and Greetings**

Manfred Netzel

OSSTF Provincial Office

- Lisa Black-Meddings

OSSTF Toronto TBU

- Michelle Teixeira

OSSTF Toronto OTBU

- Linda Bartram

EFG

- Alana Gould

RTIP

- Kris Kauk

### **9. Timed Item for 10:30 a.m. - Keynote Address w/Q&A**

To Be Announced

### **10. Adoption of the Minutes of the June 8, 2022 AGM**

### **11. Business Arising from the Minutes**

### **12. Election of the ARM Chapter 12 Executive for 2022-23**

### 13. ARM Chapter 12 Executive Reports

President, Manfred Netzel

Vice-President, Charlie Hawkes

Treasurer, Michelle Barraclough

Executive Officer - Pensions, Paul Headdon

### 14. Other Executive Reports

### 15. Other Business

RTIP/EFG participating member engagement

### 16. Adjournment

c) Approved Minutes of May 26, 2021

**OSSTF ARM CHAPTER 12 TORONTO**

# **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**



**Wednesday, May 26, 2021  
virtual meeting on Zoom**

# **MINUTES**

## **1. Call to Order and Welcome**

President Manfred Netzel welcomed members, all attending virtually, and called the Annual General Meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

## **2. Land Acknowledgement Statement**

Secretary Bill Pryde read the OSSTF Indigenous Statement:

"OSSTF/FEESO both acknowledges and thanks the Anishnaabe and Haudenosaunee Peoples of this territory and other indigenous Peoples for sharing this land so that we may come together today in a good way."

### **3. OSSTF Pledge,**

Bill Pryde read the OSSTF Pledge:

"I solemnly pledge myself to promote and advance the cause of education. I will strive to achieve and maintain the highest degree of professional competence and will always uphold the honour, dignity, and ethical standards of my profession. I pledge my loyalty and support to the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation and will comply with the Constitution, Bylaws, policies and established practices which govern its members."

### **4. Anti-Harassment Statement and Appointment of Anti-Harassment Officer**

Bill Pryde read the OSSTF Anti-Harassment Statement:

"OSSTF/FEESO is committed to strengthening member solidarity, and in addition to representing members' interests in the workplace, takes seriously its own responsibility to ensure that members are treated with respect and dignity at all Federation work locations, events and meetings. A member of OSSTF/FEESO 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/FEESO Policies and Procedures, which are available on the OSSTF provincial website.

Executive Officer Charlie Hawkes was appointed Anti-Harassment Officer.

### **5. ZOOM Technical Operation and Process**

Vice-president Christos Aslanidis elaborated on the necessities for the on-line meeting, as included in the AGM package provided to members.

### **6. Approval of the Agenda**

**BIRT** the agenda be approved.

**Carried.**

### **7. Silent Memoria for Deceased Chapter 12 Members during 2020-2021**

Manfred Netzel asked members for a minute's silence in memory.



## **8. Introduction of Guests and Greetings**

Manfred Netzel introduced the following guests:

- (a) Earl Burt, Treasurer, OSSTF Provincial Executive, who brought greetings from the Provincial Executive.
- (b) Leslie Wolfe, President, Toronto Teachers' Bargaining Unit, who brought greetings from the Toronto secondary school teachers.
- (c) Vincent Zambrano, Vice- president, Toronto Occasional Teachers' Bargaining Unit, who brought greetings from the Toronto secondary school occasional teachers.
- (d) Barry Stevens, President, Congress of Union Retirees of Canada, Toronto and York Region, who brought greetings from Toronto union retirees.
- (e) Dan Martonfi, Regional Vice-president Client Advisory Services, Educators Financial Group, who brought greetings from one of our sponsors, EFG.
- (f) Andrea Hadlington, Ontario Teachers' Insurance Plan, Business Development Manager, who brought greetings from one of our sponsors, OTIP.

Manfred Netzel thanked each of our guests individually on behalf of ARM Chapter 12.

## **9. Keynote Address with Questions and Answers**

Manfred Netzel introduced Linda McQuaig, who spoke on current issues, especially privatization. Members were invited to ask questions and answers were provided. Manfred Netzel thanked the speaker on behalf of ARM Chapter 12.

## **10. Adoption of the Minutes of the September 16, 2020 AGM**

**BIRT** the minutes of the September 16, 2020 AGM be approved.

**Carried.**

## **11. Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

## **12. Business**

### **(a) Executive Proposed Constitutional Amendments**

CON 2021-1

**BIRT** Article 5 be amended by addition of

5.x The AGM is open to all members of ARM Chapter 12.

For an in-person AGM membership is verified by presentation of the member's OSSTF membership card.

For a virtual AGM membership is verified by the Chapter membership list

5.y For an in-person AGM, except for the elections, voting is by a show of hands.

For a virtual AGM voting is by the reactions buttons.

5.z For a virtual AGM the President shall appoint a meeting moderator who shall control all audio and video proceedings.

The moderator shall maintain a speaking order during consideration of all business of the meeting; ensuring that audio and video are only heard and/or seen from the appropriate member in turn.

All cameras and microphones are to be kept off, except as specified by the moderator.

5.w A member exhibiting obstructive behaviour during the meeting will be referred to the Anti-harassment Officer and the moderator may exclude the member from the meeting.

CON 2021-2

**BIRT** Article 9.5 be amended by deletion and substitution of

"If the AGM is an in-person meeting, the Election shall be by secret ballot.

If the AGM is a virtual meeting, the vote count shall be by the reactions buttons."

CON 2021-3

**BIRT** Article 5 be amended by addition of

"5.a An Executive meeting shall be an OSSTF small meeting, chaired by the President.

5.b If the Executive meeting is in-person, voting shall be by show of hands.

5.c If the Executive meeting is virtual, voting shall be by show of hands if possible, otherwise by voice.

CON 2021-4

**BIRT** Article 9.3 be amended by deletion and substitution of

"The Executive shall create a nomination form. A candidate may be nominated for an executive office by completing the nomination form available on the Chapter website at least ten days prior to the AGM."

CON 2021-5

**BIRT** Article 9.4 be amended by deletion.

CON 2021-6

**BIRT** Article 9 be amended by addition of

"Opposing candidates may address the AGM for up to two minutes prior to the election."

CON 2021-7

**BIRT** Article 4 be amended by addition of

"The President shall appoint a webmaster for the Chapter, who shall maintain the Chapter's website, post material on the website as directed by the Executive or President and any other website activity required."

CON 2021-8

**BIRT** Article 4 be amended by addition of

"The President shall appoint an editor and an associate editor who shall produce for the Chapter a newsletter, *After School*, at least four times per year in digital format, one of which shall also be in print form. The editor and associate editor shall form an editorial committee of up to ten interested members to assist in production of issues of *After School*."

CON 2021-9

**BIRT** Article 2.1 be amended by deletion.

CON 2021-10

**BIRT** Article 2.2 be amended by replacement of

"of interest and concern to the" by "for".

CON 2021-11

**BIRT** Article 3 be amended by deletion.

CON 2021-12

**BIRT** Article 4.1 be amended by deletion of

"not fewer than eight members elected by the membership at an Annual General Meeting, namely", "and", "and a minimum of two" and "and a minimum of two".

CON 2021-13

**BIRT** Article 4.2 be amended by deletion.

CON 2021-14

**BIRT** Article 5.3 be amended by insertion of  
"Executive" before "meetings".

CON 2021-15

**BIRT** Article 5.3 be amended by deletion of  
"except see Article 8.2".

CON 2021-16

**BIRT** Article 5.5 be amended by replacement of  
"8" by "a majority of the".

CON 2021-17

**BIRT** Article 6 title be amended by the addition of  
"Executive" before "Duties".

CON 2021-18

**BIRT** Article 7.1 be amended by deletion.

CON 2021-19

**BIRT** Article 7.3 be amended by insertion of  
"Chapter" after "ARM".

CON 2021-20

**BIRT** Article 9.2 be amended by deletion.

CON 2021-21

**BIRT** Article 9.6 be amended by deletion of  
"Vice-President".

CON 2021-22

**BIRT** Article 9.6 be amended by the addition of

"For the position of Vice-President, the two candidates receiving the two highest vote totals shall be declared elected. For the positions of Executive Officer and Member at large all candidates will be declared elected. "

CON 2021-23

**BIRT** Article 9.7 be amended by deletion and substitution of

"Each Executive Officer shall be assigned by the President a portfolio, responsible for an aspect of Chapter 12 business such as political action or pensions."

CON 2021-24

**BIRT** Article 9 be amended by incorporation into Article 4.

CON 2021-25

**BIRT** Article 6 be amended by addition of:

"6.3 The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Chapter.

6.4 The Vice-presidents shall assist the President.

6.5 The Secretary shall record and maintain minutes of Executive meetings and the AGM."

CON 2021-26

**BIRT** Article 7 be amended by incorporation into Article 6.

PROC 2021-1

**BIRT** CON 2021-1, CON 2021-2, CON 2021-3, CON 2021-4, CON 2021-5, CON 2021-6, CON 2021-7, CON 2021-8, CON 2021-9, CON 2021-10, CON 2021-11, CON 2021-12, CON 2021-13, CON 2021-14, CON 2021-15, CON 2021-16, CON 2021-17, CON 2021-18, CON 2021-19, CON 2021-20, CON 2021-21, CON 2021-22, CON 2021-23, CON 2021-24, CON 2021-25 and CON 2021-26 be considered en bloc.

**Carried.**

PROC 2021-2

**BIRT** the resolutions in PROC 2021-1 be approved.

**Carried.**

### **13. Election of ARM Chapter 12 Executive for 2021-2022**

The nominees are:

**President:**

Manfred Netzel

**Vice-President:**

Christos Aslanidis,

Ed Preston

**Secretary:**

Bill Pryde

**Treasurer:**

Michelle Barraclough

**Executive Officers:**

Charlie Hawkes

Paul Headdon

Karma Naike

**Members at large:**

Julia Harney,  
Allan Hux,  
Jim Mile,  
Eunice O'Mahony,  
David Orenstein,  
Candice Phoenix,  
Paul Rook,  
Neil Walker  
Don Wright

**BIRT** nominations be closed for the Executive for 2021-2022.

**Carried.**

The nominees are therefore all elected.

The Executive planning meeting for 2021-2 will be June 23.

**14. Executive Reports****(a) President:**

Manfred Netzel spoke to his report:

As I write this President's Report just 8 months after the last one in September 2020, the global pandemic continues to be as unpredictable, full of pain and suffering, and possibly a "game changer" for both individuals, families and organizations. Although the situation this spring is somewhat more optimistic than it was last fall due to the introduction of several effective vaccines and a significant number of Canadians having received their first vaccination, other challenges still remain. These are due to the appearance of several troubling mutating *variants* or virus strains from regions of the world that have almost no ability to contain them. The other problem is the often conflicting and unclear political decision-making happening at all levels of



government in Ontario and Canada. None of you will need any further elaboration.

I will attempt to summarize the key events, activities and responsibilities that I and my colleagues on the Executive experienced over the past 8 months. Of course, this report would have ideally been presented in person to our AGM 2021, along with several other Executive reports, remarks by invited guests, a much-anticipated presentation by our planned keynote speaker **Linda McQuaig** and then followed by a wonderful BBQ supper and social event at our meeting location. However, 60 Mobile Dr. has been demolished as part of a re-build of the Provincial Office site and we are still under a stay-at-home lock-down order. It is what it is.....

The Calendar of Events resumed on **October 21st** with our first online workshop / luncheon on the topic of "*A Charter City and the Road Forward for Toronto*". The presentation was given by former Toronto Mayor and social activist **John Sewell**, who spoke about the need and feasibility for the Ontario Capital to pursue this option for expanded self-governance. Thanks to VP *Ed Preston* for organizing the event. The next online planned event was the Educators Financial Group (EFG) workshop on **November 18th** which focussed on both COVID-related investment strategies and useful estate-planning advice. It was also the last opportunity for our members to "chat" with our long-time EFG advisor **Marian Ollila**, who will be retiring at the end of June. Her designated replacement, **Bill Rakovitis**, was also introduced and assisted in the presentation. On behalf of Chapter 12 we sincerely thank *Marian* for her commitment to serving our members over many years and wish her well for a much deserved retirement.

As being Chapter 12 President also involves a dual role as our representative on ARM Council, I was instructed by the Executive to take two motions to the November ARM Council meeting related to the collective

concern about the relative stagnant growth of OSSTF ARM membership over the past while, both locally and across Ontario. Personally, I have worked with our OTIP representative, **Andrea Hadlington**, to include some ARM-specific information through a few PowerPoint slides for scheduled OTIP retirement webinars offered in Toronto. The first such locally sponsored webinar using the ARM promotional material was held on **December 15th**.

The last few weeks of 2020 were somewhat celebratory (under the circumstances) because we were able to organize the first *virtual* Executive Holiday Party in mid-December, ably organized by our webmaster, *VP Christos Aslanidis* and *Treasurer Michelle Barraclough*. We were also treated to another clever political skit crafted and performed by Executive members *Jim Mile, Charlie Hawkes, Michelle Barraclough, Allan Hux* and *Bill Pryde*. Although more challenging, customary donations of non-perishable food were encouraged for the Daily Bread Food Bank (DBFB), as well as a monetary donation of \$500 was also made in-person to the DBFB on behalf of the Chapter. At the last Executive Meeting of 2020, a decision was made to allocate the remaining funds from our *Swing For Kids* (SFK) account to two worthy local charities dealing with at-risk youth and mothers/children facing domestic violence. Cheques were then forwarded to ***Covenant House*** and the ***Red Door Family Shelter*** before year's end.

The new year started with new optimism, as we had plans for several interesting workshops and annual presentations. This included an endorsement of City Council candidate **Manna Wong** who was running to fill the vacancy left by disgraced Scarborough Councillor *Jim Karygiannis*. Although unsuccessful, *Manna* continues to be an effective Trustee on the TDSB. Political action in OSSTF has been given a high priority for the next 18 months. Consultations about the Federation's 2022 Provincial election platform and local /regional riding analyses saw ARM Chapters invited to

participate beginning with the provincial CPAC Conference late in 2020 and continuing with regional online meetings in the winter and spring of 2021. We continue to be well-represented by our Chapter 12 PAC Officer, *Charlie Hawkes*. The appointment of 8 provincial election coordinators, including local OTBU VP, *Paul Bocking*, has facilitated the involvement of Chapter 12 members and activists in the 15 months leading up to the planned Ontario Election in June 2022. The goal is clear..... Doug Ford and his government must be defeated and NOT allowed a second mandate @ Queen's Park.

Due to the incredible ongoing advocacy work performed by **Natalie Mehra** and the Ontario Health Coalition (OHC) in defence of Ontario's public healthcare system, your Executive has started and continues to promote and financially support the OHC in their daily operations, media projects and for any legal challenges related to Bill 218. Thus, to date we have made donations totaling \$750, highlighted the crisis in Ontario's LTC system for the past year, had *Natalie* interviewed by *Charlie Hawkes* since the September AGM (which was summarized in the November issue of *After School*) and had the first commissioned cartoon on that theme in the August newsletter issue. We followed up with the topic by organizing an 'expert' panel presentation on **February 17th** with both *Natalie* and **Malcolm Buchanan**, former OSSTF President and General-Secretary, now a social and political activist based in Hamilton. It was the best-attended virtual event to date and the issue will continue to be a major election issue in 2022.

Because of the ongoing and committed support of our benefits sponsors (OTIP and EFG) we organized the annual OTIP information workshop on **January 27th**, involving both OTIP reps **Andrea Hadlington** and **Robin MacDonald**. NO negative changes to any 2021 premiums or coverage levels and NO free buffet lunch resulted in a lower turn-out than usual. The most recent virtual event that I and several others on the Executive

participated in was the ARM Council Biennial Conference on **May 7th**. Business involved important motions that would be forwarded to the Provincial Executive for their consideration and the likelihood of a new ARM Chapter 20 (Halton) being formed in the fall of 2021. Unfortunately, other ongoing and popular activities organized and promoted in recent years such as the *Travel Club*, local pub visits and reviews, and possible planned excursions in Toronto continue to be cancelled, of course.

Our friends in the other OSSTF local BUs have also been very supportive and giving of their time to keep the connections strong in Toronto. Thus, I was invited by the local OTBU, led by President **Linda Bartram**, to make a 'pitch' for ARM to a virtual information session for newer members on **March 25th**. As for the District 12 leadership led by President **Leslie Wolfe**, we have benefitted from *Leslie's* willingness to contribute articles to our newsletter. The final online presentation this spring involved *Leslie* on **April 21st** to update us on the myriad of issues from contract negotiations, staffing through the gambit of Ministry edicts and pronouncements. Two weeks later, she and her negotiating team achieved a tentative 3-year deal with the TDSB (which was ratified on May 14th). As she has announced her retirement as of July, I know you join me in expressing our deep gratitude and best wishes for a well-deserved retirement. Hopefully, she will decide to join ARM C.12 at some point and bring her superb leadership and communication skills to the ranks of Chapter 12.

This now brings me to identifying and expressing my sincere thanks to the entire Executive for their support of me in my role as President for the past 9 months and for their dedication to the Chapter 12 membership.

Running a volunteer organization of 600 members cannot be done alone, especially with the local and global circumstances we have faced. There are those who have taken on tasks or "portfolios" for many years with

expertise and dedication. I want to particularly recognize and sincerely thank our Treasurer *Michelle Barraclough*, our Secretary and email disseminator *Bill Pryde*, PAC Officer *Charlie Hawkes*, “in-house” curmudgeon *Paul Rook*, Pension & Benefits expert *Paul Headdon*, Entertainment Committee members *Karma Naik* and *Candice Phoenix*, newbies *Eunice O’Mahony* and *David Orenstein* and “sages” to the Chapter such as *Jim Mile*, *Don Wright* and *Neil Walker*. *Don* was also honoured at the recent ARM Biennial as one of the “Founders” for his efforts to help start up ARM in OSSTF some 25 years ago. At the same event, *Neil* was again introduced and recognized by ARM Council for his excellence in producing (up until mid-2019) our publication by winning the Ian Cameron Award for a second time... well done, Mr. Walker.

Of course, we were very fortunate in recruiting *Ronda Allan* last spring to become the new *After School* Newsletter Editor, a job she is amply qualified for as Managing Editor / Publications Manager of OSSTF’s in-house publications such as *EDUCATION FORUM* magazine and the monthly *Update* newsletter. Since she has joined the team, the results have been of the highest quality. Having some proven skills himself is our VP *Ed Preston*, who is both assisting Ronda in the collection, editing and tabulation of content. As you can see from the list of Executive nominees, Ed has also agreed to run again for one of the two positions of Vice-President for the coming term. Many thanks, my friend. The other VP position has been ably filled by *Christos Aslanidis*, who has also volunteered to be our much experienced ZOOM call “coordinator” and Webmaster for our totally redesigned website [www.armch12osstf.ca](http://www.armch12osstf.ca) . I’m sure you agree that Christos and his IT collaborator have re-designed and simplified the previous site to make it much more attractive and user-friendly. Please refer to it when you are next online yourself. Congratulations on everyone’s behalf, Christos.

In closing, clearly, the next year under the Ford Government at Queen's Park will not be easy ones for anyone in public education or healthcare, leading up to the provincial election in 2022. OSSTF has developed an ambitious Strategic Plan and engagement process leading up to that election and the defeat of the current regime. Thus, we are encouraging every ARM Chapter 12 member, along with family, friends and neighbours to continue to be informed and engaged in the struggle to maintain and expand public services. As the slogan of ARM has been for many years, "Retired from the job, but not from the fight".

In Federation,



Manfred Netzel also thanked the outgoing Executive and welcomed the newly elected Executive.

**(b) Vice-presidents:**

**(i)** Christos Aslanidis spoke to his report:

ARM Chapter 12, Toronto

OSSTF/FEESO

**Report to the Annual General Meeting**

May 26, 2021

Christos Aslanidis

Vice President

**Member Communication: The Website**

It's been about nine months since our ARM Chapter 12 website was renewed. The simpler and easier to navigate site has become a valuable resource for the

members of ARM Chapter 12, and as we emerge from lockdown, will enhance the opportunities for member engagement and social interaction.

The content of the website includes current issues of *After School*, reports from the Executive meetings, content from our sponsors, OSSTF news, a calendar of Chapter 12 events and many other items of interest to members.

Members are encouraged to check the site frequently for updates on what's happening in Chapter 12. There's always something new on the website.

<https://armch12osstf.ca/>

Send your comments to the web administrator at [armch12web@gmail.com](mailto:armch12web@gmail.com).

### **Member Outreach and Engagement: Photo Contest**

Most of the group activities that engaged members in the past such as golf tournaments, theatre excursions and pub visits were suspended due to the pandemic. We were able to pivot to on-line presentations for the Member Luncheons, and have had encouraging participation from members using this format.

One of the additional strategies the Executive used to reach out to members and get them actively involved this past winter, was the running of a photo contest. Members were invited to submit photographs they had taken over the past year that captured the theme, "Life In Interesting Times."

Although the contest was not broadly engaging to the members in that there were fewer submissions than expected, the submissions were of an excellent quality. The winning entries will be announced and featured in the upcoming issue of *After School*. Winning submissions will also be posted on the website.

<https://armch12osstf.ca/photo-contest/>

**Finally**, the culture of the chapter is changing. The pandemic has forced some changes to be rapid and challenging. We have lost some activities that brought a great deal of pleasure to our members. Some of them may not return.

Member engagement is our primary function, and the Executive strives to serve the interests of the members as best we can. We continue to seek input from members as to what they would like to see as activities organized by the

Executive. If you have an idea for an activity that would be of interest to our members, or better still, if you are interested in organizing an activity, please reach out to us. All of our contact information is available on the website, at this link: <https://armch12osstf.ca/who-we-are/contact/>

Respectfully submitted

(ii) Ed Preston spoke to his report:

### **AFTER SCHOOL** **Associate Editor's Report**

Since my last report to the AGM in September, 2020, **After School** has been published twice: in November/20 and March/21. Subsequent to this year's AGM, you can look forward to a hard copy edition sent to you, at the end of June, as well as being posted on our website. If you missed any of the current issues, they're there as well.

As the newsmagazine for the largest ARM chapter in Ontario, we're continuing to address the ongoing concerns of our roots - education - as well as broader topical issues of relevance to the citizens of Toronto and Ontario. Our initiatives have been acclaimed by other chapters, ARM Provincial Council, and OSSTF provincial office for content, design, variety, relevance, and inclusiveness.

To illustrate, we have reviewed presentations to ARM members by John Sewell on the Charter City movement, Natalie Mehra (Executive Director of the Ontario Health Coalition) and Malcolm Buchanan (Past President and General Secretary of OSSTF/FEESO; Executive Director of the Hamilton Health Coalition) on the crisis of Long term Homes in Ontario. Leslie Wolfe (President, District 12 OSSTF/FEESO) sounded the alert to the on-going agenda of the Ford government toward permanent online courses and the privatization of Ontario education. Attention been brought to the necessary work of the Daily Bread Food Bank, Red Door and Covenant House, especially during these pandemic times. And we've highlighted recent poll results indicating strong support of Torontonians for



Charter City status for Toronto, a movement which is also gaining ground in smaller Ontario municipalities.

In recent issues of **After School**, we've been emphasising the call to Chapter 12 members for submissions in the form of art, photography, literature, opinions, reviews, personal experiences with Covid-19 etc. The appeal is beginning to bear fruit with travel reports (Michelle Barraclough), a review of "We're Not Here to Put in Time" (a book produced by Bruce McCowan, retired for SATEC/W.A. Porter), pub review (Alan Hux), "Spaced Out Blues" (Dave Belford), a teaching experience in a Buddhist Monastery in Mandalay (Cam Kilgour), and a brilliant review of "Twilight of American Sanity" (Charles Hawkes).

In the last issue, our photography contest was announced, with the winner to be published in **After School**. The cover of this June's issue will be graced with the winner. This is a first for this publication.

Again, to encourage member participation with **AS**, we put out a call to members to send in brief reminiscences from the past years of ARM to help celebrate ARM's 25th. As well, since we really can't travel anywhere, thus curtailing our travel reports, we asked for submissions, of 100 words or less, describing places that you would either like to visit or return to, along with photos where possible. The response has been quite encouraging. Finally, our request for "What Have You Been Doing Since Retiring" has elicited interest. If you have anything to add to any of these categories, we'd love to hear from you.

Watch for the June issue. It's guaranteed to be thought-provoking with contributions from Linda McQuaig, Leslie Wolfe, Steven Nease's editorial cartoon, the book review from Charles Hawkes, and more.

Finally, I'd like to first acknowledge the brilliant graphics and layout work of our other associate editor, Ronda Allan. Her talent and work continue to make this newsmagazine vital, stimulating, and refreshing. Second, the high quality of this publication relies on the invaluable advice and guidance provided by the Editorial Committee: Christos Aslanidis, Michelle Barraclough, Charles Hawkes, Allan Hux, Jim Mile, Manfred Netzel, Paul Rook, Neil Walker.

Edward Preston, Associate Editor

**(c) Treasurer:**

Michelle Barraclough spoke to her report:

## Financial report to the AGM of ARM Chapter 12 July 31, 2019 to May 2020

### Preamble

As Treasurer of ARM Chapter 12 I hope that you have had a chance to look at the Interim Financial statement put out in the AGM packet. In this I have outlined what had occurred over the previous year.

In addition, our major funding comes to us from the Provincial OSSTF, based on \$22.50 per member rebate. The total amount rebated in 2017/2018 it was \$12,260, in 2018/20189 was \$12,180 and \$11,740 in 2019/2020, and \$12,847 in 2020/2021. There has been a slight increase in the per capita rebate of \$2.50/person. This will be offset by a decrease in membership numbers. However, as this amount is transferred through District 12, we generally do not receive it before November. On the executive, we are working to increase our numbers, by doing presentations for both teachers and administrators, of course due to the pandemic these activities have had to be curtailed. If any of you have friends who belong to another teacher's group, please encourage them to consider our program. We have the ARM booklets that would explain the advantages of our program.

That being said, I would like to thank our sponsors, OTIP and Educators Financial for their generous support. Generally, OTIP makes their contribution in June so it is not yet in our statement. We have been informed by OTIP that their donation will be roughly a bit more than double their previous donation. Educator's Financial did give us a generous donation of \$1000

However, because of the construction at Mobile we are no longer able to access their facilities, at this time. Additionally, due to COVID all of our meetings have been on Zoom. Depending on when we go back to in

person meetings and luncheons, this will drive up our costs, as other facilities will need to be rented, when we get back to meeting in person.

The combination of 3 online magazines and one print edition and the Zoom events have allowed us to have a surplus in our bank account. We have recently updated our website, and hired an editor, Ronda Allan, to facilitate communication with the membership. Both items have costs associated with them and reflected in the report. We hope that you have taken advantage of both the website and the online version of the magazine. Our Web master is Christos Aslanidis, and I would like to thank Christos for totally revamping the website.

The Events are run as close to revenue neutral as possible. And, in some cases, we have subsidies to keep the social events as affordable as possible. I would like to urge you and your friends to read the Calendar of Events in After School or to check out our website, for upcoming events [www.armchapter12.org](http://www.armchapter12.org). Additionally if one of you would be interested in starting a social group (eg. movie club, book club, etc) please get in touch with our president to talk about advertising in the newsletter and website.

We are hoping that perhaps we will be getting back to in person events in 2022, so stay tuned to find out what is upcoming, hopefully, in the near future. All updates will be on the website and in the seasonal magazine.

I have included a financial summary of Swing For Kids charity, which has been officially closed. We dispersed, \$637 each to the Red door shelter, and Covenant House totaling \$1274. As always, the Chapter is at the disposal of Jim Spray (Provincial OSSTF assistant General Secretary and Chief Financial Officer) for oversight in financial matters.

I hope this will help to explain the financial report. If there are further questions, at the end of the report, I will be happy to answer them.

Yours sincerely

Michelle Barraclough

## Treasurer

Income Statement	ARM Chapter 12		July 2020 - May 2021	
Balance from 2020			\$7,436.95	
	Balance	Expenses	Revenue	
OSSTF Rebate Fees			\$12,847.50	
Educators financial Contributions			\$1,000.00	
OTIP contribution				Expected \$7500
Executive Lunches	\$627.56			
Luncheon Meeting Expenses				
Luncheon Meeting Revenue				
Newsletter Expenses		\$5,179.99		One print edition has to be expensed
Newsletter Editor		\$2,068.81		Final payment to editor
Website expenses		\$956.42		
Gifts, Cards, Membership & Charities		\$2,074.78		
Office & Miscellaneous expenses		\$94.74		
Health Coalition Conference		\$30.00		
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$627.56</b>	<b>\$10,404.74</b>	<b>\$21,284.45</b>	
<b>Net Income over the period</b>		<b>\$10,250.00</b>		

<b>Income Statement</b>		ARM SFK Chapter 12	July 2020 - May 16, 2021	
<b>ARM SFK Chapter 12</b>		Expenses	Revenue	
Balance from 2020			\$1,284.00	
SFK Revenue				
Charities supported		\$1,274.00		Red Door Shelter, Covenant House
Bank Charges		\$9.75		
Total		\$1,283.75	\$1,284.00	
Balance		\$0.25		

**BIRT** the Treasurer's report be received.

**Carried.**

**(d) Political Action Officer**

Charlie Hawkes spoke to his report:

**Political Action Report, 2020-1**

Our chapter has continued to concentrate on two issues since the beginning of the pandemic last March: the crisis in long term care, and the difficulties our fellow working teachers faced in the schools. We have 'attended' conferences on both issues, written articles on these subjects in After School, invited speakers to our luncheons, and sent out regular E-mail blasts to keep our members informed.

Chapter 12 has a firm relationship with the Ontario Health Coalition, and with its director, Natalie Mehta. Several executive members attended a two- day conference in the fall organized by the Coalition on the crisis in LTC homes across the province. We followed that conference up by inviting Natalie along with

Malcolm Buchanan, a strong former OSSTF president and ARM member, to a chapter luncheon to discuss the LTC crisis with us. We recently followed virtually a political offensive by the provincial NDP at Queen's Park as Andrea Horvath went after the Ford government on their handling of the LTC crisis.

We intend to keep the Ford Government's inept handling of the LTC crisis a live issue in the lead up to the June 2022 election.

The OSSTF has begun planning for the election next June. The goal is simple: work with incumbent Liberals and NDP candidates and in ridings where they have a chance to unseat an incumbent Conservative member, and win 63 seats with a minority or majority government. The Federation will have their election platform out soon, and have stated that they do not intend to let either opposition party change it. Eight full-time election supervisors have been appointed for the province. Our chapter will be served by Paul Bocking from the OTBU who was introduced to us at our last executive meeting. He has begun to assess the chances for Liberal or NDP candidates to hold their seat or unseat a Conservative in each of the 24 Toronto ridings. Paul has written a book recently on how neo-liberalism affects education. The book will be reviewed in After School in our fall edition, and we are looking forward to working with him as the election campaign heats up.

C. Hawkes

### **(e) Pensions Officer**

Paul Headdon reported:

AGM Pension Report

OTTP was financially successful in 2020 considering the turmoil in the equity markets and COVID-19. Our plan has an annual return of 8.66 % and our assets increased to \$221 Billion. A surplus of \$8.5 Billion was allotted to a contingency fund. The bond component returned a 20% return at the beginning of the year.

A net-zero carbon emission for the plan is slated for 2050. OTTP wants to increase its investments in climate friendly assets. The pension plan has approximately 12% of their portfolio invested in the oil and gas industries. Over \$200 Million dollars is invested in five energy companies. Three of these companies are in the USA and one is in Canada. They have divested their high carbon private assets in the last two years.

Just recently our plan has announced an agreement to buy 100% of Evoltz a leading electrical transmission platform in Brazil. It also owns Caruna, Finland's largest electrical distribution company, as well as a 50% of Saesa, a Chilean electrical transmission and distribution company.

An excellent climate saving investment was made when OTTP purchased 50% of the Canadian assets of Enwave Energy Corp. It operates a concentrated heating and cooling system in downtowns e.g. Toronto, London, Kingston, and Charlottetown. In the summer it uses a deep-water cooling system to cool large commercial buildings, and in the winter, it recycles waste energy. Enwave is a very efficient and clean energy business.

Sometimes our pension made a few faux pas. Cadillac Fairview, a subsidiary of our pension plan owns twelve large malls across Canada including Fairview, the Eaton Centre, Sherway Gardens and Markville Mall. Facial recognition technology was used at these malls to analyze images without the person's consent. (over 5 million images). The information was used to determine the ages and genders of the individuals. A third-party company was found to be storing this data. This contravenes our Privacy Act. Unfortunately, the Federal Privacy Commission currently does not have the power to impose fines in this situation. Bad publicity was received regarding the implementation and usage of the facial recognition technology.

OTTP had planned to expand the Bristol airport (the ninth busiest airport in the world) in England. It has been rejected by the local government on environmental grounds. OTTP had planned to increase the passenger capacity from 10 Million -

12 Million. Increased traffic pollution and aviation emissions and further harm to the natural environment were the concerns that formulated the rejection.

There is also a problem with the Wine Rack a subsidiary of Acterra Wines wholly owned by our Pension Plan. The employees have an 86% strike vote mandate and are seeking decent wages and more job security. There is an annual worker turnover of 50%. I am sure this problem will be alleviated in due course.

Overall OTTP is a very well run and efficient Pension Plan with an excellent return and insights into current trends. We are very fortunate to belong to the pension plan. It has a 9.6% average annual return since its conception in 1990.

Questions were put to Paul Headdon and were answered.

## **15. Other Executive Reports**

There were no other Executive reports.

Manfred Netzel took the opportunity to acknowledge Executive member Don Wright as one of the founders of ARM 25 years ago. Don Wright replied describing the origins of ARM and especially the efforts of Lorne Creighton in the endeavour.

## **16. Other Business**

### **(a) OTIP Trivia Contest and Gift Card Prize**

Andrea Hadlington presented questions on Canadian history and four members won prizes.

## **17. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 12:48 p.m.



d) Draft Minutes of June 8, 2022

**OSSTF ARM CHAPTER 12 TORONTO**

## **24th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**



**Wednesday, June 8, 2022**  
**virtual meeting on Zoom**

# **MINUTES**

## **1. Call to Order and Welcome**

President Manfred Netzel welcomed members, all attending virtually, and called the Annual General Meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

## **2. OSSTF Pledge,**

Secretary Bill Pryde read the OSSTF Pledge:

"I solemnly pledge myself to promote and advance the cause of education. I will strive to achieve and maintain the highest degree of professional competence and will always uphold the honour, dignity, and ethical standards of my profession. I pledge my loyalty and support to the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation and will comply with the Constitution, Bylaws, policies and established practices which govern its members."

## **3. Indigenous Land Acknowledgement**

Bill Pryde read the OSSTF Indigenous Land Statement:

"OSSTF/FEESO both acknowledges and thanks the Anishnaabe and Haudenosaunee Peoples of this territory and other indigenous Peoples for sharing this land so that we may come together today in a good way."

## **4. Anti-Harassment Statement and Appointment of Anti-Harassment Officer**

Bill Pryde read the OSSTF Anti-Harassment Statement:

"OSSTF/FEESO is committed to strengthening member solidarity, and in addition to representing members' interests in the workplace, takes seriously its own responsibility to ensure that members are treated with respect and dignity at all Federation work locations, events and meetings. A member of OSSTF/FEESO 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/FEESO Policies and Procedures, which are available on the OSSTF provincial website."

Executive member Jim Mile was appointed Anti-Harassment Officer.

## **5. ZOOM Technical Operation and Process**

Vice-president Christos Aslanidis elaborated on the necessities for the on-line meeting, as included in the AGM package provided to members.

## **6. Approval of the Agenda**

**BIRT** the agenda be approved.

**Carried.**

## **7. Silent Memoria for Deceased Chapter 12 Members during 2021-2022**

Manfred Netzel asked members for a minute's silence in memory.

## **8. Introduction of Guests and Greetings**

Manfred Netzel introduced the following guests:

**(a)** Paul Caccamo, OSSTF Provincial Vice-president, who brought greetings from the Provincial Executive.

**(b)** Michelle Teixeira, President, Toronto Teachers' Bargaining Unit, who brought greetings from the Toronto secondary school teachers.

**(c)** Linda Bartram, President, Toronto Occasional Teachers' Bargaining Unit, who brought greetings from the Toronto secondary school occasional teachers.

**(d)** Bill Rakovitis, Financial Planner, Educators Financial Group, who brought greetings from one of our sponsors, EFG.

**(e)** Andrea Hadlington, Business Development Manager, Ontario Teachers' Insurance Plan, who brought greetings from one of our sponsors, OTIP.

Manfred Netzel thanked each of our guests individually on behalf of ARM Chapter 12.

## **9. Keynote Address with Questions and Answers**

Manfred Netzel introduced Natalie Mehra, Executive Director, Ontario Health Coalition, who spoke on current health care issues in Ontario, especially long term care. Members were invited to ask questions and answers were provided. Manfred Netzel thanked the speaker on behalf of ARM Chapter 12 and noted our \$500 donation to OHC.

#### **10. Adoption of the Minutes of the May 26, 2021 AGM**

**BIRT** the minutes of the May 26, 2021 AGM be approved.

**Carried.**

#### **11. Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

#### **12. Election of ARM Chapter 12 Executive for 2022-2023**

Bill Pryde spoke to the election process as identified in the ARM Chapter 12 constitution.

Manfred Netzel thanked the 2021-2022 Executive and congratulated the new Executive for 2022-2023.

The 2022-2023 will meet June 29, 2022 to plan the upcoming year for ARM Chapter 12.

#### **13. Executive Reports**

##### **(a) President:**

Manfred Netzel spoke to his report:

As I write this President's Report in the spring of 2022, the global pandemic continues to be unpredictable, full of pain and suffering, and possibly a "game changer" for both individuals, families and organizations. Although the situation this spring is somewhat more optimistic than it was last fall due to the ongoing use of several effective vaccines and a significant number of Canadians having received their additional vaccinations or boosters, other challenges still remain. Due to increased travel outside of

Canada and the appearance of several troubling mutating *variants* or virus strains, we have almost no ability to contain them. The other problem is the often conflicting and unclear political decision-making happening at all levels of government in Ontario and Canada. None of you will need any further elaboration.

I will attempt to summarize the key events, activities and responsibilities that I and my colleagues on the Executive experienced over the past 12 months. Of course, this report would have ideally been presented in person to our AGM 2022, along with several other Executive reports, remarks by invited guests, a much-anticipated presentation by our amazing keynote speaker **Natalie Mehra** and then followed by a wonderful BBQ supper and social event at our meeting location. However, 60 Mobile Dr. has been demolished as part of a re-build of the Provincial Office site with ongoing construction, and we still have hesitancy amongst our members to attend in-person events. It is what it is.....

The Calendar of Events remained empty in September / October due to formal bans of mass events throughout the summer (CNE, Labour Day Parade) and then continued into the fall.

The first online planned event then was the Educators Financial Group (EFG) workshop on **November 17th** which focussed on both COVID-related investment strategies and useful estate-planning advice. The PowerPoint presentation and Q&A session was ably presented by our new EFG rep, **Bill Rakovitis**. A first cultural excursion (limited to the Executive) was also organized by *Charlie Hawkes* in late November to the McMichael Gallery in Kleinburg. Our first “cultural” event of 2022 was the online ‘book talk’ by a retired colleague and historical novelist, **Judy Coburn** on February 23rd. She spoke about her latest work *Rebellion’s Daughter*, which was also recorded on our ZOOM account. Many thanks to *Allan Hux* for organizing the event

and reviewing the book as well. Unfortunately, other ongoing and popular activities organized and promoted in recent years such as the *Travel Club*, local pub visits and reviews, and possible planned excursions in Toronto continue to be cancelled ... hopefully to be restored later in 2022.

As being Chapter 12 President also involves a dual role as our representative on ARM Council, the group 'appointed' me as the new ARM Council Chair in June for a term of 2 years. Thus my workload doubled, since there were another 5 meetings scheduled for 2021-22 and also the expectation of attending further meetings of Provincial Council as an observer with no speaking or voting rights at present!! A determined attempt to get that changed by a small amendment to the OSSTF Constitution and By-Laws was unsuccessful.

The last few weeks of 2021 were somewhat celebratory (under the circumstances) because we were able to organize another *virtual* Executive Holiday Party in mid-December, ably organized by our webmaster, *VP Christos Aslanidis* and *Treasurer Michelle Barraclough*. We were also treated to another clever political skit crafted and performed by Executive members *Jim Mile, Charlie Hawkes, Michelle Barraclough, Allan Hux* and *Bill Pryde*. Although more challenging, customary donations of non-perishable food were encouraged for the Daily Bread Food Bank (DBFB), as well as a monetary donation of \$750 was also made in-person to the DBFB on behalf of the Chapter. At the last Executive Meeting of 2021, a decision was made to allocate the excess funds from our healthy bank account to four worthy local charities dealing with at-risk youth and mothers/children facing domestic violence. Cheques for \$1500 were then forwarded to each of ***Covenant House, The Massey Centre, Rosalie Hall*** and the ***Red Door Family Shelter*** in early January. Unfortunately, we were still unable to plan any in-person events

for our membership such as a Holiday Party with catered lunch, in-door golf lessons or excursions to interesting sites in Toronto.

Political action in OSSTF has been given a high priority for the next 6 months. Consultations about the Federation's 2022 Provincial election platform and local/regional riding analyses saw ARM Chapters invited to participate beginning with the provincial CPAC Conference late in 2021 and continuing with regional online meetings in the winter and spring of 2022. We continue to be well-represented by our Chapter 12 PAC Officer, *Charlie Hawkes*. The appointment of 8 provincial election coordinators, including local TBU member *Mark Kissel* and PSSP member *Richardo Harvey* has facilitated the involvement of Chapter 12 members and activists in the six months leading up to the planned Ontario Election in June 2022. The goal is clear..... Doug Ford and his government must be defeated and NOT allowed a second mandate @ Queen's Park. *Charlie* will have a more extensive PAC Report elsewhere in this package of materials.

January of 2022 saw the roll-out of a new OTIP/RTIP benefits plan and underwriter for all ARM subscribers ***which had not been requested nor encouraged by ARM Council***. The move of claims histories and other related data from Manulife Insurance to Green Shields Canada caused many tech glitches, call centre phone calls and countless examples of upset and frustration by subscribers in Chapter 12 and all of the other ARM Chapters across Ontario. I can confirm that OTIP reps such as **Andrea Hadlington, Kris Kauk, Robin MacDonald and Kerin Higgins** were repeatedly called upon to provide updates and trouble-shooting solutions by both ARM Council and our own Executive. An online OTIP presentation for our members was on January 12th with some 40 participants with a litany of individual problems related to the roll-out. We continue to monitor the situation, although many issues have now been resolved.

Due to the incredible education and advocacy work in the defence of our public health care system, the Ontario Health Coalition (OHC) led by **Natalie Mehra** has been a strong focus. Our friends in the other OSSTF local BUs have also been very supportive and giving of their time to keep the connections strong in Toronto. As for the District 12 leadership led by President **Michelle Teixeira** we have benefitted from *Michelle's* willingness to contribute articles to our newsletter. District Treasurer, **David Pickering**, has also been a loyal friend of our Chapter by ensuring that the Chapter rebate cheque sent from Provincial Office is quickly processed and forwarded to us in the late summer/early fall.

In March, your Executive made some important decisions about both our functioning and communications strategy for the remainder of the 2021-22 term. First, it was decided to have the upcoming meetings in April, May and June in-person located @ the Latvian Centre. Second, the April (now June) Issue of After School would be a hard copy issue for mailed distribution to all Chapter 12 members. Lastly, the traditional West End luncheon presentation in April would be an online presentation by Legislative Observer and CPAC Senior Coordinator, **Paul Kossta**, to update us on pre-election activities. *Charlie* had also attended CPAC Regional Meetings in late March on our behalf. In May, we have also been strongly supportive of the pre-election member engagement activities organized by OSSTF Toronto (aka. D.12). Starting with the May Day Rally @ Queen's Park, in-person events with endorsed candidates @ the District 12 Office, and numerous online "meet and greet" activities in the last two weeks before Election Day. As I write this report, the opinion polls are not encouraging for a defeat of the Ford Government. Let's hope the actual results will be different.

This now brings me to identifying and expressing my sincere thanks to the entire Executive for their support of me in my role as President for the past 12



months and for their dedication to the Chapter 12 membership. Running a volunteer organization of over 500 members cannot be done alone, especially with the local and global circumstances we have faced. There are those who have taken on tasks or “portfolios” for many years with expertise and dedication. I want to particularly recognize and sincerely thank our Treasurer *Michelle Barraclough*, our Secretary and email disseminator *Bill Pryde*, PAC Officer *Charlie Hawkes*, “in-house” curmudgeon *Paul Rook*, Pension & Benefits expert *Paul Headdon*, Entertainment Committee members *Karma Naïke* and *Candice Phoenix*, Members-at-Large *Eunice O’Mahony* and *David Orenstein* and “sages” to the Chapter such as *Julia Harney*, *Jim Mile*, *Don Wright* and *Neil Walker*. Of course, the two Vice-Presidents, *Christos Aslanidis* and *Ed Preston* have done incredible skilled work particularly related to our communications platforms online and in print. Since her joining us in the spring of 2020, *Ronda Allan* continues to apply her superb design and lay-out skills to the fore with every issue of *After School*. Unfortunately, several of these fine folks will not be seeking re-election for 2022-23 due to relocation, illness and a recent death. More details will be provided during the meeting.

In closing, the passing of our dear friend and Executive colleague, *Ed Preston*, on April 18th has clearly dealt a shocking and severe blow to our leadership team and membership. Of course, there has been great collective sadness in our Chapter ever since, as well as a very quick realignment of some duties. The pending hard copy of the newsletter has had to be delayed to later in June in order to include a written and pictorial tribute to Ed. Several of us on the Executive also attended a dignified and thoughtful Celebration of Life for Ed on May 14th in Scarborough. I’m sure you will join me in extending sincere condolences to Donna and Cole, along with the entire Preston family and their friends.

As the slogan of ARM has been for many years, "Retired from the job, but not from the fight".

In Federation,

*Manfred*

**(b) Vice-president:**

Christos Aslanidis reported that entries in the photo contest will be published in the fall issue of After School, that the ARM Chapter 12 website always has new material, that we have a YouTube channel accessible through our website and that will include Natalie Mehra's presentation to the AGM, and that the spring issue of After School has been split into two parts, one paper and one on-line.

**(c) Treasurer:**

Michelle Barraclough spoke to her report:

Financial report to the AGM of ARM Chapter 12 July 1,  
2021 to May 2022

Preamble

As Treasurer of ARM Chapter 12 I hope that you have had a chance to look at the Interim Financial statement put out in the AGM packet. In this I have outlined what had occurred over the previous year.

In addition, our major funding comes to us from the Provincial OSSTF, based on \$22.50 per member rebate. The total amount rebated in 2017/2018 it was \$12,260 , in 2018/20189 was \$12,180 and \$11,740 in 2019/2020, and \$12,847 in 2020/2021 and \$12,204 in 2021/2022. There has been a slight increase in the per capita rebate of \$2.50/person. This will be offset by a decrease in membership numbers. However, as this amount is transferred through District 12, we depend on the transfer process to access this money. On the

executive, we are working to increase our numbers, by doing presentations for both teachers and administrators, of course due to the pandemic these activities have had to be curtailed. If any of you have friends who belong to another teacher's group, please encourage them to consider our program. We have the ARM booklets that would explain the advantages of our program.

That being said, I would like to thank our sponsors, OTIP and Educators Financial for their generous support. Generally, OTIP makes their contribution in June so it is not yet in our statement. Last year OTIP made a donation of \$7500. Educator's Financial did give us a generous donation of \$1000

However, because of the construction at Mobile we are no longer able to access their facilities, at this time. Additionally, due to COVID all of our meetings have been on Zoom. Depending on when we go back to in person meetings and luncheons, this will drive up our costs, as other facilities will need to be rented, when we get back to meeting in person.

The combination of an online magazines and one print edition and the Zoom events have allowed us to have a surplus in our bank account. We have recently updated our website, and hired an editor, Ronda Allan, to facilitate communication with the membership. Additionally, we now have a Youtube account, so you will be able to access presentations at your leisure. These items have costs associated with them and are reflected in the report. We hope that you have taken advantage of the website, the online version of the magazine and our brand new Youtube account. Our Web master is Christos Aslanidis, and I would like to thank Christos for totally revamping the website and setting up the Youtube channel. I would also like to mention, that both Chris and Ronda have taken on a much larger responsibility with the sad passing of our friend, Ed Preston.

The Events are run as close to revenue neutral as possible. And, in some cases, we have subsidies to keep the social events as affordable as

possible. I would like to urge you and your friends to read the Calendar of Events in After School or to check out our website, for upcoming events [www.armchapter12.org](http://www.armchapter12.org). Additionally, if one of you would be interested in starting a social group (eg. movie club, book club, etc) please get in touch with our president to talk about advertising in the newsletter and website.

We are hoping that perhaps we will be getting back to in person events in 2022/2023, so stay tuned to find out what is upcoming, hopefully, in the near future. All updates will be on the website and in the seasonal magazine.

The executive is aware that we have supported a number of charities over the years and in that vein the following charities were supported: \$1500 Red door shelter, Massey Centre, and Rosalie Hall. A donation was also made to the Ontario Health Coalition of \$750 and to UNHCVR of \$150. In the past two and a half years the challenges facing most charities increased with the COVID Pandemic and now with the Ukrainian invasion. On behalf of the membership we are happy to support community shelters and those advocating for the rights of seniors, particularly in the health care field.

As always, the Chapter is at the disposal of Jim Spray (Provincial OSSTF assistant General Secretary and Chief Financial Officer) for oversight in financial matters.

I hope this will help to explain the financial report. If there are further questions, at the end of the report, I will be happy to answer them.

Yours sincerely

Michelle Barraclough, Treasurer

Income Statement ARM Chapter 12

July 1, 2021 – May 21, 2022

Income Statement	ARM Chapter 12		July 2021 - June 2022	
Balance from 2020			\$15,394.56	
	Balance	Expenses	Revenue	
OSSTF Rebate Fees			\$12,204.16	
Educators financial Contributions				Pending \$1000
OTIP contribution				Pending \$7500
Executive Lunches		\$1,540.11		
Luncheon Meeting Expenses				
Luncheon Meeting Revenue				
Newsletter Expenses		\$5,548.20		
Newsletter Editor		\$1,700.00		Pending \$1000
Website expenses		\$226.00		
Golf and Curling Activities Expenses				
Golf and Curling Activities Revenue				
Theatre and Excursion Expenses				
Theatre and Excursion Revenues				
Gifts, Cards, Membership & Charities		\$7,476.00		
Office & Miscellaneous expenses		\$92.50		
Election expenses		\$336.73		
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$16,919.54</b>	<b>\$27,598.72</b>	
<b>Net Income over the period</b>		<b>\$10,679.18</b>		

Several donations were made to the following charities:

\$1500 each to: Red Door Shelter, Massey centre, Rosalie Hall

\$750 to Ontario Health Coalition

\$150 to UNHCR

Pending : Room rental LCCC \$320

Newsletter editor: \$1000

#### **(d) Political Action Officer**

Charlie Hawkes spoke to his report:

##### **ARM Chapter12 Political Action Report, 2021-2**

For most members of the educational community, the victory of Ford's Progressive Conservative party on June 2 is a difficult defeat to accept. The educational federations at all levels fought hard for progressive candidates throughout the province, with a clear plan to support Liberal and NDP candidates whether incumbents or challengers.

The strategy the OSSTF was first of all to develop an educational platform acceptable to the membership. Then, teachers would be seconded to act as organizers for each district in the province for five months before the election. Their task was to convince working teachers and staff of the importance of the election, give them a working knowledge of the issues, and convince them to devote some time to work for candidates who the organizers had endorsed.

Our chapter, with 25 Toronto ridings, and two Federation organizers, publicized the endorsements in After School, on our website, and with periodic E-mail blasts to encourage ARM members to support the endorsements. We encouraged our members to join teachers in virtual meetings on Zoom with endorsed candidates, with a \$50 meal voucher for participation. And a number of us canvassed directly for them.

These efforts were not in vain in Toronto compared to other provincial districts where the Conservatives made the gains that gave them the large majority. Twelve endorsed candidates in Toronto, Liberal and NDP incumbents, held their seats, while 11 Conservative incumbents, plus one election winner, hold the rest. The political balance at least stayed steady, and our Toronto ARM chapter and Federation district surely can take some credit for helping to secure that balance.

Charles Hawkes

June 3, 2022

## **(e) Pensions Officer**

Paul Headdon spoke to his report:

Pension Report for the Annual General Meeting 2022

Last year was a successful year financially for our pension plan. Our assets increased to 241 Billion dollars CDN. We had a return of 11.3% on our investments and the plan is fully funded (107 %). The average annual net return since inception of the plan is 9.7%

Traver Cole of the Globe and Mail interviewed Jo Taylor the CEO of our Pension Plan in an Article in the Globe and Mail Report on Business magazine. The following information was provided during the interview:

- Last Year contributions from the Ontario Government and members of our plan totaled \$3.2 Billion, and retiree benefits were \$6.7 Billion. The gap is expected to increase *(As an aside the returns on our investments more than cover the shortfall)*
- Taylor feels that the inflation threat can be addressed with inflation protected revenues by rents from real assets in infrastructure and real estate
- 14% of the Plan is invested in commodities as an inflation edge
- Investing in private companies are less responsive to massive fluctuations in value
- Private assets give you predictable returns
- Jo Taylor wants to increase the value of our Plan by \$300 Billion dollars
- International investments are now made in only nine different countries: Canada, U.S.A., Brazil, China, U.K., France, Germany, India, and Australia
- Only 40% of its assets are invested in equities
- Oil and gas exploration amounts to 3% of our portfolio
- When you consider fixed income securities 49% of our Plan's investments are Canadian
- Our Plan has reduced its carbon intensity by about 30% since 2019
- The average pensioner is 73. The active members average age is 43
- We have approximately 183,000 active members and 143,000 retired members

Inflation in Canada has escalated this year. It is good to remember that there is an 8% cola cap on our pension plan: if the inflation rate is 12% or higher over one year. The extra 4% cola would be carried over to future years.

Paul Headdon answered questions from members.

## **14. Other Executive Reports**

There were no other Executive reports.

## **15. Other Business**

### **OTIP Trivia Contest and Gift Card Prize**

Andrea Hadlington conducted the contest.

## **16. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 11:53 a.m.

e) OSSTF ARM Chapter 12, Toronto Constitution

### **CONSTITUTION ARM OSSTF - TORONTO CHAPTER 12 as amended 2021**

#### **Article 1 - Name**

1.1 The name of this organization shall be ARM OSSTF–Toronto Chapter 12.



## **Article 2 – Objectives**

- 2.1 To organize social and political activities for the members.
- 2.2 To assist in furthering the objectives of OSSTF. (2021)

## **Article 3 – Executive**

- 3.1 The ARM OSSTF-Toronto Chapter 12 Executive shall consist of a President, two Vice-presidents, a Secretary, a Treasurer, Executive Officers and Members at Large. (2021)
- 3.2 The term of office shall be from June 16 to June 15. (2020)
- 3.3 If the President is unable to complete the term of office, the Vice-president first elected to the Executive shall assume the office of President to complete the term of office.
- 3.4 If the Treasurer is unable to complete the term of office, the Executive shall select an ARM OSSTF-Toronto Chapter 12 member to complete the term of office.
- 3.5 If an Executive member other than the President or Treasurer is unable to complete the term of office the Executive may select an ARM OSSTF-Toronto Chapter 12 member to complete the term of office. (2020)
- 3.6 Election:
  - 3.6.1 The ARM OSSTF-Toronto Chapter 12 Executive shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting. (2020)
  - 3.6.2 The Executive shall create a nomination form. (2021)
  - 3.6.3 A candidate may be nominated for an executive office by completing the nomination form available on the ARM OSSTF-Toronto Chapter 12 website at least ten days prior to the AGM. (2021)
  - 3.6.4 Opposing candidates may address the AGM for up to two minutes prior to the election. (2021)
  - 3.6.5 If the AGM is an in-person meeting, the Election shall be by secret ballot. (2021)
  - 3.6.6 If the AGM is a virtual meeting, the vote count shall be by the reactions buttons. (2021)
  - 3.6.7 For the positions of President, Treasurer and Secretary, the candidate receiving the highest vote total shall be declared elected. (2021)
  - 3.6.8 For the position of Vice-President, the two candidates receiving the two highest vote totals shall be declared elected. For the positions of Executive Officer and Member at large all candidates will be declared elected. (2021)

## **Article 4– Meetings**

- 4.1 The Executive shall call an Annual General Meeting (AGM) to be held by June 15.
- 4.1.1 The business of the AGM shall include the election of the Executive, presentation of a financial statement and any other appropriate matters. (2020)
- 4.1.2 The quorum for the AGM shall be 25 members of ARM OSSTF-Toronto Chapter 12. (2020)
- 4.2 The AGM is open to all members of ARM OSSTF-Toronto Chapter 12. (2021)
- 4.2.1 For an in-person AGM, membership is verified by presentation of the member's OSSTF membership card. (2021)
- 4.2.2 For a virtual AGM, membership is verified by the ARM OSSTF-Toronto Chapter membership list. (2021)
- 4.3.1 For an in-person AGM, except for the elections, voting is by a show of hands. (2021)
- 4.3.2 For a virtual AGM, voting is by the reactions buttons. (2021)
- 4.4 For a virtual AGM the President shall appoint a Meeting moderator who shall control all audio and video proceedings. (2021)
- 4.4.1 The moderator shall maintain a speaking order during consideration of all business of the Meeting, ensuring that audio and video are only heard and/or seen from the appropriate member in turn. (2021)
- 4.4.2 All cameras and microphones are to be kept off, except as specified by the moderator. (2021)
- 4.5 A member exhibiting obstructive behaviour during the Meeting will be referred to the Anti-harassment Officer and the moderator may exclude the member from the Meeting. (2021)
- 4.6 Executive meetings shall be at least every two months except for July and August.
- 4.7 An Executive meeting shall be an OSSTF small meeting, chaired by the President. (2021)
- 4.8 If the Executive meeting is in-person, voting shall be by show of hands. (2021)
- 4.8.1 If the Executive meeting is virtual, voting shall be by show of hands if possible, otherwise by voice. (2021)
- 4.9 Notices of Executive meetings shall be 20 days. (2021)
- 4.10 The quorum for Executive meetings shall be a majority of the members of ARM OSSTF-Toronto Chapter 12 Executive. (2020) (2021)

## **Article 5 – Executive Duties (2021)**

- 5.1 To further the activities of ARM and OSSTF.
- 5.2 To make recommendations to appropriate bodies.
- 5.3 The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Chapter.
- 5.3.1 The President shall appoint a webmaster for the Chapter, who shall maintain the Chapter's website, post material on the website as directed by the Executive or President and any other website activity required. (2021)
- 5.3.2 The President shall appoint an editor and an associate editor who shall produce for the Chapter a newsletter, *After School*, at least four times per year in digital format, one of which shall also be in print form. (2021)
  - 5.3.2.1 The editor and associate editor shall form an editorial committee of up to ten interested members to assist in production of issues of *After School*. (2021)
- 5.3.4 The President shall assign each Executive Officer a portfolio, responsible for an aspect of ARM OSSTF-Toronto Chapter 12 business, such as political action, pensions or social events. (2021)
- 5.4 The Vice-presidents shall assist the President.
- 5.5 The Secretary shall record and maintain minutes of Executive meetings and the AGM. (2021)
- 5.6 The Treasurer shall maintain a bank account in the name of the Chapter, with the signing authority being any two of the President, Vice-President and Treasurer.
- 5.6.1 The fiscal year of ARM OSSTF-Toronto Chapter 12 will be from July 1 to June 30. (2021)

## **Article 6 –Amendment**

- 6.1.1 An on-time amendment to the Constitution requires a 2/3 vote at the AGM.
- 6.1.2 An on-time amendment to the Bylaws requires a majority vote at the AGM.
- 6.2 To be on-time an amendment to the Constitution or Bylaws must be made available to Chapter members on the Chapter 12 website and by email to the last available members' email accounts at least 20 days prior to the AGM.
- 6.3.1 An amendment to the Constitution that is not on-time requires a 9/10 vote at the AGM.

6.3.2 An amendment to the Bylaws that is not on-time requires a 3/4 vote at the AGM. (2020)

f) Candidates for Executive Office May 27, 2022

The nominees are:

**President:**

Manfred Netzel

**Vice-President:**

Charlie Hawkes

**Secretary:**

Bill Pryde

**Treasurer:**

Michelle Barraclough

**Executive Officer:**

Paul Headdon

**Executive Members-at-large:**

Allan Hux

Eileen Markwick

Jim Mile

Candice Phoenix

Donna Preston

Don Wright

***Since none of the Offices requiring voting are contested, all the above candidates are declared elected for 2023-2024.***

**g) Executive Reports**

**i) President Manfred Netzel**

As I write this President's Report in the spring of 2023, it is a somewhat celebratory message since this year's event marks the 25th Anniversary of the ARM Chapter 12 Annual General Meeting. I'm honoured to be the latest in a series of Presidents, some of whom are still involved in our Chapter as members or Executive members. *Karma Naike* and *Don Wright* please take a

bow !!! Others who have passed away over the past 25 years remain in our thoughts and we recognize their contributions in tribute... Iconic ***Ian Cameron*** has even been rightly honoured by having the ARM Council Newsletter Editor's Award named after him.

I will attempt to summarize the key events, activities and responsibilities that I and my colleagues on the Executive experienced over the past 12 months. Of course, this report would have ideally been presented in person to our AGM 2023, along with several other Executive reports, remarks by invited guests and then followed by a wonderful BBQ supper and social event at our meeting location. However, 60 Mobile Dr. continues as a re-build of the Provincial Office site with ongoing construction scheduled to be completed by the end of 2023. In addition, we still have hesitancy amongst our members to attend in-person events. It is what it is.....

Unlike the past two years of pandemic, activities began in early September with the return of the CNE and Labour Day Parade and then continued into the fall with a autumn ravine hike through Edwards Gardens organized by our Treasurer ***Michelle Barraclough***. A week later, a small group of interested members met with then Official Opposition Leader ***Peter Tabuns*** to have a review of the results of the June provincial election and also discuss the priorities for challenging the second majority mandate of the Ford PCs. Thanks to Executive member ***Candice Phoenix*** for organizing this meet & greet in-person event. The month of October included our active engagement and involvement in the Trustee Elections on October 24th in support of the District and the annual Provincial OSSTF CPAC Conference planned for the 30th-31st for which we were again ably represented by Vice-President ***Charlie Hawkes***. A first popular pub excursion in North York was organized by Executive member ***Allan Hux*** on **October 26th**.

The first larger in-person event then was the OTIP/RTIP workshop on **November 30th** which focussed on any changes / improvements to the health benefits plans and other notable developments in the 'post-pandemic' era of late 2022- early 2023. The PowerPoint presentation and Q&A session was ably presented by our new RTIP reps ***Kris Kauk*** and ***Tara Lamb***. It was also posted on our *Youtube* channel. Unfortunately, the slightly heightened COVID infection rates as winter approached resulted in the Executive deciding to cancel any plans for a return to an in-person Holiday Party. A positive ending to 2022 was the annual presentation of a donation cheque to the CEO of the *Daily Bread Food Bank* (DBFB) to meet their increasing costs in facing the food insecurity and shelter problems faced by our fellow Torontonians.

Being Chapter 12 President also involves a dual role as our representative on the Provincial OSSTF ARM Council. As I reported a year ago, the group 'appointed' me as the new ARM Council Chair in June 2021 for a term of 2 years. Since that "promotion" my workload has doubled, as there were five meetings as Chair scheduled for both 2021-22 and 2022-23. Further, there is also the expectation of attending another annual five meetings of Provincial Council as an observer with no speaking or voting rights at present !! A determined attempt to get that changed by a small amendment to the OSSTF Constitution and By-Laws has so far been unsuccessful. Fortunately, my 2-year term as ARM Council Chairperson ends later this month. I can now better focus my attention on the priorities of our own Chapter 12.

2023 began with an in-person EFG presentation for our members on **January 17th** with some 10 participants organized by our reps ***Bill Rakovitis*** and his colleague ***Alana Gould***. Participants were treated to a complimentary lunch and some prize 'give-aways' by one of our major benefits sponsors. Please

make use of their important services and offerings related to mortgages, investment and estate planning advice.

Due to the incredible education and advocacy work in the defence of our public health care system by the Ontario Health Coalition (OHC), led by **Natalie Mehra**, has been a strong focus for our Chapter. Our friends in the other OSSTF local BUs have also been very supportive and giving of their time to keep the connections strong in Toronto. As for the District 12 leadership led by President **Michelle Texiera** we have benefitted from *Michelle's* willingness to contribute articles to our newsletter. District Treasurer, **David Pickering**, has also been a loyal friend of our Chapter by ensuring that the Chapter annual rebate cheque sent from Provincial Office is quickly processed and forwarded to us in the late summer / early fall.

March was a very busy and challenging month, both for internal circumstances and the return of an **in-person** OSSTF Annual Assembly (AMPA) with Provincial Executive elections since 2019. Your Executive made some important decisions about both our functioning and communications strategy for the remainder of the 2022-23 term. The level of involvement for our Vice-President and Associate Newsletter Editor **Christos Aslanidis** has been greatly diminished due to some unexpected family matters.

Consequently, there was the need to restructure the role of the original Editorial Team and also 'recruit' some additional volunteer members to assist with the compiling and editing/ proofreading of the newsletter content. Many thanks to **Eileen Markwick** and **Donna Preston** for stepping up and providing their skills to help with the newsletter production cycle. Of course, **Ronda Allen**, since joining us in the spring of 2020, continues to apply her superb design and lay-out skills with every issue of *After School*. Although **Christos** will remain as our webmaster for the foreseeable future and host for some online events (such as this AGM), he will not be continuing as our other Vice-



President. Many thanks for your efforts. The next digital issue of the newsletter is currently planned for late September.

Despite some serious considerations about planning early to mid-spring events and activities, the Executive found that some ideas were either not feasible or beyond our capabilities (human and financial) to carry through. Further, important external political and labour-related issues required our immediate attention. This included showing participation in protests both against Bill 60 @ Queen's Park and in support for striking nurses in early March. Instrumental to this activism was the energy and commitment of our Vice-President and PAC Officer **Charlie Hawkes**, Treasurer **Michelle Barraclough** and Executive Officer **Allan Hux** to both liaising with groups such as the **Ontario Health Coalition** (OHC), but also with electoral reform, D.12 PAC and engagement with the ongoing Toronto Mayoralty By-election that ends on **June 26th**. The Executive also has undertaken a first systematic membership survey, jointly formulated by Recording Secretary **Bill Pryde** and Executive member **Jim Mile**... very much appreciated gentlemen. We will be compiling the survey results received earlier this month and discussing the required actions relevant to the members' responses by the new Executive. Many thanks also to our C.12 delegation (**Michelle, Charlie, Candice, Bill**) to the recent ARM Council Biennial Conference held on the Toronto Airport Strip on **May 4-5th**. More details will follow in today's AGM.

This now brings me to identifying and expressing my sincere thanks to the entire Executive for their support of me in my role as President for the past 12 months and for their dedication to the Chapter 12 membership. Running a volunteer organization of over 500 members cannot be done alone, especially with the local and global circumstances we have faced. There are those who have taken on tasks or "portfolios" for many years with expertise and dedication. I want to particularly recognize and sincerely thank *Christos*,

Michelle, Pension & Benefits expert *Paul Headdon*, *Candice Phoenix*, and “sages” to the Chapter such as *Jim Mile*, *Don Wright* and *Neil Walker*. Unfortunately, several of these fine folks will not be seeking re-election for 2023-24 due to relocation and illness. As you will notice from the list of nominees, there will also be some new folks joining with valuable skills and new perspectives. I will look forward to working with the new leadership team.

As the slogan of ARM has been for many years, “*Retired from the job, but not from the fight*”.

In Federation,

*Manfred*

ii) Vice-president **Charlie Hawkes**

## **2023 Political Action Report**

### **C. Hawkes**

The June victory of Ford’s Conservative government was a setback to progressive forces in the province. The overwhelming victory of the Tories gives them the confidence to push ahead with their privatization plans and ignore overworked and underpaid education assistants, nurses, and hospital assistants.

The OSSTF held their annual political action conference (CPAC) for the province in November to reassess their position after the disappointment of the Conservative victory. As an ARM representative, I attended this in-person two- day conference at the Airport Sheraton hotel. The major address delivered by the new NDP leader, Marat Styles, promised a fresh approach for the party, and was well received by delegates (provincial Liberals, with no leader, were not represented). Workshops

held on equity in schools on racial and gender issues and how to lobby politicians were interesting and effectively presented. The Conference as a whole had a forward looking, and optimistic tone to it.

Your chapter has continued to make the province's health care policies a major focus for political action. We have supported the Ontario Health Coalition for many years by donating money, and welcoming Natalie Mehra, the Coalition's Executive Director to speak at our meetings. This year, we redoubled our support for the the Coalition's campaign to fight the Conservative government's plan to establish for profit health care clinics. A number of us attended on-line planning meetings held throughout the fall and winter by the Coalition's dedicated volunteers. We joined them in setting up a provincial citizens' referendum on for-profit health clinics. We sent you a ballot to vote on-line, and by doing so, send a message of opposition to the government's privatization agenda for health care.

Canadians are proud of our medicare system. Let's continue to fight the provincial government's plans to privatize large parts of it and take us backwards, not forward.

## ii) Treasurer Michelle Barraclough

Financial report to the AGM of ARM Chapter 12 July 1, 2022 to May 2023

### Preamble

As Treasurer of ARM Chapter 12 I hope that you have had a chance to look at the Interim Financial statement put out in the AGM packet. In this I have outlined what had occurred over the previous year.

In addition, our major funding comes to us from the Provincial OSSTF, based on \$22.50 per member rebate. The total amount rebated in 2017/2018 it was \$12,260 , in 2018/20189 was \$12,180 and \$11,740

in 2019/2020, and \$12,847 in 2020/2021 and \$12,204 in 2021/2022 and \$12,285 in 2022/2023. As this amount is transferred through District 12, we depend on the transfer process to access this money. On the executive, we are working to increase our numbers, by doing presentations for both teachers and administrators, of course due to the pandemic these activities have had to be curtailed. If any of you have friends who belong to another teacher's group, please encourage them to consider our program. We have the ARM booklets that would explain the advantages of our program.

That being said, I would like to thank our sponsors, OTIP and Educators Financial for their generous support. Generally, OTIP makes their contribution in June so it is not yet in our statement. Last year OTIP made a donation of \$7500. Educator's Financial did give us a generous donation of \$1000

However, because of the construction at Mobile we are no longer able to access their facilities, at this time. Additionally, due to COVID some of our meetings have been on Zoom. As we go back to in person meetings and luncheons, this will drive up our costs, as other facilities will need to be rented, when we get back to meeting in person. We are hoping that sometime in 2024 to again get access to the New OSSTF facility.

The combination of an online magazines and one print edition and the Zoom events have allowed us to have a surplus in our bank account. We continue to updated our website, with our magazine and editor, Ronda Allan, to facilitate communication with the membership.. These items have costs associated with them and are reflected in the report. We hope that you have taken advantage of the website, the online version of the magazine. Our Web master is Christos Aslanidis, and I would like to thank Christos for totally revamping the website.

The Events are run as close to revenue neutral as possible. And, in some cases, we have subsidies to keep the social events as affordable as possible. I would like to urge you and your friends to read the Calendar

of Events in After School or to check out our website, for upcoming events [www.armchapter12.org](http://www.armchapter12.org). Additionally, if one of you would be interested in starting a social group (eg. movie club, book club, etc) please get in touch with our president to talk about advertising in the newsletter and website.

We have had some in person events in 2022/2023 and hope that you will continue to support these in the coming season. Your organization is only as successful as you make it.

The executive is aware that we have supported a number of charities in the past and especially with the continued needs of society, the following charities were supported: \$500 each to Red door shelter, Red Cross, Salvation Army and the Daily Bread Food Bank. A donation was also made to the Ontario Health Coalition of \$1000 . In the past three years the challenges facing most charities increased with the COVID Pandemic and now with the Ukrainian invasion and the fires in the west. On behalf of the membership we are happy to support community shelters and those advocating for the rights of seniors, particularly in the health care field.

As always, the Chapter is at the disposal of Jim Spray (Provincial OSSTF assistant General Secretary and Chief Financial Officer) for oversight in financial matters.

I hope this will help to explain the financial report. If there are further questions, at the end of the report, I will be happy to answer them.

Yours sincerely

Michelle Barraclough

Treasurer

Note: This statement is until May 28, 2023. There will be additional charges applicable until the end of our year June 2023, which will be addressed in the Final Financial Summary in the digital version of After School in the fall.

# OSSTF Financial Summary 2022/2023

## ARM Chapter 12 Toronto

Income Statement	ARM Chapter 12		July 2022- May 28 2023	
Balance from 2022			\$14,643.77	
	Balance	Expenses	Revenue	
OSSTF Rebate Fees			\$12,285.00	
Educators financial Contributions			\$1,000.00	
OTIP contribution				Pending \$7500
Executive Lunches		\$2,367.77		
Luncheon Meeting Expenses		\$2,608.97		
Luncheon Meeting Revenue			\$1,031.88	
Newsletter Expenses		\$7,109.12		
Newsletter Editor		\$2,550.00		Pending \$850
Website expenses		\$226.00		
Golf and Curling Activities Expenses				
Golf and Curling Activities Revenue				
Theatre and Excursion Expenses				
Theatre and Excursion Revenues				
Gifts, Cards, Membership & Charities		\$1,950.00		Pending \$1500 to Red Cross, Salvation Army, Red Door Shelter
Office & Miscellaneous expenses		\$981.25		
Election expenses				
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$17,793.11</b>	<b>\$28,960.65</b>	

Net Income over the period		\$11,167.27		

Please note that there are payments pending which will be reflected in the statement in August, when we have the final numbers for the AGM, Editor and some miscellaneous fees.

Your executive has made several charitable donations in your name: \$500 each to Red Door, Salvation Army, Daily Food Bread Bank, Red Cross and a \$1000 to the Ontario Health Coalition. These charities reflect our support for the less fortunate in our society.

### iii) Executive Officer (Pensions) Paul Headdon

#### AGM Pension Plan Report June 2023 - Paul Headdon

Last year was a very successful year for our pension plan. The total fund net return was 4% due to strong returns from inflation (sensitive commodities) and infrastructure asset classes (toll roads and airports etc). Net assets grew to \$247.2 billion with a surplus of \$17 billion. The ten year annualized total fund net return is 8.5%. In comparison to other public sector pension plans we have had excellent results. Caisse de depot du Quebec lost 5.6% of its net assets in 2022. The healthcare of Ontario Pension Plan (HOOP) for nurses and other health care workers had its first loss in 14 years. It had a loss of 8.6 percent. This plan has been a consistent top performer. OMERS had a return of 4.5% on its investments for 2022.

Our plan is fully funded. This means that all teachers pensions, and current Teachers, will have their pensions paid now or when they retire.

The co-sponsors of the plan Ontario Teacher's Federation (OTF) and the Ontario Government decided to file the Jan.1,2023 funding valuation with the regulatory authorities. The \$17 billion surplus in our plan will be classified as a contingency reserve. Its purpose is to reduce the volatility in the Plan's funded position and to facilitate stability in the plan members contributions (12%) and benefits.( Source OTF May 5, 2023)

It is worthwhile to note that our pension plan has paused on direct investing assets in China. At the moment 2.3% of our assets are invested in China (Source Toronto Star May 11, 2023)

Shift, a charity organization tracks retirement funds and how they manage climate change in its investments believes that the pension plan leaders in the fight against climate change are Quebec's Caisse and Ontario Teacher's Pension Plan, University Pension Plan and the Investment Management Corporation of Ontario. These pension plans have targets for emissions reductions. OTPP and Caisse have also set targets for increasing investments for climate solutions.

Shift criticized two pension plans (notably OMERS and the Healthcare of Ontario Pension Plan) for failing to achieve meaningful climate objectives. (Source Financial Post Jan 17 2023)

Our pension plan has adopted new guidelines that advocate large-cap companies to increase their diversity to 40% of their directors to be women. (Source Financial Post Jan 20 2023)

Jo Taylor the CEO of OTPP wants to increase the value of the plans assets to \$300 billion by 2030.

Bill C-228 received Royal Assent on April 27, 2023 after passage by the Senate. This Bill took a long duration of time to attain the passage. It gives pension plan members the highest priority when pension plan funding falls short in a company bankruptcy. The Bill will change bankruptcy and insolvency laws to give pensioners superiority for unfunded liabilities in private-sector defined-benefit company pension plans. In this manner pension liability is put ahead of secured and unsecured creditors, unlike Sears and Nortel in the past. (Source Globe and Mail March 2023)

Retirees with fixed pensions with no cola are increasingly at a disadvantage as inflation increases. We are very fortunate in having a defined pension with cola. There was a 6.2% cola increase in your pension this year, and it appears that pensions in 2024 will also require a cola increase.