



Humber College Retirees' Association

Newsletter March 2002

It is a little late in the New Year but the Retirees Committee wants to wish all members a **prosperous and Happy New Year**. We had hoped to get this newsletter to you earlier but our "editor in chief"- Larry Holmes has been under the weather recently; we hope he will be well enough to return to his creative bent soon and in time for our next Newsletter

Last year was a successful year for your association. Through your participation Humber College Retirees' Association passed its first Constitution at the Annual General Meeting held in June. We also were able to organize three social events: - **the Annual BBQ in June** where over a hundred members and their spouses attended; a Travel Insight seminar entitled **Travel Through Spain** which was given by **Bob Schechter**, a Technology faculty retiree and the **Annual Christmas Holiday Happenings** in December. Retirees also joined the annual Stratford Trip in May that was organized by Sheryn Beattie and others. And of course all those retired golfers were able to participate in Humber's Annual Tournament in August. It is important to note that we are not only committed to fun, frolic and good times but we are also committed to communication and education. Four association members participated in a presentation at **Humber's Showcase** entitled "**Life After Humber**". The session was well attended by College staff. The **Travel Through Spain** also fell into the education category. In the coming year we hope to add to our events and your committee is currently working out the details of our coming events.

We now have 180 active members and we hope you will encourage any of your Humber retiree friends to join if they are not currently members. Being a member has its advantages. We are able to keep in touch with you through our membership list which includes mailing addresses and e-mail addresses. If you have an e-mail address and did not recently receive a communication from the Association it means that we don't have your e-mail address or it is inaccurate. Please e-mail us at: retirees@humber.ca. and we will add your e-mail address to our files.

Holiday Happenings

Tuesday December 12th 2001

Our Holiday Happenings party was a great success: both the weather and the food Gods were on our side. The evening was attended by over a hundred retirees and their spouses. Beaver Foods provided an excellent buffet dinner and the room, serving tables and dinner tables were festively and beautifully decorated. Through the magic of Doris Tallon this glittering atmosphere was wonderfully enhanced by the seasonal music of a trio of musicians. Many of the College departments, on site vendors (i.e Follett Bookstores and Beaver Foods) and retiree members donated over 50 gifts for a raffle. The raffle generated \$242 which was donated to the **Children's Wish Foundation** on behalf of the Retirees' Association. All in all, everyone had a good time and many attendees were looking forward to our next gathering.

Please note that membership is renewed each year in July for the period August 1 - July 31.

If you paid \$10 in December and attended the Holiday Happenings, that covered the event on December 12th and was not a membership renewal! Please check page 4 of this Newsletter to verify if you are a paid-up member!

Mark Your Calendar

Coming Events

Friday, April 26th 2002 **Magnotta Winery Tasting & Woodbine Racetrack Buffet**
Registration Form on Page 4 - registration deadline April 12th 2002

Friday, May 31st 2002 **Stratford Trip My Fair Lady**
Contact Doug Willford for more details (416) 675 6622 ext.4262

Thursday, June 13th 2002 **Annual General Meeting and BBQ**

Tuesday, August 13th **Humber College Annual Golf Gathering**
Contact Doug Willford for more details (416) 675-6622 ext.4262

Tuesday December 10th 2002 **Holiday Happening-Christmas Fest**

More Events are planned, Watch for announcements

Or

Check the Retirees' Association Website www.retirees.humber.ca

Our New Website

www.retirees.humber.ca

Your association with the help of Tom Tumilty has created a web site which can be reached at the above address. We are still working on the site, so at this stage - it's under construction but our goal is to have it complete as soon as possible. Currently the pages you can view are: The Constitution, Announcements, Newsletters and Quotes, Coming Events, Active members and Links .The Links page will help you link to the **Ontario Colleges of Applied Arts Retirees' Association (OCRA)** www.caatretirees.org which became constituted last summer.

Ontario Colleges of Applied Arts Retirees' Association (OCRA)

The Primary Role of OCRA:

In its primary role as an advocacy group for all college retirees, OCRA is fundamentally different from that of the local college associations. The Association will have minimal social function and instead addresses topics of broad interest to college retirees using its status for enhanced impact. For example, approaches by individuals or groups to an agency such as the Council of Regents have not been seen as representing the broader views of retirees. Representations by OCRA will change that perspective.

The Mission of OCRA:

The mission of OCRA is to pursue and foster interests of its members including:

To develop and present a common position on issues of interest to retirees, including pension and health benefits, government policies and proposals, and private sector arrangements with other organizations as deemed appropriate, and to achieve these objectives through advocacy, negotiation, lobbying, and/or other actions:

To collect, distribute, analyze, and comment on information on matters of interest to the members;

To develop and maintain effective channels of communication with the membership;

To establish and maintain liaison with various boards and agencies.

Membership Eligibility

Under the OCRA constitution, membership is available to all college retirees which includes

“...individuals formerly employed by an Ontario College of Applied Arts and Technology who is receiving a pension, or who is eligible to receive a deferred pension based on his or her time of employment with a College, or who has accepted a lump sum payment in lieu of a pension”

If you are interested in joining as voting member (\$10.00) or as a non voting member (free) it is important that you complete the form below and mail it to the OCRA Secretary

BULLETIN FROM OCRA(TM) TAX FACTS FOR RETIREES

The prescriptions fully paid by post-65 retirees during the \$100 deductible period under the Provincial Drug Plan (ODB) should be submitted to Sun Life under the extended health coverage for 85% reimbursement.

The balance that is not paid by the insurance carrier on any medical receipts (prescription, eyeglasses, physiotherapy, dental, etc.) is an eligible medical expense on your income tax return.

If the cost of a prescription is fully paid under the Provincial Drug Plan and the only cost to you is the dispensing fee, don't forget to save these receipts and when submitted to Sun Life, you will receive 85% reimbursement. The balance is also an eligible medical expense on your income tax return.

The premiums paid by retirees for their benefit coverage are also an eligible medical expense on your income tax return.
