District 39
New Members
(To August 31)

Marija Abdilla
Stewart Adams
Anna Ardan Steciw
Pauline Ashworth
Nancy Austen
Bridget Axford
Donna Ballantyne
Christine Bellerose
Antoinette J. Bettings
Mary Buell Abiague
C. Allana Cameron
Sharon Casey
Vivian Cavalini
V. Carol Chapman
Sharron Charlton
Sheila Clayton
Mary Jane Cochrane
Marcia Covill
Oksanna S. Crawley
Adriana Da Cunha
Tina DeClerico
Frances Ditschun
Yvette D’Souza
Jean Erion
Carolyn Fujiwara
Michael Gauley
Jill Gaynor
Margaret Geare
Evrol George
Jacqueline Gierczak
Leslie Godlington-Kemp
Wendy Graesser
Tina Grainger
Garry F. Hall
Charles Hammill
Catherine Holowitz
Nancy Inglis
Wanda Jackson
Claudette Johnson
Leola M. Kane
Mary Kavanaugh
Naseema Khan
Luba Kopij
Marg Kufowski
Carol Laderoute
Pauline LaRocca
Shirley Latorre
Linda M. Lettieri
E. Bernadette Lewis
Martha Lindsay
David Lloyd
Natalie Mathews
William Matthews
Patti McGhie
Karen McGibbon
Lillian V. Mitchell
Patricia Moore
Deborah Muma
Jeryl Phillips
Diana Piccolo
Trudy Prescott
G. Dale Proctor
Elizabeth Reinhart
Debra Richardson
Linda Richardson
Donna M. Rukavina
Robert J. Ryan
Francis Sampson
Catherine Scattergood
Martin Sear
Theresa Shawaga
Raminderpal Sidhu
Cristoforo Signori
William Smith
Alison Snowden
Raineri Soini
Jill Solski
John Stegeman
Mary Ann Strachan
Andrew G. Sutherland
Evi Szakolcai
Ann Szewaga
Kathryn Takeuchi
Julie Thomas
Susan Thomas
Sandra Walker
David B. Walkom
Anna Kristina Westenberger
Wendy Wiseman
Brenda Wong
Bonnie Young
As I look at the trees donning their autumn colours, I wonder where summer has gone. I hope that you all enjoyed the season, as short as it was and in spite of the weather. While we can’t count on the weather, it is great to know that at this time in our lives, we are able to enjoy life to its fullest in ways that interest us – travelling, pursuing our hobbies, gardening, playing golf, enjoying family and life in general.

The Executive of RTO/ERO District 39 (Peel) is gearing up for another busy year and we invite you to be involved in its many activities and events. On September 29, the New Retirees Breakfast was held at the Brampton Golf and Country Club. It featured a buffet breakfast and interesting speakers. The retirement Planning workshop will be held on Saturday, November 15. If you know of anyone thinking about retirement, please have them contact Nancy Perrin or Carol Blackwell from the Recruitment Committee.

The Social Committee is busily planning events both weekly and monthly. On Wednesday, October 1, is a bus trip to Midland, to visit the 1907 S.S. Keewatin. Please visit the Web site to read about these events in Dennis Taylor’s report or visit the Social Calendar online for updates.

On Monday, October 6, the District 39 Annual General Meeting will be held at the Capitol Banquet Centre. After the business meeting, the entertainment will be Steve Brinder, one of Canada’s finest stand-up comedians. It promises to be a good meeting and we hope to see you there.

Just a reminder that Project Service to Others (PSTO) applications are available through the provincial RTO/ERO Web site. The PSTO program provides grants to Districts for initiatives which support the concept of “Service to Others”. The deadline for applications to be submitted to the District 39 Executive is April 1, 2015. Applications should be for a specific project to be undertaken and completed within the calendar year. For more information and the District 39 PSTO Application Form, visit our Web site, www.rto-peel.org.

As always, we welcome your involvement in our District. If you are interested in becoming involved as a committee member or a member of the executive, please speak to any of our Executive members or contact me at jbalesic@bell.net. Your executive is looking forward to another productive year and hope that you will join us.

The District 39 Health and Wellness Series continues this Fall.

On Wednesday, October 29, Colleen Derrick, from Scotia Bank will speak about estate planning.

On Wednesday November 19, Sue Stephenson will talk about her latest book and the healing power of laughter.

Both presentations will be at 9:30 a.m., at Palisades on the Glen, 1665 The Collegeway, Mississauga (beside the Glen Erin Inn). We will be in the movie room which is on the P1 level. You enter through the main doors and take the elevator down one floor. There is lots of underground (as well as above ground) parking.

Please register for each presentation by sending an e-mail to lindajkenny@rogers.com.
Membership
Ed Bergey
Chair

Our membership as of August 31, 2014 stands at 3506, comprised of 3206 Full and 300 Associate Members. District 39 continues to grow each year. During the August 2013 – July 2014 period we took on 215 new members but lost 93 for a net gain of 122 members. The expanded membership criterion has resulted in 22% of the new members being associates — retirees who worked in education in Ontario.

The last survey of our membership provided the following information. 71% of our members are female, 29% male. 60% of our members (2084) provided an e-mail address to RTO/ERO, but currently only 1822 (52%) of these choose to receive District 39 e-mails.

The median Pension Date for District 39 (Peel) members is July 1, 2003. That means that 50% retired before, and 50% after, that date. Half of us have been collecting a pension for more than 11 years. 42 started collecting their pension in summer 1994 (20 years), 11 started in 1984 (30 years) and 36 members (13 men, 23 women) have been on pension for over 30 years — 13 of those over 35 years. One person has been on pension for 40 years this July!

In previous years we have been able to sort our data by age, thus allowing a summary of the age bands of our District 39 retirees. A recent decision concerning Privacy legislation in Ontario means that District 39 (Peel) no longer is provided with birthdates of our members. Future summaries of our membership will thus be limited to the number of years we have been on pension, or a member of RTO/ERO, etc.

The Provincial office has the birth date information and will provide us with lists of our members who are attaining “milestone” birthdays (85, 90, 95, 100 etc.). Our Goodwill Chair, Joanne Rossitter-Minardi, will continue sending birthday cards to our members on those special dates.

We will be surveying our members this Fall. Watch for a hard copy at the October General Meeting, or wait for the online version which will come to those with valid e-mails.

When you move or change your e-mail address, please keep your information updated by sending us an e-mail at rtod39@gmail.com. Virtually all information updates to members are done via e-mail. Some iPad users have found it necessary to adjust some settings to allow full viewing of our e-mails.

Remember that, when you unsubscribe from a District 39 e-mail notice, you are removing yourself from all future electronic notices from District 39 (Peel).

Transfers in

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<td>Judy Kavanagh</td>
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<td>Marilyn Somerville</td>
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Transfers Out

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<td>Karen P. Campbell</td>
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<td>Geraldine Fabb</td>
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<td>Robert W. Graham</td>
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<td>Jo-Ann Higgins</td>
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In Memoriam as of May 31

| Alexander P. Shearer |
| Feb 4, 2014 |
| Muriel E. McLeod |
| Feb 12, 2014 |
| Lucy M. Saruyama |
| Feb 21, 2014 |
| Ashton McKinnell |
| Mar 1, 2014 |
| Frederick Mihay |
| Mar 5, 2014 |
| Greta Tristram |
| Mar 23, 2014 |
| Marilyn L. Bann |
| Apr 8, 2014 |
| Kenneth Stewart |
| Apr 9, 2014 |
| Allan M. Walker |
| Apr 16, 2014 |
| Ralph Gordon |
| Apr 25, 2014 |

Make Peelings Your Newsletter: Use It To Share Your Experiences

Your pictures will make your article more interesting and don’t forget to add a picture of yourself (head shot).

Send to pmaloney@interlog.com

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Dennis Taylor  Social Committee Chair

Although our activities began in September, this is the first opportunity that I have had to welcome many of you back. I hope that you had an eventful time in what was a moderated summer.

The Federations and the Credit Union have been very generous in allowing us to use the Murphy Room, but occasionally we are unable to secure the room and there may be an alternate date or location. We announce any such changes in our monthly e-mail calendar. If you do not presently receive these updates, please send a brief note to rtod39@gmail.com, or if you are not sure, you can call me.

Our activities are on Thursdays and usually start at 10:00 a.m.

On the first Thursday of each month, there is Cards and Conversation at the Educators’ Centre, 6435 Edwards Blvd., Mississauga. And on the last Thursday, there is Bowling at Brampton Bowling Lanes, 12 Beech Street, Brampton. Call Larry Holseth (905 459 8965) for further information or directions.

On the second Thursday, are our AM Specials, usually held at the Educators’ Centre. For these, our costs are covered by a nominal $2.00 charge. On October 9, Matthew Wilkinson, the historian with Heritage Mississauga will make a presentation about “Haunted Mississauga”. For this presentation, we will be meeting at the Grange, in Mississauga. It is the home to Heritage Mississauga and has its own resident ghost! This seems appropriate for the presentation in October. On November 13, John Moore, a member of the Mississauga Camera Club and a widely travelled member of RTO/ERO will be presenting “Viet Nam and Cambodia”.

Our annual Christmas Gathering and presentation will be on December 4, in the Great Hall of the Unitarian Congregation of Mississauga, South Service Road at Hurontario Street (Highway 10). Joshua Tamayo, from Windmill Theatre, is back by popular request. He is the musician who performed so admirably last year. Please join us at 10:15 a.m. for coffee, tea and treats. The performance will begin at 11:00 a.m. There is ample parking. The price remains at $6.00 a person. This event is heavily subsidized by District 39, so we hope you will be able to come and enjoy it with us. Please note that having this event on the first Thursday in December will necessitate moving Cards and Conversation to December 11.

On the third Thursday, we schedule our walks. On October 16, we will meet at Professor’s Lake in Brampton. This is a change in venue as there appears to be ongoing work at Lake Aquitaine. On November 20, we will meet at Loafer’s Lake in northern Brampton. Please watch the calendar for directions.

We do not walk in the winter months, due to uncertain conditions. Instead, we offer a pay as you go brunch on the third Thursday in January, February, and March. In January, we will meet at The Pickle Barrel in Bramalea City Centre. Watch our calendar for time and contact information.

We are looking into a bus trip in the Spring. Watch the next newsletter for more information.

I hope you can join us for some of our activities. If there are any concerns you should call me, Dennis Taylor, at 905 457 8804.
RTO/ERO District 39 (Peel)
Annual General Meeting and Luncheon
Capitol Banquet Centre, 6435 Dixie Rd., Mississauga

The Executive of District 39 extends a warm invitation to all its members and their guests to attend this AGM and Luncheon.

Monday, October 6, 2014
$20.00 per member (By reservation only)
9:30 Registration and Refreshments
10:00 Business Meeting
11:15 Fabulous Entertainment

Steve Brinder
One of Canada`s finest stand-up comedians
www.stevebrinder.com

12:30 Lunch
Please cut here and remit the Reservation Form below with your cheque to:

RTO/ERO District 39, c/o Larry Holseth, 6 Tullamore Rd., Brampton, ON L6W 1J7
Meeting Only __________ Meeting and Meal __________

Enclosed is a cheque payable to: RTO District 39 Peel for @$20.00 per meal

$ ________ for _________ luncheons (non-refundable) (Return by–Mon. Sept. 22, 2014)

Choice of: Beef: _____ Chicken ______ Vegetarian ______ Salmon ______

My Name _______________________________ retirement year __________

Guest Name _______________________________ retirement year __________ (if a member)

Member e-mail ___________________________ phone ________________________

Comments Appreciated (on meetings, lunches, entertainment, speakers, social, etc)

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WHY HABITAT?
by Kelvin Law

“The best things in life are free,
But you can give them
to the birds and bees,
I want a home,
A home that I can afford.”
(The Beatles with apologies and modifications)

And in today’s real estate market, affordable housing is an almost unthinkable reality for a vast number of low-income earners in any urban area in Southern Ontario.

Habitat for Humanity Mississauga wants to help some people in need try to realize the dream of owning a home that they can afford.

Contrary to some misconceptions Habitat for Humanity does not give families a free home. Rather, it will help carefully selected families achieve that dream domicile. Once “partner families” have been selected, they must complete 500 hours of volunteer time called “sweat equity”, before they are presented with the keys to their new home. Coupled with that is an army of volunteers with skills and a willingness to help the partner families achieve their dream of a safe, decent and affordable place to live.

Habitat Mississauga is a fairly young entity recently brought to life by Doug Clark, the husband of Terry Clark, in 2005. Terry was a special education teacher in the Special Programs department of the Peel District School Board. She was working on a special writing team with Marg Boyd, who was principal of Applewood Acres School. At that time, Marg was also on the steering committee working to establish the local affiliate of Habitat in Mississauga. Terry told her husband, Doug, who is a Chartered Accountant and worked for many years in the construction field, about the project. Doug, having recently retired himself, seized the opportunity and worked to help Habitat Mississauga build itself from the ground up.

Terry retired from teaching in 2006 and with found time, joined the Board of Directors for Habitat for Humanity Mississauga and is the current Chair of the Family Selection and Support Committee.

On July 25, 2014, thanks to the efforts of a crew of very dedicated volunteers, Habitat Mississauga completed its third build project and handed over the keys of a renovated townhome to a single mother of four children. This very hard working family is thrilled to be leaving behind a very tiny, crowded, unsafe and unhealthy 2-bedroom apartment and to be settling into a new neighbourhood that is close to all the amenities they need. The family will purchase the Habitat home at fair market value with an interest free mortgage. Monthly housing costs are geared to a family’s income, which is reviewed on a yearly basis.

That “hand up, not a hand-out” philosophy has not only improved Habitat families’ self-esteem, but also has seen an improvement in the children’s academics, with 90% of them staying in school with a goal of getting a higher education.

Doug Hitchcock, who was Peel’s Occupational Health and Safety Teacher Advisor for eleven years and a Design and Technology teacher for twenty years before that, uses his construction skills once a week at Habitat Mississauga’s ReStore at 1705 Argentia Road in Mississauga. Habitat for Humanity ReStores sell new and gently used renovation and construction materials,
and home decor items and supplies, donated by individuals, some of whom are installing new kitchens. There are also numerous corporate sponsors like Home Depot which donate products as well. These items can be bought at the ReStore for up to 70% off the selling price of new items. And you never have to pay the HST!

Doug acts as a “quality control” inspector to check out the many ReStore donations to help determine if they can be sold. He is a member of the kitchen salvage team that removes kitchens from donor’s homes for re-assembly and re-sale at the ReStore. He also participated in the most recent build, assisting corporate “adopt a day” teams with a variety of tasks that were part of the build.

Doug Wighton, a retired secondary school teacher from Thistletown Collegiate in Rexdale, has also been working at the Habitat Mississauga ReStore since it opened in Mississauga two years ago. He is a valued member of the salvage crew, helping to drive the truck. He also drives the ReStore truck, once a week, to various locations throughout Mississauga for donation pick-ups.

One recent large donation came from a well-known home builder/developer, complete with top-grade kitchen cabinets and appliances. A skilled salvage crew of Habitat volunteers, including Doug Hitchcock and Doug Wighton, carefully dismantled and then helped to load the items onto the truck before they were taken back and re-assembled at the Habitat Mississauga ReStore.

My conversations with my three willing Habitat volunteers, convinced me that they are all dedicated to helping people in any way that they can. They agree totally with the feelings of Steve de Lint: “I don’t want to live in a world where we don’t look out for each other. Not just the people close to us, but anybody who needs a helping hand. I can’t change the way anyone else thinks or what they choose to do, but I can do my bit.”

I thank them for taking the time and energy to give us some insight into Habitat for Humanity here in Mississauga.

For more information, please check out the following Web sites:
- Habitat for Humanity Mississauga: www.habitatmississauga.ca
- Habitat for Humanity Canada: www.habitat.ca

If you would like to volunteer, please contact Alison Canning, Volunteer Co-ordinator at 905 828 0987, ext. 222 at Habitat for Humanity Mississauga.
Peelings Winter issue deadline is December 1, 2014
Please send comments, suggestions and all submissions by e-mail to pmaloney@interlog.com

Ontario Teachers’ Pension Plan
For pension inquiries
416 226 2700
1 800 668 0150

Report any change of street address e-mail address phone number to the RTO/ERO Provincial Office

Put your name on our e-mail lists to:
1. Receive Information from District 39.
2. Go Green (decline the printed version of Peelings.)
e-mail a note to rtod39@gmail.com

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