



FEBRUARY 2023 E News - District 11 Waterloo Region

President's Message

February has arrived and with it many of us start to think about Valentine's Day, the Lunar New Year, and maybe the Super Bowl! I think that February is a good month to spread kindness and happiness when and where we can. A simple phone call or an email to a friend, a card or note in the mail, or simply smiling at someone you pass on the street are simple acts that can spread kindness and lift the spirits of others!

As members of RTOERO we can be grateful for the range of supports and services that this organization provides. Locally, we do our best to keep members informed about RTOERO and to provide ways of connecting socially through activities and special events. Check out the coming events by reading to the end of this eNEWS!

RTOERO as a national organization also provides a wealth of supports and services. RTOERO has a mandate that focuses on research and education, community service, advocacy, member services/activities, perks, and products, in addition to a remarkable benefits plan! No question about it, there is tremendous benefit and value in an RTOERO.

Cheers and Best Wishes!
Wendy

CHECK OUT THESE UPCOMING EVENTS!
Don't miss the Registration Forms included below:

EVENT	DATE	REGISTRATION / CONTACT
District 11 Board Meeting	Monday, February 6, 9:30 a.m.	
Coffee and Conversation	Tuesday, February 14, 9:30 a.m.	RSVP CLICK HERE
Book Club	Thursday, February 16, 10:00a.m.	RSVP CLICK HERE
Fresh Air Friday - "The Great Backyard Bird Count Day" - with Peter Rasberry	Friday, February 17, 10:30 a.m.	RSVP CLICK HERE
Stitching with Friends	Monday, February 20, 2:00p.m.	RSVP CLICK HERE

Our NEWS AT 11 TEAM is inviting you to share your story!

"Magic Moments, memories we've been sharing..." Perry Como's song should bring back memories, and we hope you will write about them. Our District 11 Newsletter spring 2023 edition is calling for stories under our theme, **Magic Moments**. Tell us a story about your work with refugees, your courageous ancestors, your brush with fame, a special connection with your students, friends, family, lessons learned, or an event that changed your life, etc. Send your story idea by February 15 to Sylvia Ranson at: rtodistrict11newsletter@gmail.com.

More INFO ABOUT FEBRUARY EVENTS and ACTIVITIES

District 11 Fresh Air Friday: Friday Feb 17, @ 10:30 a.m. Retired Outdoor Education specialist and Nature Photographer, **Peter Rasberry** will lead us on this walk starting at the Huron Natural Area in Kitchener. (801 Trillium Dr, Kitchener, ON N2R 1K4) It is the first day of the Great Backyard Bird Count, held each year on the Family Day Weekend. It is a world-wide citizen science program sponsored by Birds Canada, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, and the Audubon Society. The following website has more information <https://www.birdcount.org/>

February 2023 marks the 28th official Black History Month in Canada - *A special event is being held at the Ken Seiling Region of Waterloo Museum 10 Huron Rd, Kitchener on **February 5, from 11:30 to 5:00 p.m.*** Join the Caribbean Canadian Association of Waterloo Region our partners and sponsors, as we kick off Black History Month 2023 with a 1-day in-person event that celebrates Black History, Black Heritage and Black Achievement. Featuring local artistes and speakers, the Caribbean Canadian Association of Waterloo Region will Celebrate, Educate and Advocate in Waterloo Region!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: DON'T MISS THESE UPCOMING 2023 EVENTS
Watch for registration information in future eNEWS bulletins!

- * **ANTI-FRAUD FOR SENIORS - Wednesday, March 29, 1:00 - 2:30 pm** - no cost
Stephanie Senecal, of the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre. will show you how to recognize scams, cyber fraud and how to reject it. She will inform you of current fraud information and help you recognize the tools of scammers. You will also learn how to report possible scams.

- * **SOCIAL ART/ PAINT AFTERNOON - Thursday April 13, 2:00 - 4:00 pm** -
We are looking forward to a fun afternoon of painting with local artist/ instructor. All paints and canvas are supplied. Plan to join us and learn how to bring out your inner artist!

- * **"BEAUTIFUL: THE CAROLE KING MUSICAL"** - May 30, 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. We have been able to secure a block of tickets to see this amazing show that tells the story of the rise to fame of Carole King, at the Hamilton Family Theatre in Cambridge.

SUBMITTING BENEFITS CLAIMS

BENEFITS - [My Insurance portal](#), the online website for Johnsons' insurance, remains the most effective and convenient way for our members to submit their claims. If, however, you prefer to send in your insurance claim through Canada Post, please use the following address:
Group Benefits Claim, PO Box 4287 Station A, Toronto, ON, M5W 5X1

District 11's BOARD OF DIRECTORS is looking for VOLUNTEERS

Successful teams are dependent upon the people who get involved and provide direction and support for activities, events and business. RTOERO District 11 Waterloo Region is once again, asking members to consider volunteering on our Board of Directors. If you'd like to find out about the work of the board - please join us as an observer at a future board meeting. We meet on the first Monday of the month at 9:30a.m. Currently, we are meeting virtually over zoom. [CLICK HERE TO RSVP](#) if you are interested in attending a future board meeting and we will be happy to talk with you!

COMMUNITY GRANTS APPLICATIONS OPENING SOON - Our 2-year partnership of support with Community Support Connections has finished, and members will be invited to submit applications for local charities that could be considered for our next Community Grants program. For information about the 2023 grant process, please check the [Community Grants 2023 Application Process](#) on the RTOERO Website.

Contact membership@rtoero.ca to update your contact information

Stay informed! Stay Connected! Check District 11's Social Media:
WEBSITE - [click here](#)
FACEBOOK - [click here](#)