



**RTO
ERO**

District 11
Waterloo Region

February, 2024

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Happy February to all! Except for one week in January, we have had a very mild winter so far! Hopefully you are enjoying the outdoors when it is not icy.

So far I have only received one nomination for our [District 11 Award of Distinction](#). Please read below and see if you can nominate a [District 11 member](#) for this prestigious award.

Each year, RTOERO Waterloo Region recognizes the contributions of one of our local, District 11 members with an Award of Distinction. The award of Distinction is presented to a member in good standing with RTOERO District 11 Waterloo Region who:

- Demonstrates an outstanding caring commitment to volunteer service in the community
- Participates actively in organizations where helping others is the prime directive, locally or abroad
- Contributes freely of time and talents to assist others
- Encourages or mentors others in an education/support/service setting

Click [here](#) to fill out an online version of the nomination form.

Click [here](#) to access a print version of the nomination form.

The deadline for applications is February 15, 2024.

For your information, RTOERO has partnered with Telus to bring exclusive savings to RTOERO members on cellphones, rate plans, high-speed internet, SmartHome Security, health solutions and more. Visit rtoero.ca/telus and complete the quick form to access your offers.

If any of you are interested in joining the Board of District 11 or attending a Board meeting please contact me at president11@districts.rtoero.ca

Terry Hamilton

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

Event	Date	How To Register
Coffee and Conversation	Tuesday, February 13, 2024 9:30 a.m.	Registration is necessary each month. Register here by February 9.
Fresh Air Friday	Friday, February 16, 2024 10:30 a.m.	Register here for our walk to Bechtel Park.
Book Club	Thursday, January 18, 2024 10:00 a.m.	Use this form to find out more information and to register.
Stitching With Friends	Monday, February 19, 2024 1:00 p.m.	Register here if you have not done so yet this year.
District 11 Know Your Health Plan Webinar	Wednesday, Feb. 28, 2024 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.	Click here to register . You will be taken to RTOERO's website for registration.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OUR UPCOMING EVENTS

District 11 will again offer activities monthly for you to meet with members, online and in-person. Some of our monthly activities include:

* **Book Club** - Our meetings are generally on the 3rd Thursday of the month in the morning. We are doing a mixture of in person and zoom, depending on time of year, special out of town guests, etc. February 15 - **The Swallows of Kabul** by Yasmina Khadra - also a 2019 animated movie - [Zoom](#)

* **Fresh Air Fridays** - members enjoy the outdoors at different trails and parks in the region. Bechtel Park Trail Loop - If you signed up in January we still have your names. 185 Bridge St W, Waterloo, ON N2K 1K9 This 2.3-km loop trail is considered an easy route, it takes an average of 36 min to complete. This popular trail for birding, hiking, and mountain biking is a lovely trail with a creek running through it, access to meadows, forest trails, and even some nice picnic areas. Because of winter conditions, keep an eye on the weather; cleats and walking sticks might be useful. Dogs are welcome, but must be on a leash.

* **Coffee and Conversation** - A location is picked after you have registered so that we can be sure to choose a location that will accommodate everyone. After you have registered, you will receive an email regarding the location for our next get-together.

* **Stitching with Friends** - members meet online to enjoy crocheting, knitting, fabric arts and chatting. Please join us via Zoom on the third Monday of each month at 1:00 pm. Sign up once and you will receive the zoom link monthly. The link will be emailed a few days before the event.

* **Benefits Workshop** - Join us for an informative session highlighting the details and value of our RTOERO Benefits plan. Find out about your travel benefits, and details related to health benefits.

Theatre News - "Jersey Boys", on April 11th, 2024 @ 2 pm. Please check your email for invitations that were sent out through Eventbrite. Ticket Sales started January 25, 2024 and we are now SOLD OUT. We hope to see you at the Hamilton Family Theatre this April 2024. District 11 was able to offer a discount to our members on the price of the tickets. Come out and enjoy this excellent theatre experience.

New Events Coming Up

Stay tuned for a few more activities during the winter and early spring season. We are still working on the details, but District 11 is planning a series of "Beer and Billiards", "Sip and Snooker", "Pop and Pool" (choose your own title according to your preferred beverage) afternoons between February and May. We hope to have a relaxed and friendly pool-playing atmosphere in the three main areas of our District - Waterloo, Kitchener, and Cambridge. Come to one or come to all! Subscribe to our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/RTOERODistrict11WaterlooRegion>) to get more information when it becomes available.

June 12, 2024-- Mark this date on your calendar! It is the date of our FIRST EVER RTOERO Waterloo Region **Travel Show--Planes, Trains and Automobiles!** We will have approximately 20 Travel-Related companies that will be showcasing their UNIQUE products and services. These are not just your "run of the mill" travel agencies. These are individuals and companies that offer UNIQUE experiences and products (i.e. Socially Responsible Safaris, Small and Large Group Tours to all seven continents, Long-Stay options, cycling tours, hiking tours, Canadian Tours, Disney Specialists, cruise specialists, great getaways here in Ontario, etc). There will truly be something for everyone! Of course, there will be lots of "show specials", door prizes and giveaways! You don't want to miss this event!

This free show runs from Noon till 8:00 pm at The DoubleTree Hotel on Fairway Road.

Watch for more information as we get closer to the date of the show. Follow us on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/RTOERODistrict11WaterlooRegion>) for more information and for profiles of our Exhibitors leading up to the event.

Activity Survey for Members

Each year, your District 11 Board of Directors works to plan and coordinate activities of interest to members. We would like to hear your thoughts about the activities we have provided, and possible ideas for future activities. It should take 2-3 minutes to complete this survey. Thank you in advance for your input!

[Click here to access the survey.](#)

News At 11 - Tell us stories of your childhood. What was it like growing up where you lived? What activities did you and your siblings participate in? What was school like for you? What were the teachers like? What was your family entertainment? What were your chores? News At 11 is looking for stories for our spring edition related to our theme, "Reflections."

Send us a half-page story (450 words approximately), or a full-page story (550 words approximately) with photos to: Sylvia Ranson: rtodistrict11newsletter@gmail.com. Please use 11-point Arial font, single spacing. Deadline for submission is February 20, 2024

Follow District 11 News and Events on Facebook and our Website:

<https://www.facebook.com/RTOERODistrict11WaterlooRegion/> / <https://district11.rtoero.ca/>