



**Topics for Sharing (formerly District Liaison Report)
Member Services Committee Meeting September 24, 2020 | RTOERO Zoom
Videoconference**

This document has been sent to district presidents, first vice-presidents, member services coordinators, goodwill reps, recruitment contacts, board of directors, committee chairs and RTOERO staff.

Legal documents:

Work continues on a document that has guidelines for members who visit members in their homes and provide transportation of members to RTOERO events. We are also seeking input from legal counsel on a new travel coordinator's volunteer description. At this time of pandemic conditions continuing and in some cases intensifying, members are reminded that all RTOERO in person events, including visits to members in any fashion are not permitted for at least the balance of 2020.

Volunteer engagement:

A Volunteer Recognition slide deck was presented at the committee meeting. The Volunteer Recognition Program recognizes Volunteers at all levels and also includes those at the district level and those who are will receive recognition gifts when entering a committee & completing their committee term.

The tiers are as follows:

Volunteer Recognition Program

1. Board Member Entry Gift (including Chair and Vice-Chair)
Board Chair Completion Gift
Board Member Board Member Completion Gift
2. Committee Chair Entry Gift
Committee Chair Completion Gift
Committee Member Entry Gift
Committee Member Completion Gift
3. District President Entry Gift
District Executive Member Entry Gift
District President and Executive Completion Gift

A District manual for all districts is also being drafted. It will include policies, procedures, job descriptions etc. and will be distributed to all Districts once completed.

RPWs and Recruitment:

RPWs will be held virtually until the end of the year. Please continue to advertise the dates in your newsletters, eblast and website. We were asked for suggestions for recruiting new members you will find these [here](#).



We ask that the Districts refrain from actively promoting by visiting schools and distributing posters as they would have in the past. Encourage colleagues to register for virtual workshops at RPW@rtoero.ca.

RTOERO has provided the districts with a copy of the letter from CODE (Council of Directors of Education) sent to the Directors of School Boards allowing RTOERO to have access to the schools. This will be helpful to promote future RPWs once the schools are reopened.

Goodwill:

A huge thank you to all goodwill reps for your continued support. Your time, your effort and commitment to our members is greatly appreciated.

New goodwill cards and notelets are now available free of charge for District goodwill chairs from the E-store; there are no shipping and handling charges. Visit the RTOERO online store - <https://www.rtostore.ca/>

Gift cards and gift certificates are not allowed to be distributed to members as it jeopardizes RTOERO's not-for-profit status.

As mentioned above, in person meetings or visits are not allowed until further notice from RTOERO.

Travel:

Merit Travel, one of RTOERO's preferred sponsor, as a service to members, is prepared to offer webinars about various types of travel and destinations. If you are interested in viewing such webinars, please send us your suggestions on topics for the webinars.

Suggestions for Recruiting New Members:

- Social media: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram
- Advertising in District newsletter and on website
- Link up with a popular community blogger
- Take an ad in the local newspaper
- If they will allow - put notices on all of the unions websites that serve schools
- Send a newsletter to new members even if they are still actively employed
- Provide gifts for new members: promotional items from RTOERO online store <https://www.rtostore.ca/>

The following text is an excerpt from the report sent by Martha Foster - RTOERO Presidents session Sept. 3, 2020:

- Connect with local affiliates to offer district support and assistance. (District 7 Windsor)
- Send an eblast to actively employed members, expressing support for them during the back-to-school time. (District 11 Waterloo)
- Mail a small gift (bookmark) to all members. (District 11 Waterloo)
- Recruit new volunteers by inviting two new members who are friends and asking them to assist with a specific task that can be completed within a defined time frame. (District 17 Simcoe County)
- Mail a personalized welcome card to newly retired members. (District 38 Lambton)
- Zoom meetings for members in specific geographic areas within the district. (District 42 Mainland British Columbia)
- Most districts are issuing regular (monthly is most common) eblasts to members with timely updates.
- Many districts have converted their traditional September welcome event for new members to a virtual event (for example, virtual champagne breakfast, District 23 North York) or are sending information to new members by eblast that would have been shared in-person.
- Some districts are making direct contact with new members, inviting them to volunteer or join the executive.