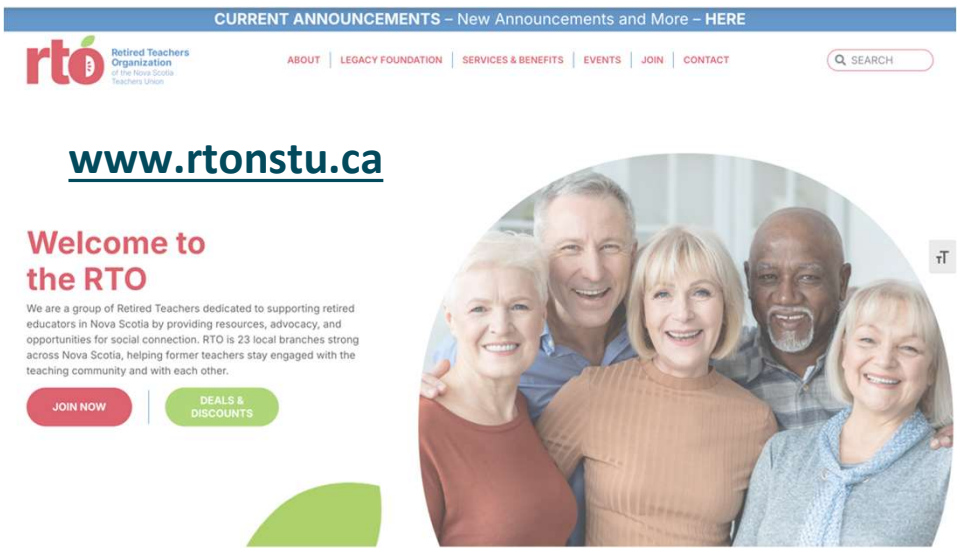
Getting to Know Our RTO

rto
Retired Teachers Organization
of the Nova Scotia Teachers Union

Who Are We?



7200 retired teachers from across the province who enjoy membership in an organization that recognizes and supports our professional and personal connections. Membership is open to all recipients of a Nova Scotia Teachers' Pension.

MEMBERSHIP CARD

rto Retired Teachers Organization of the Nova Scotia Teachers Union

Retired #nstunited









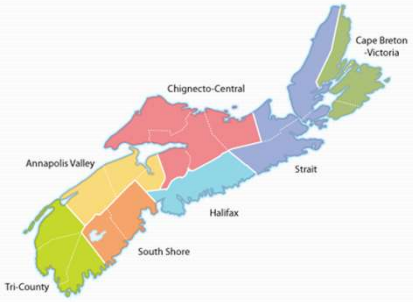
Our Mission Statement

To safeguard and enhance retirement quality and security for our members through volunteer-based community building, advocacy, and member-focused services.



A Provincial Voice for Retired Teachers

- Approximately 7200 members in 23 Branches across the province
- Branches are roughly aligned to the NSTU Locals.
- Branches are geographically assigned to Regions.



RTO Membership

All teachers who are in receipt of a pension from NSTPP in Nova Scotia are eligible to become an RTO member upon retirement. Teachers simply need to fill out the form to become a member. This enables full benefits of membership for just $4/month.

Retired teachers may join later if they did not join at retirement.

Teachers who have taught elsewhere may join the RTO as an Affiliate Member.



Updates to your membership (mailing address, phone number, etc.) can be made by completing a form on our website at rtonstu.ca

And Membership has its privileges!

- **Up to date retiree information** on pension, insurance , and matters of interest to retired educators
- **Opportunity for social connections** with other RTO members in your Branch
- **Deals and Discounts** – similar to those enjoyed as an NSTU member
- ***The Retired Teacher,* our RTO newsletter**, produced 3 times a year: Spring, Fall and Winter issues
- A **voice on provincial matters related to seniors** - The RTO is a member of the Senior Advisory Council of Nova Scotia which advocates for seniors on issues such as health and social welfare in NS
- A **voice on federal matters related to seniors** - As a member of ACER-CART***, the Canadian Association for Retired Teachers,*** we work on behalf of our members on issues such as health, pensions, National Pharmacare, elimination of elder abuse and a National Seniors' Strategy
- Finally, RTO membership provides an **opportunity for leadership** at both the Branch and at the provincial level.

Branch Structure

- Branches have their own Executive and budget.
- Each Branch receives an annual grant from the Provincial RTO based on their membership numbers.
- Branches organize activities for the members in their Branch – meetings, workshops and social events.
- Branches can also apply for additional funding through the Branch Initiative Program (BIP) grants to conduct special events and activities.

Branch Activities

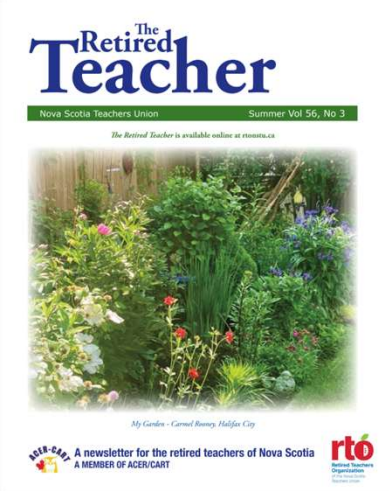
- **Luncheons** with a meeting component
- **Dinners** with guest speakers
- **Social / leisure activities** such as workshops, plays and indoor and outdoor gatherings
- **Contact** by telephone / email
- **Volunteer possibilities** and leadership opportunities





RTO Communications

- **RTO Newsletter**
- **RTO Website (www.rtonstu.ca)**
- **Branch Facebook Groups**
- **Branch Newsletters**
- **The RTO maintains a membership list with emails for use if needed**



The Provincial RTO Executive 2026-2027

President – Pat Hillier
Vice President – Stephen Surette
Past President - Alyson Hillier
Treasurer (elected at the AGM) – Jim Kavanaugh
Secretary(elected at the AGM) – Judy Knowlton
Members at Large representing the 7 Provincial Regions
Cape Breton -Victoria -Joyce Lively
Chignecto-Central - Cindy MacKinnon
Halifax Metro – Hugh Fraser
Valley – Mike Knowles
Strait -Tammy Landry
South Shore –John MacKay
South West Shore – Roland Hannem

Each Member at Large is elected by the Branches in their region.

RTO Executive 2026-27



RTO Provincial Standing Committees

- Several committees support the work of the RTO with members selected from across the province. Members serve for a year with the option to apply for a second year.
- Each spring, following the AGM, there is a call for applications for Standing Committee members.
- Each committee is chaired by a member of the Executive.
- Committees meet 4 times a year.

Committee work is an excellent way to be involved in the organization, and to understand how the RTO works at the provincial level.

About These Committees…

Communications Committee - Working with the newsletter editor, provides support for the publication of each issue; working with the webmaster, provides up-to-date information on issues on the website (www.rtonstu.ca)

Membership Committee - Promotes membership in the RTO and recruitment and support Branch membership updates. They identify RTO merchandise to be made available to members.

Pension and Benefits Committee With a mandate to study and respond to pension and benefits concerns.

Programs Committee - Organizes a bi-annual provincial symposium on wellness themes.
Coordinates programs and/or workshops as determined by the Executive.

Research and Review Committee - Researches and analyzes the effectiveness of the programs offered by the RTO.

RTO Programs

- Branch Programs / Initiatives
- Provincial Wellness Symposium *

* *held in alternate years*







Provincial RTO Activities

- Golf Tournament in September
- Curling Bonspiel in March
- Bowling Tournament in April







Check the RTO website rtonstu.ca and the newsletter for registration information for these annual events.

About the RTO Legacy Foundation

- This fund honours the life and work of teachers and is **supported by donations** from the RTO as well as from Branches and individuals.
- Applications for **Annual Grants** are vetted by the **RTO Legacy Foundation Directors** in April and grants are awarded to worthy projects benefiting organizations and societies which support children and young people across the province.
- **Memorial cards are availa**ble from Branch Presidents.
- The Legacy Foundation is **a registered charity and income tax receipts are provided** to donors.

Other Areas of RTO Affiliation

- **Seniors Advisory Council of Nova Scotia**
- **The Canadian Association of Retired Teachers (ACER-CART)**
- **Nova Scotia Community Transportation Network**

Our Relationship with the NSTU

- **Regular meetings** through the RTO/ NSTU Liaison Committee: 3 times/ year
- **Meeting space** in the building (as available)
- Assignment of a **NSTU Staff Officer** for the RTO and access to office staff on matters of concern related to pension and insurance as well as updates to membership
- **Membership in the NSTU Group Insurance Plan** in accordance with the provisions of the plan
- **Membership in the Teachers *Plus* Credit Union**
- Invitation to the **NSTU President to address Branch Presidents and AGM**
- **Clerical support services**, as well as printing/postal support as offered by the NSTU*

* Cost assessed annually

Your **membership, involvement and support** assists the RTO organization to safeguard and enhance retirement quality and security for our members through volunteer-based community building, advocacy, and member-focused services.

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Together we're stronger!

Thank you

