



### **Important dates**

Dec. 12 - Poetry Group - virtual 7 PM

Dec 13 - Book Group - virtual 7 PM

Dec 21- Hiking group @ Heber Down 10 AM

Save the Date

January 17 - Amy Barrett - "Digger, Teacher, Soldier, Spy" - World War I, Archeology, & Spying.

January 27 - Durham D28 RTO/EROERO Retirement Planning workshop

### **COFFEE ON US**

In December, **Coffee on Us will take a break for the holiday season.** The next gathering will take place on Wednesday, January 31 for Ajax, Bowmanville, Oshawa, Port Perry, and Uxbridge; and Thursday, February 1 for Pickering, and Whitby.

Join us at one of the Tim Horton's locations below and look for the friendly person who hosts in your area. Don't forget your D28 RTO/ERO membership number. See you soon!

<b>Wednesdays</b>		
	Location	Host(s)
Ajax	245 Salem Rd. S.	John Alford
Bowmanville	350 Bowmanville Way	Doug & Myra Brown
Oshawa	1361 Harmony Rd. N.	John Fowler & Gail Elliott
Port Perry	15930 Old Simcoe Rd.	Don Farquharson & Marg Geer
Uxbridge	325 Toronto St. S.	Gerry Oldham
<b>Thursdays</b>		
Pickering	742 Kingston Rd.	Bernice Pyke & Karen Prisciak
Whitby	Brock St. & 401 (off Consumers Rd.)	Maureen O'Reilly

## **D28 RTO/ERO Hikers! All are welcome!**

Happy Christmas to all! Our December hike will take place at Heber Down Conservation Area in Whitby on Thursday Dec. 21 at 10:00. The best route is to drive north from Taunton Rd on County Ln (which is about 1 km west of Highway 12), and turn east (right) on Lyndebrook Rd. We will meet and park on the side of the road near the dead end (parking is free there!). Please dress according to the weather of the day. There are a number of hills here, but the trails are well marked, and the forests are lovely at this time of year. Hope to see you. Don Farquharson

## **Openings available to join our team**

Our district runs on volunteers - and we're looking for your help. D28 RTO/ERO members are known for volunteering with family, friends, work, and the community. But did you know your help is welcome within D28 RTO/ERO, too? We have a range of volunteer opportunities.

We need a Record keeper/Secretary - Would you enjoy working with the district president to organize meetings and prepare meeting minutes and correspondence? This may be the opportunity for you!

Second VP- Not as hard as it sounds. Are you an enthusiastic brand ambassador for D28 RTO/ERO and our district? Consider joining our executive to assist with outreach, connecting with future members!

Volunteering as a member of our district executive has a lot to offer, including making new friends, sharing your knowledge and interests, learning new skills - and having fun!

## **Ontario Tech University**

D28 RTO/ERO was featured this year in "The annual Report on Donor Philanthropy," which provides a snapshot of how their amazing community of supporters is helping to provide an exceptional experience for Ontario Tech University students and the entire community. Check out the link here: <https://bit.ly/OTUphilanthropy>

## **High school graduates**

This year, D28 RTO/ERO is awarding 20 scholarships valued at \$3000 each to post-secondary (college or university) students enrolled in programs that lead to careers in either seniors health

and wellbeing; education; environmental stewardship; or that reflect a strong commitment to diversity, equity and/or inclusion.

D28 RTO/ERO members are encouraged to recommend students in their lives, including family members, who meet the criteria.

Check out the D28 RTO/ERO webpage for this opportunity <https://rtoero.ca/giving-back/scholarships/>

The deadline for applications is January 12, 2024, at midnight.

## **SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT FOR DECEMBER E-BLAST**

Poetry Hub, 7 pm on the Second Tuesday of each month, and the Book Club, 7:30 pm on the second Wednesday of each month continue to meet. New members are always welcome.

**WHEN WINTER COMES AND THE COLD WINDS BLOW,  
WHEN ROADS AND HIGHWAYS ARE WHITE WITH SNOW,  
WHEN NIGHTS ARE DARK WITH FRIGID GLOOM, STAY IN!  
SNUGGLE UP! AND ENJOY SOME ZOOM PRESENTATIONS  
BROUGHT TO YOU BY D28 RTO/ERO!**

**The following presentations will be brought to you by Zoom for your enjoyment throughout the winter.** There is no cost to members for these presentations. They will be advertised by email; you will be able to sign up for them through the email and will be sent a Zoom link to join the presentation.

January 17, 2024, **Amy Barrett**, an archeologist, and Professor at Sir Sandford Fleming College will present "Digger, Teacher, Soldier, Spy" about Archaeology, WW1, and Spying. Amy's presentations are always captivating!

February 7, 2024, **Lianne Harris**, a historian, and raconteuse extraordinaire, presents thrilling subjects using costumes, visuals, and music to bring her work to life. She will present "Vikings" discussing whether our perceptions and general attitude towards them is valid, and how differently they may be viewed based on more recent evidence.

February 28, 2024, **Geoff Carpentier**, a naturalist who worked for the Federal Government, is an experienced traveller and professional guide. He will take us along on his trip to Madagascar to discover the diversity of the wildlife and vegetation to be found on this unique and incredible island.

March 21, 2024, **Durham Master Gardeners**, a group of extensively educated and trained specialist gardeners will send **Sherry Dodson** to teach us about Edible Flowers in Ontario.

April 3, 2024, **Darryl Rice Sr. Constable with DRPS** will focus on Senior Safety, At Home and Away.

May 2, 2024, **Debbie Dawson from Hearth Place**, will show us their

Oshawa facility and tell us about the free cancer care and support they offer to patients and their families. Many of us know someone who has benefitted from their programs, and we have been third party fundraisers for them over the last two years with our 50/50 Draws.

**Our in-person events will start in May of 2024, as the weather improves.**

May 16, 2024, **New Member Brunch**, at Cora restaurant, Whitby for the Board to personally welcome our latest crop of new retirees.

June 4, 2024, **Annual General Meeting** and Luncheon (Location TBA).

June 17, 2024, **Annual D28 RTO/EROERO District 28 Golf Tournament** at Sunnybrae Golf Course, Prince Albert

Should any additional events be planned, rest assured, you will be notified immediately!

**D28 RTO/ERO Communication Team.**