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April E-Blast

Let's hear from you! Newsletter contributions

Our team is excitedly preparing our next bi-annual newsletter and we are excited to hear from more of you about **what "new beginnings" means to you**. For some it comes from happy moments like becoming a grandparent, retiring after a long successful career or sad places like loss of a love, a relationship or home and starting over. We hope to hear from you; please send pictures, poems, artwork, or short articles of new beginning – places, concepts, or people. Our members matter at District 28. Please send submissions to district28@rtoero.ca



Join RTOERO District 28 in celebrating unity and inclusion at this year's Pride Parade on June 2, 2024.

District 28 is proud to be part of a vibrant and diverse community in Durham Region, and we look forward to participating in this year's parade in Ajax on June 2. Your input is valued, and we welcome you to be part of the planning process. Contact us at district28@rtoero.ca for more information and **to join the RTOERO District 28 Pride Day Committee!**

Local Community Grants for projects involving RTOERO members.

RTOERO Community Grants are intended to support local, community-based projects involving our members that help RTOERO meet its strategic goals by:

- Improving the lives of members and seniors.
- Raising awareness and recognition of RTOERO within the community.
- Encouraging member engagement or recruitment.

The maximum gift will be \$500.00. Seven awards are available!

Please complete the form (<https://bit.ly/D28Grant>) and submit to the attention of Jim Craigen at <mailto:district28@rtoero.ca> by May 1, 2024.

RTOERO District 28 Charity of Choice

Each year our District identifies a charity to be the recipient of our 50/50 Draw proceeds. For the second year in a row our members selected Hearth



Place. Every 3 minutes someone in Canada hears the words, "You have cancer" – and their life changes forever. But there is hope. Through compassionate care, Hearth Place supports the emotional needs of families within the Durham Community and beyond. Established in 1997, Hearth Place Cancer Support Centre welcomes cancer patients and their families to come and share their experiences, find resources, and discover new ways to care for themselves and each other. Hearth Place does not receive any public funding and it also provides all services and programs free of charge. **We are proud to have donated \$1620.00 in 2023.** We would like to exceed that in 2024 as we return to in person events this spring. It is good to give.

District 28 now has classified ads for volunteering and activities.

RTOERO D28 is pleased to provide a "Classified" space on our website. Members who want to connect with other members in social activities within the Durham region, like starting a club or activity or would like to post opportunities to volunteer that may match the talents of our members, please check out the postings or add your own at <https://district28.rtoero.ca/classified/>

RTOERO Rebranding

Many of you will have heard that RTOERO is looking to change its name to better reflect the membership, which includes people involved in all levels and aspects of education and from coast to coast to coast of Canada. The Official RTOERO Board received the next steps report on the renaming process at their last meeting. After reviewing the diverse points of view through the consultation process, the important concepts are community, advocacy, insights, and collaboration. These will be kept in mind as research continues. We hope possible future names will be shared at the Spring AGM and Forum. Stay tuned!

Know someone close to retiring?

Invite them to consider joining District 28 now to take advantage of all the amazing seminars and activities we offer, outside the workday. Membership is free for working members until retirement and for members who enroll in benefits through RTOERO. Transitioning from work to retirement can be challenging and isolating, but we can help welcome our former colleagues into the vibrant next chapter of life. **Have them connect at <https://rtoero.ca/welcome-to-the-membership-portal/>**

We also offer Regular **Retirement Planning workshops** virtually or in person. Next closest is in Lindsey on April 27. **Register for one at <https://rtoero.ca/search-for-a-workshop-near-you/>**

April Hike - the more the merrier!

In the month of April, we are going to hike the East Duffins Creek Headwaters. We meet at 10:00 AM on Thursday April 18th. The parking lot is located right on Brock Road North (east side) approximately 3 km north of Clarendon. The weather should be great for this hike so be prepared to see lots of birds and some spring flowers. Hope to see you there! Don Farquharson - Hike leader



Dates in April

April 3- Darryl Rice of Durham Regional Police Service. Frauds and Scams Virtual at 7 PM

April 9 - Poetry Group - Virtual at 7 PM

April 10 - Book Group - Virtual at 7 PM

April 11 - Into the Woods at Oshawa Little Theatre Curtain 7:30 PM

April 16 - D28 Council Meeting – All are welcome begins at 9:30 AM

April 18 - Hike at Duffins Creek 10 AM

April 24 - Coffee on Us Tim Horton's - 10 AM Ajax, Bowmanville, Oshawa, Port Perry, and Uxbridge

April 25 - Coffee on Us Tim Horton's - 10 AM Pickering and Whitby

May 1- Local Community Grant applications due

May 2 - Debbie from Hearth Place on programs, facilities, and services that this charitable Cancer Support Center provides for patients and their families. Virtual at 7 PM

Looking ahead

May 16 - Cora's North Whitby - New Member Breakfast Starts at 10:30AM

June 5 – AGM at Chestnut Hill Development Centre, Pickering at 11 AM