

HYDRO PENSIONERS ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO

Toronto District



Newsletter Summer 2023



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<https://hydropensionerstoronto.ca/>



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2110740899200523>

Tribute to Seppo Peuhkurinen



As we learned in the Spring our President Seppo Peuhkurinen has decided that it is time for him to retire and to pass on the reigns of the HPAO Toronto District. Over the last few months the Board has worked hard to facilitate the transfer by setting up a new website, documenting procedures and recruiting new volunteers. We are grateful that Vice-President Julia Lindsay has agreed to assume the role of President starting January 1, 2024. An appropriate tribute is being planned for the upcoming Christmas luncheon to show our appreciation to Seppo for his contribution over the years.

Introducing Our Incoming President Julia Lindsay



Julia was voted in to be Vice-President in 2023, and President in 2024.

Julia is no stranger to the club having been a member for many years and currently serves as Vice-President. During her 35 years at Ontario Hydro / Ontario Power Generation, she worked in many locations including 700 University Avenue, Lakeview GS and at Darlington Nuclear. She also started her career at the Kipling Complex where she was instrumental in starting the daycare 'Little Sparks'.

The mother of three grown children, Julia enjoys travelling abroad. Her leadership style is described as decisive and straightforward. She prefers to identify issues and deal with them in a matter of fact way. She currently lives in Bowmanville.

Her fellow Board members look forward to working with her as Toronto district enters the uncharted waters of the post pandemic years.

Welcome aboard, Julia.

Our Event Lottery

The group who went to St Jacob's on July 20th with us had a wonderful surprise.

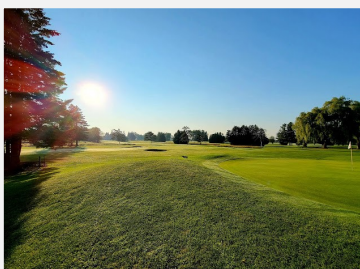
When we arrived at the farmers' market, the bus driver drew a winning ticket that re-imbursed the cost of the event.

Mr. Leslie Erdily won a free trip worth \$155!

We plan to have more of these draws on a random basis for future outings.

Golf - Rolling Hills

2023 GOLF TOURNAMENT HYDRO PENSIONERS ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO (HPOA) - TORONTO DISTRICT WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2023 ROLLING HILLS GOLF CLUB - CHALLENGE COURSE



\$80.00 FOR 18 HOLES OF GOLF INCLUDING USE OF A POWER CART, Plus deluxe Lunch BBQ: Chicken breast, beef and veggie burgers, Italian sausage, Kaiser & sausage buns, condiments, salad with house dressing, coleslaw and potato salad, dessert station, coffee and tea .

There are still a few spots available

Registration Form is available at [Registration Golf 2023](#)

Out of Country Medical Coverage

RWC OPG & New Horizon Members



As was reported in the April 2023 RWC newsletter, the PWU was successful in having the out of country medical coverage for RWC members extended to 85 years of age. At that time, the question was, would those RWC members who had out of province coverage that ended as a result of reaching the maximum age of coverage be allowed back into the plan?

The PWU has informed the RWC that OPG has agreed to allow retirees who have “aged out” on or after April 1st, 2022, and therefore were no longer eligible for this coverage, to apply to re-enroll.

To facilitate this, re-enrolment packages have been sent to OPG and New Horizons retirees whom meet the April 1st, 2022 requirement.

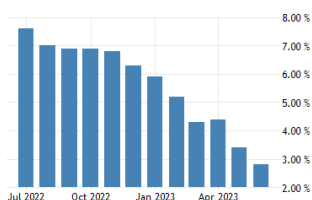
If there are RWC OPG & New Horizon members whom believe they meet this criteria, but have not yet received a re-enrolment package, they should contact Manulife, the insurance carrier, at manulifegrouptravel@canamti.com or call them at 1-877-292-0082.

If any further changes to re-enrolment eligibility occur we will inform you.

Peter Kelly
President
Retired Workers' Chapter

(Please note this benefit should also be available to Society members as well who bought the travel directly after retiring. Contact Manulife at the number above.)

The Ontario CPI



Pensioners can expect an increase of some 2.6% come January 1, 2024.

The Ontario CPI rose by 2.6% from June 2022 to June 2023 as a result pensions will increase accordingly.

Pensioners worried about inflation should cut down on fuel cost by planning their trips carefully and by keeping an eye open for sales of nonperishable items. Stocking up when prices are low and avoiding last minute shopping can help as well.

HPAO Web Site



To enhance our communications with members, we developed a web site through volunteer efforts. Our web site may be found at: <https://hydropensionerstoronto.ca/> The website is easy to use and contains relevant information on upcoming events and registration instructions. It also provides an overview of the Toronto district governance structure and its current volunteers.

The membership form is available on the website at <https://hydropensionerstoronto.ca/membership> If you have not joined the association yet, follow the links in the website to register and to pay the nominal \$15 membership fee that enables you to participate in our events.

Good Bye Covid



It was time to get off the couch and have some fun.

After two years of COVID, we were ready to get back on the buses with our fellow Hydro pensioners. In July we went to St Jacob's market and had a delicious lunch at the Golf Restaurant. After lunch we attended the musical Joseph and the Multi Coloured Dream Coat. Okay I admit I had a short snooze for part of it but what can I say.

In September we are going to the Shaw Festival to see Gypsy and pretend we still do not like striptease. This trip will include a great lunch at Betty's in Niagara Falls. You really cannot beat the price at \$155. I know it is a little higher than it used to be but we enjoy spending the kids money. Remember you cannot take it with you! So it is fine to enjoy life while we can. By the way, as the volunteer Treasurer I can assure you we negotiate the best deals possible for the association.

We do not play golf so we will skip the Tournament and leave room for those who can. What a bargain at \$80!

In November we will attend the finest Christmas luncheon and celebrate the end of Seppo's memorable reign and years of true service.

Hope to see you at these events.

Bruno Bellissimo

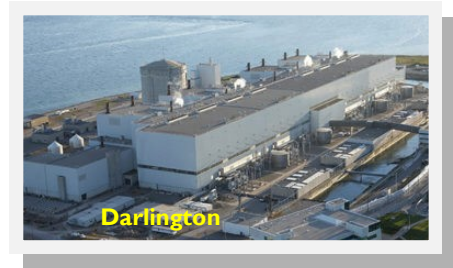


Resurgence of Nuclear Power

Hydro pensioners who still follow developments in the electricity industry have, no doubt, been impressed with recent developments. The Ontario power system will be expanded with nuclear, wind, batteries, transmission and more, while phasing out gas.

If we are to replace fossil fuels with clean electricity, electric systems will need to be doubled, possibly tripled, in size over the next few decades. This period might be reminiscent of Ontario Hydro in the sixties and seventies when the system was doubling in size every decade. Those were exciting times indeed.

It appears that the limitations of wind and solar are opening the door to revisit nuclear power. Bruce and Darlington are going through complete rebuilds and are now planned to operate until at least mid century, possibly well beyond. These projects have been on time and on budget, in contrast with many nuclear projects in the past. As a result, Pickering is now being considered for life extension as well.



With the need for emission free generation and new confidence in nuclear, the federal and Ontario governments are supporting new nuclear. OPG has been working on a small modular reactor (SMR, 300MW) to be sited at Darlington. It recently announced it hopes to add a further three. These will be boiling water reactors based on larger, proven, General Electric designs. Also, Bruce Power just announced that it will look at adding another large plant at the Bruce site, planned to be almost 5000MW- nearly half again as big as Darlington. At this point it does not seem clear if these units will be CANDUs or some other design.

Written by Barry Colgrove



Our Christmas Luncheon



Christmas Luncheon - Tuesday November 28, 2023

Lunch at Chelsea Hotel
33 Gerrard St W, Toronto
Reception 11am – 12pm

Luncheon begins at noon (Room to be announced)

Our Spring Luncheon - May 11 2023



Anthony Pin the President of the Society Pensioners group gave a riveting speech on the need to protect workers pensions and rights in the workplace. The audience heeded his words on the requirement to be vigilant and to educate the younger generation now entering the workplace.



There were many opportunities to snag a door prize.



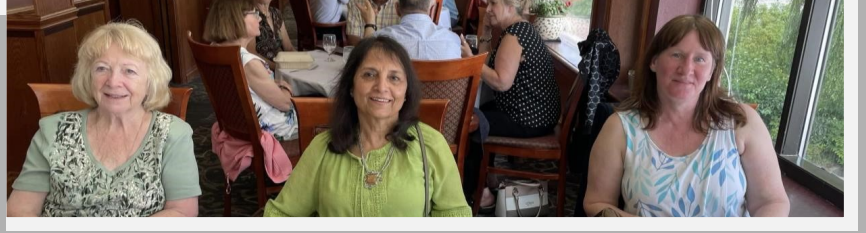
Our Outing to Saint Jacobs July 27 2023



A day of shopping, theater and of course lunch at the Golf Steak House



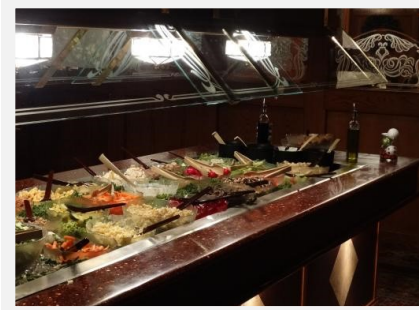
Golf Steak House



Spamalot June 30 2023



We had 32 on the Tuesday June 20th bus trip for the lunch at Golf's Steakhouse and Seafood and Monty Python's Spamalot Musical at Stratford's Avon Theatre.



I have been to Golf's several times now with the Toronto District and try a different main course each time. They have something for everyone – steak, prime rib, salmon, and chicken Cordon Bleu. I'm very impressed with their serving staff who I find are very attentive. I love the buffet salad bar – so nice to be able to go back for seconds!

We had great seats for the play. I didn't follow Monty Python when I was younger, and hadn't seen the movie so I was in for a real treat. The talented actors were obviously enjoying themselves so much during the performance. Costumes were spectacular and the set design was very clever with all the scene changes. I laughed so much – I thoroughly enjoyed the performance and have recommended to my friends and family to go see it.

<https://www.stratfordfestival.ca/WhatsOn/PlaysAndEvents/Production/Spamalot>

We really appreciated everyone being punctual for the bus pickups. It seems we have a lot of 'regulars' who come to the plays which we are grateful for and it is also great to see the new faces spend the day with us. We find just over half the people get on at Pickering and that the two pickups, York Mills and Weston Cross Roads, are not as popular. We will review the pickup locations for next year's plays.



Article provided by Gillian Salter