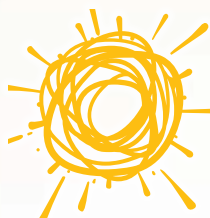




COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2011-2012

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Community Development



Ross Mayot

Vice President, Community Development

It is with great pleasure that we present the Community Development Annual Report for 2011-2012.

This report captures but a snapshot of the numerous and effective ways our Chapters have worked with CARP's Community Development and Advocacy teams to advance CARP as Canada's premier advocacy organization for positive social change in an aging society.

Our Chapter Board members and committee volunteers have generously given of their time and expertise to support CARP's efforts to advance the quality and dignity of life for all Canadians regardless of age. Chapter Board members are invariably amongst the most active and



Gail Goldman

Manager, Community Liaison

community-spirited people, volunteering their time and expertise to benefit their communities. They give truth to the expression "If you want to get something done, give it to a busy person." That's one of the things we invariably see in our Chapter Board members. They are all busy, but they still find time to lead the Chapters and get things done in their respective communities.

The growth in our Chapter network, now numbering 55 and counting, is a powerful indication that our members are increasingly concerned about the issues facing an aging society and want to add their voices and expertise to support CARP's mission.



Anthony Quinn

Manager, Community Development

We are grateful and proud of the accomplishments and ongoing work of our Chapters. They set an example of good citizenship in their communities. Without their efforts CARP could not be the effective and relevant an organization that it is.

We want to express our appreciation for the support CARP's local and national Affinity Partners have provided to Chapters during the year.

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CARP Class of 2011-2012



*CARP President,
Moses Znaimer.*

BASIC OBJECTIVES FOR CHAPTERS 2011-2012

- 1. Membership.** Support the growth of Membership which strengthens the voice, influence and vitality of CARP as a proud membership organization.
- 2. National Advocacy.** Promote and advance CARP's Advocacy, including issues that are more Local or Regional.
- 3. Community Engagement.** Develop and set an action plan for 1-2 local issues that the Chapter can help influence. (Determined by the Chapter)
- 4. Operational.** Hold meetings at least quarterly to plan and track Chapter goals and achievements and encourage new members to get involved.
- 5. Community Events.** Organize one of the following: Job Fair, Volunteer Fair, Lifestyle Fair, or Educational conference. These can also be fund-raisers for the Chapter.
- 6. Enjoy the Experience.** People join CARP and Chapters to support a good cause, do good and feel good about the effort. We shouldn't lose sight of that.

Chapters are our National Strength



Edgar Williams, with Queen Elizabeth II, Diamond Jubilee Medal, St. John's, NL.

The core value of CARP is a commitment to the rights and dignity of every individual, regardless of age.

We take the position that an aging population is a societal issue. It's not just a concern for people once they reach a certain age. That's why we dropped the age requirement for membership, reached out to younger generations and have encouraged intergenerational engagement at the Chapter level. The objective is to build a strong spirit of community and fellowship within our membership, ensuring that we are a welcoming organization that respects diversity and embraces people regardless of ethno-cultural background, values, abilities, family status, age, beliefs, and sexual orientation.

For CARP to be successful, we need an active and growing network of proud and committed members throughout the country. Our Chapters play an essential role in advancing that goal, as they represent our national infrastructure and our real strength as an organization. They create opportunities for members to contribute their time and expertise to support CARP's advocacy, membership growth and community service.

As will be evident in this report, our Network of Chapters is larger, more active and more influential than ever, playing an increasingly pivotal role in CARP's mission.



Larry Duffield, Windsor, ON 'Senior of the Year'.

Illustrative of the quality of leadership in our Chapters we are pleased to note that Edgar Williams, Chair of our Avalon Newfoundland and Labrador Chapter, and Larry Duffield, immediate past Chair of Windsor-Essex, have been recognized by their respective provincial governments for their outstanding volunteer service in their communities. Carlos Duchesne, immediate past Chair of our Hamilton Chapter was also recognized this year by the City of Hamilton for his exemplary volunteer service. We salute these outstanding CARP members for their community service.

Chapter Growth in 2012



South Fraser founding Chair, Kim Richter, with Board Member, Kathy Reddington.



Max Wynter, Chair and Anne Dawson, Vice Chair, CARP North York Chapter.



Board of Directors, Haliburton Highlands Chapter, Bob Stinson, Chair, third from left.

We are pleased to welcome a number of new Chapters to the CARP family: We are grateful to those who have taken on the leadership of launching new Chapters and helping to grow CARP's influence in their communities.

South Fraser, BC. Chapter Chair, Kim Richter

Winnipeg East, MB. Chapter Chair, Darlene Demkey

Winnipeg West, MB. Chapter Chair, Gerry Otto

Chatham - Kent, ON. Initiated by former Windsor, ON Chair Bruce Draper, Chaired by Carolynn Barko.

Etobicoke, ON. Chapter Chair, Gary Hepworth.

North York, ON. Initiated by Max Wynter (Chair) and Anne Dawson (Vice Chair).

Scarborough, ON. Chapter Chair, Gary Butler.

Lanark County, ON. Facilitated by CARP Representative Dawn Edgley and Chaired by Donald Cram.

Orillia ON. Barbara Sinden, past Chair of the PEI Chapter, taking on the Chair.

Haliburton Highlands, ON. Chapter Chair, Robert Stinson.

Changing of the Guard



Denise Kelly, North Shore, BC



Ron Farrell, North Bay, ON



Jack Mar, White Rock/Surrey, BC

We acknowledge those who have stepped up to leadership roles in their Chapters and extend our grateful thanks and appreciation to the outgoing Chairs, all whom have effectively promoted CARP's mission, provided outstanding service over the years while responding to members' needs and keeping the national office posted on relevant issues and developments in their communities.

In **Halifax**, Chapter Chair, Alex Handyside stepped down and Bill VanGorder has been elected for another term as Chair. Bill remains the Chapter representative on CARP's Advisory Board.

In the **Okanagan Valley**, Dr. Mary Ann Murphy and Alice Wren Mah have taken on the leadership of the Chapter as Co-Chair's, taking over from Jim Fraser.

In **Windsor-Essex**, Larry Duffield completed his second term as Chair and Sushil Jain has been elected as Chair.

In **White Rock-Surrey**, Jack Mar has completed his term and Ramona Kaptyn has taken over the Chair.

In **Kitchener-Waterloo**, John Thompson has completed his term. Jay Patterson filled the position of Chair on an interim basis before stepping aside for Debby Fox.

In **Prince George**, Rita Marie Weibe completed her term and Ken Biron has stepped up to the Chair's role.

North Shore Vancouver Chair Denise Kelly completed her term, with a new Chair pending.

In **North Bay** Ontario, Ron Farrell completed his second term as Chair, with Betty Dean elected to the Chair's role.

In **Hamilton**, Carlos Duchesne has completed his term. Doug Stone takes on the role of Chair.

In **PEI**, Casey McGannon has stepped aside (with a new Chair pending)

In **Belleville-Brighton-Quinte West**, Ken Prue stepped down and Mary Robertson is the new Chair.

In **Fredericton**, Joanne Johnson completed her term and Gordon Wilson has been elected to the Chair.

In **Georgian Bay**, Ian Kerr, completed his term and Linda Flemington has taken on the role of Chair.

In **Ajax-Pickering**, Steve Campbell stepped down and Randy Filinski has taken up the Chair.

Terry Little - 1943-2012



Terry hosting the 2009 Brantford Senior's Resource Fair.



Terry as Brantford CARP Chapter Chair, 2011 AGM, in Toronto.

The entire family of CARP and ZoomerMedia Limited were shocked and saddened to learn of the sudden passing of the dedicated and long-serving CARP volunteer, Mr. Terry Little.

Terry served for many years on the board of the Brantford, Ontario CARP Chapter. At the time of his death he held the position of Vice-Chair and immediate Past-Chair, and was instrumental in the planning, execution and success of the annual Brantford Seniors Resource Fair, and many social and informational events for CARP members and seniors in the community of Brantford. Terry was passionate about the mission of CARP and worked diligently to improve the lives of Zoomers in his community.

Despite his own challenges, Terry's work ethic and involvement in CARP were an inspiration to our office and



the broader community of CARP Chapters and volunteers across Canada.

Terry was a long time enthusiast of Tropical Fish, and a member of the

Brant Aquarium Society. He was actively involved with the Canadian Association of Aquarium Clubs for many years holding numerous executive and board of directors positions. For years he served as a long time Judge at many Tropical Fish shows held in Southern Ontario and he also ran his own fish store for a number of years.

Terry died from complications of his lifelong struggle with spina-bifida this past summer. A memorial service was held with family, friends and members of the CARP community attending.

In Terry's honour, CARP is initiating a memorial award in his name that will be presented annually to recognize exceptional volunteer commitment to the mission and values of CARP.

Reflections on the 2011 AGM

Busy Fall Season for CARP

Our annual “gathering of the clan” set a new benchmark this year with an energizing, informative and idea-filled four days, comprised of the ZoomerLife Conference, The CARP Annual General Meeting and the two-day Zoomer Show. As has become the tradition, the CARP-sponsored ZoomerLife Conference, hosted by Moses Znaimer, got things started with an excellent roster of presenters who shared their insights and expertise on health, wellness and longevity.

Following the formal aspects of the AGM, Chaired by Susan Eng, the Community Development session started with excellent presentations by Chapter Chairs Dawn Edgley (Brockville-Thousand Islands), Paul Reisman (Montreal), Bernice Rempel (Edmonton), Denise Kelly (North Shore Vancouver) and Adina Lebo (Toronto Downtown). They shared their experiences and ideas about attracting community leaders to join their Boards; securing local sponsors and affinity partners to support Chapter activities; representing CARP's Advocacy issues at the local and provincial level; community outreach to promote a positive Chapter profile; and forming partnerships with educational institutions to create lifelong learning

opportunities for members. Their enthusiasm, passion and energy communicated a “can do” attitude that inspired everyone in the room.

Minister of State for Seniors, Hon. Alice Wong was Special Guest

Susan Eng arranged for the Hon. Alice Wong, Federal Minister Responsible for Seniors, to be a special guest at the AGM. Minister Wong's address to the group was followed by a Q&A session on issues relating to her portfolio. The Minister expressed her admiration for CARP and noted the government's support and action on issues that CARP has been advocating, including stiffer sentencing for people convicted of Elder Abuse; support for caregivers; and increases in the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS).

Following the Minister's presentation, Eric Vengroff, VP Benefits, outlined some of the new member benefits, including the CARP Health Wizard, an online health care navigation tool that is free to CARP members. Suzanne Boyd, Editor-In-Chief of Zoomer magazine, followed Eric's session with an informative presentation about the magazine's continued growth, some of its awards and the evolution of the CARP Action section.

During the afternoon sessions, Randy Filinski of the Ajax-Pickering Chapter conducted an excellent workshop on Marketing and Promotion for Chapters that was followed by an insightful presentation by Advisory Board member Bill VanGorder on how to recruit and retain top-notch Chapter Board members. Both presentations stimulated a number of helpful ideas and strategies for the Chapters and the staff of the National office.

The honour of the final word for the day was left to Moses, who talked about ZoomerMedia's unique contribution through its broadcast, internet and print assets to support and promote CARP and about our goal of growing the membership as the means of extending the reach and influence of CARP's Advocacy, Mission and New Vision of Aging.

CARP Advisory Board Brain Trust

CARP's Advisory Board continued to support our activities. Dr. Ron Keast completed his term as Chair of the Board and Gail Hinchliffe has taken on the role of Chair.

We are pleased to announce that Yolande Racine of Montreal Quebec has agreed to join the Board and will bring an important perspective to the Board from Quebec.



CARP Photo Gallery AGM 2011



CARP Advisory Board; Major-General (Ret'd) Richard Rohmer, David Crombie, Pier Giorgio Di Cicco, Susan Eng (CARP VP Advocacy), Hon. Alice Wong (Federal Minister of State for Seniors), Gail Hinchcliffe, Moses Znaimer (CARP President), Dr. Ron Keast, Bill VanGorder (Absent, Monika Deol)





Chapters are Community Resources



Cross Country Check Up

In support of CARP's mission and to strengthen community ties, Chapters organize a variety of meetings and community events. Here are some highlights, (condensed from the Chapter's individual reports), of how they are getting involved, advancing our mission, helping to grow our membership and do good things in their communities.

Barrie, ON

We've often said our Chapters "fly CARP's flag" in a figurative sense by participating in community events. But this year they got literal. Stimulated by the Barrie Ontario Chapter under the Chair of Gwen Kavanagh, the Chapters literally arranged to have their CARP Chapter flag hoisted up the pole at the municipal buildings in a number of Communities including: White Rock, Windsor, Halton, Toronto, St. John's, London, Langley, Belleville and Kelowna.

Vancouver, BC

Our Vancouver Central Chapter, Chaired by Jeffrey Sefton had a great turn out for their Osteoporosis Forum entitled Love Your Bones held at the Tapestry Wesbrook Village, UBC. Guest speakers, Rheumatologist Dr. John Wade, Pharmacist Dr. Alan Low, and Nurse Gwen Ellert, provided unique and valuable perspectives during the information rich educational forum.



Left: CARP Barrie Chapter Chair Gwen Kavanagh with board member John Rodgers. Above: Moses Znaimer raises CARP Flag in Toronto with Senator Art Eggleton, Downtown Chair Adina Lebo and City Councillors.



Barbara Lewis centre, winner of door prize. Vicki Salter (left) Jeffrey Sefton.

Reports from the Field...

Vancouver, BC

Jeffrey and our BC Representative April Lewis were invited to attend the Round Table on Pensions organized by Vancouver East MP Libby Davies. April Lewis as one of the panelists did an excellent job of outlining CARP's mission, noting how our voices are heard with the help of our many volunteer chapters throughout Canada and the results CARP is getting for Seniors in Canada by having a united voice.

Jeffrey Sefton was there to represent CARP Vancouver Central Chapter to meet attendees and speak with them further about how CARP, as an organization, benefits them and how as members they can be part of the solution.

Victoria, BC

This past year has been busy for the Victoria Chapter, Chaired by Raymond Welch. They have had two categories of events – the educational/informative and the social/fun; both types help increase membership and keep members' interested and active. Meeting topics presented by various experts have included: Power of Attorney and Medical Directives; Finding Work After 50; The Drivable Test – how to pass it and how to appeal it; Your Mind, Brain Plasticity and Brain Research; Pension

Changes; Options For Senior Activism; and Alzheimer's – Detection, Prevention and Mitigation.

Social/fun activities included: Movie nights; Movie night/Sushi night (screening the award winning documentary – Jiro Dreams of Sushi; and Dining With The Divas – a bistro evening with great food and up-and-coming Victoria talent.

Fort McMurray, AB

The Fort McMurray Chapter, Chaired by Felix Berube, has had an influence with municipal and provincial governments in mobilizing seniors regarding "aging in place" initiatives. The planned downtown Willow Square Seniors Facility was saved by the combined efforts of local health and seniors groups and CARP galvanizing the local population to stand up to the government and have their concerns addressed. Now Fort McMurray will have two facilities instead of one.

The Chapter also arranged for CARP Advisory Board Chair, Gail Hinchliffe to speak to the Golden Years Society regarding the concerns that arise from projects like Willow Square. The Chapter has demonstrated a win-win strategy by coordinating the efforts of the various groups in Fort McMurray to have a combined voice in the future life style of those aging in the community.

Scarborough, ON

The Scarborough Chapter under the leadership of Gary Butler have had an excellent developmental year peaking with an outstanding public launch of the Chapter, with over 250 people in attendance at the Scarborough Civic Centre. Dale Goldhawk, host of AM740 Radio's Goldhawk Fights Back was one of the guest speakers. Ross Mayot brought greetings on behalf of Moses Znaimer and the National office of CARP. The Malvern Collegiate Senior Jazz Band performed during the intermission.

Here is an excerpt from the follow up note from Scarborough Chair Gary Butler about the event that illustrates the response from the community:

"I spoke to many of the evening's sponsors who commented that the turnout was exceptional. All the sponsors mentioned their interest in participating in future events and providing sponsorship. MPP Joe Dickson, MPP for Ajax-Pickering, and Parliamentary Assistant to Ontario Minister Responsible for Seniors, had delivered to my house, a beautifully framed congratulatory certificate.

Mary Devine and Michelle DeCoste, of Centennial College said they were overwhelmed by the event, the organization of it as well as the attendance. They have offered their facilities which we will take them up on. The Toronto Police Services, Division 42, informed me of the great reception they received and that they had posted the event on their Facebook page. They would like to make a presentation at future meetings. Nordixx Pole Walking Canada volunteered to do a special clinic for our members."

The Chapter is now set for a very productive year to keep the momentum going that the Chapter has started this year.



CARP Scarborough, ON Chapter Board.

Chatham-Kent, ON

Our new Chatham-Kent Chapter, Chaired by Carolynn Barko, held its inaugural general meeting in September 20th at St. Andrew's Residence. David Cravit, author of *Beyond Age Rage* and Ross Mayot were guest speakers. The Chapter is on its way to

seminars during the year and topped off the year's activities with the Chapter's annual BBQ in June. They also set up a CARP information booth at the Health fair organized at the offices of Canada Revenue Agency in Hamilton.

Peterborough, ON

At one of its spring

seminars during the year and topped off the year's activities with the Chapter's annual BBQ in June. They also set up a CARP information booth at the Health fair organized at the offices of Canada Revenue Agency in Hamilton.

Robert Robotham. Yasmin's goal was to advance the Chapter as an active, strategic and focused group to provide value to the local members. The Chapter set four key goals: Learn what the members want and expect; Help CARP members understand and navigate government services for seniors; Engage key community stakeholders; and Strengthen Chapter Board development and strategic planning.

To communicate with Chapter members the Chapter enhanced its newsletter that included feature stories on how to steer clear of frauds and scams, the benefits and savings available through CARP membership, encouraging members to create a Facebook page as a way of staying connected, tips on making healthy relationships and news about the Chapter's activities and meetings.

Based on its goals, the Chapter has seen a significant increase in member attendance at Chapter meetings and a great response to its newsletter, especially in the e-newsletter format.

St. John's, NL

St. John's-Avalon Chapter Chair, Edgar Williams, appeared on the CBC's popular province-wide evening TV News program "Here and Now". The issue was seniors housing and municipal rejection of proposed new seniors housing in St. John's and Conception Bay South. Ed referred to the aging population and the need for adequate planning at the municipal, provincial and federal levels.

Edgar was also invited to share CARP's position on the Federal budget particularly the change in the eligibility of the OAS pointing out the negative impact on low income seniors.

Edgar received very positive feedback indicating that there is no better way to promote CARP than to be seen and heard on local province-wide media.



New Chatham-Kent Chapter Board. Chair, Carolynn Barko, 3rd from right.

being a dynamic, innovative and fun-loving Chapter.

Brantford, ON

In Brantford Ontario under the guidance of Terry Little, just weeks before his passing, the Brantford Chapter held their 6th annual Lifestyle Show, which gets bigger and better every year; attracting over 1000 people to the one-day event. Chapter Chair Andy Woodburn has committed to keeping the Brantford Lifestyle Show going next year.

Hamilton, ON

Carlos Duchesne, Chair of the Hamilton Chapter, held a variety of informational

meetings, Peterborough Chapter Chair Bob Geddes organized a seminar presented by the Canadian Red Cross on disaster and emergency preparedness. Mike McKinley, veteran fire fighter, Brenda McCarroll, Community Hero, and Louis Hodgins from Belleville conducted the seminar, providing disaster kit lists and important insights into coping with the physiological impact of disasters.

Calgary, AB

The Calgary Chapter got off to a new start this year with incoming Chair Yasmin Kanji, who took over for



Roy Church and Edgar Williams, CARP St. John's @ Senior's Day, Memorial University.

50 Plus Chapters... and Growing

Belleville, Brighton, Quinte West, ON

The 'BBQ' Chapter held a very informative seminar entitled Bringing Health Care Home, presented by the local Community Care Access Centre. The BBQ Chapter also hosted a meeting with the Hon. Alice Wong as the special guest and a Mix and Mingle Social event where CARP members got to know one another and discussed the

Seniors' supporting a wide variety of social and active living opportunities, Windsor's Seniors Advisory Committee's efforts to support the WHO Global Network of Age-Friendly Communities and to enhance Windsor-Essex County as a preferred retirement location.

The Chapter continued to hold its meetings in different locations around the city and county to easy travel and access for members. The Chapters strategies to hold late afternoon meetings accompanied by low-cost or free meals with topical speakers added further incentives to increase meeting attendance. The Chapter's

philosophy to seek partnerships, stress having fun and present interesting information on issues facing older persons has paid off.

Our **Newmarket-Aurora, ON** Chapter, Chaired by Lorraine Green, had its inaugural meeting in late November, with an excellent turn out. Gail Goldman was on hand to help out and Lorraine reported that it was rewarding to see the number of attendees who expressed an interest in helping her build the Chapter in the community.

Sudbury, ON

The Sudbury Chapter continues its active role in the community and has recently added the tourist attraction, Science North as a local affinity partner offering discounts to CARP members.

Sault Ste. Marie, ON

Chapter Chair, Marilyn Patterson, organized a number of popular information sessions for her Chapter, with speakers covering a wide range of topics including: Seniors and Alzheimer's; DriveWise; Seniors and Investments; Safeguarding Seniors Against Financial Abuse, Funeral Planning; and Cardiac Champs.

Thunder Bay, ON

The Thunder Bay Chapter, Chaired by Allen Richert, has had great support from the regional office of Sun Life Financial to help promote CARP. Sun Life has included the CARP logo on a local billboard campaign and shared their booth at the Home & Garden Show with the Chapter. Chapter directors Bruce Pritchard, Dave Van Wagoner and Allen Richert teamed up with Sun Life representatives at the booth. Allen has set up a community education program for the fall/winter term 2012.

Hamilton, ON

Hamilton's Chapter continued activity, including hosting their own "ZoomerShow" and a number of social and educational events for local members. Chair, Carlos

Duchesne has stepped aside and welcomes Doug Stone as the new Chair.

Cambridge, ON

Chapter Chair Pat Douglas held a number of events, including a tax preparation seminar, a seniors' travel exhibition and an evening with CARP Affinity partner, Dignity Memorial, on the options available for end of life planning.

Winnipeg, MB

CARP now has two new, active chapters in Winnipeg, East and West and they are planning a number advocacy and social events for 2012-2013. We look forward to welcoming Gerry Otto and Darlene Demkey at the 2012 AGM.

London, ON

Dan Procop continues to lead the charge in London, holding regular meeting, and special events, including a Canada Day celebration in Harris Park, and a Chapter Movie Night, previewing the film 'The Artist', that went on to win the Best Picture Oscar.

Vaughan, ON

George Matthew held a series of financial seminars for members, focused on Estate Planning and Retirement.

Kitchener-Waterloo

Debby Fox is the new Chair in KW and has focused the Chapter on providing a number of important workshops and events for members, including Caregiving, Fitness and safety, along with a number of local affinity partner discounts for members.



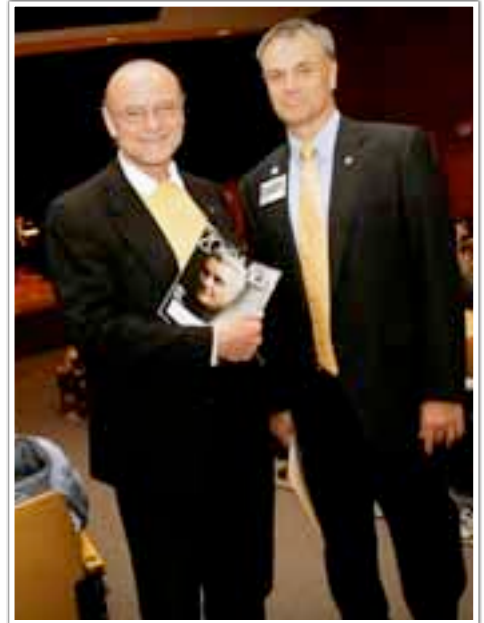
CARP 'BBQ' Chair Ken Prue with Seniors Minister, Hon. Alice Wong

direction and issues that were important to their Chapter and unique to the 'BBQ' area.

Windsor-Essex, ON

Windsor-Essex Chapter under the guidance of exiting Chair Larry Duffield and incoming Chair Sushil Jain, focused on promoting partnerships and cooperation with local seniors organizations, including: Canterbury ElderCollege which offers short, affordable courses promoting active living and "brain power"; 'Centres for

New Chapters Setting Bar Higher



CARP President, Moses Znaimer and Etobicoke Chair, Gary Hepworth at Chapter Launch, which attracted over 450 attendees.

Etobicoke, ON

The Etobicoke Chapter, Chaired by Gary Hepworth, along with his very capable Board, is hard at work encouraging the CARP members in the area to get together and get involved. Their efforts are certainly showing results as seen in their first three events.

The Founding Meeting in April featuring a presentation by Moses Znaimer, attracted over 450 people, 300 of whom showed their interest by filling in a fact-finding Chapter questionnaire and a whopping 115 who offered their volunteer services!

The success of the launch meeting was followed soon after in May with another well-attended meeting

focusing on the role and importance of the SIU (Special Investigations Unit). June found us again with a full house, this time to hear and learn all the crucial details surrounding Power of Attorney – their importance, pitfalls and best practices.

South Fraser, BC

The South Fraser Chapter, Chaired by Kim Richter got off to a good start this year. They participated in the CARP Chapter Information Booth with White Rock-Surrey, Vancouver Central and North Fraser at the BC Seniors Games. The Chapter was also on hand with a CARP Information Booth to promote CARP membership at the



Langley's International Festival in August, the Langley Community Farmers' Market, (the Fort Langley Community Farmer's Market and the Fort Langley Cranberry Festival.

Looking North of CARP Offices



Ian Kerr, Anthony Quinn, Linda Flemington.

Georgian Bay, ON

The Georgian Bay Chapter, Chaired by Ian Kerr had a successful year spreading the word about CARP. The Chapter participated in a variety of community events including the Seniors Fair in Owen Sound, Gardening shows in Thornbury and Creemore, local MPP Jim Wilson's 50+ seminar, established affiliation with the Hospice Georgian Triangle, supporting their Home for Life project which included a computer training program. There was also a great turn out for the Chapter meeting featuring Officer Pieter Huyssen, of the Ontario Provincial Police talking about fraud awareness, and prevention. During the year Ian spoke about CARP at the Probus Club of the Blue Mountains; was a guest on the local Rogers TV station; and during a stint as the guest weatherman at the local radio station promoted CARP and encouraged people to visit the CARP booth at the

upcoming Elvis Festival in Collingwood.

And in what has become an annual tradition our Georgian Bay Chapter, (supported by Anthony Quinn of the National Office) participated in another successful Elvis Festival in Collingwood Ontario, with a booth on the main street in Collingwood.

The Collingwood Elvis Festival in July continues to be an annual highlight for the Georgian Bay Chapter. This year Anthony Quinn, Chapter Chair Ian Kerr and a number of Chapter volunteers staffed the CARP booth for three days in July

promoting CARP and selling new memberships. Over 120 Elvis impersonators and tribute artists from around the world, and thousands of Elvis fans took part in this fun-filled and truly one-of-a-kind community event.

North Bay, ON

After eight years of leadership and dedication, Ron Farrell has stepped down as Chair of the North Bay Chapter to assume Chair responsibilities with the Northeast Community Care Access Centre. Fortunately, for the Chapter, Ron and his wife Anne have remained on the board to provide continued support for the incoming Chair Betty Dean.

The Chapter's main event was it's annual Zoomer North Conference, attended by Gail

Goldman of the National Office. The conference agenda included presentations on aging and brain health, powers of attorney/capacity assessors, anti-fraud tips, financial investment advice, musical performances by local entertainers including the Rising Stars and the outstanding keynote address by Mike Moore capturing the audience with his keen observations and wit.

Betty Dean acknowledges the key roles in the success of the event played by Longtime Chapter members Bob and Carol Mantha, Terry Martinelli and Anne Farrell.

Chapter board members have been very active this past year supporting the first National Seniors Day, a local Age Friendly Initiative and a Young Retirees' Fair in Sturgeon Falls and plans are underway to host workshops that were identified by conference participants as being of interest to them.



Anne Farrell and Gail Goldman at North Bay's AGM Event

Ottawa: CARP's Capital Chapter



Above: The Ottawa Chapter sponsored an immensely popular private group tour of the Parliament Buildings and a tour of Rideau Hall.

Right: Ottawa Chapter Chair, Janet Gray, with Governor General, The Right Honourable David Johnston.

While CARP VP Advocacy, Susan Eng and her team fly in and out of Ottawa to appear before Committees and to meet with Government officials and Members of Parliament, (see their annual Advocacy Report for full details) there is a full time presence in Ottawa with our Chapter chaired by Janet Gray.

The **Ottawa, ON** Chapter had a busy year, that included once in a lifetime private tours of Rideau Hall and the Parliament Buildings. They also collaborated with Bayshore Home Health on a 6 part series focused on pro-active health care concerns, called Wellness 101. The Chapter also offered a 3-session Computer Tutoring program, in conjunction with KQ

Consulting. They supplied the computers and introduced a small class to all the computer basics, including hardware, Windows, Word, Internet, Email and online safety.

Janet was also instrumental, along with Dawn Edgley from the Brockville Chapter in helping recruit CARP Members to get the new Lanark Country Chapter established in the region.



CARP Members attending 'Wellness 101' Seminar series.

CARP's Queen of Downtown T.O.



Adina Lebo addressing Toronto CARP Flag raising ceremony (above). Left, at Provincial media launch event of new Photo ID card program.

Downtown Toronto, ON

The Downtown Toronto Chapter, Chaired by the irrepressible Adina Lebo, took on a wide range of events and activities throughout their very successful year. Highlights include: the continuing partnership with St. Michael's College Department of Continuing Education; Spring Fitness and Zoomer Aqua Fit classes, followed by lunch and 'Zoomer Zumba' classes in cooperation with Good Life Fitness; A classic film series with the Toronto Film Society with discounts for CARP members; a 'Leave a Legacy' Series organized in partnership with the Canadian Association of Gift Planners for members to learn more about wills, estate planning, philanthropic gift giving and tax implications; a seminar series held at the YMCA on Tax Tips, Navigating the Healthcare System, Champagne Living on a Beer Budget

and The Realities and Myths About Aging.

The Chapter has also created a Computer Club with different programs to assist older members with computer technology and social media.

Not forgetting the social side of life, the Chapter has established an 'Explore Toronto' series that gives members a chance to explore various neighbourhoods in the city; Yorkville, Greektown, Chinatown, etc., and for those still ready to roll that is followed by hors d'oeuvres and tango and salsa dance lessons.

Besides being a CARP spokesperson with the

Toronto media on a variety of issues including ageism in the workplace, Adina has reached out to coordinate with the other Toronto Chapters to promote new membership at a variety of community events, including the Ashkenaz Festival, the Whole Life and the National Women's Show.



Adina photographed in Winnipeg Free Press for Workplace Age Discrimination Story.

Chapters: Voice of CARP Advocacy

Chapters are CARP's Eyes and Ears

Every advocacy organization knows that there is power in numbers and Susan Eng, CARP's Vice President, Advocacy, has often said one of the things that makes her job and CARP's advocacy stand out from the crowd and get the attention of politicians at all levels, is the fact that we have a few hundred thousand really engaged members throughout the country who can be mobilized to action through our network of Chapters.

CARP Chapters have continued to support the National Office's Advocacy in 2011-2012 and secured some real results. Involvement in issues such as family care giving, healthy aging, age-friendly communities, caregiver support, affordable seniors housing, pension reform, prescription drug use, safe seniors driving, elder abuse, fraud and scam prevention and age-related dementias have local, regional and national significance.

Chapters have been instrumental in harnessing the energy and power of our collective voice to raise awareness and secure results. Chapters have worked with the national office to submit briefs to their provincial governments and the local media on Pension Reform, Affordable Housing for seniors and PharmaCare policies.

All Candidates Meetings

The Edmonton Chapter organized an all-candidates debate in advance of the provincial election in Alberta. They had a great turn out for the event with all five provincial parties providing candidates for the evening. Each

candidate outlined their party's platform and fielded questions healthcare delivery, homecare, and long term care from the audience. These forums demonstrated that CARP definitely has a role to play in promoting democratic participation as part of its goal of better quality of life for Canadians as we age.



Edmonton Chapter Chair, Bernice Rempel hosts Provincial All Candidates Meeting.

Co-Housing in Barrie

The Barrie Chapter, Chaired by Gwen Kavanagh, continued to press forward with its efforts to develop a Seniors Housing Committee to explore solutions to the shortage of affordable seniors housing in the Barrie area, focusing on the concept of Co-housing, in which seniors co-own a home and share the services and costs but maintain their independence and real estate ownership.

Chapters are Voice of Members

Throughout the year our Chapters have been active in supporting CARP's Advocacy positions with politicians and the media in their communities on issues including Pharmacare, Fair

Drug Pricing, Elder Abuse, Continuing Care and Pension reform.

The **White Rock/Surrey, BC** chapter had a full house at their meeting in November, 2011. Special guests included the Hon. Alice Wong, Federal Minister of State for Seniors, local MP Russ Hiebert, outgoing White Rock Mayor, Catherine Ferguson and incoming Mayor, Wayne Baldwin, all of whom expressed their support for CARP Advocacy, the Chapter and the needs of older Canadians. Dean Atwal of Joy TV was on hand to interview Minister Wong for ZoomerNews.

CARP's, **Montreal, West Island** Chapter had an excellent meeting to wind up the year, with special guest Quebec Cabinet Minister, Geoffrey Kelley, who spoke about improving seniors' lives in Quebec. CTV News showed up for the meeting, interviewed Chapter Chair, Paul Reisman and other Chapter members and produced a great story for the evening news.

Edgar Williams, Chair of the **Avalon (St. John's NL)** Chapter represented CARP on CBC's Newfoundland and Labrador regional news program "Here and Now" to discuss the state of seniors housing in St. John's and Conception Bay South. Edgar outlined the issues facing our aging population and the need for adequate planning at all levels of government. Following the Federal budget Edgar also did an extensive interview on the CBC "Radio Noon" program outlining the position of CARP on the OAS changes and pointing out the negative impact on low income seniors.

Chapters United Provincially



CARP Edmonton Chair, Bernice Rempel (2nd from right) with the PIA Seniors Task Force, October 2012

Public Interest Alberta Seniors Task Force: Meeting with Minister of Health, Fred Horne, and Associate Minister of Seniors George Vanderburg, Associate Minister of Seniors.

CARP Edmonton and CARP Calgary Chapters (represented by Bernice Rempel and Louise Yarrow) have been members of the PIA Seniors Task Force since it was formed about 7 years ago. Its purpose is to bring together seniors groups with partner organizations whose members provide care to seniors and are concerned about the state of seniors care in Alberta. The principal concerns of the Task Force brought up with the Ministers in a meeting held on October 3, 2012, were:

1. The Shortage of long term care spaces in Alberta.

2. The Need for More Accessible and Affordable Home Care.

3. Adequate staffing levels for public home care.

4. A Need for Independent Seniors Advocate.

The meeting closed with the ministers recognizing the group as representing the interests of seniors from diverse areas of the province. Minister Horne appeared sincere in his statement welcoming further suggestions on ongoing improvement of healthcare.

The group plans to follow up by sending a summary letter of the meeting discussion to the Ministers. Further efforts will be made to continue the dialogue.

CARP Chapters in Atlantic Canada, BC and Ontario are following the lead of the Alberta Chapters and meeting to work out local strategies to supplement CARP's National Advocacy work with provincial Chapter representation.

Working with CARP VP Advocacy, Susan Eng and her team, Chapters across the country can labour together to increase the volume and effectiveness of our work with Provincial MPPs, MLAs and MNAs.

Spotlight: Halton, ON Chapter



Above: Halton CARP Board assembled at AGM. Left: Presenter Melissa Edwards from GoodLife Fitness. Right Top: Former Halton Chair, Hugh Cass with 50/50 draw prize winner Nicky Greer. Right: Chapter Chair, Tom Carrothers and CARP Director of Policy, Michael Nicin.

Halton, ON

The Halton Chapter had a very busy year in 2011 – 2012. Seven Chapter meetings were held with a wide range of speakers of interest to members. Halton's monthly meeting attendance has risen from an average of about 35 in 2010 to an average of about 135 this past year. Additionally the Chapter attended six Seniors Shows and exhibits and have started a Nordic Pole Walking Group that is supporting the Osteoporosis Society's fund raising walk.

The Chapter has had great success getting sponsors to support their meetings and are now setting a network of Halton Affinity partners offering many benefits to Halton Chapter members. An Advocacy committee is now in place and are addressing Elder Abuse and Affordable Housing within Halton.

This year Chapter Chair Tom Carrothers announced exciting news that they are now holding two chapter meetings a month—one in Burlington dubbed "Halton South" and one in Milton for "Halton North". With this move they hope to better serve the members within all of Halton Region (Burlington-Oakville-Milton-Georgetown). Ross and Michael Nicin of the National Office had the pleasure of being guest speakers at the Halton Chapter AGM held at the Halton Region Centre. A standing-room-only crowd of more than 170 people in attendance were treated to refreshments, scores of door prizes, live music and a chance to meet 20 of the Chapter's local sponsors who were on hand to support the event.

Lifelong Learning, a CARP Priority

In keeping with our objective to promote healthy, active aging, the national office and a number of Chapters have been developing relationships with the Continuing Education departments at a number of post secondary institutions about an initiative that will facilitate Lifelong Learning and Continuing Education opportunities for our Chapter members. Along with our Chapters we will continue to build these mutually beneficial relationships that not only provide lifelong learning opportunities for our members, but also support the concept of a community of learning.

The Scarborough Chapter has sustained an excellent relationship with Centennial College where the Chapter holds its meetings. The Downtown Toronto Chapter has continued a strong relationship with St. Michael's College, U of T.

Thanks to the developmental work of April Lewis, CARP's BC Representative, the Third Age Learning at Kwantlen (TALK) program offered through Kwantlen College, has an agreement with the White Rock-Surrey and South Fraser Chapters that allows CARP members to attend TALK courses for free.

The Edmonton Chapter has sustained its relationship with Athabasca University, taking part in a new initiative with Athabasca U that is financed in part by ZoomerMedia, called 'Writing for Health.'

Anthony Quinn facilitated more Social Media workshops with students at Maple High and Thornlea Secondary School. The school's students developed and presented workshops for interested CARP members teaching Social Media tools, Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Blogging and Skype. The students earned their Community Service credits for graduation and the CARP members learned some new technology skills. Based on the success of that program, we've had calls from other high schools across the country interested in getting their students involved in similar programs.



News from the Western Front

The **Okanagan Valley, BC** Chapter has made a point to recruiting an intergenerational Board of Directors that includes designated members who represent North and South regions within our BC chapter along with a Youth Chair. The Chapter has developed a variety of action plans in areas such as Funding & Sponsorship; Events & Membership and Policy & Advocacy. Representatives of the Chapter organized or attended a variety of public events such as Seniors' Expos and Health Fairs, made presentations and hosted recruitment booths for new members in various locales; and hosted meetings on policy issues such as Driving and Seniors' Care. The Co-Chairs and a board member participated in a BC Seniors' Action Plan Consultation hosted by the BC Ministry of Health; and the public consultation in Kelowna on the establishment of a Seniors' Advocate Office for BC.

October 1 is International Day of Older Persons/National Seniors Day and Kelowna City Council was approached and received the Chapter's proclamation on the topic.

(Right) Bob and Kim Richter, Jeffrey Sefton, April Lewis, Bruce Bird, Ramona Kaptyn.



CARP Okanagan Valley Chapter, Board of Directors, with Co-Chairs, Alice Wren-Mak in front (red) and Marry Ann Murphy (blue and black).



The **North Fraser, BC** Chapter, Chaired by Bruce Bird held a number of successful members meeting including one featuring a clinical social worker specializing in geriatrics and mental health, spoke on Understanding Dementia and Promoting Mental Health.

At their AGM Consumer Protection BC presented "Consumers: Know Your Rights" a program that dealt with telemarketing, consumer complaints and the Travel Fund, which reimburses victims of travel agency bankruptcies.

In their first meeting in Maple Ridge, there was a presentation by the BC Centre for Elder Advocacy Support entitled "Protect Yourself!", dealing with common scams, telemarketing and identity theft.

Earlier in the year, Bruce participated in the invitational Round Table in Vancouver on pensions organized by The Hon. Alice Wong, federal Minister of State for Seniors.

The Chapter has been involved in the Tri-Cities Network Project. The initiative is looking at the needs of seniors in Coquitlam, Port Moody and Port Coquitlam identifying service gaps with the goal of becoming an age-friendly community. Bruce Bird and another Chapter Director will continue to serve on the committee.

Profile: April Lewis, CARP BC Rep



At Sources Women's Place Fund Raiser with White Rock/Surrey Chair Ramona Kaptyn and BC Lions QB Travis Lulay



Above: At roundtable on Seniors Issues with MLA and BC Secretary for Seniors Ron Cantelon.



April, supporting the Chapter 45, Vancouver Central Board.



April and White Rock/Surrey Board Member Denise Thompson with Rick Hansen.

B.C. CARP Rep, and White Rock-Surrey Board member April Lewis was invited to be part of a Stakeholder Meeting for the creation of a Seniors' Advocate for British Columbia. Following up on the Ministry of Health's consultation discussion paper of May 2012 entitled Creating a Seniors' Advocate for British Columbia, a roundtable discussion took place in Surrey in June with participants from diverse local organizations. There were representatives from the

Premier's office as well as MLAs present.

April represented CARP at a Round Table meeting on Elder Abuse in Delta BC, hosted by Kerry-Lynne Findlay, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Justice. The Hon. John Nicholson, Minister of Justice and the Minister of State for Seniors, the Hon. Alice Wong participated in the meeting. April presented the Ministers with CARP's six point plan to combat Elder Abuse. Minister Nicholson indicated that the government would be

introducing measures in the fall session.

BC Representative and White Rock-Surrey Board member, April Lewis and Chapter Board member Ramona Kaptyn represented CARP at the "Every woman In The World" event in South Surrey. The co-founder of the event is former Canadian Olympian runner Lynn Kanuka, who was featured in Zoomer magazine last year with her Street Strider. The theme was "inspiring women through physical activity". April delivered the final wrap up which

included Jann Arden's "love the body you're in" message in the April, Zoomer magazine. Joy 10's ZoomerNEWS was there to cover the event.



Chapter Happenings...

White Rock/Surrey, BC

The White Rock-Surrey Chapter, now Chaired by Ramona Kaptyn, held a variety of successful events this year as well as bringing CARP's message to many events in the community. A sampling includes: Legacy Seminar in Delta; the 25th Annual BC Senior Games; a well-attended luncheon with Mahara Sinclair, author of *The Laughing Boomer*, who shared her secrets about retiring from work and gearing up for living by travelling well on a budget; a 'sold-out' wine and cheese reception for members with Minister of State for Seniors, Alice Wong; a free seminar on frauds, scams and gambling addictions where members learned how to develop skills needed to protect themselves from deception and how to report

Chapter Board members participated in the first Volunteer Recognition Fair hosted by the Semiahmoo Peninsula Seniors Planning Table and Sources Community Resource Centres and took part in Richmond's Activate! Wellness Fair for 55+ at the Minoru Senior's Centre where they again met Stephanie Cadieux, (MLA Surrey Panorama), who was the guest speaker at the Chapter's AGM discussing the importance of elected officials staying in touch with the issues of concern specific to seniors and Zoomers.

Montreal Metro West, QC

Montreal West Chapter, Chaired by Paul Reisman had its official launch in September 2011 with generous support from CARP Affinity Partner

Schnurmacher radio program on CJAD (largest Anglophone audience in Quebec) to discuss the new Montreal CARP Chapter. Other Chapter activities included a meeting at the Sheraton Montreal Airport Hotel, attended by about 100 people in which Quebec Cabinet Minister Geoffrey Kelley discussed what the government is doing to improve life for seniors; a

Fort McMurray, AB

The Fort McMurray Chapter teamed up with local citizens groups to express their concern to government officials about the proposed location of a new long term care facility in the area. The Chapter also arranged for CARP Advisory Board member Gail Hinchliffe to meet with the Chapter and local officials to discuss the long term care in the



CARP VP Community Development, Ross Mayot, with North York Chapter founders, Max Wynter and Anne Dawson.



White Rock/Surrey Board presents CARP Flag in Council Chambers.

it; a Health & Wellness Expo 50+ with Dignity Memorial where April Lewis was a speaker along with Media Doctor Art Hister.

Dignity Memorial, which 80 people attended. Following the launch, Paul Reisman, Chapter 37 founding Chair was a guest on the Tommy

mini session on Improving Memory with Brain Training; and the Chapter participated in seniors' fairs during the year in Montreal West, Vaudreuil and St Laurent.

Prince George, BC

The Prince George BC Chapter, Chaired by Ken Biron reached out following the tragic fire in neighbouring community of Burns Lake Alberta, with a financial donation from the Chapter to the Burns Lake Relief Fund. The national office matched the donation.

community.

North York, ON

A new Chapter in North York, Chaired by Max Wynter and Anne Dawson, had a great turn out for an information meeting in May, at The Gibson Retirement Residence to kick things off. Ross Mayot, was a presenter and spoke about Carp and 'A New Vision of Aging for Canada'. Several committees have been formed and plans are underway to start conducting monthly member seminars in October as well as a Seniors' Health Fair planned for November.

Word on the Street

Again this year our Chapters in Kitchener-Waterloo, Toronto, Halifax and Vancouver's GVA area Chapters set up CARP booths at Word-On-The-Street to promote CARP and Zoomer magazine and to sign up new members.

The Word On The Street is a national celebration of literacy and the written word. Each September, in communities coast to coast, the public is invited to participate in hundreds of author events, presentations and workshops and to browse a marketplace that boasts the best selection of Canadian books and magazines.



CARP President Moses Znaimer promoting literacy at Word on the Street Toronto in the Zoomer Magazine Tent.

Vancouver volunteers team up for the WOTS table in Vancouver. Anne McBride (North Fraser, April Lewis, Ramona Kaptyn, (White Rock/Surrey) Jeffrey Sefton (Vancouver Central), Denise Thompson. (White Rock/Surrey



Eyes East - Atlantic Canada



Ross Mayot, Susan Eng, Alex Handyside, Bill VanGorder

Halifax, NS, Chaired by Alex Handyside, had another effective year. On the advocacy front, the Chapter focused on increasing the GIS, Pension Reform, introducing a Universal Pension Plan, increased Caregiver support, firm action on Elder Abuse, and the elimination of mandatory retirement. The Chapter also tackled seniors-only housing, pharmacists refusing to accept Pharmacare cards, driving assessment fees, wait times, the Emergency Room crisis, and the need for a provincial Dementia Strategy.

The Chapter has also established an Environment committee focused on home heating costs, power rates, and green space preservation.

As an active Chapter the local and regional radio, TV and print media now regularly call upon incoming Chapter Chair Bill VanGorder for CARP's views on matters of importance to older Canadians.

During the past year Board members met with various groups including Junior Achievement, Care by Design, the Group of IX, Premier's Roundtable, Age-Friendly Workplace, Canadian Dementia Knowledge Transfer Network and Caregivers NS to explore mutual concerns and has

had a number of briefings with the Deputy Minister of Health.

Promoting Community engagement, the Chapter's "Holiday Social" continues to be popular. This year 175 persons attended the December event and 170 persons attended their session on 'Seeking a Dementia Strategy'. Once again, the Chapter had a

booth at 'Word on the Street'. Nordic Pole Walking is a large program for the Chapter. They have instructed over 800 people on proper pole walking

"I've appreciated everything CARP stands for in regards to Pensions. My stance has been almost identical to what CARP has looked at over the last 5 years". The Hon. Wesley Sheridan, Minister of Finance, Government of Prince Edward Island

technique, noting that pole sales have helped CARP NS raise close to \$1000 towards events, advocacy & outreach.

PEI Chapter Chair Casey McGannon helped set up back-to-back meetings with Ministers who hold key portfolios relating to seniors issues, including the Hon. Valerie Docherty, the Minister Responsible for Seniors; the Hon. Janice Sherry, the Minister of Justice and the Hon. Wesley Sheridan, Finance Minister. The objective for the meetings was to apprise the Ministers of CARP's Advocacy priorities, which included the implications of the change in the age of eligibility for the OAS and GIS

on provincial budgets; the continued need for pension reform to ensure that Canadians are saving sufficiently for their retirement; CARP's position on aging in place and the need for integrated continuous care strategies, and the ongoing need for strategies to eliminate elder abuse. The Ministers expressed a keen interest in CARP's work and were very appreciative of CARP's advocacy for older Canadians at both the national and provincial levels. Finance Minister Sheridan supported CARP's efforts to promote a national universal pension plan and indicated that he would be promoting the concept at the next meeting of Federal-Provincial Finance Ministers.

In **Moncton, NB** CARP met with Cecile Cassista, the Executive Director of New Brunswick's Coalition for Seniors and Nursing Homes Residents' Rights. This was a very productive exchange on how CARP and the Coalition can support our mutual goals. As a national organization it is important to understand and support the efforts of a provincial organization like the Coalition and in turn CARP can help bring the Coalition's provincial voice into the national advocacy.

Louise Gilbert and Conrad Leblanc with Susan and Ross in Moncton.



CARP Executive Maritime Swing



CARP VP, Ross Mayot, The Hon. Valerie Docherty, Minister Responsible for Seniors - Prince Edward Island, Susan Eng, CARP VP Advocacy.

The political meetings provided valuable contextual information for the central reason for trip: to meet with our local members at Chapter meetings; stimulate awareness of CARP's mission and to support the work of the Chapters. As one would expect

Brunswick and PEI are the only provinces in Canada without government plans). And in Halifax the Chapter members identified concerns about rising utility bills and the need for better rural and urban transportation, especially for seniors on fixed incomes. Concern about the broader national issues of pension reform, elder abuse, aging at home and the impact of the OAS changes on provincial budgets were common throughout the provinces.

On pension reform, Susan outlined CARP's call for all provincial governments to support improvements to the Pooled Registered Pension Plans and CPP enhancement; the serious

Along with Louise Gilbert, the Chair of the **Moncton** Chapter, we also had a very promising meeting with Conrad LeBlanc, the Executive Director of the New Brunswick Senior Citizens Federation. Again, this meeting was an opportunity to learn about the work and goals of the Federation and to discuss how CARP and the Federation can collaborate and reinforce our respective efforts to advance the interests of our members and seniors in New Brunswick. We will be following up those meetings in the fall with the objective of developing more specific lines of communication and cooperation.

In **Halifax** we had an opportunity to meet with the Leader of the Official Opposition in Nova Scotia prior to a meeting with officials from the Ministries of Finance, Health and Seniors. These meetings provided informative exchanges on the range of issues CARP is advancing, including discussion of the implications of the change in the age of eligibility for OAS and GIS on provincial budgets and CARP's advocacy for continuous integrated care and elder abuse.



Fredericton, NB CARP Board with Susan and Ross

the needs and interests in the three Maritime Provinces are not uniform, even though our members identified more commonalities than differences amongst the issues facing older Canadians in the provinces.

For example, in **PEI**, the implementation of the new HST is a very hot issue. **New Brunswick** chapter members were particularly concerned about the lack of a plan for catastrophic drug coverage. (New

implications for provincial budgets resulting in the federal government's changes to OAS eligibility and the need for more provincial resources to be allocated to eradicating elder abuse. It is CARP's position that all levels of government have a responsibility to eradicate elder abuse. CARP called for and supports the recent federal measure to increase sentencing for elder abuse convictions as a major first step in concerted legislative and community action to protect vulnerable seniors from elder abuse.

Mississauga's Murray Etherington

Mississauga, ON

The Mississauga Chapter, Chaired by Murray Etherington, was very pleased to have Canada's longest serving Mayor, Hazel McCallion as the special guest at the its December meeting. Mayor McCallion who is 90, roused the room with her indomitable spirit and encouragement for staying active and engaged as we age.

Murray and his team, continued to organize a series of Zoomer Fairs at the Sheridan Centre mall in Mississauga. As many as 36 vendors and community organizations have participated in these fairs, ranging from fitness and fashion, healthcare, safety and transportation services. Murray also teamed up with the Peel Elder Abuse Prevention Network to support the walk to end Elder Abuse and had the CARP booth out at the Mississauga Community Crime Awareness Day.

Murray has also been a public face for CARP members in the media, appearing in national newspapers and TV News programs as a representative voice issues of job security for Zoomers and later life job searches.



Mississauga CARP Chapter Chair, Murray Etherington, with Canada's longest serving and oldest Mayor, Hazel McCallion.



Murray Etherington with PEAPN representatives Maria Glidden and Karen Sibal and Mississauga Councillor Bonnie Crombie.



Murray's story appeared in newspapers across the country, including the Vancouver Sun, Calgary Herald, National Post and on CTV News.

Spotlight: Ajax-Pickering Chapter

Ajax-Pickering in Action

Ajax Pickering was an extremely active Chapter organizing more than 25 different Chapter events throughout the year,



including a Women's Lifestyle Planning Session.

There is nothing "Retiring" about the women in the Ajax Pickering CARP Chapter! Thirty women from the chapter were treated to an informative seminar to learn the essentials of a 'holistic' retirement plan. Richard Atkinson, author of the book, *"Don't Just Retire...Live it, Love it!"*, demonstrated, through his

comprehensive workshop, that retirement can be a time when you realize your potential and accomplish significant goals, previously delayed by the responsibilities of working and raising a family can make. Many thanks go to BMO, Nesbitt Burns, who sponsored the entire afternoon, including a delicious lunch at the Mandarin Restaurant.



Centre: Ontario MPP and Parliamentary Assistant to Minister of Seniors, Joe Dickinson (red tie) is a regular at Ajax Pickering events. Below: Ajax Pickering Chair, Randy Filinski with Red Hat Society.

The Chapter connected with the Red Hat Society with Chapter Chair Randy Filinski delivering the keynote speech to update their members about CARP advocacy and benefits and what the local CARP chapter is working on in the community. Because of the positive link in social objectives between the organizations, the Red Hat Society has now asked their RHS members to join CARP all across Canada.



Community Involvement

Chapters have been busy organizing events and doing good work in their communities, but also meeting new friends and enjoying the always present camaraderie at Chapter social gatherings and outings. Here are a few highlights: In association

with Osteoporosis Canada, our **Halifax, NS** and **Toronto, Downtown** chapters organized highly successful "Learn to play Bridge" events for CARP members with renowned Bridge guru Audrey Grant.

PRESENTS A FREE WORKSHOP FOR CARP MEMBERS

LEARN TO PLAY BRIDGE
FOR THE ABSOLUTE BEGINNER
WITH AUDREY GRANT

Sunday, September 30, 2012
10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Audrey Grant has garnered an international reputation as a teacher, author and ambassador of bridge. She is renowned for her fun, lighthearted yet comprehensive approach.

Don't miss out on this once in a lifetime opportunity to learn from the incomparable Grant in person, hear her tips, insights and guidance. This full day workshop includes: A sign, lunch and the textbook "Bridge Basics 1 - Introduction".

REGISTER TODAY TO SAVE YOUR SPACE!
Call 1.800.463.6842 ext. 299 or visit www.osteoporosis.ca/BWA

Not a member of CARP yet but want to attend the workshop? Join CARP today for only \$19.95 and then register for this exciting FREE workshop. Call 1.800.463.6842 ext. 299 or visit www.osteoporosis.ca/BWA

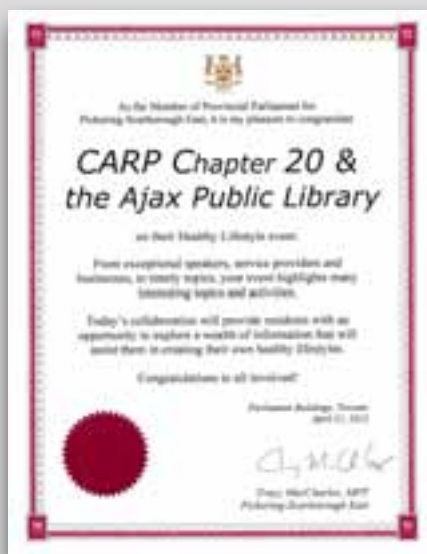
has been principally sponsored by the Alberta Capital Market Foundation. The first seminar was entitled 'Pre- to Post-Retirement Investment Strategies for Seniors 65+ and Zoomers 50+'. In support of its Advocacy efforts, the Edmonton Chapter also held an all-candidates forum in advance of Alberta's provincial election in April to make sure candidates had an appreciation of CARP's advocacy on issues facing an aging population.

CARP is pleased to announce that we have joined forces with

the organizers of the 100th Grey Cup Festival, that gives CARP members the opportunity to get involved in the historic and iconic Canadian event, as a volunteer.



Spearheaded by our Toronto-Downtown CARP Chapter Chair, Adina Lebo, CARP members can register with the 100th Annual Grey Cup Festival as an MVP Volunteer. There will be a wide range of exciting activities and events, including family events scheduled during the 10 day Grey Cup Festival, celebrating the 100th anniversary of the historic Canadian Football League's Grey Cup.



The Ajax-Pickering Chapter collaborated with the Ajax Public Library on an exceptional day exploring local opportunities to engage in a healthy lifestyle. Over 20 local service providers were on hand making a wide range of presentations, including: Seniors Safety and Fraud with Sgt. John Keating, of the Durham Regional Police; Parenting Your Parents! with author Bart Mindszenty; Home First+Home at Last, with Brent Farr, Executive Director, Community Care Durham; Patients First—Caregivers First with David Brazeau, Director, Public Affairs, Rouge Valley Hospital System.



Smaller Towns, Bigger Commitment



Centre image: Haliburton Highlands founding Chair, Bob Stinson, with MP Barry Devolin and County Warden, Barry Fearrey, part of the full house at the inaugural first meeting.

Haliburton Highlands, ON

Over 200 residents descended on the local Legion Hall for the first meeting of the Haliburton Highlands CARP Chapter. Chair, Bob Stinson put on a great program, including local politicians, Provincial Police, Financial Information, musical entertainment and a live broadcast by a local radio station. MPP Laurie Scott read out the following in the Ontario Parliament; "Today marks the founding of the newest chapter of CARP, the Canadian Association of Retired Persons. Haliburton Chapter 54 is being officially launched this afternoon at the Royal Canadian Legion in Haliburton. CARP is a national organization with over 330,000 members, advocating on issues related to aging, providing benefits like travel insurance and creating a social space for like-minded

people. Since the focus of CARP's advocacy is on aging issues, its membership is not confined to actual retired people. In fact, many young members are equally committed to ensuring that these issues are adequately addressed. CARP's vision is for a society in which everyone can live active, independent, purposeful lives as they age. CARP advocates for social changes that will bring financial security, equitable and timely access to health care, and freedom from discrimination for an aging population. It is also committed to ensuring that our aging citizens are protected from excessive tax burdens and restrictions, which would impair their quality of life. CARP's Chapter 54 in Haliburton is a welcome addition to our community. I want to congratulate Bob Stinson and the steering committee for all the work they

have done to ensuring the successful establishment of this chapter. I also want to wish Chapter 54 the very best in all of its future endeavours. I'm sorry I can't be with you there this afternoon in the Haliburton Legion, but I'm sure you're having a great time."

Lanark County, ON

Ross Mayot was a guest speaker at the launch of the new Lanark County Chapter based in Almonte Ontario. CARP's Eastern Ontario Representative Dawn Edgley, who had helped initiate the Chapter also attended the launch which was held at the Mississippi Mills community Centre. The inaugural meeting of the Chapter followed the 2nd annual Seniors Expo which was sponsored by the Almonte Baptist Church, the Mills Community Support Corporation, the Alzheimer's Society and CARP.

Supporting Membership Growth

HEALTH AND LIFESTYLE EXPO 2012
For the ZOOMER in YOU!

ONE DAY, ONE EVENT, ONE CELEBRATION!

Over 40 Vendors and Exhibitors:

- Travel
- Gardening
- Health
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- Seniors Safety
- Golf

SCREENINGS: Osteoporosis, Cholesterol Screenings, Blood Sugar and Blood Pressure
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Main Stage Music Entertainment – All Day Featuring Ottawa's "Grateful We're Not Dead"
Mini "Try-It" Zumba and Yoga
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MAINTAGE SPEAKERS: On the issues that matter most to adults over 50!

Friday June 8th, 2012
10:00 am - 8:00 pm

The Brockville Country Club
"The Granite Room"
Wheelchair Accessible
1548 King St. West
Brockville, ON

Admission: \$5.00 per person
\$7.00 per couple

Thank you to our sponsors for helping us CELEBRATE Zoomers on June 8!



Brockville and Thousand Islands Chapter, led by Dawn Edgley organized a successful Health and Lifestyle Expo for their community. Above, Ruth Sheridan Griffiths, from Therapeutic Paws had a display table at the event.

The activities of our Chapters make an important contribution to CARP's membership development and retention. The royalty program we have implemented with the Chapters has been effective in stimulating new members and facilitating member retention. The royalties earned by the Chapters gives them some revenue to undertake various activities to raise the profile of CARP in their communities. Collectively, Chapters have generated more new and renewal memberships than ever before. Chapter

The White Rock-South Surrey, South Fraser, Vancouver Central and North Fraser Chapters teamed up to have a booth at the BC Seniors Games in August promoting awareness of CARP and encouraging people to become members. And the Toronto- based

Chapters have teamed up to promote CARP membership at public events such as the Ashkenaz Festival, the National Women's Show and the Toronto Zoomer Show.

Chapters have also made time to have some fun and social time together, whether it's by organizing dinner theatre outings, community BBQs, organizing fitness clubs, wine tasting, or volunteer recognition parties. For example, in the spirit of promoting "fun and fitness" a number of Chapters have organized Nordic Pole Walking clubs. (picture pole walking group).

To build relations with other community-spirited organizations, Dawn Edgley and the Brockville-Thousand Islands Chapter organized a very successful Health and Lifestyle Expo "Zoomer Style"

A venue-capacity 51 vendors participated in the event offering information sessions, craft, fitness clinics, demonstrations and entertainment. Proceeds from the registration and entry fee went towards the Rotary Splash Pad/Park, the republishing of the Seniors Safety Guide which was a Community and Primary Health Care (CPHC) initiative and the Chapter. Based on the success of their first such event, Dawn reports that not one vendor left the day-long event without saying it was fantastic and planned to be back next year. It was a great day for networking and developing friendships.

Starting this Fall the Chapter is planning a Power Walk/ Running Club for Zoomers.

GTA Chapter Brainstorming



Standing Left to Right: Murray Etherington (Mississauga), Gary Hepworth (Etobicoke), Max Wynter (North York), Anne Dawson (North York), Tom Carrothers (Halton), Andy Woodburn (Brantford), Jay Patterson (Kitchener/Waterloo), Debby Fox (Kitchener/Waterloo), Geoff Claydon (Ajax-Pickering), Randy Filinski (Ajax-Pickering). Seated: Lorraine Green (Newmarket-Aurora), Adina Lebo (Toronto Downtown), Terry Little (Brantford), Keith Ward (Ajax-Pickering), Doug Stone (Hamilton), Dawn Edgley (Brockville & Thousand Islands).

Chairs and Board members from a number of Chapters in southern Ontario have begun a series of 'best practices' meetings, where they gather for a meal and go over highlights and issues ongoing in their prospective Chapters. The meetings were initiated by the former Chair of the Kitchener Waterloo Chapter, John Thompson, and supported by Downtown Toronto Chair, Adina Lebo. They have been continued by Mississauga Chair, Murray Etherington and Ajax-Pickering Chair, Randy Filinski. Over a dozen volunteers got together in the spring for an afternoon at the CARP National offices for a brainstorming session on Marketing and Communications. Discussion included how to improve the Chapter websites, e-newsletters, membership development, generating advertising and sponsorship support and special events. They also had an informative presentation on nutrition, exercise and healthy living, from CARP affinity partner TrueStar Health, who brought along 'BodyBreak' TV host Hall Johnson who shared his expertise on Zoomer Fitness.



Partnerships in Research



Ross Mayot is a member of the Advisory Board of the Sheridan Elder Research Centre (SERC) at Sheridan College in Oakville, ON. Under the leadership of Pat Spadafora, Executive Director, SERC has been awarded a College and Community Innovation grant for a major research undertaking entitled "Aging in Place: Optimizing Health Outcomes through Technology, Design and Social Innovation" that will focus on enhancing the quality of life for older Canadians and their families.

Ross represents CARP on the Core Advisory Board of the Seniors Health Research Transfer Network (SHRTN) Falls Prevention Community of Practice (CoP) comprised of multiple stakeholders including: planners, researchers, policy makers, front line health care workers and caregivers who have an interest in Falls Prevention. The goal is to improve the health and healthcare for seniors by sharing Falls Prevention knowledge, research, best practices and tools.

Ross is also CARP's representative on the Knowledge Exchange Board of the research team, led by Dr. Diane Doran,



University of Toronto, and Dr. Regis Blais, University of Montreal, that is looking at the prevalence, magnitude and risk of patient/client safety incidents in home care settings across Canada.

Accessibility

As a non-profit organization based in Ontario with less than 20 employees, CARP is required to comply with a new Ontario legislation (Accessibility Standards for Customer Service) to provide accessible customer service to people with disabilities. Anthony Quinn manages the portfolio for this important issue and has led the Ontario CARP Chapter board members in compliance with the legislation.

National Office: Team Building



CARP's Insurance Affinity Partner, McLennan Group, at the ZoomerShow, Toronto 2012.



Left: Moses Znaimer on stage as Presenter and Host of ideaCity. Below: Anthony Quinn with Scarborough Chair, Gary Butler at ideaCity. Bottom: Ross Mayot on the Sun Life promo Magazine cover, ZoomerShow Vancouver.



Outreach from National Office

CARP cannot achieve its goals working in isolation. This is why our Community Development Team makes a real effort to reach out to other groups and organizations to share ideas and cooperate on initiatives that could be mutually beneficial to our respective memberships. We work with local, national and international organizations. Here a few recent examples:

Speaking engagements at various events is part of our Community outreach. Anthony and Ross have spoken at a number of Probus Clubs, throughout the year. Throughout the year we have also developed working relationships with the Canadian Red Cross, the Ladies Auxiliary of the BC/

Yukon Command of the Royal Canadian Legion to promote the National Youth Athletic Championships to be held in Vancouver in 2013, and the Canadian Diabetes Association, among others.



The 2011 Toronto Zoomer Show continued its trend of getting bigger and better every year. With more vendors, entertainment, workshops and speakers it is clearly the pre-eminent annual Zoomer lifestyle show.

Thanks to the generous sponsorship of William Cummings of MBNA (Zoomer Master Card) and Jack Gordon representing Dignity Memorial, ten members of our Chapters were able to attend the ideaCity Conference this year, Moses Znaimer's annual Meeting of Minds.

On behalf of the CARP National I'd like to thank our National Affinity Partners who have generously supported various events and activities of our Chapters throughout the year.

CARP's Affinity Partner Support

Sun Life Financial was in full support at the launch of the Etobicoke, ON Chapter Launch, with Brain Burlacoff and Liz Campbell along with CARP's Moses Znaimer, Susan Eng, Gary Hepworth, Ross Mayot, Eric Vengroff



Dennis Scodellaro and Jason Bednarz from the McLennan Insurance, with Hon. Alice Wong and CARP VP Susan Eng at 2011 ZoomerShow in Vancouver.

Helping our Chapters Thrive

As the number and scale of Chapter meetings and community events increase along with the growth of our Chapter network, we have asked our Affinity Partners to support Chapter events in any way they can, including providing speakers on a variety of topics, event sponsorship,

refreshments, door prizes, complementary memberships and special events held for Chapter members. It has been gratifying to see the number of our National Affinity Partners step up to support our Chapter development and we salute their efforts to help our Chapters be successful in their communities.



One of CARP's newest Affinity Partners, ZoomerWireless debuted at the 2011 Zoomer Show.



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Along with our life and health arm, The McLennan Group Life Insurance Inc., we have been CARP's recommended and trusted insurance provider for the past 18 years.

We have witnessed first-hand, the key role that the CARP Chapters have played in the growth and advancement of CARP and its valuable programs throughout the years.

Congratulations and thank you to all of the volunteers of the CARP Chapter Network for your exemplary service in your communities. You've done yourselves proud.