

## Save the Date

June 23<sup>rd</sup>

### ARM Free Take out Lunch

The second luncheon for ARM members is taking place at the Ciociaro Club.

Contact Jacques [j29aharon@gmail.com](mailto:j29aharon@gmail.com) by Friday June 18<sup>th</sup> to place your order for a regular, gluten-free or vegetarian meal. Additional meals are available for \$20.00

June 25<sup>th</sup>

### ARM Annual General Meeting – to be held virtually

The Covid-19 pandemic restrictions that are in place continue to impact our ability to meet face-to-face.

More details can be found in the newsletter. If you have any questions, please email

[armchapter9@outlook.com](mailto:armchapter9@outlook.com)

*There's never enough time to do  
all the nothing you want!*

*-Bill Waterson*

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## President's Message from Bruce Awad

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of your ARM Chapter is Friday June 25, 2021 starting at 10:00 am. This will be a virtual meeting that you can access with your computer, tablet, smartphone or your landline. The purpose of the AGM is to elect executive members, pass a yearly budget, make changes to our constitution among other things. All ARM Chapter 9 full members have a right to attend and vote at this meeting. Instructions on how to attend and participate can be found later on in this newsletter. We will also be sending out a mass email with instructions on how to attend. Please attend the meeting and consider a position on the executive. There is one member-at-large position that currently no one has put their name forward.

We are once again providing a FREE take out lunch in lieu of our annual spring luncheon to all ARM full members. The free lunch will be handed out at the Ciociaro Club on Wednesday June 23, 2021 between 12:00 pm and 1:30 PM. All members were notified through a mass email. I hope you are all accessing the free lunch. Details are shown in this newsletter. Our plan is to resume our two in-person luncheons free of charge for the next several years once restrictions allow.

We are hoping our monthly first Friday breakfasts will resume in the near future. Our plan is to provide the breakfasts free of charge for the first few months for all full members. We are also hoping to resume providing informative educational workshops once the pandemic restrictions allow. We will inform you of these events by email and through our newsletter.

This past year and a half has been challenging for all of us in an unprecedented way. We will continue to provide informative articles through our partnership with OTIP. Look for these in our emails and future newsletters.

In summary, I sincerely hope you are staying safe and healthy as we return to whatever the new normal will be. We are always open to your suggestions and comments.

Yours in Federation,

Bruce Awad, President, ARM Chapter 9

## Anti-Harassment & Equity Declaration History

The Federation not only seeks to protect members from harassment in the workplace but also in the union. In the mid-1990's, work began at 60 Mobile Dr to develop internal policy and mechanisms to address discrimination & harassment within OSSTF district and provincial organizations. The result was the passing of Anti-Harassment policy at AMPA that required local leadership to ensure all OSSTF events have an officer who can respond to any complaint. To learn more about the policy, visit [www.osstf.on.ca](http://www.osstf.on.ca) where you can find the entire document.

## Indigenous Acknowledgement History

OSSTF embraced the establishment of, and recommendations that came out of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report that was released in 2015. Prior to that period, the Federation established a First Nations, Metis and Inuit work group to better inform the work of the union in helping reconcile our relationship with Indigenous peoples.

A 2012 Common Threads project *Full Circle: First Nations, Metis and Inuit Ways of Knowing* was made available to all members. Additional workshops and resources have led to the establishment of policy that an Acknowledgement Statement is read at the start of any OSSTF meeting.

# AGM Annual General Meeting Information

**Active Retired Members (ARM), Chapter 9, Greater Essex  
Annual General Meeting Friday, June 25, 2021 – 10:00 AM  
Using Go To Meeting**

## TENTATIVE AGENDA

1. Appointment of Anti-Harassment Officer and Reading of Anti-Harassment & Equity Declaration

***A member of OSSTF has the right to an equitable work and union environment free from the destructive effects of discrimination and harassment. Anyone who feels targeted by harassment or discrimination must be able to speak up and know their concerns will be responded to immediately in accordance with OSSTF Policies and Procedures which are available on the provincial website.***

***The Anti-Harassment Officer for this meeting is \_\_\_\_\_.***

2. Indigenous Acknowledgment Statement

***We would like to acknowledge the original caretakers of this land and recognize the relationship outlined in the First Nations Treaties, as well as acknowledge the contributions made by the Inuit and Metis peoples, so that we may come together today in a good way.***

3. Approval of the Agenda
4. Approval of the minutes of the AGM June 26, 2020.
5. Business arising from the AGM minutes of June 26, 2020.
6. Reports of Executive Officers
  - a) President – Bruce Awad
  - b) Vice-President – Jacques Aharonian
  - c) Recording Secretary -Toni Michaiczuk
  - d) Treasurer – Dan Eberwein
  - e) Communications Officer – Patricia Morneau
  - f) Political Action Officer – Margaret Villamizar
  - g) Membership Officer – Brian Robinson
  - h) Member Services Officer – Margie Sciacca
  - i) Program Co-Ordinator – Jacques Aharonian
  - j) Member At Large – Suzette Clark
  - k) Member At Large – Rosanne Herold
  - l) Member At Large – Scott Hunt
7. Proposed 2021-2022 Budget
  - a) Review of the Proposed 2021-2022 Budget – Dan Eberwein
  - b) Approval of the Budget

***BIRT the proposed budget of the 2021-2022 fiscal year be approved as presented by the Treasurer***

***Moved by  
Seconded by***

- c) Investment of Surplus Funds

# AGM Annual General Meeting Information - AGENDA

## 8. Proposed Constitutional & By-Law Changes

a) Review of Proposed Constitution & By-Law Changes (see next page) – Suzette Clark & Bruce Awad

b) Approval of Proposed Constitution & By-Law Changes

PROC Motion to Bloc

Moved By

Seconded By

PROC Motion to Approve

Moved By

Seconded By

## 9. Election of Executive Officers for 2021-2022

a) President

b) Vice-President

c) Recording Secretary

d) Treasurer

e) Communications Officer

f) Political Action Officer

g) Membership Officer

h) Member Services Officer

j) Program Co-Ordinator

h) Members At Large 1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

## 10. Appointment and/or Election of ARM Chapter 9 Representatives for 2021-2022

(a) CURC Triennial Meeting – 2 delegates - Date unknown at this time

(b) OFUR Biennial Meeting April 24<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Port Elgin “Tentative date” - 2 delegates

## 11. New Business

a)

b)

c)

## 12. Adjournment

<b>ARM Chapter 9 - Record of Revenue and Expenses - 2020-2021</b>					
GIC 049 - \$7603.68 (May 5, 2022)      GIC 461 - \$5273.56 (Mar 14, 2022)      GIC 695 - \$5000.00 (Oct 22, 2021)      Total \$17877.21					
<b>TRANSACTION DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>RECONCILED WITH BANK STATEMENT</b>	<b>CHEQUE NUMBER</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Debits</b>	<b>BALANCE</b>
Balance forward	x				\$16,237.59
Donation - Downtown Mission	x	140		\$200.00	\$16,037.59
Donation - Patsy's Place	x	141		\$200.00	\$15,837.59
Donation - Music Express	x	142		\$200.00	\$15,637.59
Donation - Autism Sevices Inc.	x	143		\$200.00	\$15,437.59
Donation - K of C Council 9671 Charity Golf Tournament	x	144		\$200.00	\$15,237.59
Donation - United Wat - Windsor Essex	x	145		\$350.00	\$14,887.59
Margie Sciacca - Postage	x	134		\$105.23	\$14,782.36
Crystal Leveille - Gift	x	135		\$100.00	\$14,682.36
Scott Hunt - Arm Ch 9 Annual Meeting	x	136		\$66.50	\$14,615.86
OSSTF District 9 - Exec Expenses	x	137		\$90.19	\$14,525.67
Bruce Awad - Mileage	x	138		\$91.98	\$14,433.69
Bruce Awad - Arm Ch 9 Goto Meeting	x	139		\$37.29	\$14,396.40
Margie Sciacca - Brick Ceremony	x	146		\$50.00	\$14,346.40
Arm Chapter Rebate	x		\$5,535.00		\$19,881.40
Transfer to GIC (695)	x			\$5,000.00	\$14,881.40
Deposit (4 Social Memberships)	x		\$40.00		\$14,921.40
Suzette Clark (Sanitizer Gel)	x	147		\$640.71	\$14,280.69
Margie Sciacca (Brick Purchase)	x	148		\$50.00	\$14,230.69
Bruce Awad (GotoMeeting)	x	149		\$29.38	\$14,201.31
Bruce Awad (Norton)	x	150		\$22.59	\$14,178.72
Deposit (Fall Luncheon)	x		\$565.00		\$14,743.72
Roseanne Herold (Masks ARM)	x	151		\$365.81	\$14,377.91
Suzette Clark (Postage)	x	152		\$46.78	\$14,331.13
Bruce Awad (GotoMeeting)	x	153		\$29.35	\$14,301.78
Ciociaro Winter Luncheon	x	154		\$1,322.10	\$12,979.68
Adele Newman (Honourarium)	x	155		\$500.00	\$12,479.68
Congress of Union Retirees of Canada (CURC)	x	156		\$75.00	\$12,404.68
Suzette lark (postage)	x	157		\$58.21	\$12,346.47
Bruce Awad (GotoMeeting)	x	158		\$293.80	\$12,052.67
Deposit (2 x \$20 Social Memb) ( \$20 -Luncheon)	x		\$60.00		\$12,112.67
Crystal Leveille - Gift		159		\$100.00	\$12,012.67
Pat Morneau - Biennial Expense		160		\$25.00	\$11,987.67
					\$11,987.67

## ARM CHAPTER 9 - Revenue/Expenses 2020-2021 (Budget for 2021-2022)

		FINAL		PROPOSED		NOTES
		2020-21 BUDGET	Actual, 2020	2021-22 BUDGET		
<b>REVENUE</b>						
	Provincial Rebates	\$5,580.00	\$5,535.00	\$5,535.00		Based on 246 members x \$22.50 =5535.00
	Social Memberships	\$210.00	\$40.00	\$80.00		Based on 8 members x \$10.00
	OTIP - Incentive Program	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00		OTIP revenue will be received in June 2022
	Credit Interest	\$10.00		\$10.00		Interest Paid - Motor City Community CU (estimate)
	Postage Reimbursement	\$0.00		\$0.00		
	Educator's Financial Group Cheque	\$500.00		\$500.00		Workshop
	Winter Luncheon	\$440.00	\$585.00	\$440.00		Ticket Sales for Winter Luncheon Estimate 20 X\$22.00=440 (Social Members only)
	Spring Luncheon	\$440.00		\$440.00		Ticket Sales for Spring Luncheon Estimate 20 X\$22.00=440 Social Members only)
	Fundraising Ticket Sales Winter	\$400.00		\$400.00		Revenue comes from Fundraising Ticket Sales and is Paid out (Estimate)
	Fundraising Ticket Sales Spring	\$400.00		\$400.00		Revenue comes from Fundraising Ticket Sales and is Paid out (Estimate)
	Surplus Funds allocation	\$2,500.00		\$3,700.00		
		<b>\$15,480.00</b>	<b>\$11,160.00</b>	<b>\$16,505.00</b>		
<b>EXPENSES</b>						
	ARM Chapter 9 Annual Meeting	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00		June 2022 Expense
	ARM Provincial Biennial Meeting	\$750.00	\$25.00	\$0.00		Next Biennial is 2023
	CURC Membership	\$100.00	\$75.00	\$125.00		Based on total number of members
	CURC Triennial Meeting	\$1,500.00		\$1,500.00		Meeting will be in ? Fall 2021
	Donations	\$1,350.00	\$1,350.00	\$1,500.00		Recommend 5 Donations of \$300.00 each
	Executive Expenses	\$500.00	\$329.35	\$500.00		Includes food for Executive Meetings & mileage & Training
	Gift - District Secretary	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00		
	Memorial Brick Service	\$400.00	\$100.00	\$400.00		Cost for bricks has gone up to \$50.00 each
	Printing	\$300.00		\$300.00		District Office not charging us for the minimal printing we do, so lowered budget line
	Office Equipment	\$0.00		\$0.00		
	Office Supplies	\$300.00		\$200.00		
	OFUR Biennial Meeting	\$0.00		\$750.00		Meeting in May 2022
	OFUR Membership	\$50.00		\$50.00		Based on membership numbers
	Postage	\$500.00	\$210.22	\$500.00		\$2.00 per mailing x 50 x 5 = \$500.00 (newsletter to those with no email address)
	Promotional Materials	\$200.00		\$0.00		
	Allocated by Executive	\$1,580.00	\$1,800.32	\$1,530.00		Costs for workshops (meal etc.) 2 per year
	Newsletter	\$650.00	\$50.00	\$650.00		Newsletter Printing
	Friday breakfasts (one year only)	\$1,800.00		\$3,000.00		Sept. Oct. Nov. 50 x \$12.00 x 5 = \$3000.00 maximum (*Post Pandemic - 1 year only)
	Winter Luncheon	\$2,250.00	\$1,322.10	\$2,250.00		Based on 100 x \$22.50 each
	Spring Luncheon	\$2,250.00		\$2,250.00		Based on 100 x \$22.50 each
	Fundraising Ticket Donation Winter	\$400.00		\$400.00		Donation approved by Executive comes from Fundraising Ticket Sales Estimate
	Fundraising Ticket Donation Spring	\$400.00		\$400.00		Donation approved by Executive comes from Fundraising Ticket Sales Estimate
		<b>\$15,480.00</b>	<b>\$5,361.99</b>	<b>\$16,505.00</b>		
	Surplus	\$0.00	\$5,798.01			
<b>Investments</b>						
						<b>Maturity Date</b>
	Term Deposit (049)	0.95%	\$7,603.65			2022-05-05
	GIC (461)	1.00%	\$5,273.56			2022-03-14
	GIC (695)	1.40%	\$5,000.00			2021-10-22
	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$17,877.21</b>			

## Reports of the Executive

### Communications Officer – Patricia Morneau

Our chapter continues to maintain an online presence with a Facebook page and a Twitter account. Followings remain small, but there are a few active members who post regularly.

Many thanks to Suzette for taking on the Newsletter—it is no small task!! And much appreciation to Brian for updating our website. They were needed improvements, definitely. I know this report is brief, but, well, it has been that kind of year. I looking forward to face to face events when it is safe to do so.

### Member At Large - Rosanne Herold

It was my pleasure this year to put my sewing skills to work. With the help of a friend who does machine embroidery I was able to make 270 facemasks in the OSSTF colours, one mask for each member. They were distributed to the members, along with hand sanitizer, at the December luncheon drive-thru at the Ciociaro Club. We are hoping to distribute more at the next members' free lunch which has had to be rescheduled due to the extension of the lockdown.

I also had the pleasure of helping out at that aforementioned free luncheon drive-thru and seeing other members, albeit at a distance. I hope the next one is at least as well attended, especially now with vaccinations well underway for our age group.

## Reports of the Executive - Continued

### Political Action Officer's Report - Margaret Villamizar

2020-2021 was a very trying school year for District 9 teachers and education workers and no doubt for administrators as well who all had to deal with unprecedented challenges in their working lives, not the least of these being the Ontario government's refusal to provide the resources needed to make schools safe.

The District Communications/Political Action Committee (CPAC) met virtually on a semi-regular basis this year. With a provincial election having to be held next June and the possibility of a federal election at any time there will surely be more work for the committee next year. Its role is basically focused on helping get out the vote, and importantly, providing information about all candidates to both active and retired D9 members so they can cast an informed vote.



In a related matter, the Ford government on June 14 rammed through controversial legislation (Bill 307) invoking the Notwithstanding clause to override certain provisions of Canada's *Charter of Rights and Freedoms* in order to reintroduce parts of a law (Bill 254) passed earlier this year that a court struck down as unconstitutional in a charter challenge initiated by OSSTF and other education unions. The unconstitutional law that has now been imposed doubles the amount of time (from 6 to 12 months) before an Ontario election is called during which unions and others considered third parties will be restricted in the amount of money they can spend on political advertising. Meanwhile the amount individuals can contribute to registered political parties, which already receive a per-vote subsidy from the government, will double, giving the parties even more money to use for their campaign ads.

With the next provincial election less than a year away the 12-month restricted period was imposed retroactively. The Progressive Conservatives claim limiting third parties' ability to advertise for a full year before elections is needed to protect elections from "outside influence." It is no mystery however whose voice is being targeted. Patty Coates, an OSSTF education worker and current president of the Ontario Federation of Labour said in a statement on June 9: "This move is an attempt to silence the people who lost family members in disastrous long-term care conditions, families and education workers who called for safer classrooms, and workers who demanded paid sick days. It is a power grab, an abuse of power, and it is unacceptable. We will not be silenced."

The coming year or even the coming months if the Liberals call a federal election as some are predicting, promise to offer plenty of opportunities for political action for those who want to get involved.

### Member At Large – Suzette Clark

As part of the Executive, I have enjoyed working on the **Chapter 9 News** for the 2020-2021 year. The newsletter team also includes Bruce Awad, Jacques Aharonian and Patricia Morneau. In addition to this task, I have worked with the Executive in drafting amendments to the Constitution that reflect the realities of Electronic Meetings. Those recommended changes are included in this edition of the newsletter. Our current Constitution can be found on our website [www.armchapter9.ca](http://www.armchapter9.ca)

Printed copies of the current Constitution can be requested by email at [armchapter9@outlook.com](mailto:armchapter9@outlook.com)

**Reports from other members of the Executive may be given verbally during the Annual General Meeting.**

# Constitutional Motions June 2021 AGM

PROC

BE IT RESOLVED THAT BYLAW 3.2, BYLAW 3.2.1, BYLAW 3.3, BYLAW 3.3.1, BYLAW 3.3.2, BYLAW 3.3.3, BYLAW 3.3.4, BYLAW 3.4, BYLAW 3.4.1, BYLAW 3.5, BYLAW 3.5.1, BYLAW 3.5.2, BYLAW 3.5.3, BYLAW 3.5.4, BYLAW 3.5.5 and BYLAW 3.5.6

be considered en bloc.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the motions in the above PROC be approved

## **BYLAW 3 Meetings**

3.2

### **Electronic Meetings**

3.2.1

As necessary, meetings of the Chapter membership, Executive or committees may be held electronically. Under no circumstances can any part of the electronic meeting be recorded.

3.3

### **Electronic Meeting: Platform**

3.3.1

The platform in which these electronic meetings can be held is designated by the President.

3.3.2

The designated platform must support anonymous voting and support visible displays identifying those participating. Identifying those seeking recognition to speak, showing the text of pending motions, and showing the results of votes.

3.3.3

The designated platform must require members, participating in the electronic meeting, to log in to satisfy the process of verification of membership of meeting participants.

3.3.4

These electronic meetings shall be subject to all rules adopted by the Chapter membership, Executive, or committees, or by OSSTF rules of order.

3.4

### **Electronic Meeting: Voting**

3.4.1

All members participating on the electronic platform or participating by telephone are entitled to vote.

3.5

### **Electronic Meeting: Rules**

3.5.1

Proper notice of Meeting and Meeting information (link, login, agenda, minutes, time and date) shall be sent out to members as per the Constitution.

3.5.2

The meeting link shall be open at least 15 minutes prior to the start of the meeting.

3.5.3

Members shall login, identify themselves, and maintain telephone or internet and audio connection throughout the meeting when present but shall sign out upon any departure prior to adjournment.

3.5.4

Quorum shall be as designated as per the Constitution.

3.5.5

The Chair may mute or force a disconnection of a member if the member is causing interference with the meeting.

3.5.6

Members seeking recognition of the floor shall notify the Chair by raising their hand or stating they wish to be recognized if participating by telephone.

## Nominations for executive positions for the 2021-2022 year.

The following people have put their name forward for the executive for 2021-2022, to be elected at the AGM:

	Mover	Second	Second
President –	Bruce Awad	Jacques Aharonian	Suzette Clark
Vice- President –	Jacques Aharonian	Bruce Awad	Dan Eberwein
Member Services Officer -	Margie Sciacca	Bruce Awad	Marg Villamizar
Recording Secretary –	Suzette Clark	Pat Morneau	Jacques Aharonian
Treasurer –	Dan Eberwein	Bruce Awad	Jaques Aharoninan
Communications Officer –	Patricia Morneau	Suzette Clark	Marg Villamizar
Political Action Officer –	Margaret Villamizar	Bruce Awad	Scott Hunt
Program Co-ordinator –	Jacques Aharonian	Bruce Awad	Suzette Clark
Membership Information Officer –	Brian Robinson	Bruce Awad	Roseanne Herold
Member(s) At Large (1) –	Scott Hunt	Brian Robinson	Pat Morneau
Member At Large (2) –	Roseanne Herold	Jacques Aharonian	Bruce Awad
Member At Large (3) –	Toni Michalczuk	Bruce Awad	Scott Hunt
Member At Large (4) –	Karen Tompkins	Adele Newman	Bruce Awad
Member At Large (5) –	vacant		

NOTE: nominations from the floor of the AGM are also accepted for any position.

## Important Information from our friends at OTIP

### Warning signs to watch out for when buying a used car

When selling a used car, some sellers may try to take advantage of inexperienced buyers by selling a car for more than its worth or lying about the car's condition. Watch out for these warning signs that can indicate a dishonest seller so that you can be confident in your purchase.

As soon as you drive off the lot, a new car starts to lose its value. If you're buying a car on a budget, a used car can be an attractive and affordable option. However, any car purchase is still a significant investment, and you'll want to make sure the used car you're buying is in good condition and you're paying a fair price.

Here are a few warning signs to watch out for when buying a used car.

#### **1. The seller won't let you go for a test drive**

Never buy a used car without taking it for a test drive. If the seller won't allow it, they're probably trying to hide something. Take the car out for 30 minutes and drive a familiar route to test actions you normally do, like accelerating up hill, turning corners, merging and changing lanes and hitting the brakes to see if the car performs as you'd expect.

While the car is running, also take the opportunity to check the accessories, A/C and heat are all working as well and listen for any rapping, tapping or banging sounds coming from the engine.

#### **2. Something looks or smells unusual**

Walk around the car slowly and inspect for anything odd or misaligned. If the tires are unevenly worn, it can mean there's an alignment problem with the steering, frame or suspension. Signs of repair such as different coloured panels, new trim, paint overspray, ripples in the body and panels and bumpers that don't line up can indicate that the car has been in a collision. The smell of antifreeze or fuel can indicate leaks.



## **Warning signs to watch out for when buying a used car - continued**

### **3. The seller won't let you do an independent inspection**

If you're not a car expert and you're buying a used car from a private seller, it can be helpful to have a professional inspect the car before you purchase it to determine the cosmetic, mechanical and safety condition of the car. If the seller is in too much of a hurry to sell to let you schedule an inspection, it's a warning sign that something's not right.

### **4. There is missing or incorrect paperwork**

A seller is legally required to provide a Used Vehicle Information Package (UVIP) that details the history of the vehicle, including registration history and lien information. You should also ask for a Safety Standards Certificate to show that the car is safe to drive in Ontario and certification that it passes the Ontario Drive Clean Emissions Test. If the seller is unable or unwilling to provide this paperwork, they may be hiding something.

### **5. The car is undervalued**

Before you negotiate the purchase price of the car, research the car's value. If the price seems too good to be true, it probably is. You can use tools like [Auto Check](#) or [Car Fax](#) to find a vehicle's history, such as records of any accidents or recalls, using the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN). You should also look up the average selling price of cars like it on [Kelly Blue Book](#) or [Car and Driver](#) to determine what the car is worth.

The car you buy will also have an impact on your insurance rates. When you decide to purchase a used car, you'll need to call your insurance broker to get a quote and add your new vehicle to your policy.

If your insurance policy is up for renewal, a broker can help you compare policies from different insurers and find the best value – call an OTIP insurance broker at [1-833-615-9326](tel:1-833-615-9326) to get a quote! If you're adding a car to an existing OTIP policy, call [1-833-494-0089](tel:1-833-494-0089).

*If you enjoyed reading this article, [subscribe to OTIP's e-communications](#) and you will get more news like this delivered straight to your inbox. Plus, you will be entered for a chance to win a \$500 gift card!*

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### **Eye care in Ontario is at risk**

If you want to help ensure access to your doctor is not at risk, especially if you or your family uses OHIP-insured services, please visit [www.SaveEyeCare.ca](http://www.SaveEyeCare.ca) to sign an electronic letter to tell our elected government officials that eye care matters to you!

Recently, you may have seen news about optometrists in Ontario and wondered how this impacts you and your family. Your eye care is our number one priority. We want you to know we have a plan to protect access to quality eye care and we are committed to ensuring you get the quality eye care you deserve.

For more than 30 years, the Ontario government has failed to adequately fund eye care. For more than 30 years, the Ontario government has refused to formally negotiate with optometrists. In 1989, the Ontario government paid \$39.15 for an eye exam. Thirty-two years later, in 2021, the Ontario government pays on average \$44.65 for an eye exam.

That fee does not come close to covering the office expenses such as staff, rent, utilities, equipment, and supplies required to provide an eye exam. The level of funding for OHIP-insured eye exams is not sustainable.

Unfortunately, those who will be impacted the most are the groups OHIP is supposed to protect; our children, seniors and those with existing eye diseases. If the government continues to ignore this issue, Ontario optometrists will be left with no choice but to stop providing OHIP services starting September 1, 2021.

This means that any person who is OHIP-insured for their eye exam will not be able to see an optometrist, including those 19 years of age and under, 65 years of age and over, and adults with eye diseases related to diabetes, glaucoma and cataracts. Ontario law makes it illegal for optometrists to accept direct payment or alternate health insurance from OHIP-insured patients. As a result, these patients will simply not be able to book an appointment starting September 1.

**We are pleading with the Ontario government to act responsibly. Add your voice!**

# Annual General Meeting Information

Dear ARM Chapter 9 members,

Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) is Friday June 25, 2021 starting at 10:00 am. This is a virtual meeting online and can be accessed by your computer, tablet or smartphone via your devices' camera, by clicking on the link below. You can also participate with audio only via your telephone landline or smartphone by dialing the telephone number below. The password below is required to access the meeting. Please do not give this password to anyone. It is for your use only as a member.

As an ARM Chapter 9 full member you have a right to participate. Included in this newsletter are the agenda, minutes from the 2020 AGM, proposed 2021-2022 budget, record of revenue and expenditures and a list of people who have been nominated for executive positions. Nominations for executive positions can also be made during the meeting. You will also find our current constitution and proposed amendments to the constitution.

I look forward to seeing you or hearing you on June 25 2021.

Sincerely,  
Bruce Awad, President

## ARM Annual General Meeting

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://www.gotomeet.me/ARMChapter9>

This meeting is locked with a password: ARM9AGM

You can also dial in using your phone.

Canada: +1 (647) 497-9373 Access Code: 815-155-613

New to GoToMeeting? Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/install/815155613>

## This Month's Q&A Technology Tips

### Q: How do I join an electronic meeting?

A: The easiest method to join an electronic meeting is to call in. You will be able to hear all discussion and can join in by stating your question or comment when the opportunity presents itself.

If you have a computer or tablet that has a camera feature, you can participate to whatever extent you wish to do so. Go to the link provided by the President to join in.

You may choose to simply observe the meeting by not sharing your image but you will need to identify yourself as an Active Retired Member.

ARM Chapter 9 Executive members are available to provide assistance upon request.

Your ARM Executive looks forward to planning events such as monthly Friday breakfasts, seasonal luncheons and workshops once pandemic protocols are lifted in the coming months.



## STAYING CURRENT

ARM Chapter 9 has a number of ways you can stay informed about things that matter to our membership.

### ARM Chapter 9 Twitter

ARM Chapter 9 has an account that monitors relevant sources for news and items of interest for our membership. Follow @ARMChapter9Win1

### ARM Chapter 9 Website

The Chapter 9 website contains



information for Retired members of OSSTF. Current and previous newsletters can be found along with details about the work of your Executive.

The website has been created in an easy-to-navigate format offering our membership uncomplicated access to its content.

[www.armchapter9.ca](http://www.armchapter9.ca)

If you have suggestions about what you might like included in the website please email [armchapter9@outlook.com](mailto:armchapter9@outlook.com)

## OSSTF AMPA 2021

The Annual General Meeting of the Provincial Assembly is usually held over three days at the start of March Break. While the election of the Provincial Executive was completed in March, much of the business of AMPA had to be completed over two additional days in June.

AMPA 2021 highlights include the election of two District 9 members.

Martha Hradowy was elected as Vice President on the Provincial Executive. As former president of the D9 Educational Support Staff bargaining unit, Martha will continue to be a strong voice to protect public education.

Andy Adzic, a member of the Teacher Bargaining Unit executive, was elected as an Ontario Teachers' Federation Governor.

District 9 has a long history of being well represented at the provincial level. ARM Chapter 9 congratulates both Andy and Martha on their successful campaigns!

## Additional AMPA Highlights

Much of the focus at the Annual Meeting of the Provincial Assembly was upon Equity and Diversity. Discussion mirrored what is transpiring across Canada, and indeed the world, with *Black Lives Matter* and other movements demanding to give voice to Indigenous people. Such conversations are not always easy – nor should they be.

The June 5<sup>th</sup> opening remarks were punctuated with 215 seconds of silence in recognition of the 215 children whose remains were found at the site of a Residential School in an unmarked grave. Since then, more sites have been found. Canadians will likely learn of many more in the months to come.

The Federation acknowledged we have more work to do to right the wrongs of Colonialism while recognizing the racism many experience to this date. The Provincial Executive is committed to this work. The murder of four members of a London Muslim family has again revealed the hatred of some in our province and our country. No doubt, there will be much to learn and much to do as we are exposed to more truths and are called to reconcile and move forward, in a good way.

## Chapter 9 News Issue 04 Annual General Meeting Edition 2021

### 2020-2021 ARM Chapter 9 Executive Members

#### President

Bruce Awad

#### Vice President

Jacques Aharonian

#### Recording Secretary

Toni Michalczuk

#### Treasurer

Dan Eberwein

#### Communications Officer

Patricia Morneau

#### Political Action Officer

Margaret Villamizar

#### Membership Officer

Brian Robinson

#### Member Services Officer

Margie Sciacca

#### Program Co-Ordinator

Jacques Aharonian

#### Members At Large

Suzette Clark

Rosanne Herold

Scott Hunt

### MEMBERSHIP VOICE MATTERS!

This final edition of Chapter 9 News is the last planned for this year. This final edition for 2020-2021 provides information for the Annual General Meeting scheduled for June 25<sup>th</sup>.

The Newsletter Editorial Team welcomes submissions for the Fall 2021 edition.

Contributions for the Fall edition can be forwarded to [armchapter9@outlook.com](mailto:armchapter9@outlook.com) by October 1, 2021.

We look forward to hearing from you!