



ACER - CART Report to the BCRTA Directors

March 10th 2010

ACER-CART represents 166,984 retired educators and 14 member organizations.
(December 2009)

1. We have received notice of a series on the prevention of elder abuse that can be attended by either phone or Internet. The series is composed of a number of Fireside Chats, which are FREE pan-Canadian discussion forums for professionals in community health. Toll free telephone conferences allow participants to hear the presentation and to join in the discussions.

Parts 2 and 3 will occur on March 18th and March 23, their topics, “Experiences in Building Capacity for Legal Services in Canada” and “Improving the Justice System’s Response to Elder Abuse.”

A special invitation is for ”professionals and leaders who want to connect with others across Canada working on the issue of elder abuse prevention and intervention initiatives, for continued communication and information exchange”.

The conferences run from 1:00 – 2:30 Eastern Time. (Informational poster).

2. **National Securities Regulator:** At the (ACER-CART) AGM table 2009, BCRTA suggested that the establishment of a National Securities Regulator be supported. Throughout the year, BCRTA, as a provincial member, was active in declaring support and seeking it also from kindred organizations. In the March 6th 2010 Budget the Finance Minister announced that draft legislation for such a regulator would be released in the spring.

Our hope is that a national office will result in the protection of investor rights over those of corporations, in better protection of investors from dishonest brokers and security issuers, and in proactive rather than reactive policing of the securities industry.

3. **Support for a National Drug Plan and Formulary:**

The letters accepted in principle at the January meeting were polished and, along with attachments and contact information for elected representatives, sent to Branch presidents for action. Hopefully Presidents have reported to their Director contacts that such action has occurred. (See attachment)

One of Keith’s branch members suggested an addition to the letters, which was sent to Branch presidents for their consideration (they had been asked to personalize their letters for greater impact). Those who responded thought the

addition to be good but had already sent their letters. The addition was this:

We recognize that it will take a great deal of courage for the ministers, both federal and provincial, to take on the drug companies who do not wish to be faced with the combined bargaining power of all of the governments of Canada.

4. **BCRTA's annual report to ACER-CART** is to be submitted along with translation, by April 23rd.
One resolution urging the restoration of funds to the "Lest We Forget" program has been suggested. Possibly another supporting pension reform. **Others?**

Important events/ issues arising from this year's committee work should be included. What should these be? Your suggestions are welcome.

5. ACER-CART Opinion Survey

President Vaughn Wadelius has asked that we respond to a survey that will assist the Executive in focusing the 2010 AGM debate. It is attached. If you have opinions regarding these issues, or if you require information, please let me know so that we may forward a compiled response by March 12.