

**THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED TEACHERS
CELEBRATES TWENTY YEARS OF SUCCESS (1991-2011)**

Norbert Boudreau, Executive Director

Imagine the vision of the founding directors of ACER-CART in June 1991. They wanted to establish a national association that could lobby at the federal level on behalf of retired teachers and retirees in general. At its inaugural meeting twenty years ago, representatives from nine associations in seven provinces as well as representatives of the Canadian Teachers Federation began to share their expertise.

In 2011, ACER-CART represents thirteen associations. It regularly lobbies the federal government on behalf of over 117,000 members from every provinces and the Yukon Territory. With the collaboration of provincial and territorial organizations, this Canada-wide association deals with pensions, health care and other issues. Member association Directors are able to discuss issues with colleagues from different parts of the country, colleagues who often experience the same or similar problems. Because of the wealth of experience of the Directors, everybody learns from one another and as a cohesive group ACER-CART has been able to influence federal politicians.

At the 2011 AGM banquet, then President Vaughn Wadelius took the opportunity to honour all the past presidents with a short biography of each and a portrait slide show. It was an opportunity to show our gratitude for the efforts of the association founders and its past leaders, and to reflect on past achievements. At the end of the evening, past presidents and executive directors still with us, Johnson Inc, the Canadian Teachers' Federation as well as departing Directors received recognition certificates.

For more information, see the history page of the ACER-CART website at:
<http://www.acer-cart.org/>

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