

UWRA President's Report to the Annual General Meeting – May 17, 2023

My third year as the UWRA President coincided with the return of in-person activities at the University. The UWRA Board arranged a number of social events and in person seminars over the fall of 2022 and winter of 2023.

We also focussed on our relationship with the university in a number of areas. Some of the highlights included Dr. Goel addressing the UWRA members at our Holiday Reception, the UWRA Bursary program was featured as a University-wide fundraising initiative in the Giving Tuesday program in November, a UW invitation to retirees to volunteer at Spring 2023 convocation, the UW United Way campaign outreach to our members, and working with Human Resources to advance our communications with new retirees.

In addition, the University has agreed to sponsor the UWRA to host the College and University Retiree Associations of Canada Annual Conference in spring 2024. The UWRA co-chairs for this event are Jim Frank, UWRA Vice-President and Ron Champion, Co-editor of WATtimes.

I would like to thank our Board members Joe Allen, Jim Ashworth, Paul Eagles, Jim Frank, Sue Fraser, Ian Fraser, Rose Vogt and Christine Wagner for their work to coordinate and promote UWRA events and presentations held in 2022-23:

The Autumn Luncheon held on October 12th featured David Connolly of Drayton Entertainment. David provided information about upcoming performances and other endeavours, including the Drayton Entertainment Youth Academy.

9 Struggles Executors Face seminar held on November 9th at the Erb & Good Family Funeral Home. The presentation by Anthony Gordon was very informative and well attended.

The UWRA Holiday Reception held on December 7th included an address from Dr. Vivek Goel, University President and Vice-Chancellor to the UWRA members. We received very positive feedback from attendees. This event was an opportunity for members to reconnect.

The Spring Banquet held on April 24, 2023 featured Dr. Ken Shonk, a retired physician from the Waterloo region. Ken's presentation was entitled *Jest For the Health of it!* The presentation was very humorous and the message of the importance of humour in our lives was well received.

Fraud: Prevention and Awareness for Seniors seminar was hosted by Nizar Kubursi, CBIC Wood Fundy on April 27th. The presentation and question/answer session was held on-campus and live streamed.

The UWRA Board members have provided detailed annual reports for the Annual General Meeting. The reports are available at <https://uwaterloo.ca/retirees-association/reports-0/annual-general-meeting-reports-2023>

I am grateful for the ongoing support of Board members Jim Frank, Vice-President, Sue Fraser, Past-President, Ian Fraser, Website Manager, David Matthews, Treasurer, Christine Wagner, Membership Coordinator, Rose Vogt, UWRA Scholarship and Bursary Fund/Waterloo

Faculty, Staff and Retiree Giving Program, Joe Allen, Executive Secretary, Jim Ashworth and Paul Eagles, Social Events Co-Chairs, and Peggy Day, External Events.

My sincere thanks to David Taylor for his representation of retirees on the Pension and Benefits Committee and related working groups.

Sue Fraser, Peggy Day and Rose Vogt continued their relationship with the University of Waterloo Staff Association Social Committee to share news on activities and future joint events.

Many thanks to WATtimes Co-Editors Bob Hicks and Ron Champion, and to Brandon Sweet and colleagues in University Communications for the newsletter content and production. Both issues over the past year kept our community updated on events and provided inspiration and interest on diverse topics. WATtimes for Spring/Summer 2023 will be mailed to all retirees and available on our website.

Our very best wishes and thanks to members leaving the UWRA Board including Peggy Day, External Events, Paul Eagles, Social Events Co-chair, Ian Fraser, Website Manager, Bob Hicks, WATtimes Co-editor, Stewart Forest, Member-at-large and advisor on pensions and benefits. Peggy, Paul, Ian, Bob and Stewart have been valued Board members over the past several years.

In 2022, the UWRA Board welcomed the following new members: Christine Wagner, Membership Co-ordinator, Joe Allen Secretary, and Trevor Grove, Member- at-large.

Sharon Lamont, Judi Jewinski and Howard Armitage joined the Board as members-at-large in 2023. We look forward to working with new Board members in the coming year. Their contributions to the UWRA will be appreciated.

On behalf of the UWRA, I would like to extend our appreciation to Dr. Vivek Goel, President and Vice-Chancellor, University of Waterloo for his support of retirees.

I wish everyone a happy, healthy and safe summer!

Lynn Judge
President