

ACER/CART Report

May 2019

By

Margaret Urquhart

(ACER/CART East Coast Representative)

The following are verbatim highlights provided at the NBSRT AGM in Bathurst (May 8^h) by NBSRT Past-President, Marg Urquhart, who now serves as the East Coast Representative of ACER/CART:

- ACER-CART been busy, approximately 150,000 retired teachers in our member associations from sea, to sea to sea.
- **Pharmacare:** submitted to the advisory council on a national program; encouraged member associations to participate in the online discussion.

The final report of the advisory council is expected shortly. We anticipate platforms for the upcoming federal election will provide insight on possible next steps towards a national program.

- **Health Accords:** provinces and territories signed individual health accords with the federal government. ACER-CART review of each accord. Reviews be shared at our June AGM Canadiana Institute for Health Information (CIHI) to annually reporting on progress and how the money was spent. First CIHI report is scheduled for release the end of this month.
- **Advocacy on the Hill:** February worked with other senior organizations to develop common issues and concerns and then representatives, including 3 from ACER-CART met one on one with federal MP's from all parties in Ottawa.
- **Pension security:** long been ACER-CART priority. Launched an e-petition in Feb – a first for us. Enough signatures to have read into parliament during our AGM. Hope to be in the gallery when that happens.
- **Federal election:** decision on info as interact with candidates from all parties – whether at your door, or town halls or because you reach out to them. Each topic identifies: a key message and issue, challenges, questions and sources of additional information. The topics include ACER-CART priorities: a national phramacare program, pension and income security, a national seniors' strategy and, in view of recent legislative moves in some provinces, opposition to the privatization of medical services. Once finalized submitted for posting on our webpage and a Facebook announcement made.