

# CCRA Board 2020

President:

 Ellen Bull

**Vice-President:**

 Marilyn Scott

Treasurer:

 Ellen Bull Covering

Membership Coordinator:

 Pat Brown

Secretary:

Stephanie Carrillo (Centennial College)

Communication:

 Eva Zehethofer

Webmaster:

 Luzia Bidwell

**Events:**

Pat Lee

**Directors**:

 Val Smith

Anne Longman

Chuck Baker

 Michael Gauthier

College Resources:

Dana Gour

Fiona Gosh-Beldlington

Due to COVID 19 and the need to protect the safety and health of our members, we have suspended in-person meetings, luncheons and activities until further notice. As a result, the Board has also decided to suspend collecting membership for 2021 and will re-examine this decision once activities are happening.

The in-person Annual General Meeting (AGM) originally scheduled for October 2020 has been postponed until May 12, 2021; where members will review and approve final 2019 & 2020 reports.

Board members remain available via email for questions and suggestions from our members.

**December 2020**

**President/Vice President Written AGM Report for 2019-20**

We would like to acknowledge the CCRA Board members for their time and contributions during the past year. We would also like to thank Valerie Smith for her support and work as she will be stepping down from the Board this year. The CCRA Board continues to communicate relevant information to retirees and to develop opportunities for members to connect with one another. We have held 4 in-person and 5 Tele-Board meetings from the October 9, 2019 Annual General Meeting to December 2020.. We would like to recognize and thank the Ontario Colleges Retirees’ Association (OCRA) and Centennial College for their ongoing support of our members, activities and mission.

1. As of March 2020, **COVID 19** has interfered with our plans for increasing activities and the visibility of our association and members. We continue to work with the President’s Office and Centennial College staff on membership recruitment and our web presence. The Centennial College Event Centre and College has been closed as per public health requirements during the pandemic, limiting our contact and collaborative work.
2. As a result of COVID, CCRA will **NOT** be collecting 2021 membership fees **hence 2021 OCRA membership will need to be completed on an individual basis.**
3. Despite the pandemic, positive outcomes of our on-going work with and support from Centennial College include:
	1. **Continued annual financial and administrative support** of our membership and activities.
	2. **Website Development and Support**- development and ongoing training and support for our [CCRA website](https://retirees.centennialcollege.ca/).
	3. **New Logo-**The design of a new logo by Centennial College’s Marketing Team provides a fresh look to our organization. We would also acknowledge the on-going guidance with marketing and communication designs and communication support.
	4. **Sustainability projects for Centennial and Community**- Michael Gauthier is representing the CCRA and working withSamantha Corway, Manager Sustainability Centennial College to support and offer opportunities for CCRA members to participate in future community and Centennial College Environmental/Sustainability initiatives.  If you are interested in joining an environmental retirees interest group, contact Michael at ccra.garden@gmail.com
4. **2019 Holiday Christmas Lunch-** Our annual holiday lunch (Dec. 4, 2019) was a successful celebration. The room vibrated with the sound of laughter as over 50 guests reconnected with each other and cheerfully wished one another a happy holiday.   Everyone received a “Stress or Arthritis Prevention Ball” with our new logo as a thank you for their participation and support of the CCRA.
	1. **Supporting a Family from the Centennial College Child Care Centre-** The 2019 Holiday celebration included supporting a Centennial College Child Care Centre’s family. Our members enthusiastically donated toys, diapers, food gift cards and money. A big shout out to our members! There was such an impressive response by our members that our donation was able to supplement additional family baskets.
5. **2020 Zoom Holiday Gathering-** 26 members gathered for holiday cheer on December 16, 2020**.**
	1. **Support of Students during COVID**- CCRA donated $1000 to the Centennial College Student Emergency fund to support students having difficulty during COVID**.**
6. **Student Scholarships-** CCRA proudly supports current students at Centennial through student scholarships at the annual Student Award’s Night. Angelou Catilo, 2nd Year - Massage Therapy and Subarna Khadka, 2nd Year Software Engineering Technology were this year’s recipients.
7. **CCRA Directors’ Role Descriptions-** The Board has finalized the written role descriptions for the executive and directors to be consistent with the updated By-Laws and current procedures. Copies are available upon request or as new Directors join the Board.
8. **How to Start a Vegetable Garden Free Webinar- May 14, 2020.** Several of our members participated in this webinar as part of a virtual series that the college is doing to support/encourage anyone in the college community in a variety of sustainability and environmental projects. Additional projects for 2021 are listed on the website.
9. **Membership Brochure and information-** Thank you to our new Board members for their insight and suggestions for improving our membership brochure and package. This package is distributed by Human Resources to our potential new members during their retirement planning sessions. It is also available on our website.
10. **OCRA-** Ontario College Retirees’ Association**s** [(OCRA)](http://ocraretirees.ca/)AGM announcement, they have rescheduled the OCRA General Meeting to **Monday June 28, 2021**. Georgian College has again offered to host the group next year.
11. **Join the Board-** Our meetings are open to CCRA members and information, events and photos are posted on our website. Three new members- Patricia Lee and Luzia Bidwell and Michael Gauthier’s positions will be renewed at our formal AGM in 2021. Nominations for new Board members will be accepted at the 2021 AGM.

There are 4 (four) vacant Board positions available. Board meeting agendas, minutes, newsletters, and relevant links for retirees and the Ontario Colleges Retirees’ Association (OCRA) are available on the CCRA website. If you are interested or curious about the positions, please join us at a Board meeting or event to meet our friendly group.

Ellen Bull, CCRA President and Marilyn Scott, CCRA Vice President

**Treasurer Report**

Because of COVID 19 and the closing of the college, 2019 financial statements have not been formally reviewed as in previous years. We will be asking Ing Sutanto, Manager, Financial Planning, Centennial College to review the documents and statements for the formal AGM presentation. Current financial reports and reviews are part of the Board meetings as outlined in the By-Laws. The Summary Financial Statement for 2019 & 2020 will be presented for review and discussion at the AGM in 2021.

As in the past, the financial activities remain as described below:

**Primary Revenues-** College grant, Annual Memberships and Lunch/Meal payments

**Primary Expenditures-** Memberships to OCRA, Meal Subsidies, Board Insurance, Scholarships, Bank/Flickr costs

The Board had decided to not increase the cost of membership for CCRA for 2020 as our financial position remains healthy. The Board will continue to monitor the ongoing financial status, including OCRA membership, scholarships and college support throughout the year.

Ellen Bull, Acting Treasurer

**Membership Report-**

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Centennial College Retirees’ Association (CCRA), we would like to thank you for your support of the association. We very much appreciate payment of your ten dollar membership fee for 2020. This fee secures your annual membership in the Ontario Colleges Retirees’ Association (OCRA).

We are most appreciative of an annual grant of $5000 that we have received for a number of years from the Office of the President of Centennial College.

Currently we have 218 members on our active membership list. The active list includes members who have renewed their annual membership at least once in the past three years. The list also includes 14 retirees from 2019, 10 from 2020 and 9 to date from 2021.. 114 members who retired prior to 2019 have renewed their membership for 2020. As noted in the President/Vice President report, CCRA will not be collecting 2021 membership fees. If a member no longer wishes to belong to the CCRA, the member should send an email to ccra.membership@gmail.com and the member’s name will be removed from the active list. If a member has not renewed membership in the past 3 years, the member’s name is moved to an archive list and the member will no longer receive communication from the CCRA.

We would like to remind members to notify us of any change in contact information so that we can update our records and ensure that you receive communications, such as newsletters, luncheon invitations and an invitation to the Annual General Meeting, in a timely manner. Contact information can be changed by going to our website at retirees.centennialcollege.ca, clicking on “Become a CCRA Member” and scrolling to the bottom of this page to “Changes in Your Contact Information”. Alternatively, you can send an email advising about changes in contact information to ccra.membership@gmail.com.

The CCRA is moving to communicating with all active members via email. Canada Post is used to send out communication to a the very small number of retirees who do not have access to information on-line. New members will receive all information via email.

As always, we welcome your ideas for social activities. As Ellen and Marilyn have noted in the President/Vice-President report, as of March 2020, COVID-19 has interfered with our plans for any in-person social activities during this calendar year. However, if you have an idea for a virtual event, please don’t hesitate to contact us to discuss your idea.

We also invite members to attend a two-hour board meeting to see first-hand what we are about and also to determine interest in becoming a member of the board. We are currently conducting our monthly meetings on Zoom. Please indicate your interest in attending a board meeting by emailing ccra.membership@gmail.com.

On a final note, we have updated our Membership Brochure for Recruiting New Members.

Please visit the CCRA website at retirees.centennialcollege.ca. for more information about the association.

Regards

Patricia Brown, Membership Coordinator

**Webmaster Report**

Our new professional looking website (<https://retirees.centennialcollege.ca/>) has been in development for over the year. We hope that everyone is checking the site out from time to time and we welcome your suggestions for things to include.

We are working hard to provide you with a current website with information about CCRA’s events, board meetings and general information, of interest to our members.

The CCRA website also remains available through the College website link. If you go to the main College web page, select “Menu” then select “About Centennial” then “About Us” followed by “College Overview”; then, scroll down to “Centennial College Retirees’ Association”.

We will be working with the Marketing and Communications Division of Centennial to develop an area where pictures from our events can be uploaded and shared by our members. We will also be consulting with the Marketing and Communications Team for assistance with the creation and maintenance of our photo galleries.

There is a page on Facebook which provides a link to the website. You will find information on CCRA events posted on this page. This is an area we will be developing further in the future so members have an area to share news.

We welcome your suggestions and assistance if this is your expertise! Please don’t hesitate to contact me if you are interested in writing or have suggestions for improvement/additions for the site.

Luzia Bidwell, CCRA Webmaster