

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Although three months have already gone by in 2006, may I wish you a happy and prosperous New Year. I hope that each day brings you joy, happiness and health.

As President for a second consecutive year, it is a pleasure to present an overview of 2005 and start 2006 at the RIIR on a positive note.



Year 2005 in Review

The year 2005 was unquestionably a very busy year full of changes, issues to be dealt with and all kinds of organizational housekeeping. Among other things was the reorganization of the accountancy division, the renewal of the computer system and our subscription to high-speed Internet access. The head office also benefited from the hiring of a new secretary and the services of an accounting consultant.

New ad hoc committees were formed to help administrators run and develop the RIIR, including the RIIR Promotion Committee, the committee on the integration project for retired health-care workers other than nurses, the working committee on statutes and regulations and, of course, the statutory committees.

The RIIR folder now has a new look. The *Écho du RIIR* newsletter features new chronicles. The newsletter, as well as the *Historique* book, are now filed with the Bibliothèque nationale du Québec. New policies have been developed or updated in order to streamline RIIR operations.

Plans for 2006

The results achieved in 2005 inspire us to keep working hard in 2006, which will be a busy year for the administrators and the secretaries at the head office. Monitoring active files, including statute and regulations revision, the publishing of the deliberative assembly code of practice and the promotion of the RIIR among nurses between 60 and 65 years of age and members of the OIIQ require time and energy.

We are continuing work on the integration project for retired health-care workers other than nurses by organizing briefing sessions in all Zones – the schedule is in this newsletter. These information sessions will allow you to make an informed decision during the vote on October 3rd.

In 2006, we intend to organize two conventions. A special convention on two very important issues will be held on October 3rd: the vote on the integration of retired health-care workers other than nurses and the adoption of amendments to statutes and regulations. This special convention will be followed by the regular convention on October 4-5. Both events will take place in Trois-Rivières.

And life goes on

At the beginning of January, we ratified the four-year employment contract renewal agreement with the head office secretaries. This year, we hope to establish the RIIR website, continue reviewing our various policies and update our forms.

Support to Zone coordinators, the integration of the new members and responding to members' requests are keeping management busy.

This year, certain bills tabled by the government require us to remain vigilant. We must monitor their repercussions on our members. I would especially like to draw attention to Bill 130 that modifies the Act respecting prescription drug insurance and other legislations. Rest assured of our complete cooperation with our FSD insurers.

Retirement benefit index adjustment and quality control supervision in accommodation centres are two issues that also keep us busy. We are examining them in cooperation with the *Alliance des associations de retraités*.

The *Écho du RIIR* newsletter will provide follow-up on each of the files underway. The year 2006 is also an election year for the Executive Board and the different RIIR committees. I wish to thank members of the Executive Board and the Board of Directors for their involvement in 2005. I am confident of their support in 2006. Many thanks to the secretaries for their support and constant, meticulous work. I hope all RIIR members will enjoy reading the newsletter, and I look forward to talking to you, seeing you, and hearing what you have to say.

Claire Royer,
President

Six official EB meetings were held in 2004-2005 and we took part in three meetings of the Board of Directors. Our main goals remain:

- to offer the very best services to our members;
- to present the RIIR to all our peers;
- to conscientiously participate in the proper operation of the RIIR.

Here is a review of subjects discussed in 2004-2005 and of work completed by members of the Executive Board that same year.

■ **RIIR conference held on October 6-7, 2004**

- Organization of the conference held at the Delta Sherbrooke Hotel – reports and procedures;
- Collaboration with a group of retired nurses from Sherbrooke, thanks to whom the conference was a resounding success. Once again may we express our gratitude for their involvement in the event;
- Election of our current President, Claire Royer, and renewal of the mandate of Murielle Vachon, as 2nd vice-president, and Nicole Lefebvre, as secretary.

■ **9th meeting of the Retirement Board**

- Organization of the meeting that took place on October 5-6, 2005 at the hotel Château Joliette – reports and procedures;
- Cooperation with members from the Laurentides-Lanaudière region to plan the visit of representatives to their region – accommodation, catering and entertainment. We would like to thank our hosts, and in particular Suzanne Lefebvre, for their warm welcome;
- Presentation of positions to be filled – 1st Vice-President and Treasurer.

■ **Insurance**

- Desjardins Financial Security (DFS)
Several meetings with Mrs. Marie-Josée Pelletier allowed us to complete our current insurance contract.
- La Personnelle Insurance Company
Mr. Nicolas Roy will continue to offer us special prices for house and car insurance.

■ **Our secretarial services**

Three secretaries now work at the head office:
Huguette Lamarre and Ginette Beaudoin: 5 days per week, alternating each week
Lyne Métivier: executive secretary: 3 days per week.

■ **Écho du RIIR Magazine**

Production of the magazine in cooperation with the committee in charge.

■ **RIIR folder**

We invite you to consult our brochure. There are many changes, but it remains fully representative of our organization of which we are very proud.

■ **Promotion of the RIIR**

- Regular updating of the information kit promoting the RIIR;
- RIIR slide show;
- Individual or group meetings upon request.

Within the context of pre-retirement training sessions organized by the FIIQ, we were invited to present the RIIR. We met 251 pre-retired nurses in Quebec, Montreal, Rivière-du-Loup and Sherbrooke and four other individuals, upon request.

- Promotion Committee, among others
Meeting with regional representatives from the OIIQ

Avertising the OIIQ magazine *Perspective infirmière*, as well as in various other trade journals and local or regional magazines.

The Promotion Committee report will be read later during the Conseils des retraités meeting.

■ **Training**

For members of the Board of Directors: detailed introduction and explanation of a work tool for internal management at the regional level and the information kit for the promotion of the RIIR.

Murielle Vachon: training course on "Deliberative assembly procedures" for the FIIQ in St-Hyacinthe, on October 18, 2004.

For our secretaries: training course on the use of the new computers and photocopier at the head office.

■ **RIIR datebook**

We are continuing to make changes to the datebook to improve its format and maximize use thereof.

■ **Appraisal form**

Thank you for completing the appraisal form used during our annual proceedings – this enables us to make corrections and meet your demands.

■ **Retirement issue**

- Presence of Executive Board representatives at the *Alliance des associations de retraités* (A.A.R.) meetings;
- Participation of Murielle Vachon in the Board of Directors of the *Alliance des associations de retraités* (A.A.R.);
- Participation in meetings attended by public and parapublic sector association representatives;
- Participation, with the Alliance, in the tabling of the report "Parliamentary committee on Bill 195," on Wednesday, September 22, 2004.

■ **Regions**

- Presence of Executive Board members at various regional meetings. In addition, Claire Royer has toured several regions so far.

- Allocation policy regarding funds allocated to regions. Fundamentally, these funds were increased to facilitate life in smaller regions where incomes were much lower.

■ **Additional benefits upon presentation of our membership card**

- Lower rates charged in *Énergie Cardio* fitness centres upon presentation of the membership RIIR card and a corporate card;
- On December 10, 2004, a renewal agreement for 2005 with the sales manager representing Quality Inns, Quality Suites and Comfort Inns was signed to obtain a corporate rate in 29 of their hotels in the province of Québec, upon presentation of our membership card and the WRIIR code. Telephone number for reservation:

1-877-57HOTEL 1-877-574-6835

■ **Trip organization**

Trip to Tunisia from March 29 to April 19, 2005, organized by Suzanne Lefebvre.

Participants: 37 RIIR members and 9 non-members, totalling 46 travelers.

■ **Humanitarian cause of a provincial nature and three other \$300 donations**

- The Multiple Sclerosis Society: \$1,500 donation;
- *Réseau québécois pour contrer les abus envers les aînés*: \$300 donation;
- Fondation Sommeil: \$300 donation;
- For nursing students at *Cégep Limoilou* relative to humanitarian training in Paraguay: \$300 donation given in August 2004;
- Policy: a policy was established for our donation program in order to follow up decisions made regarding selected humanitarian causes.

■ **Presence and/or promotion in various colloquia and meetings (all members of the Executive Board and the Board of Directors considered):**

- Alliance des associations de retraités (A.A.R.), General Assembly, June 9, 2004; Board of Directors, September 9, 2004, and April 6, 2005;
- FIIQ Special Federal Council, in St-Hyacinthe, October 19-20, 2004, and April 27-28, 2005;
- OIIQ Congress, November 1-2, 2004;
- FIIQ Federal Council, in St-Hyacinthe, November 30, 2004, December 1-2, 2004, and March 15 to 18, 2005;
- FIIQ Women's Network, in Montreal, November 17-18, 2004;
- *Association québécoise de gérontologie de Québec* (A.Q.G.), Provincial Congress and General Assembly at Laval University, November 19-20, 2004;
- Meeting between André Goulet, Director of l'Alliance, and the FIIQ members, topic will be

« *Indexation des rentes* » (Pension indexation), December 15, 2004;

- Coalition régionale des femmes contre la pauvreté et la violence, by Ms. Emilia Castro, in Quebec City, January 19, 2005;
- *Association québécoise de gérontologie de Québec* (A.Q.G.), topic for March 29, 2005 will be « *La solitude et l'isolement des personnes âgées* » (Loneliness and isolation among the elderly), and topic for April 15, 2005 will be « *Abus et violence chez les personnes âgées* » (Abuse and violence against the elderly);
- FIIQ Women's Network, in Quebec City, May 6, 2005;
- The 2005 World March of Women, « *Le relais de la Charte mondiale des femmes pour l'humanité* » ("The Women's Global Charter for Humanity"), in the Vieux Port in Quebec City, May 7;
- Preparation for retirement sessions, in Quebec City and Montreal in June 2004, in Rivière-du-Loup, on November 2 and in Sherbrooke on December 6-7;
- Meeting in the region, For the Outaouais - in Gatineau, May 10-11, 2005, for the Laurentides and Lanaudière - in Joliette, May 12, in Ste-Agathe, May 19, in Mont Laurier, May 20;
- Table de concertation des aînés de la région de Québec;
- Meeting with the Alzheimer Society;
- Meeting with the *Société de l'ostéoporose du Québec*;
- Presence at the World Heart Day and participation in the healthy heart walk under the RIIR banner.

■ **Projects:**

- Remaining attentive to members' needs and requests;
- Continuing to actively promote the Regroupement among future nursing retirees;
- Developing the RIIR website.

The members of the Executive Board continue to add to RIIR visibility throughout the province of Quebec by participating in various meetings and colloquia of interest to our members, and representing the Regroupement as an active organization at the vanguard of the latest developments. The RIIR is gaining prominence among major provincial pension associations.

It is a pleasure to work for you, and get to know you a little better each day. We enjoy our exchanges with you.

As is the case every year, may we express our appreciation to our managers for their commitment and dedication to members in their respective regions, and to all those involved, even remotely, in the RIIR.

The Executive Board

By Nicole Guillemette-Lefebvre, Secretary

The Executive Board informs you

Following requests from members, the EB decided to have the Board secretary's annual report translated. The translation has been published in the newsletter for the convenience of our Anglophone members.

In order to facilitate administration of the RIIR, the EB adopted the following policies:

- The *Écho du RIIR* newsletter editorial policy
- The *Écho du RIIR* newsletter advertisement policy
- The donation canvassing policy
- The humanitarian donation policy
- The expense refund policy
- The honorary distinction award policy

The EB also adopted a standard model for regional financial result reports.

Head office will provide a copy of any of the policies listed above, upon request.

Claire Royer, president

Insurance Column

The Personal's home and auto group insurance

Under the partnership between RIIR and The Personal, you are eligible for a group insurance plan that entitles you to a whole host of advantages:

- Insurance coverage tailored to your needs
- Competitive rates
- Convenient payment methods
- 24/7 claims service
- Personalized after-sales service and advice
- Free online services available at all times

And that's not all! When you get a quote before December 31, 2006, or if you are already insured by The Personal, you get a chance to win \$52,000 – That's \$1,000 a week for an entire year!

Need more info?

Contact an insurance agent at **1-888-476-8787** for an auto, home insurance quote or get an online auto insurance quote and discover your group advantages at <http://www.thepersonal.com/riir>.

APPRECIATION AWARD

This award honours an RIIR member for merit and active involvement as a volunteer and for standing apart as a role model in the community in activities characterized by team spirit, team action and cooperation. Action taken by the member contributes to improving the wellbeing and quality of life of an individual or group.

Eligibility Criteria

- Being a member of the Regroupement des infirmières et infirmiers retraités;
- Having offered a service or founded an organization intended to improve the living environment of an individual or group;
- Having taken action to mobilize citizens to improve living conditions;
- Working on a voluntary basis.

Procedure

- Send a track record to the Appreciation Award Committee;
- RIIR administrators and members in provincial-level committees may not apply.

Who May Apply

- An individual;
- A group;
- An organization or association.

Content of the Track Record

- Name of the candidate;
- Originally, what needs in the community led the candidate to offer the service?
- A description of the service provided;
- How can this achievement serve as a model and what impact does it have on the community?

Description of the Award

It is a parchment.