



RTO ERO

Beyond the Bell Spring 2024 Edition

District 48 Leeds and Grenville

**District 48 Presents: Poking the Bear:
The Art of Writing Humour
Wednesday, April 10 at 10:00 am
in the Arts Hub, corner of Park and
King in downtown Brockville.**



Need your funny bone tickled? Award-winning author and Brockville native Rod Carley will discuss why writing humour is hard, how to transfer humour to the page, different styles of humour, humour writing techniques, and accepting that not every reader will "get you." He'll also share some short readings from his own works.

There is no charge for this event, but please register at: president48@districts.rtoero.ca

Welcome Spring!

The signs of spring are everywhere! We have robins, and pussy willows, and daffodils and tulips peeking through the ground. The garden centres are open. The sun feels warm as the buds slowly swell on the trees. The ships have returned to the Seaway, and the maple syrup is harvested. Ah, spring!

Here in District 48, your executive is home (or on the way) and getting ready for a busy 2024. As you peruse the newsletter, please take note, and make plans to attend one or more of our planned events. Thanks to a more accommodating annual budget, we can offer events at a subsidized cost.

We can certainly plan more events, and we would love to know what you would like us to do. Contact President Bill Leroux with your ideas. president48@districts.rtoero.ca

The RTOERO Annual Meeting and Forum is being held in mid-May. Our delegates are President Bill Leroux, Vice-President Mary Lou Smitheram, PAC chair Gord Hough, and a

new member, Carson Kilpatrick. (Welcome, Carson.) Watch for updates in our next newsletter and e-blast, and at any time on our Facebook page.

We keep you up to date!

See the latest on our Facebook Page, <https://www.facebook.com/RTOERODistrict48LeedsandGrenville> and our website: <https://district48.rtoero.ca/>



District 48 is hosting a FREE, IN PERSON Retirement Planning Workshop (RPW)

Date: Tuesday, April 23, 2024
Time: 4:00 check-in. Workshop starts at 4:30
Location: New Hope Church
2811 Concession Rd. 2
Brockville
Refreshments are provided.

Sign in for this well-received information session on the RTOERO website: <https://rtoero.ca/search-for-a-workshop-near-you>

More information is soon available in schools. District 48 contact is Carson Kilpatrick, carsonkilp@gmail.com.

This workshop welcomes ALL those who work in the education field, including teachers, school support staff, board administrative staff, employees of colleges and universities.

News you Can Use Questions and answers about travel insurance

You may have heard that RTOERO has a new member benefit: Trip interruption and cancellation insurance for members who aren't yet part of the RTOERO Entente Group Insurance Plan. Here are some key questions and answers RTOERO receives about travel insurance.

Do I need travel insurance?

Ensuring you're adequately covered can provide peace of mind to help you enjoy your trip and reduce stress if the unexpected happens. While not required by Canadian law, travel insurance is essential to protecting you, your family and your finances.

Should I have insurance for a day trip across the border?

Yes, if crossing the border for a shopping day or other activity, it's important to make sure you have medical coverage.

Why might I purchase multi-trip coverage vs. single trip coverage?

If you're taking multiple trips in a year, then it's

worth looking at multi-trip coverage. Remember that travel is more than major vacations - it can include weekend getaways or even cross-border shopping trips. Purchasing single-trip coverage may not be as cost-effective, and it also requires your time and attention each time you need to do it.

Is credit card travel insurance good enough?

Many credit cards include both medical and trip cancellation and interruption insurance, provided the trip was booked using the credit card. This type of insurance may be sufficient for you but don't assume it is. Always be sure to check the details - for example, there may be a maximum length of trip, or you may not be covered over a certain age. Read the limitations and exclusions carefully. You may also want to top up coverage if the coverage amounts are not enough for your needs.

To learn more about RTOERO's trip cancellation and interruption travel insurance, visit:

<https://rtoero.ca/insurance/trip-cancellation-interruption/>

Project Service to Others Local Grants Application Deadline is October 1, 2024

Each year, District 48 provides a grant of up to \$500 to local not for profit organizations to assist them in their important work. The grants are designed to assist these organizations to meet one or more of the goals of RTOERO:

- To be the trusted voice for the broader education community
- To Improve the lives of members and seniors
- To broaden the membership base

The application form is now available on our website

<https://district48.rtoero.ca/project-service-to-others-grant-request/>

You may also request an application form from Lisa Leroux, lisa_leroux@live.ca or 613-640-2512.

Let's Visit and Have Lunch at Glen Elbe Thursday May 30, 11 am - 2pm



For several years, District 48 has supported the 1000 Islands Watershed Land Trust (TIWLT) on its journey to transition The Farm at Glen Elbe into the Glen Elbe Learning Centre. The 111-acre property is a mosaic of forest and fields, and wetlands that pour over a waterfall to a stream bound for Charleston Lake. The property features a 200-year-old farmhouse, a climate change arboretum and greenhouses, nature walks, and other real-world learning experiences. You can read more on the website: <https://www.tiwt.ca/the-glen-elbe/>

*Arrival: 11:00 am –Please make your own way to Glen Elbe, 870 County Rd 42, Athens. Parking is available.

*Tour of the property

*Lunch: 12 noon – prepared on site

*After lunch: Presentations by Don Ross, president of TIWLT and Maggie Stevenson, wildlife biologist.

Cost: \$10.00. Please register and pay in advance. E-transfer to treasurer48@districts.rtoero.ca or by mail to Anne Cooke-MacMillan, PO Box 244, Maitland, ON K0E 1P0.

Please Register by May 24.

Help Wanted

Do you have about 2 hours a month you could donate to District 48? Are you comfortable working with Excel spreadsheets? If so, District 48 could use your help. The position is Membership Secretary and requires someone to update our database for mailing and for our social media and e-blast communications. RTOERO National provides the data you need.

Please contact Mary Lou Smitheram, mary.lou.smitheram@gmail.com, for more information or if you can help. Thank you.



RTO Leeds & Grenville **ERO** BREAKFAST Club

Next Breakfasts

Brockville

Thursday, April 18
at the Keystorm Restaurant & Pub
2 Court House Avenue, Brockville
Sign in and social time at 8:30, breakfast
at 9:00

Cost: \$20.00 (cash only) for a breakfast
buffet with all the trimmings.

District 48 will subsidize the meal and pay
the taxes and gratuities.

Registration is required. Contact Doug at
dmgrant@storm.ca

Gananoque

Thursday, May 2
At Moroni's
155 King St. E
At 9:30
You'll order off the menu and the
bottomless cup of coffee is free.

District 48 will pay the gratuities.

No registration required – just show up!
For more information contact Len at
vlvincent@sympatico.ca