## **RTO 24 E-NEWS, May 2024**

E-News Editor: Annemarie McKee





"Spring is far more than just a changing of seasons; it's a rebirth of the spirit." —Toni Sorenson

## Co-Presidents' Message, Danielle Desmarais

Welcome to spring! We are fortunate to live in this part of the world where we can experience the changing seasons and enjoy what each season has to offer. However, Spring 2024, has had quite an unusual weather pattern. Since the first day of Spring, we may have sprung forward too hard as we went from sunny skies, and warmer weather to snowfalls overnight. For those who like statistics; since the beginning of Spring 2024 Toronto has had 13 rainy days with an accumulation of 87.5mm of rain, and 7 snowy days. I am happy that I don't have to look for my rain boots and coat in the morning, to face an indoor recess or a wet bus duty at the end of the day. I am quite happy to enjoy the weather from my cozy living room. At the time of publication, I hope that the weather has returned to more seasonal temperatures and that we can start working in our gardens for those who enjoy this hobby.

April 8, 2024, was a memorable day for Torontonians. The 2024 solar eclipse has taken North America by storm, but not everyone was lucky enough to be in the path of totality. Many travelled to parts of Ontario that were on the path of totality such as Quebec and Niagara. As this phenomenon doesn't happen often, I hope many enjoyed it with family and friends – a great opportunity to create memories. Here's where and when you'll be able to see the next total solar eclipse in Canada. Fortunately, many will get another chance to watch as the Moon passes between the Sun and Earth, but you must be patient! According to the <u>Canadian Space Agency</u>, Hamilton and Belleville, Ontario, Montreal and Sherbrooke, Quebec, Fredericton and Miramichi, New Brunswick, Alberton and Summerside, PEI, Meat Cove Nova Scotia and Gander NL will be able to see it in 2024, but don't fret if you're western Canada. The next total solar eclipse will occur in 2044 and a different set of cities, provinces and states will experience a temporary blackout.

District 24 is also in full Spring mode. At our Annual Meeting, on May 9<sup>th</sup>, we will elect the new Table Officers for our district. Please plan on attending. We want to hear your ideas and implement your suggestions for serving the needs and interests of our members. We have many events and activities coming up. We encourage all members to participate and possibly enlarge their network of friends. The various opportunities are presented in the following pages. We hope to meet many of our members at those gatherings.

## Annual Meeting, May 9, 2024

Our Spring Luncheon and Annual Meeting are fast approaching so get your reservation early. Remember that attending the meeting before lunch gets you a full refund of your meal cost. Come and meet **Constable Christopher Mitchell**. As a **Crime Prevention Officer**, he ensures community safety and promotes crime prevention initiatives. RTOERO District 24 is pleased to have Constable Mitchell attend to speak on Frauds and Scams at our Annual Meeting. His presentation will start at 11:00. Lunch will be served after his presentation.





#### May 2024

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## Volunteer Positions

There are still several vacancies for the executive for District 24, especially for Travelogue, Political Advocacy and Christmas Social. See page 11 for role descriptions. Please consider putting your name forward to assist our membership. Contact Annemarie at <a href="mailto:President24@districts.rtoero.ca">President24@districts.rtoero.ca</a>. We are always looking for volunteers to help with our many committees. A complete list of our committees can be found on page 14.

The National RTOERO Forum will be held in Toronto from May 13-15. District 24 is sending Co-Presidents Danielle Desmarais and Annemarie McKee, Secretary Donna Weston and Newsletter Editor Robin Bethke to represent the district at this important semi-annual event.

## **Executive Meetings**

Our next Executive Meeting will be held on Thursday, June 6, 2024, at the Agincourt Recreation Centre 31 Glen Watford Drive in craft room #1. Coffee is available beginning at 9:00 with the business meeting beginning at 9:30 a.m. We should be finished before noon. All RTO District 24 members are invited to attend Executive Meetings. As part of our Environmental Stewardship, we ask anyone attending the meeting to bring their mug for coffee.

## Ontario Trillium Volunteer Awards



Congratulations to the recipients from RTOERO District 24, Gloria Courtney, Terry Smith and Marilyn Tregwin. The awards presentation for this year's nominees was held on Friday, April 19. Ontario's medal and recognition programs celebrate the people who make our province a better place to live. One of the more well-known benefits of volunteering is the impact on the community. Volunteering allows you to connect to your community and make it a

better place. Dedicating your time as a volunteer helps you make new friends, expand your network, and boost your social skills. Our Executive welcomes you to volunteer and support our district events and initiatives!

## Annual Meeting and Spring Luncheon May 9, 2024, Susan Watson



9:30 Coffee and Tea

10:00 Meeting

11:00 Scam/Fraud presentation

12:30 Lunch

We are busily preparing for the upcoming Annual Meeting on **Thursday, May 9** at The Estate Banquet and Event Centre, 430

Nugget Rd. Scarborough, ON M1S 4A4. Mark this date on your calendar. We are grateful that the vendor has maintained last year's luncheon cost of \$50.00. *Members who attend the meeting portion of the day will have their payment returned by District 24.* Please indicate your payment method (cheque or credit) on the coupon. Send an e-mail confirmation to Susan Watson if you have paid by credit. <a href="mailto:siwatson006@gmail.com">siwatson006@gmail.com</a>

If paying by cheque, please postdate your cheque to May 2, 2024. Please Note: No Refunds will be given after this date. If paying by credit card, follow the link: Register for the event-District-24-Scarborough & East York (rtoero.ca)

Send the coupon as an attachment to Susan Watson: <a href="mailto:siwatson006@gmail.com">siwatson006@gmail.com</a>

District 24 Annual Meeting Coupon				
Clip (or photocopy) this coupon and send it with your cheque of \$50 made payable to RTOERO -				
District 24				
Name (Print):	Print):I am a member of District 24. $\square$ YES $\square$ NO			
Phone #: E-mail: Spo	ouse/Guest Name (Print):	_District 24 Member □ YES □ NO		
Special Dietary Needs/Allergies: Would you like an e-mail confirmat If NO, a stamped, self-addressed en Deadline: Thursday, May 2, 2024. P	ion: □ YES □ NO velope is required for confir			
Note: No refunds will be given after this date as we must pay for the final numbers submitted.				
I have paid \$50 by Credit card. ☐ YES Home - District-24-Scarborough & East York (rtoero.ca)				
I have paid \$50 by cheque. ☐ YES				
Send Fall Luncheon coupon and pay ON. M1N 1G3 If paying by credit card please send Susan Watson, 18 Springbank Ave	d the coupon as an attachm	nent to		

## Goodwill Cards, Claire Hughes

Goodwill Cards Contributed by Claire Hughes District 24 Goodwill Cards Chair The Goodwill Card Team sends "Get Well" cards and "Thinking of You" cards to any members of RTO ERO District 24 who are in need. We depend on the membership to keep us informed. If you are aware of a member who is currently in the hospital or has recently been released, please let us know. "Sympathy" cards are



forwarded to members or their families as required. The Team continues to send an average of 40 "Birthday" cards per month, to our most senior members who are 85 and older.

## Goodwill Telephone, Chris Pryde



The Goodwill Telephone Committee wants you!

Each year, members of the Goodwill Telephone Committee personally call our members 80 years and older to see how they are doing while sharing information about upcoming luncheons and social events. We could not do this without the dedication of our volunteers. If you receive a call from one of the following, please be assured they are representing District 24: Sue Ackerman, Linda Larcina, Jeanne McMulkin, Shari Baker, Lynn Pentz, Carol Nelson, Margaret Daw, Louise Henderson, Judy White, Mary Klos, Chris Pryde, Kathleen Taylor, Joan Taylor, Lynne Horvath,

Rosea Lonsdale, Gloria Smith, Wendy Hooker, David Caruana, Helen Sharpe, Karen Bardeau, Taharimoon Ali, Rose Ryan, Loretta Fines, Savita Marya and Elizabeth Scarlett.

This is an excellent opportunity for our new retirees to ease into volunteering as calls can be made at your convenience and the rewards are immeasurable. Some of our volunteers have been with the committee for years and are looking to "retire". Please consider joining us! If you are interested, I can be contacted at mail@prydekalisz.ca.

## Welcome Breakfast, Wendy Hooker

September 19, 2024, 9:30 a.m. at Qssis Banquet Hall

All new and current RTOERO District 24 members are invited to attend a morning of fellowship and information while enjoying a tasty, full breakfast with old and new friends! After a busy summer, this is a great way to catch up with your District 24 friends and connect with new members.



Besides welcoming our new members and familiarizing them with our events and activities, the Executive and Committee Chairs will share recent RTOERO news and updates that will be of special interest to our current members. Some of these pertain to recent updates (all good!) to our Health Insurance Plan. Plan to attend the Welcome Breakfast to be 'in the know' and to address any questions you may have!

# RTOERO District 24 invites all New and Current District 24 members to our Welcome Breakfast Thursday, September 19, 2024 Qssis Banquet Hall 3474 Kingston Rd. (west of Markham Road)

New RTOERO District 24 members who retired between June 2023 and September 2024 are invited to be our guests for a complimentary buffet breakfast! Meet other D24 members and learn about the many social activities and events that your district membership provides.

For more information, contact Wendy Hooker: wendyhooker@rogers.com / 416-266-4682



Registration / Coffee / Tea: 9:30 am

Buffet Breakfast and Presentations: 10:00 am

If you plan to attend: Confirm your registration with a \$50 payment. Refunds will be provided to NEW MEMBERS in attendance.

The cost (non-refundable) to Guests of new members and current D24 members is \$50.

Registration deadline: September 10, 2024

#### Payment options:

- Cheque one per participant, postdated to September 10, 2024. Mail with completed registration form below before September 10, 2024, to:
   Wendy Hooker, 50 Sunnypoint Crescent, Scarborough, ON, M1M 1B9
- Credit card via the link: Register for the event District-24-Scarborough & East York
   (rtoero.ca)
   Send the completed registration form as an attachment in an email to: wendyhooker@rogers.com

RTOERO District 24 WELCOME BREAKFAST REGISTRATION FORM Thursday, September 19, 2024		
Please Print		
NEW RTOERO D24 Member Name:		
Guest or Current RTOERO D24 Member Name:		
Confirmation to be sent via:		
○ Home Email: or ○ Home Phone:		
No of tickets @ \$50 each = \$		
Payment by: Ocheque (one per participant, payable to RTOERO District 24, mail to Wendy Hooker)		
credit card via the link: Register for the event - District-24-Scarborough & East York (rtoero.ca		
(each participant payment/reservation must be entered as a separate credit card transaction.		

## Benefits, Paula Chambers

#### RTOERO District 24 Health Seminar Your Medications and You

Shirin Jetha from the Overprescribers Organization will conduct a workshop on prescription reviews, drug incompatibility, medication and supplement and medication and food incompatibility. She will also discuss the need for consistency in using the same pharmacy to keep all prescriptions on file.

**Location**: Agincourt Community Centre, 31 Glen Watford Drive, Scarborough

**Date**: Tuesday, June 4, 2024 Time: 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.

Free for the first 50 RTO District 24 members to register. Contact Paula Chambers at <a href="mailto:paula.chambers@rogers.com">paula.chambers@rogers.com</a> to register. **Please type your name, email address and phone number in your email registration for the Health Seminar.** 



## The Port Union Waterfront Trail, Paula Chambers

In 2020, during the pandemic, we were cut off from everyone and everything. Everything was closed. Only one thing was left available, walking at a social distance with friends. Five of us in our Port Union neighbourhood regularly met at 9 a.m. to walk on the waterfront trail. This was our outlet for social and emotional connection.

In the current day, we have continued the good habit of walking this five-kilometre route from Port Union to Rouge Beach on an almost daily basis. We have seen the seasons change by observing plants and wildlife. We have seen foxes, rabbits, deer, coyotes, mink and raccoons. The bird life, consisting of cliff swallows, red wing blackbirds, cormorants, Canada geese, ducks and swans at

Rouge Beach share the area with various other visiting birds. One day, we saw a Scarlet Tanager.

The Port Union

Waterfront Trail has been a place of refuge and friendship for me, helping me maintain a healthy lifestyle. I can highly recommend that you visit the trail.



## Golf Social, Gordon Baker



Once again RTO will be hosting a **Fall Golf Tournament Social Tuesday, September 10 at Mill Run Highland Golf Course in Uxbridge**. The event runs rain or shine from 9 until 4:00 pm.

District 24 is subsidizing this event by \$20 for District 24 members. (18 holes of golf, a shared electric golf cart and a delicious BBQ lunch)

The cost for this year's event is \$64.00 for **RTO members** and \$84.00 for Non-Members. Similar prizes from last year will be awarded.

For those members wishing to come only for lunch, the price is \$28.00.

Lunch consists of a BBQ Cookout with salads and a soft drink.

Those wishing to participate need to submit the following coupon with payment by August 15, 2024. For further information contact Gordon Baker at <a href="mailto:ksbaker547@gmail.co">ksbaker547@gmail.co</a> or 416-424-2018

Coupon: RTO District 24 Golf Tournament Tuesday, September 12, 2023			
Please have all members of your team <b>sign</b> the coupon w standard RTOERO waiver (page 15) required for all RTO D			
TEAM CONTACT Name & Signature			
e-mail	I am a member of RTOERO District 24 YES NO		
Team member Name & Signature			
e-mail	I am a member of RTOERO District 24 YES NO		
Team member Name & Signature			
e-mail	I am a member of RTOERO District 24 YES NO		
Team member Name & Signature			
e-mail	I am a member of RTOERO District 24 YES NO		
Please indicate by email to: gcbaker@sympatico.ca or 41	6-424-2018 if you are planning to enter a team.		
Please find enclosed cheque(s) in the amount of			
# \$64 for Members #\$84 for NON-Members	5 Lunch only #\$28		
Make cheques payable to RTO District 24.			
<u>Deadline: August 15, 2024</u> . Please use this date on your of 54 Caronridge Cres. Scarborough ON	•		

Activity	Chair
BOOK CLUB	Book Club A, Gloria Courtney  We continue to meet at Agincourt Recreation Centre on Glen Watford Drive on the last Wednesday of the month, and we can accommodate a few more members. If you are interested in joining a lively discussion group, please contact me.
1 100	Book Club "B", Danielle Desmarais
	We continue to meet the first Thursday of the month at the Ellesmere Community Centre at 20 Canadian Road (by Costco) from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.
	Book Club "C", Danielle Desmarais We continue to meet the last Thursday of the month at the Ellesmere Community Centre located at 20 Canadian Road (by Costco) from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.
	Knitters & Crafters "A", Chris Elliott
	We meet most months on a Monday from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at Agincourt Community Centre and continue to produce items for LTC residents. Upcoming Dates Monday, May 6 Monday, June 3
	Hava*Java, Chris Elliot
SOUND TO SEE TO	Join fellow District 24 members at Calabria Bakery (1772 Midland Ave.) on the last Monday of the month from 9:30 to 11:30. Catch up with old friends and make new ones over coffee and a treat courtesy of RTO District 24. There is parking at the back of the bakery.  Upcoming dates: Monday, May 27, Monday, June 24



## Nordic Pole Walking, Paula Chambers

Our Nordic Pole Walking Club has now been operating for several years, and we have been able to enjoy our outdoor walks on Wednesday mornings.



## Bridge, Terry Smith

Any RTO bridge players with a working knowledge of the game are welcome to come and play. We play on Tuesdays, 12:15-3:30 at Ellesmere Community Centre, 20 Canadian Road, opposite Costco. You can come with a partner (or not) every week or when you can. The cost is \$1.00 and all money goes out in prizes. Thank you to our District for supporting this club. Further information can be obtained by contacting Terry or Dale Smith at.chooch120@hotmail.com, dfsmith15@hotmail.com or 289 554-3541.

## Trips, Marilyn Tregwin

#### **Trip Guidelines 2024**

- All participant names and signatures must appear on the event coupon to indicate that they have read and understood the RTO/ERO Acknowledgement, Waiver and Release, and to give permission for their contact information to be given to Mary Morton Tours.
- 2. Ensure that a clearly printed e-mail address and phone number(s), or a stamped, self-addressed envelope is provided with your cheque and event coupon. Paid reservations are non-refundable after the deadline or when event capacity is reached.
- 3. Please register as soon as possible. We do not want to cancel trips because of insufficient numbers. Trips have sold out before the deadline. If you miss a deadline, call the facilitator as a ticket may be available/ obtained for you.
- 4. District 24 trips are all-inclusive: Price includes all HST taxes, restaurant gratuities, deluxe motor coach transportation, use of Hwy. 407 both ways, 'high-end' lunches, orchestra theatre seating and all entry fees.
- **5.** NEW THIS YEAR: The first source of trip information may be our monthly e-news, so do sign up to receive the latest/ additional information regarding trips if you haven't already.



#### Something's Rotten

DATE: Thursday, June 27 Festival Theatre, Stratford

DEPART: 8:15 a.m. Kennedy Commons

EXPECTED RETURN: 7:00 p.m. via Hwy. 407 both ways.

COST: \$214

LUNCH: Stratford Country Club: Choose chicken or salmon on your coupon.



PROGRAM: It's showtime at the Festival Theatre. The Bottom brothers, two struggling playwrights in Renaissance London, need a hit. That's easier said than done when your chief competition is William Shakespeare. The Bottom Brothers' plan: write the world's first musical! This is a rollicking song and dance extravaganza that sends up the Bard, Broadway and everything in between. Spend morning time browsing in Stratford. En route home: shopping time at the popular Mennonite-owned Shakespeare Pies bakery, stocked with fresh fruit pies, meat pies and other delicacies.

Please fill out the coupon on page 10, make the cheque payable to: MARY MORTON TOURS and mail it to the trip facilitator.

Coupon: Something's Rotten		
Thursday, June 27, 2024		
Copy (or print) this coupon and send it with your cheque made payable to: Mary Morton Tours		
Name (Print):		
Phone #:		
E-Mail:		
Spouse/Guest Names (Print):		
No. of tickets_@ \$214.00=		
Lunch: chicken or salmon (Indicate # if more than 1 ticket)		
Would you like an e-mail confirmation?Yes No		
If NO, a stamped, self-addressed envelope is required for confirmation.		
By signing this coupon, I (we) give permission to share our contact information with the travel agency		
organizing this trip and acknowledge that I (we) have read and understood the RTOERO Waiver and Release		
on page 15.		
Signature(s) Member Guest(s)		
Deadline: Friday, May 10, 2024. Please postdate your cheque to this date and send it to:		
Marilyn Tregwin, 41 Ravencliff Crescent, Scarborough, ON M1T1R7 Phone: (647) 970-0531		
E-Mail: m.tregwin@gmail.com		

#### Volunteer Positions Needed for 2024-2025



<u>The Chair of the Political Advocacy Committee</u> coordinates political advocacy activities with respect to the issues that affect District 24 members.

#### **RESPONSIBILITIES/DUTIES AS PRACTICED/KEY CONTACTS:**

- Serves as Chair of the Political Advocacy Committee with as many members as necessary.
- Liaises with other organizations that express an interest in pursuing political actions at the provincial and federal levels in the best interest of their members.
- Attends all meetings/Zooms called by the Provincial Political Advocacy Committee.
- Communicates with the provincial RTOERO Political Advocacy Committee through the committee liaison person.
- Around election times, the Provincial Committee will request the assistance of Districts and its members to meet with
  candidates and advance the positions approved by RTOERO at all candidates' meetings, taking out ads in local publications,
  etc. Between elections, attempts are made to establish connections with those in public office to further the positions of
  RTOERO
- Recommends actions determined by the Committee to the District 24 Executive to support the achievement of provincial /district goals in this area.
- Promotes and reports on political advocacy activities through the Beyond the Blackboard and E-News.
- Serves as a member of the District 24 Executive.
- Coordinates political advocacy concerning issues that affect members.
- Recommends actions to the District 24 Executive to support the achievement of Provincial/District goals in this area.

<u>The Chair of the Travelogue Committee</u> organizes an event where one District 24 member or guest shares her/his travel experiences with the participants.

#### **RESPONSIBILITIES, ACCOUNTABILITIES / DELIVERABLES:**

- Plans the event for the 2nd week of Oct, from about 12:30 3:30 p.m.
- Arranges meetings with Venue to discuss the menu, room, and table settings. Also, discusses the use of their projector and screen etc.
- Prepares and sends out, in both the E-News and Beyond the Blackboard, a flyer advertising the Travelogue event.
- Keeps track of the number of people attending and who have paid. Makes labels for all those attending, including table placing.
- Arrives at the venue by 11 a.m. the day of the event, for any further instructions for the staff.
- Prepare the photo's travel journey or arrange for someone else to do the presentation.
- Collects money and deposits in the District 24 TD account, at any TD bank branch. Submits TD deposit slip along with the names of all attendees to the Treasurer.
- Submits Expense form and receipts to Treasurer for reimbursement.

## FYI Retirement Workshop March 20, 2024















#### **FYI**

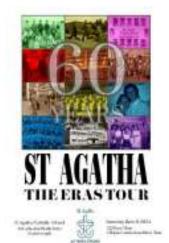


#### St. Agatha 60th

The St. Agatha Anniversary will take place on Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup> from 12:30 pm to 5:30 pm.

Mass will be at 12:30 pm in the gym followed by a walk through the eras in the school. It should be a great day for families and alumni.

We will have food trucks, face painting and music.



## John A. Leslie 100th



John A. Leslie P.S. 100 Year Anniversary (canva.site)

Tour the school.

Reconnect with Friends.

Musical Performances.

Speeches and food.

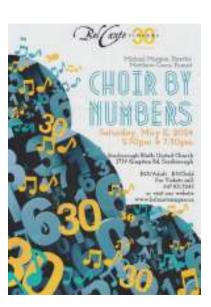
#### Bel Canto Singer swww.belcantosingers.ca

Saturday, May 11, 2024, 2:30 & 7:30 Scarborough Bluffs United Church 647 831 3245



#### St. Barnabas 50th

June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024
10 Washburn Way, Scarboro
Mass 7 pm - 8 pm at the church
Reception 8 pm - 9 pm (gym)



## Executive 2023 - 2024

#### **TABLE OFFICERS:**

PAST PRESIDENT: Annemarie McKee SECOND VICE PRESIDENT: Vacant

CO- PRESIDENT: <u>Annemarie McKee</u> CO- PRESIDENT: <u>Danielle Desmarais</u>

SECRETARY: Donna Weston TREASURER: Danielle Desmarais

#### **COMMITTEE CHAIRS:**

ARCHIVIST: <u>Danielle Desmarais</u> <u>MEMBER SERVICES</u>: <u>Wendy Hooker</u>

AWARDS: Annemarie McKee NEWSLETTER: Robin Bethke

BENEFITS/HEALTH: Paula Chambers NEW RETIREES BRUNCH: Wendy Hooker

BRIDGE CLUB: Terry & Dale Smith NORDIC POLE WALKING: Paula Chambers

E-NEWS: Annemarie McKee Pensions/ Retirement Concerns: Terry Smith

FOUNDATION LIAISON: Wendy Hooker POLITICAL ADVOCACY: Betty Lou Reynolds

GOLF CONVENER: Gordon Baker SOCIAL CONVENOR: Susan Watson

GOODWILL PHONES: Chris Pryde TRIPS: Marilyn Tregwin 647. 970-0531

GOODWILL CARDS: Claire Hughes TRIVIA: Paula Chambers

HAVA\*JAVA: Chris Elliot 416.497-6192 WEBMASTER: Annemarie McKee

KNITTERS & CRAFTERS: Chris Elliot BOOK CLUB A: Gloria Courtney

BOOK CLUB B: Danielle Desmarais BOOK CLUB C: Danielle Desmarais

Claire Hughes

#### **Acknowledgement, Waiver and Release**

The participant in (the "Event") acknowledges and agrees that RTOERO, including District 24, will not be responsible for any loss, injury or damage of any nature, including death, howsoever arising in connection with this trip/excursion/event. Participants in the Event are thereby advised to carry their own insurance in connection therewith.

By signing the activity coupon and in consideration of the participant's attendance at the Event, the participant hereby releases and forever discharges RTOERO, District 24 and their respective directors, officers, members, agents, employees and volunteers (collectively, the "Releasees") from any and all actions, causes of action, claims, and demands (collectively, the "Claims") from any loss, injury or damage of any nature, including death which has arisen or may arise from the participant's attendance on this trip/excursion or at this event, unless such loss, injury or damage has arisen as a result of the sole negligence of one or more of the Releasees. Any Claims arising out of the participant's attendance on this trip/excursion or at this event will be governed by the laws of the province/territory in Canada in which the participants reside, and the participants consent to the exclusive jurisdiction of the Courts in the appropriate province/territory in Canada in any such action.