



104th Provincial Annual Meeting

Minutes

Saturday, April 20, 2024

In - Person and Zoom Videoconference



104th PROVINCIAL ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
April 20, 2024

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2024 PAM Theme “Building Our Future”

OFFICIAL OPENING

The procession of the Canadian standard carried by Provincial Standard Bearer, Kathryn Weston, IODE Margaret Stokes Chapter, Petrolia, followed by the Provincial Officers and head table guests signaled the beginning of 104th Provincial Annual Meeting.

As President of the Provincial Chapter of Ontario IODE, Helen Danby, welcomed everyone to the Provincial Annual Meeting, held in person and by Zoom videoconferencing, and declared it open for the transaction of business.

President Helen Danby, IODE Margaret Stokes Chapter, Petrolia recited the acknowledgment of Indigenous Land Statement.

“Ontario is located on the traditional territory of Indigenous peoples dating back countless generations. We show our respect for their contributions and recognize the role of treaty making in what is now Ontario. Hundreds of years after the first treaties were signed, they are still relevant today.

The Town of Goderich has the privilege of being within the Traditional Territory of the Attawandaron and Ojibway peoples. This land is covered by Treaty 29 of 1827, and in the lands protected by the Dish with One Spoon agreement.”

Following the video of “O Canada”, members recited the IODE prayer, the IODE Affirmation and the IODE Statement of Values.

MOMENT OF SILENCE — IN MEMORIAM

A moment of silence was observed while the names of the following 17 IODE Ontario members who passed away in 2023 were read by Lisa Cossar, IODE Bemersyde Chapter, Campbellford. As we remember our IODE sisters, let us be grateful for memories and meaningful moments, for days shared together and for times of joy and service to others.

Suzanne (Sue) Williams

National President 1988—1990, IODE Royal
Regiment of Canada Chapter and IODE John Ross
Robertson Chapter, Toronto, E-Chapter

Helen Brimmell
Gail Cherrington
Sheila Carr
Hilda Docker
Susan Ellwood
Jackie, Houston
Marilyn Irvine
Edna Jennison
Laurel Susan Mayne
Anita McLaren
Marilyn McMillan
Marilyn Dorothy Murray
Diane Myre
Jacqueline Purvis Ryan
Gwendolyn Simpson
Edith (Dee) Sinclair
Norma West

May they rest in peace.

IODE Victoria Guelph Chapter, Guelph
IODE Angela Bruce Chapter, Oakville
IODE Manitou Chapter, North Bay
IODE Captain Hooper Chapter, Carleton Place
IODE Walter Baker Chapter, Nepean/Kanata
IODE Captain Frederick Bond Chapter, Guelph
IODE Errol Egremont Chapter, Camlachie
IODE Glen Stewart Chapter, Toronto
IODE Manitou Chapter, North Bay
IODE Confederation Chapter, Ridgetown
IODE Bemersyde Chapter, Campbellford
IODE Bemersyde Chapter, Campbellford
IODE City of Lakes Chapter, Sudbury
IODE Elizabeth Barrett Browning Chapt. Sudbury
IODE Manitou Chapter, North Bay
IODE Bemersyde Chapter, Campbellford
IODE Kent Regiment Chapter, Chatham

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Eighty-four members from 26 Ontario primary chapters and six guests attended the 104th Provincial Annual Meeting. This year's theme was "**Building Our Future**" expertly depicted with a logo created by Social Media Convenor, Ashley Bonnell.

IODE Ontario's Past Provincial Presidents, who are now respectfully known as Honorary Vice-Presidents, were introduced with the National and Provincial Officers. Each person identified herself by standing if present or waving on the screen if attending by Zoom.

Honorary Vice-Presidents:

Marty Dalton – London
Ruth Ann Butler – London
Chris Bateman – Queensville
Sandra Smith – Pain Court
E. Anne Mason – Vancouver, B.C

Bonnie Rees – Waterloo and Delhi
Karen Barker – Toronto
Renate Schuetz – Owen Sound
Linda Gryner – Plympton-Wyoming

Unable to attend and sending regrets were HVPs Patricia Fabian, Waterloo; Lynda Rivard, Simcoe and Marie Westlake, Campbellford.

IODE Canada Officers and Committee Chairs:

Jane Cushing – National President
Karen Dalton – 1st Vice-President and National Education Officer
Chris Bateman – Past National President and National Secretary
Carol McCall – Past National President, National Treasurer and National Constitution Officer
Liz Hancock – National Services Officer.
Renate Schuetz – 2nd Vice President, National Communications and Public Relations Officer

Catherine Moore – Past National President and National Citizenship Officer
Bonnie Rees – Past National President and National Archivist
Ruth Ann Butler – National Life Membership Convenor

National Officers unable to attend were Natalie Denesovych, Celebrating IODE Officer; Nadine Fenton, Connecting IODE Officer and Labrador Adopt a Class Convenor; Hazel MacLeod -National War Memorial Scholarship Convenor, and Stephney Flexhaug, Echoes Officer.

Provincial Officers and Convenors:

Michelle Batty – 1st Vice-President, Membership Officer, Provincial Annual Meeting 2024 Co-Convenor and Registrar
Betsy Thompson – 2nd Vice-President, Provincial Annual Meeting 2024 Co-Convenor
Chris Bateman – North Central Ontario Area Vice-President, Honorary Vice-President
Jo Brodie – Eastern Ontario Area Vice-President
Heather Stuart – Northern Area Vice-President
Aileen Reid – Mid-Central Area Vice-President, Assistant Education in Charge of Adopted Schools
Donna O'Reilly – South Central Area Vice-President and By-Laws Convenor
Jan Casbourn – Recording Secretary
Kathy Newnes – Corresponding Secretary
Debbie Button – Treasurer
Lisa Cossar – Education Officer
Gloria Saunders – Co-Services Officer
Virginia Reade – Co-Services Officer
Kathryn Weston – Citizenship Officer and Standard Bearer
Ashley Bonnell – Communications Officer, Website and Social Media Convenor
Shirley Ann Elms – Provincial Life Membership Convenor
Linda Gryner – Honorary Vice-President, Nominating Committee Convenor
Sandra Smith – Honorary Vice-President, Provincial War Memorial Scholarship Convenor
Karen Barker – Honorary Vice-President, IODE Jean Throop Book Award Convenor

Provincial Life Members:

The highest honour one can receive from their peers in IODE is a Life Membership and the following Provincial Life Members in attendance were :

Chris Bateman	Helen Danby	Aileen Reid
Karen Barker	Linda Gryner	Bonnie Rees
Jo Brodie	E. Anne Mason	Gloria Saunders
Ruth Ann Butler	Gail McDiarmid	Renate Schuetz
Marty Dalton	Virginia Reade	Sandra Smith

Unable to attend were:

Mary K. Anderson	Shirley Ann Elms	Libby Gibson (deceased Apr.17)
Eleanor Bentley	June Elviage	Jean Hof
Jeannette Boyd	Eula Evans	Donna O'Reilly
Sheila DeJaegher	Patti Fabian	Lynda Rivard
Sheila Dearing	Tory Garfat	Caroline Rodgers

Ruth Stokes

Barbara Vivash

Marie Westlake

First Time Attendees:

Thirteen first-time attendees attended both days and five could only attend on Friday.

Catherine Bates – IODE Trillium 2023 Chapter, virtual
Brenda Bricker – IODE Maple Leaf Chapter, Goderich
Sandra Brown – IODE Maple Leaf Chapter, Goderich
Rosemary Carson-Rees – IODE Maple Leaf Chapter, Goderich
Lori Dickie – IODE Eldon House Chapter, London
Susan Gittings, IODE Angela Bruce Chapter, Oakville
Edna Greydanus – IODE Maple Leaf Chapter, Goderich
Hilda Kraft – IODE Maple Leaf Chapter, Goderich
Kimberley Payne – IODE Maple Leaf Chapter, Goderich
Debra Powell – IODE Angela Bruce Chapter, Oakville
Kate Ryan – IODE Maple Leaf Chapter, Goderich
Heather Stewart – IODE Maple Leaf Chapter, Goderich
Marilyn Turner – IODE Maple Leaf Chapter, Goderich

Friday only:

Kristy Daley – IODE Maple Leaf Chapter, Goderich
Kim Ferris – IODE Maple Leaf Chapter, Goderich
Connie Moore – IODE Margaret Stokes Chapter, Petrolia
Ginny Williams – IODE Margaret Stokes Chapter, Petrolia
Samantha Dira Van Den Brandon – IODE Honourable Malcolm Cameron, Sarnia

Provincial Executive Councillors:

The elected Provincial Councillors are important members who act as liaisons between the Provincial and Primary Chapters. They are integral members of the governing body of IODE Ontario and many were in attendance.

Office Staff:

The Provincial office would not function without the valued assistance of Administrative Assistant, Lynn Hughes and Bookkeeper, Debbie Button, IODE Confederation Chapter, Ridgetown.

Official Photographer:

A special thank you from President Helen Danby was extended to photographer, HVP Linda Gryner, IODE Errol Egremont Chapter, Sarnia.

The following are integral members that provided valuable assistance with the Provincial Annual Meeting:

Provincial Recording Secretary: Jan Casbourn, IODE Honourable Malcolm Cameron Chapter, Sarnia

Provincial Corresponding Secretary: Kathy Newnes, IODE Eldon House Chapter, London

Provincial Annual Meeting Convenors:

- Michelle Batty, Provincial 1st Vice-President, Membership Officer and Registrar, IODE Errol Egremont Chapter, Sania and
- Betsy Thompson, Provincial 2nd Vice-President and Provincial Communications Officer, IODE Bemersyde Chapter, Campbellford.

Social Media and Website Convenor: Ashley Bonnell, IODE 48th Highlanders Chapter, Toronto

Welcome also to our guest Gary Bonzang, husband of Bonnie Rees and faithful attendee at every in-person Provincial Annual Meeting and Jeff Graham, Nancy Hughe's son. Other guests include Maria Birmingham, author of the IODE Jean Throop Award winning book and Kathryn Dearlove from Owlkids Press.

RESOLUTIONS OF LOYALTY

Resolution of Loyalty to **HIS MAJESTY KING CHARLES III** Sovereign of Canada

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY:

The members of the Provincial Chapter of Ontario IODE, assembled in person and via teleconference on the occasion of its 104th Annual Meeting, on this 20th day of April, 2024 in the Town of Goderich, Ontario, wish to affirm our allegiance to Your Majesty, King Charles III.

We extend best wishes to Your Majesty and Her Majesty Queen Camilla, His Royal Highness, William, Prince of Wales and Her Royal Highness, Catherine, Princess of Wales and their children, Prince George, Princess Charlotte, and Prince Louis.

As members of IODE, a Canadian women's charitable organization that was privileged to have your late mother, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II as our patron for most of her 70-year reign, we are thrilled that Your Majesty has pledged to continue her mandate of duty and service. We commend your dedication to your people and your untiring efforts and leadership to call awareness to a wide variety of issues pertaining to climate and the environment, the arts, health care, education, and world peace. At the December 2023 Climate Change Conference in Dubai, Your Majesty eloquently shared: "Change will come by working together and making it easier to embrace decisions that will sustain our world, rather than carry on as though there are no limits, or as though our actions have no consequences."

The members of the Provincial Chapter of Ontario IODE applaud you and send heartfelt Congratulations as Your Majesty and Queen Camilla celebrate the first anniversary of your accession to the throne as King of the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth realms. God Save the King.

MOTION:

Moved by: Betsy Thompson, IODE Bemersyde Chapter, Campbellford

Seconded by: Bonnie Rees, IODE Princes Richard and Micheal Chapter, Kitchener

"THAT the Resolution of Loyalty to His Majesty, King Charles III be adopted as presented and submitted to IODE Canada to be forwarded to His Majesty following the Annual Meeting."

CARRIED

**Resolution of Loyalty To
THE GOVERNOR GENERAL and COMMANDER IN CHIEF of CANADA
Her Excellency, The Right Honourable
Mary Simon, CC CMM COM OQ CD FRCGS**

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:

The members of the Provincial Chapter of Ontario IODE, assembled in person and via teleconference on the occasion of its 104th Annual Meeting, on this 20th day of April, 2024 in the Town of Goderich, Ontario, wish to affirm our loyalty to you as the 30th Governor General of Canada and as the Representative of His Majesty, King Charles III.

We are inspired by your mandate to encourage excellence in various scientific, educational, sports, cultural and leadership fields. Your actions in recognizing excellence through the Governor General's annual Performing Arts, Architecture, History, and Innovation Awards, to name a few, have contributed greatly to ensure that Canada may continue building a brighter future for all its citizens.

Your unyielding focus on unity, kindness, commitment to action and making connections are sources of much needed hope and inspiration for all, and for this we are thankful.

We are guided by the words of your New Year's message: "We all have the power to contribute to the well-being of our country. May this forthcoming year serve as a testament to the profound significance of ajuinata, and to our commitment to making this country a better and kinder place."

The Provincial Chapter of Ontario IODE members extend best wishes and support, as Your Excellency continues to represent His Majesty, King Charles III and our beloved Canada.

MOTION:

Moved by: Bonnie Rees, IODE Princes Richard and Micheal Chapter, Kitchener

Seconded by: Susan Sibbit, IODE Laurentian Chapter, Ottawa

"THAT the Resolution of Loyalty to Her Excellency, The Governor General of Canada, The Right Honourable Mary Simon CC CMM COM OQ CD FRCGS be adopted as presented and submitted to IODE Canada to be forwarded to Her Excellency following the Annual Meeting."

CARRIED

Greetings to the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario:

**Greetings to
THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF ONTARIO
The Honourable Edith Dumont, O. Ont**

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR:

The members of the Provincial Chapter of Ontario IODE, assembled in person and via teleconference on this 20th day of April 2024 in the Town of Goderich, Ontario on the occasion of its 104th Annual Meeting, wish to affirm our loyalty to you as the 30th Lieutenant Governor and Representative of His Majesty, King Charles III in the province of Ontario.

Congratulations on your appointment and installation on November 14th, 2023, as the fourth female Lieutenant Governor after Pauline McGibbon, Hillary Weston and Elizabeth Dowdeswell, and we welcome you as the first Franco-Ontarian to serve in this position.

Your focus on education and strong determination to build relationships, strengthen communities, create collaborative teams and advocate for diversity and inclusion will be

emblematic of your leadership and a source of inspiration to all Ontarians.

The members of the Provincial Chapter of Ontario IODE extend best wishes as Your Honour embarks on your first year as Lieutenant Governor of Ontario.

MOTION:

Moved by: Penny Murray, IODE Maple Leaf Chapter, Goderich

Seconded by: Sandra Thompson, IODE Catherine McVean Chapter, Dresden

“THAT the Greetings to Her Honour, Edith Dumont Lieutenant Governor of Ontario be adopted and forwarded to Her Honour following the Annual Meeting.”

CARRIED

Greetings from IODE Maple Leaf Chapter, Goderich:

Co-Regent Heather Stewart on behalf of the members of IODE Maple Leaf Chapter, Goderich welcomed everyone to this 104th Provincial Annual Meeting. As hostesses this year, Heather's chapter generously donated maple-shaped bottles of *maple* syrup at each place setting as a considerate, memorable gesture and to help remember their chapter's name. Their assistance with the visit to the Museum and lunch on Friday and as greeters at the registrar desk and hostesses on Saturday was much appreciated.

Greetings From IODE Canada: *National President, Jane Cushing*

"I am honoured to finally be able to attend an in-person IODE Ontario Annual Meeting. From the excited conversations as we came together this morning, it is easy to see that you are happy to be together again. President Helen has asked me to focus on the 125th anniversary, we celebrate next year. As you know preparation for a major anniversary takes place over several years. For 2024, chapters were asked to undertake two, pre- anniversary activities. One, to freshen chapter histories and explore IODE contributions to your community even if they were made by retired chapters. Provincial chapters were asked to identify major IODE contributions in their province and Helen has kindly agreed to add them to her amazing information about IODE Ontario to make a national document. At this year's National Annual Meeting in Prince Edward Island one of the sessions is dedicated to helping chapters with this project and providing an opportunity to share what they have already learned.

This attention to our history as preparation is to ensure each member is able to speak knowledgeably about the role of IODE in her community and in Canada during the anniversary year.

The second project for 2024 was to manage our membership efforts so that IODE has at least the same number of members on December 31, 2024 as it had on December 31, 2023. This initiative is called **Every Member Counts** and developed from two years of exploring membership with the National councillors on NAC. The tree illustration you see on the screen grew out of these discussions.

The image of a 125-year-old tree is familiar to all of us. IODE chapters have been active planting trees in their communities to honour people, support the environment, provide shade. Trees loose leaves and branches, and yet they go on; producing fruit and standing tall in their communities. Like any living organism they face adversity and the ones that continue to their 125th year are hardy and usually go on much longer.

As an organization IODE is very much like a tree. Back at your chapter meetings replace the fruit on the tree illustration with your all-time favourite projects or recent projects. Leaves represent members and you probably learned in science class that they are the factories that manufacture the food for tree growth and fruit production. Leaves are spread out to the sun and air and are supported by the branches or chapters. The trunk supports the branches and transports the materials the leaves need to produce fruit. However, the branches and trunk are two way systems and some of the food produced in the leaf factories is used to strengthen the roots that hold the tree firm against the wind; and gather water and nutrients to support the work of the leaves.

IODE stands tall, like a 125-year-old tree. It is an important part of the community, as are the big old trees in our parks, back yards and on our streets. With the help of its members, IODE will continue to grow and improve the quality of life in the communities around it. Trees grow new leaves and usually more each year than the year before. They grow new branches and the IODE tree welcomes IODE Ontario's newest chapter IODE Trillium 2023. The oldest branch, IODE Maple Leaf, has more leaves than any other chapter and bears large quantities of fruit.

In the 125th anniversary year let us grow new leaves and branches and stand proudly in our communities. Let us provide the necessary nutrients and water to our roots. Like the sounds of leaves rustling in the wind and dripping in the rain, the happy sounds of members doing the work they love and enjoying every moment of it will be heard. Just as we enjoyed getting together for this meeting. It is time to show off our projects, the longevity of our service and the fun we have doing it.



As you make your plans to celebrate IODE's 125th anniversary, plan to have fun. Do it your own way. **Every Member Counts** as we build for the **Future.**"

ACCEPTANCE OF 2023 PAM MINUTES — *Provincial Recording Secretary, Jan Casbourn, IODE Honourable Malcolm Cameron, Sarnia*

The minutes of the 103rd Provincial Annual Meeting held via Zoom videoconference on April 22, 2023 were uploaded onto the IODE Ontario website.

MOTION:

Moved by: Jan Casbourn

Seconded by: Leila Boushy, IODE Honourable Malcolm Cameron Chapter, Sarnia

“THAT the minutes of the April 22, 2023, Provincial Annual Business Meeting held by Zoom teleconference be adopted as pre-circulated and as uploaded on the Provincial website.”

CARRIED

SUMMARY OF THE 2023 ANNUAL REPORTS — *Provincial Corresponding Secretary, Kathy Newnes, IODE Eldon House Chapter, London*

“Madame National President, Madame Provincial President, special guests and members of IODE in Ontario: It has been my pleasure to read the 2023 Officers’ Annual Reports and observe all the accomplishments of the IODE Ontario Chapters.

Archives – As reported at last year’s Provincial Annual Meeting, the database contained 52,800 names. The archivist skillfully transferred over more data, from various sources, which has resulted in growth to 58,000 members. This information enhances our history and was useful when verifying data of members. A display at the CNE on Military Day, highlighting the hard work that women exhibited during and after WW1, attracted much attention. A “Celebrating Women in Business” event held in Forest Ontario, the home of the former IODE Trillium Chapter (1930 to 1990), celebrated women from the area. Former members assisted in providing information for the database. Please see page 33 in the Annual Report for more details.

Citizenship – The volunteer hours increased this past year by 13,075 hours, making the total for this year 114,332 hours. The value of monies spent in supporting Citizenship was \$37,452, an increase from last year. Many chapters laid wreaths during Remembrance Day programs and supported the military overseas and veterans with Christmas cards. One chapter provided a dinner for the veterans in their town. Schools were presented with academic certificates, books and good citizenship awards. Books were donated to local library programs. Sixty-three members were privileged to receive the Ontario Volunteer Service Awards. More specifics can be found on pages 34 to 41.

Communication – This year the actual value of money spent on advertising was \$6,685. However, the value in kind was \$1,000,185 which makes a total of \$1,006,871 spent on informing the public of upcoming events, and IODE in general. This increase was due mainly to the value placed on certain websites. Events were promoted on social media accounts such as Facebook or Instagram, and by making use of posters, newspapers, e-mails, local radio stations, and billboards. Also, community partners mentioned the IODE chapter contributions on their individual social media websites. Whenever the chapters were in public or recruiting a new member, marketing materials, such as bookplates, stickers, business cards, brochures and bookmarks were distributed to make the public aware of IODE at all levels. Please read pages 42 to 47 and discover all the many ways that our chapters are keeping our communities updated on IODE.

Education – 2023 was another very successful year for the provincial and primary chapters’ education projects. The ways in which the communities were supported was diverse and original. Many students were awarded bursaries, scholarships or graduation awards, as well as supplying classes and school libraries with new books and/or book bags. Many youths were supported through IODE donations to camps, music festivals, libraries, museums, art programs, or community outreach programs such as mental health, recreation and leadership activities. Chapters continued to donate to Provincial and National Funds. It was enjoyable to see how many award-winning books at the Provincial and National

levels were donated. This year, the total value of the Education program, including the Adopted Schools was \$187,945. Read pages 47 to 52 to see the innovative ways that Education was being supported. Please note pages 52 to 57 for all the special bursaries, awards and grants that are listed with names of the winners and pages 58 to 61 for the Adopted schools' reports.

Membership – Forty-seven new members joined IODE this year for a total of 740 members as of December 31st. Chapters ranged from 3 members to 68, each contributing to their community in their own way. Members were recruited by distributing materials at fundraising events, social nights, personal invitations, on social media and through incidental direct face to face contact. The chapters stayed cohesive and bonded through coffee hours, lunches, and field trips. Starting on page 62 you can read and see how each chapter kept their members engaged. The first IODE Ontario virtual chapter, 'IODE Trillium 2023 Chapter' was formed in June and bestowed on December 12, 2023. (page 13) A Facebook page was created to promote chapter activities. See pages 66 and 67 for a list of new members. The Membership Awards, Life Memberships, Chapter Anniversaries, and Years of Service Awards can be found on pages 67 to 69. Congratulations to everyone who was honoured.

Services – Services continued to be a very busy and thriving department. The total value for donations to Services was \$564,850. That is an increase from 2022 of \$73,000. A noticeable increase in the backing for food support programs was noted.

103 boxes of knitting, clothing and footwear were sent to the Northern Ontario Indigenous nursing clinics and schools. 30 boxes were packed for Nunavut and Labrador on behalf of IODE Canada. Once again, the OPP Indigenous Team and NAPS (Nishnabee Aski Police Services) took 33 boxes of clothing, boots, medical supplies and bedding to northern communities. Clothing and medical supplies were also donated to Ukrainian refugees new to Canada. Christmas parcels were filled with more than 350 art kits and 57 Christmas gift bags crocheted/sewn by chapter members and friends of IODE which were filled with hairbrushes, lotions, jewellery, etc. I could not begin to list all of the wonderful contributions, but you will find them on page 70 to 73 of the Annual Report.

Standard Bearer – Table standards were displayed at all chapter meetings. Some included the Canadian flag and the Union Jack at these meetings. Others are in possession of the Canadian flag and Union Jack but only used at special events. Often the Floor Standards and flags were displayed at funerals of chapter members, special happenings or Remembrance Day ceremonies. Find a description on pages 74 to 76.

Please take the time to read this report. All the chapters in Ontario are to be congratulated for their inventive and dedicated service.

I move the adoption of the Archives, Citizenship, Communications, Education, Membership, Services, and Standard Bearer reports as found in the 2023 Provincial Annual Report on pages 33 to 75.”

SECONDING OF THE ANNUAL REPORT — HVP *Sandra Smith, IODE Captain Garnet Brackin Chapter, Chatham*

“I am honoured to recognize the results, precise details and values of the IODE Ontario 2023 Annual Reports, prepared and submitted by all chapters, their officers and members. Your volunteer hours of over 114,000 built the programs and projects valued at almost \$796,000. A remarkable achievement and gift to your supported communities of Ontario, 'Canadian women helping those in need.' In reading your reports, which are detailed on the annual report pages 33 to 75, I am awed by the imagination and versatility of projects that receive your unique gifts and time. Please take the time to read each summary in your report book for Citizenship \$37,452; Communication \$ 6;685 in kind over 1 million; Education \$187,945 and Services \$564,850. Notable is the Archival membership data base created by President Helen and her team with a growth to 58,000 past and current members, enhanced and in memory of our history. We also welcomed the new IODE Trillium 2023 Virtual Chapter, a wonderful start to 'Building our Future'.

It is with celebration, I second the 2023 IODE Ontario Annual Reports.”

CORRESPONDENCE — *Provincial Recording Secretary, Jan Casbourn, IODE Honourable Malcolm Cameron Chapter, Sarnia*

Letters with best wishes and congratulations were received from the following:

- Provincial Presidents of Alberta, British Columbia, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, IODE Canada Board Members and several IODE Ontario Honorary Vice-Presidents.
- Honorary Vice-Presidents including expressing regrets: Honorary Vice-President Lynda Rivard, Patricia Fabian and Marie Westlake.

SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT — *Provincial Recording Secretary, Jan Casbourn, IODE Honourable Malcolm Cameron Chapter, Sarnia.*

"During 2023, it was a pleasure to be the Recording Secretary due to the camaraderie and great support from President Helen Danby and the Provincial Officers and Councillors.

With the worst of COVID well behind us, four of eight Provincial Executive Councillor (PEC) Meetings including the September Officer and Convenor's Retreat meeting were held as hybrid at the Provincial office. The 2023 Provincial Annual Meeting and four PEC meetings were held by Zoom. The numerous provincial committees conveniently Zoomed several times over the year. The Officers, Convenors and Area Vice Presidents were able to Zoom three meetings including one as a hybrid.

Primary chapters reported that most meetings were held in person from four to twelve times during the year. Administrative Assistant, Lynn Hughes and President Helen Danby helped make Zooming possible for those that wanted the hybrid option. Thank you to primary chapter secretaries who submitted their annual reports with detailed information of their chapter's activities. Most chapter fundraising carried on as usual, however, some chapters were hesitant to continue their annual fundraisers.

In 2023, the 103rd Provincial Annual Meeting with its theme 'Celebrating You' was held by Zoom on Saturday, April 22nd. The meeting was well attended by 58 members from 21 primary chapters including nine first time attendees.

The morning business portion highlights included:

- A 'Helpful Hints Workshop for Small Chapters' presented by 1st Vice President Michelle Batty.
- Provincial officers, Aileen Reid and Gloria Saunders received Life Memberships.
- The Gladys Raiter Bursary was presented to the 2022 recipient, Maire Slater.

Activities during the afternoon session were:

- The presentation of the OPP Community Relations Award, Membership Awards and the winner of the 2022 IODE Jean Throop Book Award.
- The information provided by guest speaker, Detective Constable Phil Poirier, of the Crimes Against Seniors Unit, was well received.
- The day concluded with the installation of the 2023 – 2024 executive by National President Jane Cushing.

The Hamilton office was a beehive of activity as many members utilized the premises to help organize donations and to pack for Services. Two local chapters used the office for their monthly meetings. Administrative Assistant, Lynn Hughes was a constant presence working weekly in the office for three days. Once again, thanks are extended to Debbie Button, IODE Ontario Treasurer for continuing this year with bookkeeping duties.

President Helen Danby attended in person or virtually, numerous primary chapter events and meetings across the province. Two chapter events that the President attended in person celebrated a 90th and a 105th anniversary. Helen attended virtually, the IODE annual general meetings of Ontario, Alberta and

National as well as numerous committee meetings. The President actively participated on the National Advisory Committee and the National Board of Directors.

It is of utmost importance for the provincial chapter to connect with the primary chapters on a personal level. Many relevant eblasts and four excellent newsletters were distributed by Helen Danby with the assistance of Lynn Hughes. Each newsletter celebrated primary chapter highlights, awards and presentations. Many chapters contributed an abundance of pictures for publication!

The cooperation and dedicated work of Administrative Assistant Lynn Hughes and all the officers and convenors of IODE Ontario was sincerely appreciated this past year.

The complete Secretary's Report can be found on pages 14 to 19 of the 2023 Annual Report."

MOTION:

Moved by: Jan Casbourn

Seconded by: Anne Marie Beck, IODE Maple Leaf Chapter, Goderich

"THAT the Provincial Secretary's Report as found on pages 14 to 19 of the 2023 Annual Report be adopted as presented."

CARRIED

TREASURER'S REPORT — *Provincial Treasurer, Debbie Button, IODE Confederation Chapter, Ridgeway*

"The Treasurer's Report found on page 20 of the 2023 Annual Report contains a summary of Primary and Municipal chapters' reviewed financial statements.

Total revenue for Ontario chapters was \$809,074.

Total expenditures were \$776,749.

Congratulations to all chapters on their success.

Thank you to all Chapter Treasurers for submitting your reports.

IODE Ontario is grateful for the generous donations from individuals and chapters to the IODE Donors Circle during 2023.

Thank you to the members of the Finance Committee and the Investment Committee. Your assistance and guidance throughout the year were invaluable."

MOTION:

Moved by: Debbie Button

Seconded by: Sherry Fergus, IODE Headwaters Chapter, Orangeville

"THAT the Treasurer's Report as found on page 20 of the 2023 Provincial Annual Report be adopted."

CARRIED

The PEC approved **2024 Operating budget for IODE Ontario** is found on page 21 of the 2023 Annual Report for your information."

2022 Audited Financial Statements

MOTION:

Moved by: Debbie Button

Seconded by: Wendy Weston, IODE Catherine McVean Chapter, Dresden

“THAT the audited 2023 Financial Statements of the Provincial Chapter of Ontario IODE for the year ending December 31st, 2023 and the Auditor’s Report as found on pages 22 to 32 of the 2032 Annual Report be adopted.”

CARRIED

Appointment of Auditors

MOTION:

Moved by: Debbie Button

Seconded by: Linda Gryner, IODE Errol Egremont, Sarnia and IODE Trillium 2023(virtual) Chapters

“THAT the firm of DBK Accounting Professional Corporation, Chartered Accountants, be appointed auditors for the Provincial Chapter of Ontario IODE, for the year ending December 31st, 2024.”

CARRIED

Toronto Legacy Fund

MOTION:

Moved by: Debbie Button

Seconded by: Karen Barker, 48th Highlanders Chapter, Toronto

WHEREAS the remaining funds in the Toronto Legacy Fund have been designated according to wishes of the IODE members of Toronto chapters,

“THAT the Toronto Legacy Fund be closed and that the Toronto Legacy Committee be retired.”

CARRIED

COUNCILLORS’ VOTING RESULTS — *Provincial Second Vice-President and Voting Convenor, Betsy Thompson, IODE Bemersyde Chapter, Campbellford*

Councillors-National: Article VIII, Section 8.06: *Each province or territory shall be entitled to elect two National Chapter councillors for up to the first one hundred members in good standing within its jurisdiction and one councillor for each additional hundred members or major fraction thereof. In addition, each provincial chapter shall be entitled at its annual meeting to elect three further National councillors.*

Provincial By-law #16: *That a nominee for Provincial and/or National Councillor shall stand for election in the designated area in which active membership is held, with the exception of a nominee from a chapter already under Municipal jurisdiction. Such nominees shall stand for election in the area in which that Municipal Chapter is located.*

NATIONAL COUNCILLORS FOR 2024 – 2025 elected by ballots.

Northern Area: (80 members), IODE City of Lakes Chapter, Dr. Herbert A. Bruce Chapter, Elizabeth Barrett Browning Chapter and Manitou Chapter.

- Heather Stuart

ACCLAIMED

North Central: (70 members), IODE Bertha Cane Chapter, Headwaters Chapter, Holland Landing Chapter, Lord Dufferin Chapter, West Gwillimbury Chapter, White Cloud Chapter and Yellow Briar Chapter.

- Sherry Fergus

Eastern Area: (110 members) IODE Bemersyde Chapter and Captain Hooper Chapter and IODE Laurentian Chapter, Lorraine Chapter and Walter Baker Chapter.

- Lisa Cossar
- Peggy Galipeau

Mid Central Area: (141 members), IODE Edith Benson Chapter, Eldon House Chapter, Festival Jubilee Chapter, Maple Leaf Chapter, Stirling Chapter and Val Griffiths Chapter

- Hazel MacLeod **ACCLAIMED**
- Aileen Reid **ACCLAIMED**

Toronto Area: (83 members), IODE 48th Highlanders Chapter, Bridlewood Chapter, Captain Nichola Goddard Chapter, Dr. Innis Mary MacDonald Chapter, Kathleen Drope Chapter, Rouge Valley Chapter and Susie Sorabji Chapter .

- Karen Barker

South Central Area, (Formerly Provincial Headquarters): (94 Members)

IODE Angela Bruce Chapter, Claremont Chapter, Dr. Elizabeth Bagshaw Chapter, Freelon Chapter, Royal Wyndham Chapter, The Princes Richard and Michael Chapter, and Victoria Guelph Chapter.

- Dana Bryant

South Western Area: (152 members) IODE Captain Garnet Brackin Chapter, Catherine McVean Chapter, Confederation Chapter, Dr. Norman McCormick Chapter, Errol Egremont Chapter, Kent Regiment Chapter, Major John Richardson Chapter, Honourable Malcolm Cameron Chapter and Margaret Stokes Chapter.

- Helen Danby **ACCLAIMED**
- Gloria Saunders **ACCLAIMED**

Additional three National Councillors elected at April 11, 2023 PEC meeting via ballot and Zoom:

- Shirley Ann Elms, IODE 48th Highlanders Chapter, Toronto
- E. Anne Mason, IODE Holland Landing Chapter, Holland Landing
- Catherine Moore, IODE Kathleen Drope Chapter, Toronto

PROVINCIAL COUNCILLORS FOR 2024 – 2025 elected by ballots.

Provincial By-Law #11 (b): *In each Provincial voting Area there shall be allocated one (1) Councillor for every approximately 40 members in good standing plus an additional four (4) Councillors to the area of Provincial Headquarters.*

Provincial By-law #11 (e): *That for the purpose of establishing the number of Provincial Councillors per Area, the President will be named as one of the additional four Councillors allocated to the South-Central Area, (Area of Provincial Headquarters), regardless of the location of her primary chapter*

Provincial By-law #16: *That a nominee for Provincial and/or National Councillor shall stand for election in the designated area in which active membership is held, except for a nominee from a chapter already under Municipal jurisdiction. Such nominees shall stand for election in the area in which that Municipal Chapter is located.*

Northern Area: (80 members), IODE City of Lakes, Dr. Herbert A. Bruce Chapter, Elizabeth Barrett Browning Chapter and Manitou Chapter. **(2 to be elected):**

- Heather Stuart **ACCLAIMED**

North Central: (70 members), IODE Bertha Cane Chapter, Headwaters Chapter, Holland Landing Chapter, Lord Dufferin Chapter, West Gwillimbury Chapter, White Cloud Chapter and Yellow Briar Chapter:

- Pam Ainscough **ACCLAIMED**
- Sherry Fergus **ACCLAIMED**

Eastern Area: (110 members) IODE Bemersyde Chapter and Captain Hooper Chapter and IODE Laurentian Chapter, Lorraine Chapter and Walter Baker Chapter.

- Josephine Brodie **ACCLAIMED**
- Peggy Gallipeau **ACCLAIMED**
- Caroline Rodgers **ACCLAIMED**

Mid Central Area: (141 members), IODE Edith Benson Chapter, Eldon House Chapter, Festival Jubilee Chapter, Maple Leaf Chapter, Stirling Chapter and Val Griffiths Chapter.

- Karen Dalton
- Ietje Kerkoff
- Hazel MacLeod
- Kathy Newnes

Toronto Area: (83 members), IODE 48th Highlanders Chapter, Bridlewood Chapter, Captain Nichola Goddard Chapter, Dr. Innis Mary MacDonald Chapter, Kathleen Drope Chapter, Rouge Valley Chapter, Susie Sorabji Chapter:

- Karen Barker
- Shirley Ann Elms
- Carol McCall

South Central Area, (Formerly Provincial Headquarters): (94 members)

IODE Angela Bruce Chapter, Claremont Chapter, Dr. Elizabeth Bagshaw Chapter, Freelton Chapter, Royal Wyndham Chapter, The Princes Richard and Michael Chapter, and Victoria Guelph Chapter. The Provincial President is declared a Provincial Councillor in this district.:

Helen Danby	Donna O'Reilly
Patricia Fabian	Bonnie Rees
Jean Hof	Linda Rivard
Gail McDiarmid	

South Western Area: (152 members), IODE Captain Garnet Brackin Chapter, Catherine McVean Chapter, Confederation Chapter, Dr. Norman McCormick Chapter, Errol Egremont Chapter, Kent Regiment Chapter, Honourable Malcolm Cameron Chapter and Margaret Stokes Chapter.

- Garna Argenti
- Debbie Button
- Sheila DeJaegher
- Gloria Saunders.

Additional 20 Provincial Councillors acclaimed at the April 11, 2024 PEC meeting:

- | | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Chris Bateman | 8. Cossar, Lisa | 15. Reid, Aileen |
| 2. Batty, Michelle | 9. Davis, Susan | 16. Sibbit, Susan |
| 3. Bentley, Eleanor | 10. Fabian, Cara | 17. Smith, Sandra |
| 4. Bentley, Margaret | 11. Hughes, Nancy | 18. Thompson, Betsy |
| 5. Bonnell, Ashley | 12. Lake, Susan | 19. Weston, Kathryn |
| 6. Casbourn, Jan | 13. Little, Jayne | 20. Weston, Wendy |
| 7. Chicoine, Norma | 14. Moore, Catherine | |

Provincial Councillors by Right-of-Office:

- Linda Gryner
- Renate Schuetz

LIFE MEMBERSHIP PRESENTATION — Virginia Reade, IODE Freelton Chapter, Freelton

Life Memberships are granted for outstanding service to IODE over a number of years. At the Provincial level, a member is nominated to the Life Membership Convenor and that nomination is supported by three letters of reference from her peers recommending the individual based upon the participation of the IODE member at the Provincial level. A Life Membership is the highest honour bestowed upon a member by their peers.

Citation for Treasurer and Bookkeeper, Debbie Button:

“Debbie Button joined IODE Confederation Chapter, Ridgetown in 1998 holding numerous primary chapter positions including Secretary, Education Officer and President. In 2018, Debbie was elected as a Provincial Councillor and after two years as an active member of the Provincial Executive Committee, she accepted the many challenges the Treasurer’s position presents.

Debbie brings her professional skills, as an Accountant, to her Treasurer’s position to ensure the Provincial Chapter is employing best practices in managing the IODE Provincial funds. The duties of the previously paid Bookkeeper were assessed and Debbie streamlined the process to the benefit of the Provincial Chapter, taking on some of the duties of the Bookkeeper and reassigning some duties to the Administrative Assistant saving thousands of dollars annually. As a conscientious councillor, Debbie is ever present at PEC meetings and numerous times throughout the year travels to the office to perform the daily tasks of the bookkeeper. One of the initiatives Debbie introduced was the e-transfer process for the benefit of primary chapter members.

Debbie Demonstrates her natural leadership skills as she chairs the Internal Management Committee and the Finance Committee meetings. Committee members benefit from her expertise as she puts everyone at ease while dealing with sometimes confusing lingo of the financial world. Debbie defines and explains terminology to put committee members and PEC Councillors at ease during meetings. She is an enthusiastic member of provincial IODE committees including Citizenship, Education, Services and Office Relocation to mention a few.

Her monthly travel to the office throughout COVID-19 and continuing today is a testament to her dedication to IODE. The Provincial Chapter is the beneficiary of Debbie’s expertise in the world of accounting and her enthusiasm.

It is with great pleasure that a Provincial Life Membership be awarded to Debbie button in recognition of her valuable and continuing service to the Provincial Chapter of Ontario IODE.”

PROVINCIAL SERVICES UPDATE — *Provincial Co-Services Officers, Gloria Saunders, IODE Margaret Stokes, Petrolia and Virginia Reade, IODE Freelton Chapter, Freelton*

Wrap-Up Of 2023 Services Project

“When the Provincial Services Committee met to discuss potential Services projects for 2023, one of our favourite themes was suggested, a baby shower. Everyone loves to shop for babies. However, one member asked, “what about the new moms, they deserve to be celebrated too”. So the project became “New Beginnings – A Mom and Baby Shower”. Since the announcement at the 2023 PAM, donations have steadily arrived at the office. Clothes and toiletries for the babies; soaps, lotions, hair accessories, etc. were donated for the moms. These items have been included in every packing that has gone out.

Today is the wrap-up for the project. Thank you for the donations you brought today and for the generous donations that have arrived since April 2023. “

You are truly a group of amazing women!

Synopsis: Slide Presentation of The Future of Provincial Services

Current Operations:

Provincial Services has supported Northern Indigenous health clinics and communities since 1943. Currently, IODE Ontario supports 12 communities in remote Northern Ontario, sending parcels to **six** nursing clinics, **five** schools and **three** community centres.

Going Forward:

The lease for the Provincial office expires in February, 2025. Affordable office space will only provide limited or no area for storage. Due to the decrease in numbers, age and physical limitations of local members the packing help is limited. IODE Ontario would like to continue to send necessities to these communities.

Adoption Ideas:

- Ask chapters or IODE areas to adopt a nursing clinic. The location of the seven nursing clinics are remote and may receive supplies only by plane.
- Smaller chapters consider connecting with other chapters in your area with the help from your Area Vice-President. Bring to a get together your donations of knitting, clothing and purchases that you would in the past have sent to Provincial Services and pack a box to send north.
- Lists from the nursing clinics provide the most frequently requested items. The number of parcels and timing for shipping will be totally at the discretion of the adopting chapter. The nursing clinics are very appreciative of any support IODE can provide.

Tips To Help Chapters:

- Books are a well received and important item in the north. When packing boxes, place some books at the bottom and sides of the carton. IODE has award-winning books for purchase and donations by retired teacher members and their friends are great sources.
- When members discover great prices on clothing, shoes etc. get the message out to others. Ideas to help IODE funds go as far as possible, use the Senior's discount first Monday of the month at Giant Tiger or shop frequently at liquidations stores.
- An idea to help get parcels to the clinics at the most reasonable prices includes shipping through Canada Post which offers a ‘Canada Post Solutions for Small Business’ card which allows for **one** free or discounted parcel each Tuesday in October. IODE Ontario will be able to provide some help for shipping from the Provincial Services fund. (details still to be developed)

Testimonials:

- A nurse has told me how terrific it is to have loose clothing, such as track suits, in various sizes. Instead of having to wrap an injured patient in blankets to fly them to a hospital, they were able to give the patient clothing donated by IODE for the flight to a Winnipeg hospital.
- Another nurse has said how helpful it is to have the small books and toys, such as the knit Izzy Dolls, in the waiting room. These items keep youngsters busy while having procedures or immunizations and may be their first toy!

Conclusion:

Please take this idea of adoption and have a discussion with your Primary Chapter about the possibility of adopting a nursing clinic. There are more months this year to work on these ideas and develop plans. Your ideas and questions are always welcome. Gloria Saunders and Virginia Reade are available via email at iodeontarioservices@gmail.com or by telephone. With your support IODE Ontario can continue to provide the much needed support to these communities

IODE JEAN THROOP BOOK AWARD PRESENTATION — Convenor of the IODE Jean Throop Book Award, ,Karen Barker, 48th Highlanders Chapter, Toronto.

Karen Barker, not able to attend the annual meeting in person, was pleased to present the IODE Jean Throop Book Award via Zoom.

“Firstly, I would like to give a little history of the book award. This award was established in 1975 by the Municipal Chapter of Toronto IODE under the leadership of Jean Throop, Municipal Education Officer. The criteria of the award is that the books be written in English, published during the last calendar year and that the author resides in Ontario (changed from living in Toronto in 2013). Each year the selection committee takes into consideration that the books submitted should appeal to children aged three to seven years, the nature of the contribution to children’s literacy and the quality of the illustrations and the book. In 2005, following the death of Past President Jean Throop, the award was renamed in her honour and is now known as the IODE Jean Throop Book Award.

The first book award was presented in 1975 for the book *Alligator Pie*, written by Denis Lee. It has been presented every year since. Next year the 50th Anniversary of this award will be celebrated.

This year, 64 submissions were received from a variety of publishers. The selection committee read each book and in February they submitted 5 -15 books to the chair for the committee’s consideration. The committee prepared a short list and for this year in no particular order the nominees are:

No Horses in the House – author Mirielle Messier

Some Times I Feel Like a River – author Danielle Daniel

Eleanor’s Moon – author Maggie Knaus

Odd Couples, A Guide to Unlikely Animal Pairs – author Maria Birmingham

We Belong Here – author Frieda Wishnsky

Now for the best part...

The \$5,000 IODE Jean Throop Book Award for 2024 is presented to *Odd Couples, A Guide to Unlikely Animal Pairs* written by author Maria Birmingham and illustrated by Raz Latif. *Odd Couples* is very interesting, informative and the illustrations are vibrant and compliment the text. I learned a great deal from the book and highly encourage you to purchase a copy of the book for yourself, your local and adopted classes, your local library and of course for your children or grandchildren. Copies of the books will be on sale through IODE for \$20.

Karen was delighted to introduce the author, Maria Birmingham and her Managing Editor Kathryn Dearlove who were able to attend in-person.

Maria is a longstanding contributor to OWL and Chickadee Magazine, and the award-winning author of several books for young people, including *Snooze-O-Rama*, *Acting Wild*, and *Biometrics and a Beginners Guide to Immortality*. Maria resides in Brampton, Ontario.

Maria accepted her award, cheque and certificate from President Helen Danby. She then spoke about the book and read to the audience a few pages.

Following Maria's acceptance, a short video was from illustrator, Raz Latif was shown.

AFTERNOON SESSION

IODE Ontario President, Helen Danby, welcomed everyone back to the afternoon session at 1:30 p.m.

IODE ONTARIO POLICE COMMUNITY RELATIONS AWARD — *Provincial Citizenship Officer, Kathryn Weston, IODE Margaret Stokes Chapter, Petrolia*



“It is a pleasure and an honour to present to you, at the first in-person meeting since 2019, the recipients of the IODE Ontario Police Community Service Award for 2024. Since 1979, the IODE Ontario Police Community Relations Award has recognized the contributions made, by outstanding members of the OPP (Ontario Provincial Police) in communities across Ontario. Beyond the scope of their professional duties, they actively volunteer in their communities often initiating programs where they see a

need. Officers volunteer in many capacities including in fund raisers for specific projects.

The IODE OPP Community Relations Award, which consists of a plaque, a certificate and a monetary gift of \$750.00 to the organization of the recipient's choice, annually recognizes the contributions of one officer selected by the Ontario Provincial Police Main Headquarters.

This year a detachment has been chosen. Lanark County OPP – Carleton Place Detachment has proved to be a wonderful asset to the community of Carleton Place through their dedication to providing activity space for youth in particular, to working collaboratively with the Parks and Recreation Department and for devoting many off duty hours to improve the relationship between the residents and the police. The named officers are:

PC Jean Marc Baronette #11921

PC Brent Stevens #10205

PC Robert Hawn #11350

PC Joe Tereschuk #10871

PC Beth Hollihan #9651

PC Steve Rothwell #10862

PC Paul Ross #11440

Sgt. Robert Croth #8841

I have had the pleasure of contacting PC Bob Hawn and Inspector Kerlous Tawdrous to organize this presentation. Unfortunately, because of time and distance, no one from the detachment is able to attend this meeting in person. However, many members of the detachment are able to attend via Zoom and a video outlining their amazing activities will be shown.

Acting Staff Sgt Katheen Magill spoke briefly about the reasons the team was chosen for the award while a wonderful video of the detachment was presented.

The detachment is truly involved and have clearly demonstrated how much a dedicated team can improve the quality of life in their community. A video from the Lanark County OPP – Carleton Place Detachment showcasing the community rink was shown and is placed on the IODE Ontario website.

To show the appreciation of IODE Ontario, the detachment will receive a plaque, certificates of appreciation and a cheque in the amount of \$750.00 to the chosen named charity, Lanark County Food Bank – The Hunger Stop. IODE Captain Hooper Chapter in Carleton Place has volunteered to hold a reception in June to celebrate the community relations award.

MEMBERSHIP AWARDS — *Provincial Membership Officer, Michelle Batty, IODE Errol Egremont Chapter, Sarnia,*

“Every year, chapters who have installed new members are recognized. Congratulations to the following primary chapters for their efforts in IODE membership growth during 2023:

- 1st Place** with **nine** new paid-up members is IODE Maple Leaf Chapter, Goderich
- 2nd Place** with **five** new paid-up members is IODE Hon. Malcolm Cameron Chapter, Sarnia
- 3rd Place** with **four** new paid members is IODE Lord Dufferin Chapter, Orangeville

Honourable mention to Primary Chapters who installed **one to three** new members in 2023 were:

Three new members:

IODE Angela Bruce Chapter, Oakville
IODE Bemersyde Chapter, Campbellford
IODE Margaret Stokes Chapter, Petrolia

Two new members:

IODE Captain Hooper Chapter, Carlton Place
IODE Laurentian Chapter, Ottawa
IODE Val Griffiths Chapter, Dorchester

One new member:

IODE 48th Highlanders Chapter, Toronto
IODE Dr. Innis Mary McDonald Chapter, Markham
IODE Freerton Chapter, Freerton
IODE Manitou Chapter, North Bay
IODE Stirling Chapter, St. Thomas
IODE Trillium 2023 Chapter, virtual
IODE Victoria Guelph Chapter, Guelph
IODE West Gwillimbury Chapter, Bradford

President Helen Danby added: “Congratulations chapters, we had 47 new members join 18 chapters last year. What a wonderful way to continue with the theme, ‘Building Our Future’.”

To acknowledge and celebrate chapter milestone anniversaries, IODE Ontario recognizes those chapters with a congratulatory letter and certificate. Congratulations!”

MEMBERSHIP PANEL PRESENTATION

A membership panel of experienced officers from five IODE chapters that participated were Nancy Hughes, IODE Maple Leaf, Goderich; Wendy Loosley, IODE Margaret Stokes, Petrolia; Gail McDiarmid, IODE Angela Bruce, Oakville; Bonnie Rees, IODE The Princes Richard and Michael, Kitchener; and Sandra Smith, IODE Captain Garnet Brackin, Chatham laid the foundation for the construction of ‘Building Our Future’ by answering the following questions:

1. When did you join? What was IODE like then?
2. What attracted you to IODE and what kept you involved?
3. What is your fondest memory in IODE?
4. What do you think is the biggest difference between now and then?
5. What is your vision in going forward and how can we achieve it?

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT — *Nominating Committee Chair, Linda Gryner, IODE Errol Egremont Chapter, Sarnia.*

“On behalf of the Provincial Nominating Committee and myself as committee chair, I am pleased to present the 2024/2025 Slate of Provincial Officers:

President – Helen Danby

1st Vice President – Michelle Batty

2nd Vice President – Betsy Thompson

Vice Presidents for the Areas of:

Northern – Heather Stuart

North Central – Chris Bateman

Eastern – Susan Sibbit

Mid Central – Aileen Reid

South Central – Donna O'Reilly
South Western – Jayne Little
Toronto – Karen Barker

Recording Secretary – Jan Casbourn
Treasurer – Debbie Button
Citizenship Officer – Kathryn Weston
**Communications Officer/ Social Media
Convenor** – Ashley Bonnell

Education Officer – Lisa Cossar
Assistant Education, Adopted Schools –
Aileen Reid
Membership Officer – Michelle Batty
Co-Services Officer – Gloria Saunders
Co-Services Officer – Virginia Reade
Standard Bearer – Kathryn Weston

As no further nominees eligible for election as Provincial Officers were submitted in writing up to and not later than 14 days, (April 6th), before the Provincial Annual Meeting by persons entitled to a PEC vote, therefore, the aforementioned nominees are acclaimed and will be installed.”

INSTALLATION OF 2024 – 2025 OFFICERS — IODE National President, Jane Cushing

“Before we hold the installation of the 2024-2025 IODE Ontario Executive I would like to thank the executive for their work during the year. Big thank you to Kathy Newnes who is stepping down after filling many positions. Ashley Bonnell, thank you for filling the social media/communications role and agreeing to stay for another year. Also, a big thank you for the active role that members of this executive have played at the National level. Helen for her outstanding contribution with the Board of Directors.

Based on the nominating report, I will announce each office and ask the nominee to come forward.

President – Helen Danby
1st Vice-President – Michelle Batty
2nd Vice-President – Betsy Thompson
Vice-Presidents for the Areas of:
Northern – Heather Stuart
North Central – Chris Bateman
Eastern – Sue Sibbit
Mid Central – Aileen Reid
South Central – Donna O'Reilly
South Western – Jayne Little
Toronto – Karen Barker

Recording Secretary – Jan Casbourn
Treasurer – Debbie Button
Citizenship – Kathryn Weston
Communications/ Social Media Convenor –
Ashley Bonnell
Education – Lisa Cossar
Assistant Education , Adopted Schools –
Aileen Reid
Membership – Michelle Batty
Co-Services – Gloria Saunders
Co-Services – Virginia Reade
Standard Bearer – Kathryn Weston”

Today offers on - going success in continuity with strong leadership. I congratulate you and wish you every success in this year ahead. IODE will benefit from your experience and commitment.”

PROVINCIAL PRESIDENT’S REMARKS — Helen Danby, IODE Margaret Stokes Chapter, Petrolia

“Our theme at today’s Provincial Annual Meeting is ‘**Building Our Future**’. We have heard that membership is important and with new members our organization will continue like the tree that our National President Jane Cushing spoke about. It takes a team effort. Every member is a membership recruiter. Talk IODE to everyone. Invite your neighbour to join, put up a sign in the lobby of your apartment building, publicize your meetings. The National initiative called ‘Every Member Counts’ is crucial to IODE.

When I joined IODE, I was working full-time, my daughters were teenagers and played sports, I coached them. I wanted to join because as a teacher I witnessed the awards, scholarships, bursaries and books that students were given and how grateful they were. I was encouraged to help when I could. Members understand that if everyone helps when they can then the communities know of IODE's presence.

Earlier today I mentioned that you would be using some of the tools in your IODE bags to start building IODE's future. The first tool is the bright red bag that fits easily into a pocket or a purse or even attached to them. Use it when you are shopping and start an IODE conversation at the store with the grocery clerk or the store manager when you tell them about your chapter's special project or why you are buying 10 pairs of socks, feminine hygiene at our age or baby formula and diapers for the food bank.

The second Tool is the new business cards with an invitation already. Each person received their name and email address on two slips of paper. Use these labels to adhere to the back of the business card to give to your neighbour, your hairdresser or your dentist. You have 25 business cards. Use them to talk about IODE's 125th Anniversary next year. Tell them we are planning on celebrating and you want them to come to the party.

The third tool are the 25 red bookmarks. When my granddaughter who was helping me pack your bags, said I wouldn't need 25 bookmarks because I don't have 25 books. She is a teenager who does all her reading online. My reply was the bookmarks are to give away as a tool to talk about IODE. Give them with the education awards, leave them at the library, or donate them to the school.

You now have three tools to help Build the Future. I want you to be on my team of builders and use your tools. The first few times are hard and sometimes you need to be an apprentice and tag along with someone or go to an event together. I have watched the Honourable Malcom Cameron Chapter grow from a chapter of less than 10 members to almost double in a few years because they are visible at the craft shows, at the nursing homes and at the libraries.

Visibility is important. Builders wear those bright vests that we wore yesterday. They have signs to announce what they are doing and they are not shy about their trade. Pick up your IODE magnet, put it on your front door, your car or your mailbox and let everyone know that you are a proud IODE member building the future."

RECOMMENDATIONS — *Recording Secretary, Jan Casbourn, IODE Honourable Malcolm Cameron Chapter, Sarnia*

Appointment of Honourary Vice-Presidents:

MOTION:

Moved by: Jan Casbourn

Seconded by: Katie Tulip, IODE Bemersyde Chapter, Campbellford.

"THAT the following Past Provincial Presidents be appointed as Honorary Vice-Presidents of the Provincial Chapter of Ontario for 2024 – 2025.

Marty Dalton

Marie Westlake

Ruth Ann Butler

Patricia Fabian

Chris Bateman

Lynda Rivard

Sandra Smith

E. Anne Mason

Bonnie Rees

Karen Barker

Renate Schuetz

Linda Gryner"

CARRIED

Letters to Honorary Vice-Presidents

MOTION:

Moved by: Jan Casbourn

Seconded by: Norma Lyttle Chicoine, IODE Captain Garnet Brackin Chapter, Chatham

“THAT a Letter of Greetings with our good wishes, along with a copy of the 2023 Annual Report be sent from this body to all our Honorary Vice-Presidents.”

CARRIED

2025 Provincial Annual Meeting

MOTION:

Moved by: Jan Casbourn

Seconded by: Wendy Loosely, IODE Margaret Stokes Chapter, Petrolia

“THAT the Annual Meeting of IODE Ontario be held in April 2025 at a specific location with the date, and format to be determined by the Provincial Executive Committee.”

CARRIED

At the conclusion of the afternoon session the membership was asked to complete the report cards.

OFFICIAL CLOSING

Adjournment: moved by Kimberley Payne, IODE Maple Leaf Chapter, Goderich at 3:24 p.m.

President Helen Danby officially declared the end of the 104th Provincial Annual Meeting followed by the playing of “God Save The King”.

Recession followed with the Canadian flag by Provincial Standard Bearer, Kathryn Weston, IODE Margaret Stokes Chapter, Petrolia.

End of the 104th Provincial Annual Meeting