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Ensemble pour
un avenir meilleur

District 28
Region of Durham

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING JUNE 2021

RTOERO FORUM REPORT

By Don Farquharson

This meeting, while run just after the RTOERO AGM, is a separate meeting which is much more of a reporting and discussion section rather than just business decisions to be made. At this forum, we had a guest speaker, Dr. Paula Rochon, the RTOERO Chair of Geriatric Studies at University of Toronto. Dr. Rochon gave a wonderful report on many fronts:

- 27 Geriatric Trainees have worked directly with her thus far;
- An emphasis on “Geriatric Care Across the Curriculum” is being encouraged for medical training;
- Geriatric Research studies and papers have been presented all over the world, thanks to the RTOERO sponsored Chair Dr. Rochon presently occupies;
- Dr. Rochon has had a prominent role in the development of the Long-Term Care (LTC) Commission Guidelines;
- The health care gap and invisibility of women that is present in LTC was outlined; for example, 78% in LTC are Women, 90% of staff are women, low pay for very important work, there is a Staffing Crisis, physical problems with buildings, a four-year time-line for increasing the care for all in LTC, etc.;
- Dr. Rochon also outlined the research and pressure being applied for more efforts to keep elderly persons in their own homes as long as possible;
- Dr. Rochon is searching for methods to keep the politicians’ attention on Senior Care once the pandemic has ended.

There were also a number of reports from Advisory Committees, such as the Foundation, Community Grants and Scholarships and the Political Advocacy Committee.