

**RTO
ERO**

DISTRICT 8 LONDON / MIDDLESEX
News at 8

THE RETIRED TEACHERS OF ONTARIO / LES ENSEIGNANTES ET ENSEIGNANTS RETRAITÉS DE L'ONTARIO

SPRING ISSUE

MARCH 2023



B-I-N-G-O!

(See report on page 6)

SAVE THE DATE

- MAY 10** **SPRING LUNCH AND AGM**
(See details on page 5)
- SEPTEMBER 5** **TO HELL WITH
THE BELL LUNCH**
- OCTOBER 1** **FALL LUNCH**
- NOVEMBER 29** **POINSETTIA LUNCH**

SOME OF WHAT'S INSIDE

- Award Info..... p. 2**
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- Tastes of Toronto
Bus Trip..... p. 7**
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Invitation..... p. 11**

Our website is our most up-to-date line of communications: district8.rtoero.ca

NEWS AT 8

Date of Issue: March 2023

News at 8 is the official newsletter of the Retired Teachers of Ontario / les Enseignantes et Enseignants Retraités de l'Ontario, District 8 London-Middlesex, published for distribution to its members and provides content on topics of interest to its membership.

The views expressed in submitted articles are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official position of the District Executive.

Publication of an advertisement or a request for volunteers from an organization does not constitute an endorsement of any product, service, or organization.

Photographs taken at any of our meetings or other activities may be included in our Newsletter or on our website.

PRINTING AND DISTRIBUTION

M&T Printing Group

Publication Mail Agreement

No. 40038139

Return undeliverable Canadian Addresses to:

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33 Hillhead Road, London, Ontario N6E 2P7

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Dale McEwen & Dianne Rumney – Co-Editors

Tom & Pat Telfer – Facebook

Bernarda Norwood – Photographer



Send all changes in your contact information to:

RTOERO

18 Spadina Road,

Toronto, ON M5R 2S7

E-Mail: membership@rtoero.ca

Phone: **1-800-361-9888**

AWARD FOR SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION

District 8 has an award for SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION. Members are welcome to recommend candidates for this award to the Awards Committee. Send your recommendation to:

Joy Antoniuk, 1st Vice-President – joy.antoniuk@gmail.com

Include the name of your candidate and the reasons why this member should be considered.

Each year, District 8 can present a maximum of three such awards. The recipient(s) will receive a certificate and complimentary lunch for him/her and a guest. Nominations must be received by April 1 each year, and those awards will be presented at the Spring Luncheon. Other nominations received by September 1 will be presented at the Fall Luncheon.

Criteria:

Recipient has contributed outstanding service for at least three (3) consecutive years and has met more than one of the following criteria:

- outstanding contribution as a member of any Committee(s) and/or the District Executive Board,
- volunteer work within the RTOERO organization beyond the requirements of Committee or District Executive Board service,
- combination of work within RTOERO plus service to the community that promotes recognition of RTOERO, and
- contributions which significantly improve services offered by RTOERO District 8 to its members.

President's Message



It seems that we are missing a big part of our winter, to the pleasure of some and frustration of others. The weather continues to be a topic of constant conversation in southern Ontario, whether you are a snowbird or a winter

sportster. Is it global warming or the cycle of Mother Nature? If you can answer that question, pass it along to the rest of us.

I'm proud of our organization this year, as I have been since I joined eight years ago. District 8 continues to grow and expand, and each year we are blessed with new members with enthusiasm and talent. This year we have had new opportunities for members. Bingo has been successfully growing, and our Dinner Club has been wildly successful! If we can add two successful activities each year, our group will meet its goals: expand our numbers and provide safe, entertaining opportunities for each of us to choose or not choose to join. You control how much or how little you take part. How lucky we are!

As well, we are trying to give you the chance to join outside groups looking for volunteers, in case our offering doesn't include your favourites. Both the Middlesex Centre Archives located in Delaware and London Central Lions Club have offered opportunities to take part in other community service groups to get involved. They are not the only ones available to you, but two we have suggested. If you would like help finding something to join, like a service club or community volunteering experience, email me at president08@districts.rtoero.ca. I would be happy to help.

At our fall banquet, I suggested that if each of us gave one hour per month volunteering for our organization, we would have 3000 hours of work helping us to build our experiences. What an opportunity! Although somewhat unrealistic, a small number of members stepping up and offering leadership can make a huge difference for our community of retirees and also the greater London-Middlesex community as a whole. An example of this follows. Through our friendship with Donna Kotsopoulos, Dean of Education, and Community Engagement and Development Director Rosie Triebner, District 8 has begun to build a supportive relationship with our friends at the Faculty of Education. As a first step, we have three volunteers assisting with a program mentoring new teachers examining their Annual Learning Plans and developing personally as strong professional educators. This is step one of a long-term supportive relationship as we recognize that, although we are no longer standing in front of classrooms, we are still strong professionals with years of broad experience. We can offer new teachers some practical knowledge that cannot necessarily be taught in classes at the faculty. If you would like to take part in our efforts with the faculty, send me an email at president08@districts.rtoero.ca; and I will contact you when opportunities come along.

Spring will soon be in the air, and thoughts of outdoor activity will return whole-heartedly. Do you have an activity that you have always wanted RTO to provide? Send me an email, and our activity committee will take a look at providing it. Often it is not the facility but the leadership to organize that is lacking; and being educators, we are all leaders. Please consider volunteering to oversee your favourite activity. Contact one of the executive members, and we'll be in touch.

(Continued on page 4)

Have a safe and active late winter and early spring. We are proud of our organization – our new web page (<https://district8.rtoero.ca>), our active uses of Facebook (RTOERO London-Middlesex) and Instagram (@rtoerodistrict8) and our further transition to active communication via social media.

A President's eBlast will be coming out shortly to offer you training opportunities to learn more about using social media in your

life, about new travel activities we are introducing for our members for this spring, another Dinner Club activity and our surplus reduction plan that we are using to support you, our members. It's an exciting time to be part of District 8.

Take care and enjoy your retirement!



IAN HARDIE: MEMORIAL



Sadly, we announce the passing of our old friend Ian Hardie on January 24th after a brief illness. Ian was President of RTOERO London Middlesex in 2019-20 and carried us through the challenges of the early months of COVID. Many of our members joined former colleagues, friends and students at his Celebration of Life on Saturday, February 4th.

Ian was a teacher and elementary school principal in Thames Valley for 38 years, then served 4 more years as an occasional Principal after his retirement. He began his career at Knollwood Park Public School and retired from Chippewa Public School. It was a pleasure to hear the positive comments from people who worked with him about the friendly atmosphere in his schools.

For those of us who worked on the RTOERO Executive with him, it was a relaxed but productive year. Ian enjoyed life and helped those around him to do the same.

After retirement, Ian and his wife Nancy enjoyed travelling and relaxing at the cottage. Time in Florida, Blue Jays games, the Scotties and the Brier, and competing in his favourite sport of curling kept him busy.

Ian was definitely a family man and enjoyed his time with Nancy, his children Scott and Katy, and his two grandchildren Liam and Mikayla. We know that this is a difficult time for them, but they have wonderful memories to help them through this journey.



The Retired Teachers of Ontario - District 8: London-Middlesex

Spring Lunch

Wednesday, May 10, 2023

The Best Western Lamplighter Inn, 591 Wellington Rd. South, London

11:00 a.m. Meet & Greet Cash Bar

Piano Music by Janice Sinker

Travel Displays & Door Prizes

12:00 p.m. Welcome & Lunch

Guest Speaker:

Lisa J. Smith

Psychotherapist & Social Worker

Speaking on Personal Wellness, Mindfulness & Strategies for Healthy Living

_____ *cut here* _____

May 10 Lunch Registration Form:

\$25 per person (subsidized)

Name of Member(s) _____ Telephone _____

Dietary Needs _____

Name(s) of Guest(s) _____

Dietary Needs _____

Number of persons attending _____ x \$25 = _____

Make cheque payable to **District 8 RTOERO.**

Send registration cheque to: **Mary DeKay, 11191 Lamont Dr., R.R. #4, Komoka ON N0L 1R0**

If paying by credit card:

- 1, Go to the website "**district8.rtoero.ca**"
2. Scroll down to the very **bottom** of the page
3. Tap the link. "**Pay online for District 8 event or activity**"
- 4 Complete the "**RTOERO - District Payment Form**"
5. Finish by tapping "**Submit Payment**".

NOTE: If paying by this method, no registration form is required.

If there is a dietary need, email the specifics to **Mary Dekay (dmdekay@isp.ca).**



| | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Susan Abel | William Green | Grant McMurray | Karen Richards |
| Ansley Ban | Paula Greenburg | Maria McNeil | Patricia Rodriguez |
| Britta Baron | Alexandra Harkins | Shelley Mercer | Mary Roes |
| Ian Bennett | Ralph Harvey | Nancy Miller | Klaus Schroeder |
| Robert Byck | Judith Haylor | Mary Moffatt | William Shannon |
| Mike Clarkson | Elizabeth Hoffman | Marion Moynihan | Pamela Stewart |
| Wayne Cormier | Darlene Kelly | Mary Mukkattu | Diana Tuckey |
| Michael Czechowicz | Madeline Kelly | Colleen Murray | Andrew Vamos |
| Wanda Davis | Janice Lizotte | Brien Page | Natalie Wood |
| Ann Deman | Mike Lynch | Harvey Park | Mary Wright |
| Joyce Dobransky | Bruce Marshall | Elizabeth Pieprzak | Doris Woolings |
| Bill Eluchok | | | |

BINGO PARTY

A special thanks to Amica for hosting our first Bingo Party event of this year. Fifteen RTOERO members were in attendance on Nov. 30. We enjoyed a two-hour afternoon of socializing and playing an array of different bingo game patterns. Prizes for this session consisted of a variety of gift cards to some of our members' favourite and most frequented stores and restaurants. Fun, friendship and fellowship were experienced by all participants. Our next session is scheduled for **Wed. April 26**. We have some limited space available for new, interested players. Please contact First Vice-president Joy Antoniuk at joy.antoniuk@gmail.com if you would like to attend this event. Returning and new participant confirmations will be sent out prior to this date.

A special thanks to the Executive for their on-going support of social activities for our members, which includes a prize table and refreshments for the attendees. Come out and join in the fun with the opportunity to yell B-I-N-G-O!



RTOERO TRIP
TASTES OF TORONTO
SPECIAL TO RTOERO MEMBERS
MAY 3, 2023

Calling all foodies and RTOERO members and friends looking for a day away! This one-day trip stops at the Cheese Boutique and the St. Lawrence Market. We will visit the historic Distillery District in the afternoon to browse the unique restaurants and shops. There is lots of space under the coach for a cooler to keep purchases cold--feel free to bring one along!

The Cheese Boutique: Visit Toronto's famous Cheese Boutique. Browse their selection of fine cheeses, specialty balsamic vinegars, olive oils, jams, homemade treats and lots of gourmet products. Sample as you browse this unique store.

St. Lawrence Market: Visit one of Ontario's finest markets. Choose from hundreds of vendors with a wonderful selection of farm-fresh foods, antiques, crafts, imported goods and more.

Distillery District: With more than 40 boutiques and one-of-a-kind shops, the Distillery District is a well-known destination for its "best of class" creative businesses. Shopping opportunities include everything from stylish fashions and trendy products to unique gifts and tasty take-home artisanal treats.

Instead of paying for gas and parking in Toronto, you can have a day of being chauffeured from London to 3 locations in Toronto and return to London for only \$50.

Pick-ups at Westmount Mall (near Superking) and the Ramada Inn at 401 and Wellington Road.

This deal is about 22% less than the usual asking price (subsidized by RTOERO District 8).

Have a fun day and bring a friend!

. \$50.00 payment due to Great Canadian Holidays and Tours.

<https://www.greatcanadianholidays.com/Tour/RTO-London-Day-Trips-GLead>

Your insurance as a condominium owner vs that of the condo corporation

Are you becoming a condominium owner? You will need a special type of insurance policy to protect your investment. The condominium corporation must carry liability insurance, insurance for the buildings on the property, the common areas, the fixtures built or installed as part of the original construction and other assets such as furniture and equipment. It doesn't cover your personal belongings, your personal liability or any improvements made to your unit, by you or by prior owners. That responsibility is yours!

Insurance for condominium owners is different than insurance for homeowners or tenants. It provides the usual elements such as coverage for personal liability, personal property and additional living expenses, but your personal condo insurance needs to complement your condo corporation's insurance. To do that, it must include additional coverage, this includes:

Unit Betterments & Improvements Coverage

Covers upgrades made to your unit, like new kitchen cabinets, new flooring or an updated bathroom.

Unit Contingency Coverage

Comes into play when the condo corporation's insurance isn't enough to cover damages to your unit, that would normally be its responsibility to repair or replace.

Loss Assessment Coverage for liability or property damage

Pays your portion of property and liability losses on common property that may exceed the condo corporation's policy limits, including your share of the corporation's insurance policy's deductible.

Regulations for condominium corporations will vary from province to province. It's important that you understand how the corporation works, the terms of the corporation's insurance, as well as what your personal condominium-owners insurance policy includes, limits or excludes.

Article courtesy of Johnson Inc.



Hiking Club

Several people have already signed up for this activity. A meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 29 to organize the Hiking Club. Please email Lorna Wilson for further information at wdoonie@rogers.com

Core Executive to be elected Wednesday, May 10, 2023

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| President | Stephen Harvey |
| Past President | Rosemarie Szalich |
| 1 st Vice-President | Joy Antoniuk |
| 2 nd Vice-President | Mark Baines |
| Corresponding Secretary | Pat Groumpos |
| Recording Secretary | Scott Armstrong |
| Treasurer | Alan Marentette |
| Membership Co-Chair | Diane Dempsey |
| Membership Co-Chair | Karen Radley |
| Social Committee Co-Chair | Joy Antoniuk |
| Social Committee Co-Chair | Linda Longstaffe |
| Communications Chair | Bill George |

Proposed 2023 Budget: Notes & Explanation Highlights

- 400 Grant – Annual -- **This figure is provided by RTOERO Provincial. (We received our first installment on Feb.15, 2023.)**
- 420 Grant -- Project Service to Others – **We may apply for this again in 2023 (not guaranteed that we will get it).**
- 500 District Expenses -- **Added gifts, trinkets, awards.**
- 551 Newsletter – **Reduction forecast in light of 2022 expenditures in this category, plus digital thrust.**
- 552 Website/Social Media – **Lesser expense due to a more centralized website administration.**
- 553- Web App – **New website app planned for development (currently on hold).**
- 603-2 Retirement Planning Workshop – **Increased costs to resume face-to-face meetings.**
- 603-4 Literature/Pamphlets, etc. -- **Expect greater numbers to join, so will need to produce more.**
- 604-1&2 Spring & Fall Membership Meetings -- **Face-to-face meetings to resume & catch up for new members, etc.**
-- Subsidy enhancement.
- 605-1 Poinsettia Lunch – **Subsidy enhancement.**
- 605-2&3 Recreational Activities/Clubs, etc. / Other Misc. – **e.g. support of new clubs, bus trip subsidy.**
- 800 Office Expenses – **Printing, etc. for new letterhead and our revised constitution.**
Note: Zoom has moved to 552.
- 860-4 Charity – **Disbursement of Community Grant (if applied for and received).**

Deficit in budget (- \$33,088.63) will be covered by Assets (\$99,625.54). These monies have been saved over the past three budgets due to cancellation of face-to-face events as a result of COVID restrictions. As it is expected that face-to-face activities will occur for most activities in 2023, the money saved can now be allocated where needed.

**RTOERO District 8 London-Middlesex
PROPOSED BUDGET
January - December 2023**

| | 2022 BUDGET | 2022 ACTUAL | 2023 Proposed BUDGET |
|---|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Income | | | |
| 400 Grant - Annual | \$48,551.00 | \$48 551.19 | \$51 811.37 |
| 420 Grant – Project Service to Others | 2,500.00 | 4 000 | 4 000.00 |
| 430 Grant – Teacher strikes/lockouts | 0 | 0 | 500.00 |
| 450 Social Events | 0 | 3295.00 | 2500.00 |
| 480 Interest on Bank Bal & Invest's | 15.00 | 41.47 | 45.00 |
| Total Income | \$51,066.00 | \$55,887.66 | \$58 856.37 |
| Expenses | | | |
| 500 District Executive | 5,050 | 2 353.83 | 7 800.00 |
| 550 Communications/Social Media | | | |
| 551 Newsletter | 6,000.00 | 1 790.81 | 4 000.00 |
| 552 Website/Social Media | 7,500.00 | 921.48 | 1 000.00 |
| 553 Web App | 5,000.00 | 0.00 | 0 |
| Total 550 Communications/Social Media | 18,500.00 | 2,712.29 | 5 000.00 |
| 600 Member Services | | | |
| 601 Goodwill | 6,000.00 | 524.02 | 6 000.00 |
| 603-2 Retirement Planning Workshop | 2,000.00 | 0.00 | 3 000.00 |
| 603-4 Literature/Pamphlets etc. | 2,000.00 | 0.00 | 2 000.00 |
| 604-1 Ann. Gen. Meeting – Spring - May | 12,000.00 | 10 282.80 | 18 000.00 |
| 604-2 Fall Membership Meeting - Oct | 10,000.00 | 15 007.21 | 18 000.00 |
| 604-3 Committee Meetings | 1,750.00 | 375.53 | 1 750.00 |
| 605 Social Events | | | |
| 605-1 Poinsettia Lunch | 7,500.00 | 0.00 | 7 500.00 |
| 605-2 Recreation Activities Clubs etc. | 2,000.00 | 513.98 | 3 500.00 |
| 605-3 Other (Miscellaneous) | 1,000.00 | 0.00 | 3 000.00 |
| Total 600 Member Services | 44,250.00 | 26 703.54 | 62 750.00 |
| 800 Office expenses | 11,300.00 | 5 603.16 | 8 200.00 |
| 860 Donations | 5,000.00 | 7,000.00 | 6 500.00 |
| 870 Transportation - General | 100.00 | 0.00 | 100.00 |
| 950 Contingency | 2,000.00 | 1 516.46 | 1595.00 |
| | | | |
| Total Expenses | \$86,200.00 | \$45 889.28 | \$91.945.00 |
| Net Operating Income | -35,134.00 | 9 998.38 | -33 088.63 |
| Net Income | <u>\$-35,134.00</u> | <u>\$9 998.38</u> | <u>\$-33 088.63</u> |
| | | | |
| (As of December 31, 2022) | | | |
| Bank Balance | \$94 242.34 | | |
| Investments | 5383.20 | | |
| Total Assets- Cash & Cash Equivalent | <u>\$99 625.54</u> | | |

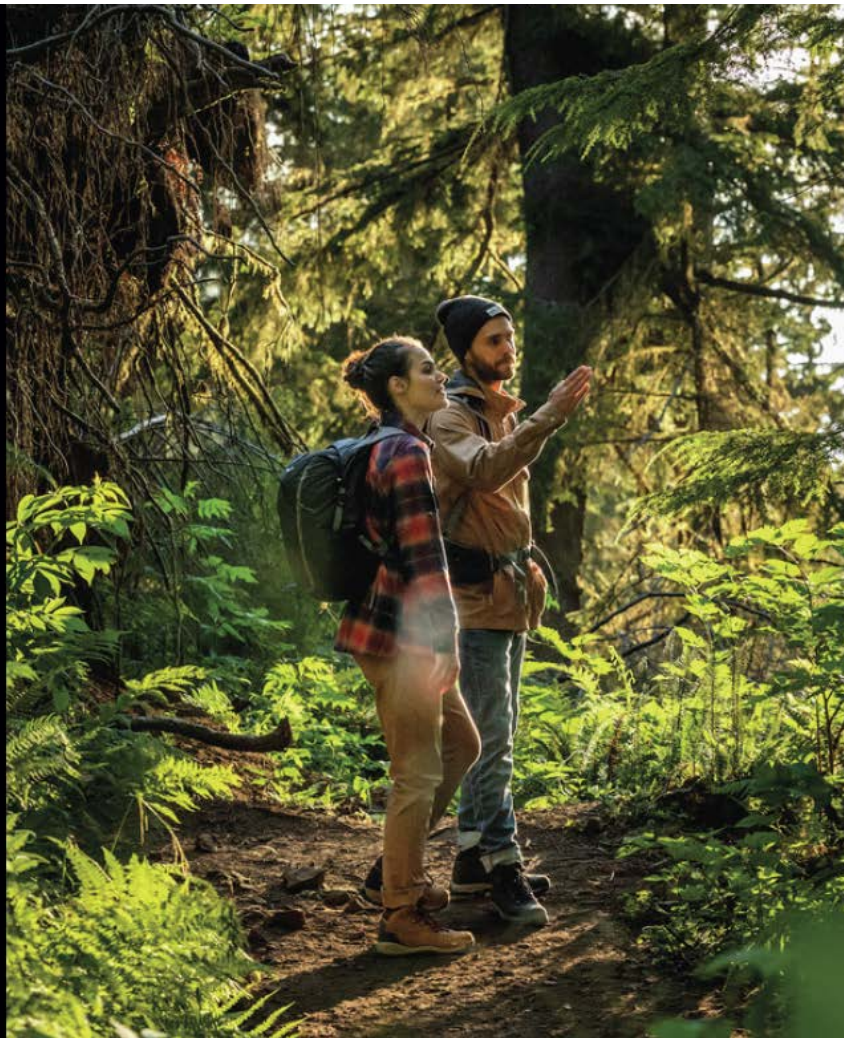


YOU'RE INVITED!

ITEMS ARE MARKED UP TO

50% OFF

REGULAR RETAIL PRICING



EXCLUSIVELY FOR:

Retired Teachers of Ontario - District 8 Members (London-Middlesex)

2023 VALID DATES

4/7 - 4/30
06/23- 7/16
9/8 - 10/1
12/8 - 12/31

VALID FOR YOU + 4 GUESTS

WHAT TO BRING

THIS INVITATION
PHOTO I.D.
PROOF OF AFFILIATION
*business card | membership card |
company email signature | pay stub |
original email | other form of affiliation*

LOCATION & HOURS

1-1425 Max Brose Dr
London ON, N6N 0A2

MON-FRI: 10AM - 8PM
SAT: 9:30AM - 6PM
SUN: 10AM - 5PM

YEAR-ROUND ACCESS

MILITARY PERSONNEL: EVERY DAY

SENIORS (65+): FIRST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH

Questions? Please email: londonemployeestore@columbia.com



Valid for you and up to 4 guests for multiple visits during your invite period. Columbia reserves the right to modify or cancel this offer at any time. Please present this original invitation to the receptionist for entry and again at checkout. This invitation is non-transferable. You must be present during shopping. The products purchased are intended solely for the buyer's own personal use, including gifts to others. Resale of products is strictly prohibited. Columbia Sportswear limits the number of items purchased to no more than 10 of the same style. For team and company purchases, please speak to a member of our store management team. Offer may not be combined with any other offer or discount. Valid from dates listed above. ©2023 Columbia Brands USA, LLC.

In Memoriam

**RTOERO District 8 is sad to learn of the passing of
these friends and colleagues**

| | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Beatrice Barker | Ross Goheen | Eleanor Patriquin |
| David Bailey | Ian Hardie | James Harley Rath |
| Douglas Banks | Elizabeth (Libby) Kay | Madelyn Rodgers |
| Heather Broughton | Daniel Kelly | Theresa Sherratt |
| Linda Carswell | Aulis Laine | Elizabeth Smith |
| Robert Chatfield | Betty Lawson | Mary Speed |
| Walter Cherwaty | Steve Linzmajer | John Staines |
| Margaret Cook | Marian MacArthur | Vivian Tillotson |
| Judy Corbett | Jack Maudsley | Ronald Walker |
| Ruth Dettmer | Eileen Marie McNichol | Gerald Weber |
| Mary Dickson | Jean Minshall | Ruth Wittick |
| Catherine Eluchok | Howard Moffatt | John F.M. Wood |
| Inge Faulkner | Matthew Mukkattu | Helen Woodcock |
| Mary-Ellen Frauts | Joseph Murphy | Elizabeth Zaric |
| Hugh Garnham | Donalda Marie Newport | Patricia Zimmerman |
| Joe Gilpin | Beth Park | |



HERE FOR YOU NOW....HERE FOR YOUR FUTURE

9-500 Cranbrook Road
London, ON N6K 4T3

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No. 40038139