



President's Message – Sept. 2014

Bernard Jordaan

Thank you to all delegates who attended the 56th Annual Convention in Peterborough. This was another successful convention that dealt with 54 Resolutions and changes to the By-Laws and Constitution, mandated under ONCA (Ontario Not-for-profit Corporations Act).

Under our new governance structure, we now have an elected Board of Directors responsible for all decision making and the five elected officers, forms the executive.

We had two Cabinet Ministers in attendance at the opening Ceremonies. Thank you to the Minister Responsible for Seniors Affairs, Mario Sergio, for his keynote address and Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, Jeff Leal, for his participation.

Also in attendance at the opening of this convention was M.P. Dean Del Mastro, the Mayor of Peterborough, Daryl Bennett and J. Murray Jones, Warden. Longtime friend of the U.S.C.O. Sergeant Robin Sanders, O.P.P. officiated and RCMP Constable Rick Allen was also in attendance.

Congratulations to all the newly and re-elected officers and Board Members. A big thank you to Richard Kratz and Carson Elliot for their contribution on the previous executive.

Finally thank you to all the Delegates for honouring and entrusting me with one more term of office which I accept with the utmost humility. I look forward to commencing "work" under the newly revised Constitution and By-Laws with the Board of Directors and the Executive.

The U.S.C.O. has been successful in our application for the new Seniors Community Grant Program, for which we say Thank you to the Minister for Seniors Affairs and the Ontario Senior Secretariat for implementing this funding. This new grant has been of tremendous assistance in helping us to cover the cost of the 2014 Convention.

Quote from Lee Iacocca:

***You can have brilliant ideas, but if you can't get them across,
your ideas won't get you anywhere.***

Bernard