## Vibrant Voices

Key Messages



### Who is RTOERO?

- We're a bilingual, trusted voice on healthy, active aging
- We were founded by members of the education community more than 50 years ago
- We are the largest membership organization of our kind, with over 83,000 members
- Our members work in or are retired from school boards, private schools, postsecondary institutions or any other capacity in education
- We deliver world-class programs, social engagement and political advocacy







### Our Goals

- Be the trusted voice for the broader education community
- Improve the lives of members and seniors
- Broaden the membership base
- Build a healthy, active future for every member of the education retiree community in Canada







## What we're aiming to achieve

- Strengthen existing connections and relationships
- Establish new relationships
- Put RTOERO on government's radar
- Create awareness about who/what we are
- Establish positive impression about our organization
- Demonstrate our impact and influence
- Ask government to take action







## We are asking government to:

Use our position papers and white papers as a resource

2. Contact us to gather input from seniors when developing policies and programs







## Key issues

Seniors Strategy

**Geriatric Health Care** 

**Environmental Stewardship** 



## Seniors Strategy



## Seniors Strategy

#### The issues:

- Gaps in our health care and social policies are creating barriers
- Canada is the only country in the world with universal health care that lacks universal drug coverage
- Most seniors want to age at home, but health, finances, transportation, safety can derail that dream







## Seniors strategy

#### Key message

A coordinated national seniors strategy, with dedicated funding and accountable goals, will ensure we meet the growing and evolving needs of older adults in Canada.







## RTOERO asks government

#### Make sure Canada's seniors strategy addresses:

- Ageism
- Income security defined benefit pensions
- Universal public pharmacare
- Social isolation
- Aging at home
- Rights for older persons
- Creation of Seniors Advocate



### Geriatric Health Care



### **Geriatric Health Care**

- The issues:
  - More than 1 in 6 Canadians is a senior and by 2030, that will jump to nearly 1 in 4
  - Canada faces a shortage of geriatricians
  - Focus has primarily been on acute care and hospital-based, with less focus on home care and community-based care
  - Canada lacks a national plan for long-term care homes with national standards







### Geriatric health care

#### Key message

We need to re-think health care, long-term care and social systems to holistically provide physical and mental well-being for older adults.







## RTOERO asks government

Canada's policies and programs need to focus on physical and mental aspects of health care for seniors, including:

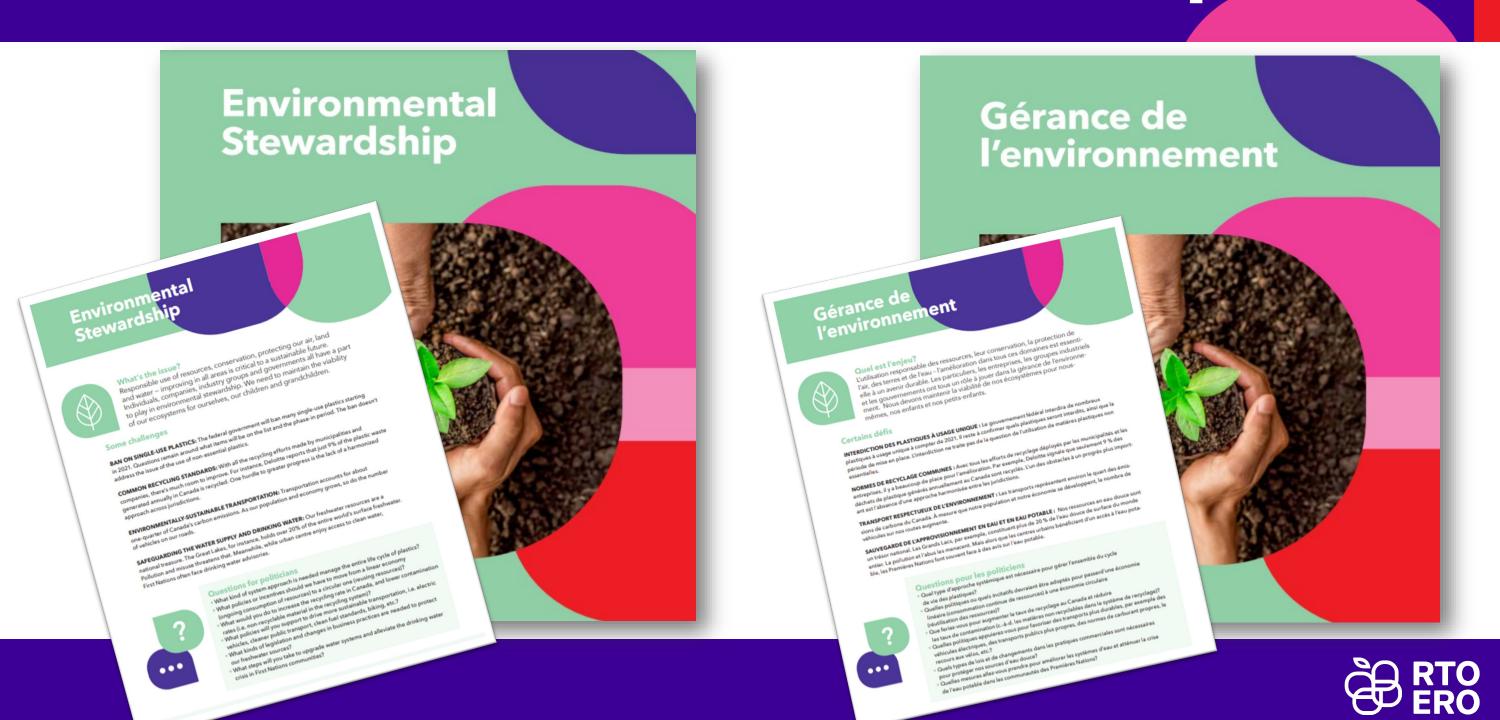
- Geriatric training
- Healthy aging
- Long-term care
- Elder abuse prevention







## **Environmental Stewardship**



## **Environmental Stewardship**

- The issues:
  - Individuals, companies, industry groups and governments must do more to ensure a sustainable future
  - Canada needs to increase recycling standards by harmonizing approach across jurisdictions
  - Our freshwater resources are a national treasure, safeguarding freshwater and drinking water is essential







## Environmental stewardship

#### Key message

Individuals, companies, industry groups and governments all have a part to play in environmental stewardship.







## RTOERO asks government

# Canada's environmental policies and approach should include:

- Management of plastic waste
- Common recycling standards
- Sustainable transportation
- Safeguarding water supply and drinking water





