



Reinventing retirement in the 21st century

What can this reinvention mean for you in the next exciting phase of your life?



The generation of individuals born between 1946 and 1966 have transformed what Canadian business and personal relationships look like. So it should come as no surprise that they will also significantly reinvent what retirement looks like.

What is the new reality of retirement? The profile of this generation has changed dramatically over the last 50 years. Relative to other generations they are better educated, more youthful and have more interests and more energy. On average, they can expect to live for more than 30 years after retiring. The wonderful news is that those can be exciting, fulfilling and productive years.

The unfortunate news is that transitioning to retirement has proven to be a difficult experience for many individuals. Research consistently shows that while most people expect to be happy in retirement, too often that is not the case. One study revealed that as many as 55 per cent of people retire only to discover that they are not living their dreams.

How can you positively impact what your retirement years will look like? Think about

the last big vacation you took and consider:

- How much time you spent planning your trip.
- The different alternatives you considered.
- What steps you took to increase the likelihood of achieving your objectives.
- The impact your planning had on the trip.

Just as you would not leave planning for a big vacation to the last minute, you should not leave the important life transition of retirement to chance. Lifestyle planning for retirement should include considerations such as:

- Identifying what you want your ideal retirement life to look like.
- Recognizing potential opportunities and challenges in retirement.
- Understanding how you can improve your chances of adjusting to retirement.
- Determining what action you can take now that can positively impact what your retire-

ment looks like.

A key OACETT focus is to deliver offerings that provide value to its membership from both professional and personal perspectives. OACETT invested considerable time and effort researching this topic and evaluating the retirement lifestyle planning workshop offered by The Crabapple Group. OACETT and The Crabapple Group have partnered together to offer association members a discounted rate on a retirement workshop.

"We are extremely pleased to partner with an organization so committed to the personal well-being of its members and their significant others," said Helen Hillman, Managing Partner of The Crabapple Group.

"As promised, we continue to seek out relevant and unique membership offerings," said OACETT CEO David Thomson. "With approximately 47 per cent of OACETT members at an age of 45 years and older, we believe that The Crabapple Group's Life 2.0 - Reinventing Retirement workshop provides an excellent opportunity to help our members prepare for a truly enjoyable retirement."

OACETT piloted The Crabapple Group's Life 2.0 - Reinventing Retirement workshop with some members in June to wonderful

reviews. The average feedback from the OACETT pilot group showed that they found the workshop to be extremely valuable in preparing them for retirement. The workshop appeals to individuals as well as couples and it provides a great opportunity to connect and

network with other OACETT members.

Three workshops with The Crabapple Group are being offered to OACETT members in November. To learn more, please have a look at The Crabapple Group's invitation included on page 14 of this issue. ■

Helen Hillman and Mariella Vigneux are Managing Partners of The Crabapple Group.

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