



Officially, spring is just around the corner as we are now in March. This is the time of year when the Irish and those that wish they were, celebrate. In years gone by, there was a story in New York City that many of the police force booked off sick on March 18 with the "Irish flu".

The Ministry of Health has announced it will be establishing more health units in Ontario led by Nurse Health Practitioners. They will be in areas that are underserved by doctors and will help families who do not have a family doctor.

At the end of January and too late to make February Voice, members of the Ontario Finance Ministry spoke at a meeting of seniors groups explaining the improvements to Ontario pension regulation. As this was very complicated, they will return for another meeting to provide further information. One important point was: file an income tax return even if you don't pay any tax. Through that system you can claim tax credits that would be free income.

At the same meeting the new Minister Responsible for Seniors was introduced. Gerry Phillips is chair of cabinet as well as responsible for seniors. A reception was held following the meeting and everyone had the opportunity to meet the new minister. That day there were snow flurries and windy so it made for an interesting drive home.

We were sorry to receive a letter from Judy Muzzi, our 2<sup>nd</sup> vice-president. As a result of recurring health problems and unexpected family responsibilities she is resigning her position. Thank you for all of your hard work, Judy, and you will be greatly missed. Joyce Mitchell and Ruth Peters have taken on added responsibility until convention time.

**Just a reminder: Resolutions are due in by April 9, 2010.**

