



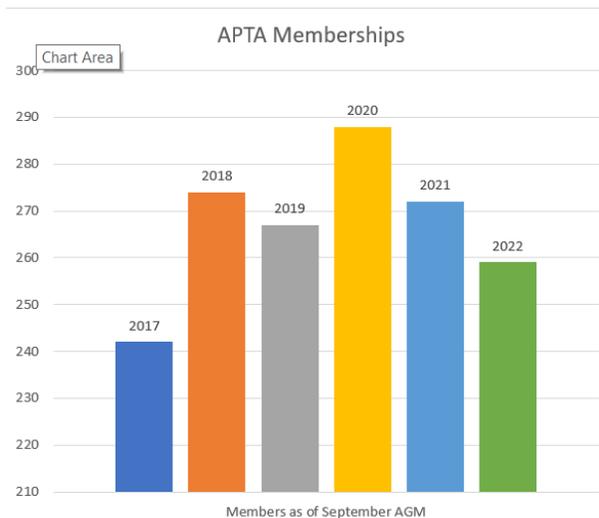
Membership Convener's Report

Annual General Meeting
September 24, 2022

Submitted by Joan Blench

We ended the 2021-2022 membership year on June 30 with 294 members.

We currently have 259 members. This is somewhat lower than in previous years.



Of the current 259 members, 19 are new to APTA for 2022-2023. When asked about their decision to join APTA, six responded:

"I am 43. I have always meant to join, but my decrease in students post-Covid has pushed me to sign up. I need to network."

"I am 62. Social media made a big difference in me joining. I have known about APTA for years but was always busy with MYC and our local branch. Now I feel the need for affiliation with an educating body."

"I am 49. I joined APTA because I was looking for a progressive, forward-thinking organization that embraces new ideas and challenges teachers to learn new things. Your social media presence is quite good and encouraged me to join."

"I am 22. I have always wanted to join the APTA, however, since I was a student in school, I have never officially had time to teach properly and did not think I would be considered a professional piano teacher."

"I am 43. After years of teaching one or two students off and on, I decided to make a go of my own studio. This summer I heard about APTA through my teacher and joined immediately."

"I'm over 45. I have been thinking of joining APTA for some time as recommended by other teachers in [local MTA] who are also members. Since I am also a member of ARMTA, I wasn't

sure I could justify the cost of another membership but I decided to give it a try. It seems like you have good resources and I love connecting with other teachers.”

Did you notice that only one of the respondents is under the age of 40? Our former president Marion Parrot believed strongly in attracting younger members to our organization. In her 2019 address to the AGM, she reported that 56% of our members were baby boomers (born before 1965), 30% were Gen X (1965-1985), and only 14% were Millennials or Gen Z (after 1985). We have not done a demographic survey since then, but I suspect the proportions have not changed.

In my hometown, we used to have several full-time teachers with more students on waiting lists than there were teachers available. That has changed and now the few of us who continue to teach do so only part-time, supplementing our income from other jobs. It would be very interesting to know if other communities are experiencing a decline in the number of piano students and whether that correlates with our lower teacher numbers. I don't feel we can use that as a valid excuse, however, as we probably all know piano teachers in our towns who are not members of APTA.

Here are number of active members at the end of June, 2022. The second number in red reflects current membership. Towns not listed had/have 2 or fewer members.

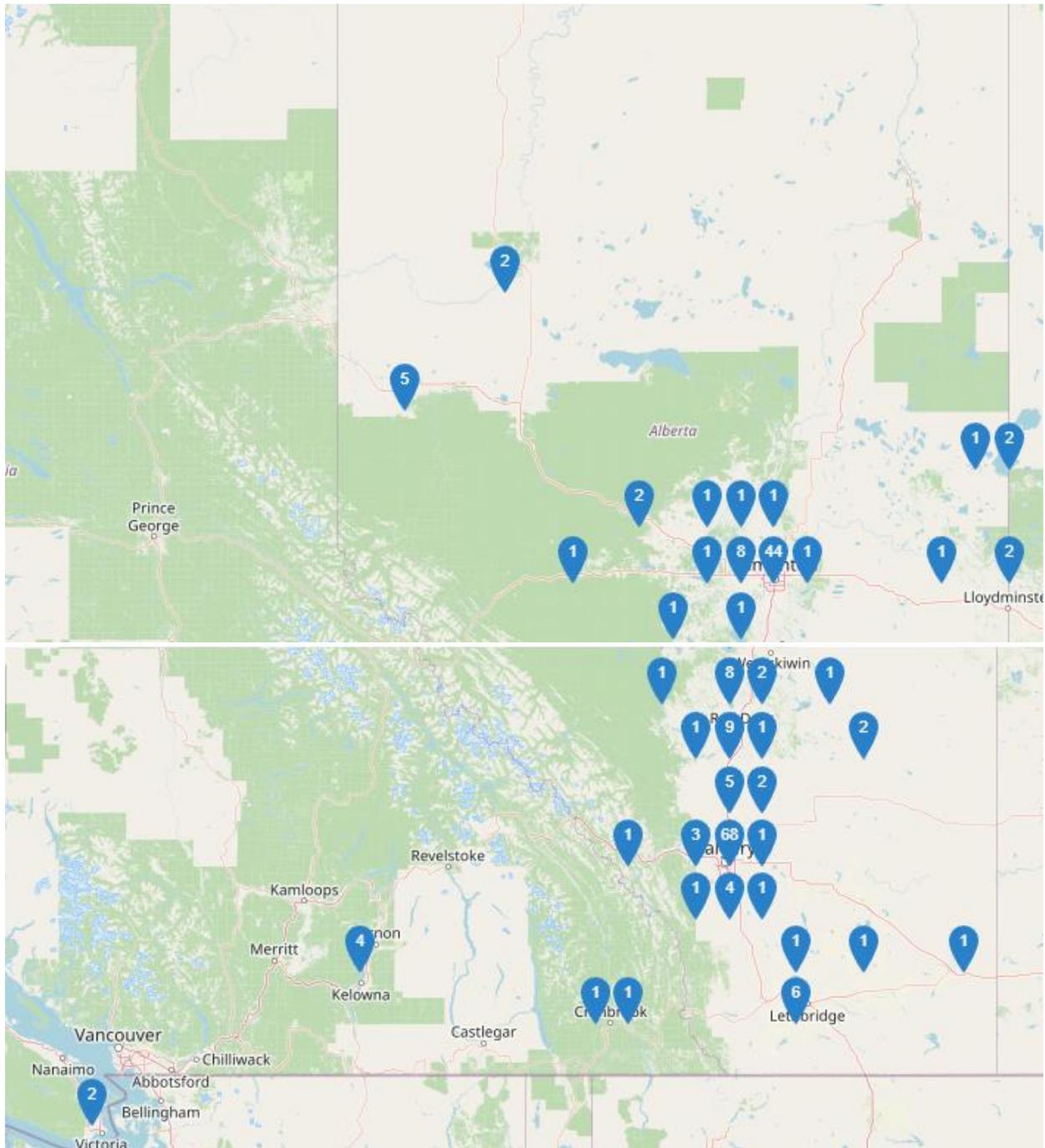
Calgary – 107 / 83
Edmonton – 54 / 45
Red Deer – 11 / 12
Lethbridge – 8 / 7
Sherwood Park – 7 / 6
Okotoks – 7 / 7
St. Albert – 6 / 5
West Kelowna – 6 / 5
Airdrie – 5 / 5
Grande Prairie – 5 / 5
Spruce Grove – 2 / 5
Fort McMurray – 4 / 0
Lacombe – 3 / 3
Lloydminster – 3 / 2
High River – 2 / 3
Chestermere – 3 / 2
Whitecourt – 1 / 3

I think the most effective way to increase our membership is to host coffee parties, discussion groups, and workshops in our communities which are open to all piano teachers and encourage those in attendance to join APTA.

The Edmonton Pedagogy Etude is a discussion group which meets once a month at an APTA member's home. Meeting were suspended or held virtually during the pandemic but have since resumed in-person. Teachers in Calgary held a free panel discussion event on August 23, 2022. Historically, they have also held Coffee Chats, STAFF groups and book clubs.

APTA has continuing education funds available to help host workshops in your area. Please contact Sheryl Schnare education@aptaonline.net with your ideas and spread the word about the Alberta Piano Teachers Association at the same time.

From: <https://aptaonline.net/member-map/>



Our interactive map allows people to Zoom in to individual neighborhoods. Clicking on a pin will display the teacher's name, business name, link to their email address, and a link to their website if they have one listed in their profile.

We also have a [list directory](#) in which prospective clients choose a region from the drop-down menu then scroll through to find the above information in each teacher's appropriate town and neighborhood. Please contact me if you are unable to find your neighborhood listed in your profile's dropdown menu.