



Membership Convener's Report

Annual General Meeting
September 23, 2023

Submitted by Joan Blench

The APTA membership year runs from July 1 to June 30. The new year is opened up on June 1 so that members have the opportunity to renew their membership for a seamless transition online. The annual cost of membership is \$50, or \$45 if you renew prior to July 1. There are no partial memberships. New members pay \$45 no matter when they join. The executive has the ability to grant honorary memberships to individuals or organizations that have gone above and beyond in supporting our organization.

Membership statistics for 2022 – 2023:

Total number of members – 288
Calgary & Area – 121
Edmonton & Area – 82
Northwest – 12
Northeast – 9
East Central – 30
South – 14
Outside Alberta – 19
Outside Canada – 1

These numbers are slightly lower than our membership data for last year (294) as our numbers tend to go down a little bit every year. I remember a time that our membership count almost reached 400 but that was many years ago.

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. Edmonton and Calgary currently have such monthly gatherings. Remember that we have continuing education funds available to help host workshops in your area. Please contact education@aptaonline.net with your ideas and spread the word about the Alberta Piano Teachers Association at the same time.

Current membership for 2023-2024:

Total number of members – 272
Unrenewed from last year – 53
New members since July 1 - 23

The [interactive map](#) on our website will allow you zoom into your hometown to see how

many APTA members are in your community. 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 dropdown 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.

Our [Facebook Discussion group](#) currently has 170 members. This is a closed group for APTA members only and is used for members to post questions, share links, pass along information about second hand pianos or music books for sale, or anything else piano related. We also have a public Facebook page and Instagram account which is maintained by Petra Schilds.

This is my final term as membership convener. Our bylaws state that that an executive member can only serve a maximum of three 2-year terms. If you've been with us awhile and remember me as your membership director in the early 2000's, you're correct. I served six years, then came back again after a brief hiatus, then again four years ago. I love the position because it's something I can easily do from my small town in rural Alberta. Everything is done online. I have met so many wonderful people in the thirty years I have been a member of APTA but it will soon be time to let someone else take the membership convenor role. Please talk to me if this is something which interests you and we can begin job shadowing next year.