

**Constitution
of
The Louis Riel Teachers' Association
of
The Manitoba Teachers' Society**

Article I: Authority and Name

- 1.01 In accordance with the provisions of Section 13, sub-section 3 of the Manitoba Teachers' Society Act, being Chapter 262 of the revised statutes of Manitoba, the Louis Riel Teachers' Association of the Manitoba Teachers' Society is permitted to formulate this Constitution, to adopt bylaws and to pass resolutions not inconsistent with said Act or with the Bylaws of the said Society.
- 1.02 The name of the Association shall be the Louis Riel Teachers' Association, hereafter referred to as the Association or LRTA.

Article II: Objectives

- 2.01 The objectives of the Association shall be:
1. to adopt bylaws and pass resolutions and policies not inconsistent with the policies of The Manitoba Teachers' Society;
 2. to promote a professional and collegial spirit among its members;
 3. to act as the bargaining agent of its members on all matters concerning the terms and conditions of employment;
 4. to negotiate collective agreements with the employer of its members; and,
 5. to exercise all such powers as may be within its competence in order to achieve and protect terms and conditions of employment which are consistent with the requirements of teachers as a professional group.

Article III: Association Year

- 3.01 The Association budget year shall begin on August 1st and end on July 31st of the following calendar year.
- 3.02 The Association year shall begin on August 1st and end on July 31st of the following calendar year.

Article IV: Membership Fees

- 4.01 The annual fees payable by each member of the Association shall be in such amount as the membership may decide at the Annual General Meeting. Any change in the annual fees payable by each member shall become effective in the subsequent school year.

Article V: Membership

- 5.01 Every person who is a teacher or who performs any one or more functions involved in the teaching process, including every person who is a substitute teacher, and who is employed by the Louis Riel School Division on a full-time, part-time or casual basis shall be eligible to be a member of the Association.
- 5.02 Every person who is a member in good standing of The Manitoba Teachers' Society, including a substitute teacher, and who is employed by the Louis Riel School Division shall be a member in good standing of the Association and hereinafter is referred to as a "member."
- 5.03 Members have the right to attend and vote at General Assemblies, have the right to attend Executive and Council meetings (unless declared in-camera), have the right to vote in the election of Executive members and have the right to vote in the election of the Council representatives.

Article VI: Organization of the Association

- 6.01 General Assembly: The supreme policy-making body of the Association.
- 6.02 Council: The supervising body of the Association.
1. Executive
 2. Council Representatives
- 6.03 Executive: The administrative body of the Association between Council meetings.
1. Table Officers
 - President
 - Vice-president: Collective Bargaining
 - Vice-president: Professional Development
 - Secretary Treasurer
 - Past President

2. Standing Committee Chairpersons
 - Employee Benefits
 - Public Relations
 - Equity and Social Justice
 - Educatrices et Educateurs Francophones du Manitoba
 - Social
3. Other Executive Members

Members-at-large (3)

Representative of the Louis Riel Association of School Administrators

(LRASA)

Article VII: The General Assembly

- 7.01 The General Assembly shall be composed of all members of the Association.
- 7.02 General Assembly meetings shall be called:
1. by the authority of the President;
 2. by the President as instructed by the Executive;
 3. by the President as instructed by the Council;
 4. by the President or Executive upon the receipt of a written petition requesting such a meeting and bearing the signature of fifty (50) members of the Association; and,
 5. at least once per year.
- 7.03 At least seven (7) days notice of meeting must be given.
- 7.04 An emergency meeting may be called with less than seven (7) days notice provided that the agenda of the meeting is restricted to the matter of the emergency.
- 7.05 **Ten percent (10%)** of the membership of the Association shall constitute a quorum.
- 7.06 Powers and duties of the General Assembly shall include all the powers of the Association except as otherwise stated in this Constitution and shall include:
1. approving changes to the Constitution;
 2. approving bylaw changes not inconsistent with this Constitution;
 3. approving policies not inconsistent with this Constitution;
 4. electing Executive Officers;
 5. electing Committee Chairpersons; and,
 6. approving the annual budget and setting the membership fees.

Article VIII: Council

- 8.01 Council shall be composed of the Executive and Council Representatives of each worksite.
- 8.02 Council meetings shall be called:
1. on the authority of the President;
 2. by the President as instructed by the Executive;
 3. by the President or Executive upon the receipt of a written petition requesting such a meeting and bearing the signatures of fifteen (15) members of the Council; and,
 4. at least once per month exclusive of July and August.
- 8.03 At least seven (7) days notice of meeting must be given.
- 8.04 An emergency meeting may be called with less than seven (7) days notice of meeting provided that the agenda of the meeting is restricted to the matter of the emergency.
- 8.05 Fifty percent (50%) of the membership of the Council shall constitute a quorum.
- 8.06 Powers and duties of the Council shall include:
1. supervising the affairs of the Association;
 2. approving Executive appointments to vacancies as may occur during a term of office or directing that a by-election be held to fill such Table Officer vacancies as may occur during a term of office;
 3. opening negotiations with the Board and approving the opening proposals of amendments to the collective agreement for collective bargaining;
 4. naming an external auditor annually;
 5. approving the financial institution where all monies are kept;
 6. setting and approving a special membership levy in an emergency situation;
 7. establishing ad hoc committees as needed and approving guidelines;
 8. appointing committee members;
 9. approving resolutions for consideration at the Annual General Meeting of Provincial Council of the Manitoba Teachers' Society;
 10. creating interim policy; and,
 11. naming delegates to the Annual General Meeting of the Provincial Council.

Article IX: Executive

9.01 The Executive shall be comprised of Table Officers, Standing Committee Chairpersons, three (3) Members-at-large and a representative of the Louis Riel Association of School Administrators.

9.02 Executive meetings shall be called:

1. by the authority of the President;
2. by the President upon the receipt of a written petition requesting such a meeting and bearing the signature of three (3) Executive members; and,
3. at least once per month exclusive of July and August.

9.03 At least seven (7) days notice of meeting must be given.

9.04 An emergency meeting may be called with less than seven (7) days notice of meeting provided that the agenda of the meeting is restricted to the matter of the emergency.

9.05 Fifty percent (50%) of the membership of the Executive shall constitute a quorum.

9.06 Powers and duties of the Executive shall include:

1. assuming responsibility for long-range planning;
2. advising Council and the General Assembly in matters of governance and policy; and,
3. conducting day-to-day business of the Association as determined by the Constitution, Bylaws and Policy of the Association.

Article X: Council Representatives

10.01 The number of Council Representatives from each workplace shall be determined by the number of members at that workplace according to the following table.

No. of Members	Representatives	Alternates
1 – 25	1	1
26 – 50	2	2
51+	3	3

10.02 Council Representatives and Alternates shall be elected on or before the third day of the fall term by their respective workplace memberships for a term of one (1) year.

10.03 Council Representatives shall take office on the third day of the fall term.

10.04 An Alternate shall assume the duties of the Council Representative in the absence of that Council Representative.

10.05 One (1) Council Representative and one (1) Alternate shall be elected from among the Substitute teachers.

Article XI: Ratification of the Collective Agreement

- 11.01 An amended or new collective agreement shall be ratified at a meeting of the members of the bargaining unit by a secret ballot cast by all members of the bargaining unit present at this meeting.
- 11.02 Notice of the meeting shall be sent to all workplaces at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting together with a list of all changes to the collective agreement.
- 11.03 Reasonable opportunity to cast a ballot in the vote shall be provided.
- 11.04 A majority of those members who may vote and who cast ballots on the question of acceptance or rejection of the proposed collective agreement shall determine the question.
- 11.05 The ballots shall not be destroyed for at least thirty (30) days.

Article XII: Conduct of Meetings

- 12.01 Bylaw XVII of The Manitoba Teachers' Society shall be used as a guideline in the conduct of all meetings.

Article XIII: Elections for Executive

- 13.01 The Executive shall set a date for the election, such date to be between April 14th and April 29th of each year.
- 13.02 The newly elected Executive shall assume office and responsibilities as of August 1st for a term of one (1) year.
- 13.03 The Past President shall be the Chief Returning Officer.
- 13.04 Specific electoral procedures shall be determined in the Bylaws.

Article XIV: Amendments to the Constitution

- 14.01 This Constitution may be amended at any time as follows:
 - 1. any member of the Association shall have the right to submit in writing to the President a proposed amendment to the Constitution of the Association;
 - 2. the President shall send a copy of the proposed amendment to all members of the Association at least seven (7) days prior to consideration of same at a General Assembly;

3. the amendment or any modification thereof must be approved by at least a two-thirds majority of those voting, a quorum being present; and,
4. the amendment becomes effective the date the Provincial Executive approves said amendment.

The Constitution of the Association was amended at the Annual General Assembly of the Louis Riel Teachers' Association on April 22, 2009.

Approved by the Provincial Executive at its meeting of May 8, 2009.

__Madeline McKenzie_____
President

__Linda Connelly_____
Secretary-Treasurer

__Judy Bradley _____
General Secretary
The Manitoba Teachers' Society