

The twenty-four LRTA representatives elected by LRTA members to attend the MTS AGM and work on your behalf include:

Jeff Anderson	Chris Arnold	Brittany Barber
Cheryl Bazin	Marcela Cabezas	Marilyn Carter
Jaclyn Condon	Lesley Girling	Maeve Hawash
Erin Litchfield	Tina Loewen	Bernard Mazerolle
Lindsay McDonald	Jay McGurran	Sean Oliver
Valérie Remillard	Kris Robinson	Vikki Ross
Charmaine Rudnicki	Cynthia Taylor	Alison Ward
Scott Wood	Alice Young	Frank Restall

The Louis Riel Teachers' Association Annual General Assembly (AGA) was held on Wednesday April 20th. Thank you to all members who took time from their busy schedules to attend the assembly and participate in the business of our Association. This important meeting of the Association was completed in about an hour thereby providing ample time for fellowship and food. The Association Executive has been set for next year and the Association is very appreciative of the efforts of so many in working together to ensure the success of the meeting. A report of the 2016 AGA appears later in this newsletter. Mark your calendars...the 2017 LRTA AGA is scheduled for Wednesday, April 19th, 2017! Please save the date!

A very successful social occasion that just passed was the LRTA Appreciation Dinner on April 28th. The Appreciation Dinner permits the Association to honour and pay tribute to LRTA members, MTS Staff and others who give of themselves for the betterment of the collective. Thank you to Lorrie Restall, Marcela Cabezas, and everyone who contributed to this special evening.

In the month of May, and on the heels of our own AGA is the 97th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Manitoba Teachers' Society Provincial Council. The meeting will take place Thursday, May 26th through Saturday, May 28th at the Fairmont Hotel. Twenty-two delegates and two alternates of the Louis Riel Teachers' Association will join delegates from other Associations from around the province in shaping the future direction of the Society. Resolutions have been tabled for debate, the budget that determines your MTS fees for 2016 - 2017 will be passed and elections to the Provincial Executive will take place.

Have you marked the LRTA Retirement Reception at the Legacy Center on June 8th in your calendars? Come out and say 'good-bye' to colleagues who are retiring from our profession. The LRTA Retirement Reception is always a wonderful social opportunity for members to wish the retirees well and to touch base with other colleagues before the start of summer.

In less than two months, this school year will draw to a close. The year-end places many demands upon members and that time is soon approaching. Given the busy nature of this time, it is appropriate to remind all members of the Code of Professional Practice. Please remember that any concerns about a member's professional practice must be directed first to that member in private.

As the end of year becomes busier, please remember that if an individual in the school community has a concern about his/her young person in a LRTA member's class or a concern about a LRTA member, that community individual should be referred to contact the member directly as a first step. Only after contact with the teacher is made and only if the concern is not satisfactorily resolved, the individual may then speak with the Principal or Vice-principal of the school as the next step. This next step is supposed to occur only after the individual informs the teacher that s/he intends to do so.

The 2016-2017 Association calendar is complete and is contained in this issue. The Association is asking that no school activities be scheduled on Council meeting days – or on Wednesday, September 28th, 2016 (New Member Celebration), Wednesday, April 19th, 2017 (AGA), Thursday, April 27th, 2017 (LRTA Appreciation Dinner) and Wednesday, June 14th, 2017 (LRTA Retirement Reception).

Strive to maintain balance in your lives, and now, more than ever, take care of yourself and take care of each other!

Le coin des



Prix remis lors de l'assemblée générale annuelle :

Adhésion à vie – Eldene Spencer

Adhésion à vie – Claude Dorge

Conseil d'administration 2016-2017

(De gauche à droite, de bas en haut)

Arianne Cloutier, Valérie Rémillard, Lise Beaudry,
Corinne Johnson, Tim Breen, Anna-Maria
Cristina-Gaudet, Bathélemy Bolivar, Gisèle Rondeau.

Site des ÉFM : <http://www.efm-mts.org/les-efm/>



Louis Riel Teachers Association Retirees 2015-2016

Colleen Bonner

David Briggs

Sandra Brown Day

Alan Dinson

Sandy Hirschak-Shuster

Florence LaPointe

Greg Meade

Carol Montanti

Geoffrey Nuytten

Jane Peck

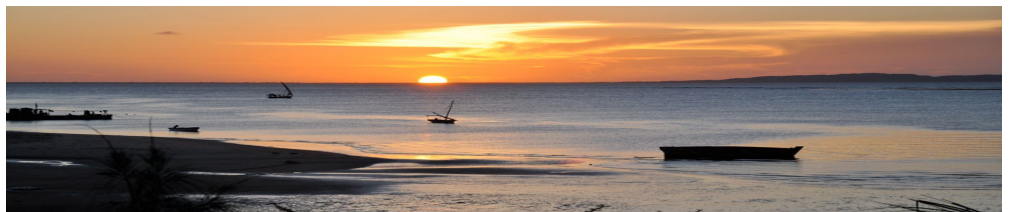
Denise Poirier

Liette Préjet

Thomas Roberts

Joyce Waters

More to come...



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Annual General Assembly Highlights

The Louis Riel Teachers' Association AGA was held April 20th, 2016. The 2016-2017 LRTA Executive will be comprised of:

President – Frank Restall	LRTA Office
VP Collective Bargaining – Bernard Mazerolle	Collège Béliveau
VP Professional Development – Marcela Cabezas	Collège Jeanne-Sauvé
Secretary-Treasurer – Becky Litchfield	Nordale School
Employee Benefits – Scott Wood	Glenlawn Collegiate
Equity and Social Justice – Lacey Butler	Archwood School
Public Relations – Cynthia Taylor	Glenlawn Collegiate
ÉFM – Valérie Rémillard	Collège Jeanne-Sauvé
Social – Marilyn Carter	Frontenac School
Members-at-Large:	Hastings School
Jaclyn Condon	École Varennes
Lindsay McDonald	Marion School
LRASA – Alice Young	Frontenac School
Past President – Alison Ward	

Your LRTA fees for 2016-2017 will be \$200. Fees are deducted from your October and November pay cheques.

Constitution, Bylaw and Policy Amendments; the office of Past President is replaced with the LRTA Executive office of “Resolutions and Nominations Chair”.

Thank you to Lorrie Restall and Charmaine Rudnicki, AGA recording secretaries, and to Derek Acorn, Shannon Burns, Kathy Cullen, Lynne Malo, Ian Waters and Elsie Yip, scrutineers for the April 2016 Annual General Assembly. Also, thank you to the election moderator, Alison Ward, and to Scott Wood and Marcela Cabezas for ensuring an effective screen presentation.

And finally, most importantly, thank you to all of the LRTA members who came out to the AGA to take care of LRTA business! As an Association is only as strong as its membership, your participation and support is greatly appreciated!

Reminder! Next year's LRTA AGA – Wednesday, April 19th, 2017

FUEL UP! Feeding Our Schools

Public Relations—Cynthia Taylor



On Monday, April the 11th, LRTA in conjunction with MTS hosted the Fuel Up! Feeding Our Schools Promotional event. This was the culminating activity that coincided with the Fuel Up! grant; an opportunity for educators to apply for up to 500.00 for breakfast and lunch amenities on behalf of their school or student group.

Each teacher along with representatives from the seven schools, the Board Office, LRTA and MTS were in attendance to celebrate the dedication of staff and their commitment to nourishing student potential.

Much thanks goes out to all Council Representatives for promotion of the grant, to each school that applied/received including: Louis Riel Arts and Technology Centre, Minnetonka School, Windsor Park Collegiate, Victor Wyatt School, Glenlawn Collegiate, St. George School and Dakota Collegiate as well as to The Metro for highlighting the work of LRTA teachers in the public domain.



Members of St. George School's running club will see the benefits of Louis Riel School Division's new program, Fuel Up! Feed Our Schools. EVAN MATTHEWS/FOR METRO

Fuelling up support for students

EDUCATION

School division adds funding for breakfast, lunch programs

Evan Matthews
For Metro | Winnipeg

In an effort to show teachers are involved in more than just day-to-day education, the Louis Riel School Division said they are adding funding to seven schools for breakfast and lunch programs.

Other schools in the division have existing programs, but the goal of the new FUEL UP! Feed Our Schools program is to strike up some new ones, according to Cynthia Taylor, program organizer.

"The goal was to have new schools apply ... specifically high schools," she said. "There are many students who get support in elementary school... We as educators need to provide consistent and continual support (if they require)."

Frank Restall, president of the Louis Riel Teachers' Association, said the association is pairing with the Manitoba

Teachers' Society to inject \$4,000 into the schools.

Each school will be given \$500 to aid their breakfast and lunch programs. The leftover \$500 provided starter packs for schools whose grants were approved.

Taylor said while every school is given the same amount, what each school decides to do with the funding is up to them.

According to Taylor, Dakota High School is using the funds to create pantries for hampers over the winter months, and St. George School is using the funds to provide their morning running club with breakfast.

Although there is no guarantee for future financial contributions, Restall said ultimately the hope is to provide programs with long-term sustainability.

"These type of programs are something we try to do every two years," he said. "Our focus is the kids. We try to keep the focus within our community."

The seven schools included are Glenlawn Collegiate, Minnetonka School, St. George School, Victor H. L. Wyatt School, the Arts and Technology Centre, Dakota Collegiate and Windsor Park Collegiate.



Our focus is the kids. We try to keep the focus within our community. Frank Restall



PPDF Update

Professional Development—Marcela Cabezas

The PPDF Committee met with the Division on April 27th for our Annual Review Meeting at which time proposed Guideline changes were presented to the representative of the Division. These proposed changes will be presented at the May LRTA Council Meeting. As stated in the PPDF Guidelines, if agreed upon, the adopted changes will be implemented in September.

It was another hectic year for the PPDF Committee. As of May 6th, a total of 478 applications were approved by the PPDF Committee. Funds are still available for members to access for both in and out of town PD events in Terms 3 and 4.

The members of the Committee volunteered their time daily to ensure that funds were distributed in accordance with the PPDF Guidelines so that members could access valuable autonomous professional development opportunities. I would like to thank the following individuals who served on this year's committee for their hard work and commitment to serving the members of LRTA:

Lisa Croft	Bob Gaudes	Lynette Carriere	Tina Loewen
Kevin Osachuk	Matthew Steingart	Charmaine Rudnicki	Guy Anderson
Darren Baker	Lisa Lewis	Jay McGurran	Denise Paillé-Jones
Lindsay McDonald	Valérie Rémillard		

Elections to fill seven two-year vacancies and two one-year vacancies on next year's PPDF Committee will be held at the May Council Meeting.

The Victor and Marie Wyatt Bursaries

Professional Development—Marcela Cabezas

The Victor and Marie Wyatt Bursary assists LRTA members in offsetting tuition costs accrued through the pursuit of studies related to public school education. The Winnipeg Foundation, the organization who manages the bursary fund, has informed the Association that \$6000.00 is available to distribute amongst all of the eligible applicants this year. A total of 20 bursary requests were received by the Association for studies that occurred in the 2015 calendar year.

The Victor and Marie Wyatt Bursary Committee will be meeting on May 12th to review the applications and to determine bursary amounts for eligible members through the use of an established formula. Successful bursary applicants will be contacted by mail in the weeks to come.

Pride Parade

June 5, 2016—Legislative Building



Get this cool MTS teacher tee free! Just show your pride by joining our MTS walking group at the 2016 Pride Parade on June 5.

There's plenty of colour and excitement as the day starts with a rally in front of Legislature. Be there at 11 a.m. to pick up your awesome shirt. The parade begins at noon. And don't forget to stop into the MTS tent in the Pride Festival Kids Zone at The Forks.

We have free face painting and decorating for kids 12 and under. You'll be surrounded by plenty of food carts and a great summer vibe!

Balance—MTS Initiative

<https://www.mbteach.org/balance/index.html>



Fitness	Leadership & Development	Wellness Forum	Vocal Hygiene
Professional Organizing	Financial Literacy	Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction	Nutrition
Massage Therapy	Smoothie Desk-Side Delivery	<u>Dry Cleaning Delivery Service</u>	Resources

Why did MTS decide to develop Balance?

The commitment to education takes a lot of energy and with that need for energy there is a need to ensure our members have access to the resources they need to take care of themselves. Through MTS Balance we and want to help to provide resources and education to assist our members find their path to healthy living.

How far in advance do you have to book programming?

Ideally we request 8 weeks' notice for arranging wellness events; To ensure the most options you can book programming up to one year in advance. We highly recommend as much notice as possible for major events. That being said, if you have the opportunity and a time slot to incorporate wellness into a program, don't hesitate to call. If there is something we can do to help we will.

Only as Strong as the Weakest Link

Collective Bargaining—Bernard Mazerolle

The benefits and working conditions guaranteed by the Collective Agreement are the result of many years of hard work and sacrifice by fellow teachers. Every article contained within the Agreement had to be bargained for in the collective interests of the teachers of the Association. As a teacher, your benefits and working conditions are in existence only because of teachers willing to stand as a collective and to bargain as a collective.

One does not have to go very far into the past to find a time when teacher agreements contained little. When teachers began to bargain collectively in order to improve working conditions, great strides were made in terms of securing improvements and benefits. The result of the many years of bargaining collectively is the Agreement under which we currently work.

While it is not necessary for many teachers to be familiar with the history and evolution of the bargaining agreement, what must be understood by all teachers is the importance of being a collective. Being a collective means to be engaged in a “cooperative enterprise” and to stand with and support your colleagues. The gains that have been made in the past can be directly attributed to the membership standing together.

What makes the concept of a collective truly admirable is the fact that members put the concerns of the collective ahead of their own personal situations. Even though an article in the Agreement may not apply to a member (at that particular time or circumstance), the member is part of the collective and therefore stands by the Agreement. Even though a member may believe that ignoring an article might be convenient, the member adheres to the Agreement knowing that the interests of the collective far outweigh personal convenience. Individual members cannot “cherry pick” articles in the Agreement that they like and ignore other articles for, by doing so, a teacher is undermining the entire membership. A chain is indeed only as strong as the weakest link!

On a day to day basis, teachers can demonstrate commitment to the collective by ensuring that the articles of the Collective Agreement are honoured. Teacher rights and working conditions must be protected and it is the responsibility of every member to safeguard these rights and conditions!

The ramifications of ignoring articles in the collective agreement are dire! If teachers ignore a negotiated benefit it may establish a precedent that could eventually undermine the benefit. At every opportunity, members must demonstrate a commitment to their colleagues by honouring the collective and the collective agreement.



Draft Calendar 2016-2017



DRAFT LRTA Calendar 2016 – 2017

September

Tuesday, 6 th	Opening Day
Wednesday, 14 th	LRTA Executive Meeting
Wednesday, 21 st	LRTA Council Meeting
Wednesday, 28 th	LRTA New Member Celebration
Friday, 30 th	Terry Fox Community Event

October

Friday, 7 th am	LRTA Executive Retreat
Friday, 7 th pm	New Council Rep Orientation
Wednesday, 19 th	LRTA Council Meeting
Friday, 21 st	SAGE
Wednesday, 26 th	Maternity/Parental Leave Seminar

November

Wednesday, 2 nd	LRTA Executive Meeting
Wednesday, 9 th	Early Mid-Career Pension Seminar
Wednesday, 16 th	LRTA Council Meeting

December

Wednesday, 7 th	LRTA Executive Meeting
Wednesday, 21 st	LRTA Council Meeting
Friday, 23 rd through	Winter Break
Friday, Jan. 6 th	

January

Wednesday, 11 th	LRTA Executive Meeting
Wednesday, 18 th	LRTA Council Meeting
Wednesday, 25 th	LRTA Benefits Seminar

February

Wednesday, 1 st	LRTA Executive Meeting
Wednesday, 8 th	Pre-Retirement Seminar – ATC
Wednesday, 15 th	LRTA Council Meeting

March

Monday, Feb 27 th through	Operation Donation
Friday, March 3 rd	LRTA Executive Meeting
Wednesday, 1 st	LRTA Council Meeting
Wednesday, 15 th	
Monday, 27 th through	Spring Break
Friday, March 31 st	

April

Wednesday, 5 th	LRTA Executive Meeting
Wednesday, 12 th	LRTA Council Meeting
Thursday, 13 th	Maternity/Parental Leave Seminar
Wednesday, 19 th	LRTA Annual General Assembly – ATC
Thursday, 27 th	LRTA Appreciation Dinner

May

Wednesday, 3 rd	LRTA Executive Meeting
Wednesday, 10 th	LRTA AGM Binder Meeting
Wednesday, 17 th	LRTA Council Meeting
Wednesday, 24 th through	MTS AGM
Saturday, 27 th	

June

Wednesday, 7 th	LRTA Executive Meeting
Wednesday, 14 th	LRTA Retirement Reception
Wednesday, 21 st	LRTA Council Meeting

Draft May 4, 2016.

Subject to change.

Reminder:

If you have recently changed your name, please contact the LRTA office at (204)929-5782 or seclrta@shaw.ca and have your file updated.

Calendar of Events

MAY

Wednesday May 4	LRTA Executive Meeting
Wednesday May 11	LRTA Binder Meeting
Wednesday May 18	LRTA Council Meeting
Wed May 25—Sat May	MTS AGM

JUNE

Wednesday June 1	LRTA Executive Meeting
Wednesday June 8	LRTA Retirement Reception
Wednesday June 15	LRTA Council Meeting



@preslrta

Contact Us

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All matters will be dealt with
in confidence.

Manitoba Teachers'
Society
Can request Staff Officer
assistance
204-888-7961