

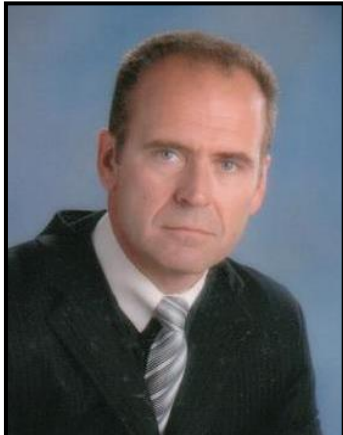


RIELITYCHECK

A publication of the Louis Riel Teachers' Association (www.lrta.ca)

FEBRUARY 2014

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE President – Frank Restall

As teachers, we always look to the future

as we reflect upon the past. Much of this reflection occurs on an individual basis in our classrooms and offices. We examine what we have achieved and how we can build upon our achievements. However, when the opportunity to collaborate, interact and work with other teachers presents itself, the power of reflection and planning for the future increases exponentially. These opportunities are truly examples of “the whole is greater than the sum of its parts”.

This is especially true in the area of teacher advocacy. Teachers working together,

reflecting upon our achievements of the past while we plan for the future. **Teachers' organizations firmly believe in the importance of the work teachers do and the importance of supporting teachers in their work!** This belief is shared by your colleagues in the Louis Riel Teachers' Association, the 15 000 members of the Manitoba Teachers' Society and the approximately 200 000 members of the Canadian Teachers' Federation.

The Canadian Teachers' Federation (CTF) advocates for teachers across the country and deals with national issues affecting teachers in Canada. **The CTF unites teachers in Canada and is recognized as a respected voice for teachers on the national stage.**

The Canadian Teachers' Federation is also a

leading organization in international development work through Education International which represents more than 30 million education workers around the world. **This year, the Manitoba Teachers' Society is pleased to have the privilege of hosting the 94th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Canadian Teachers' Federation in Winnipeg from July 9 through July 11.** The last time the CTF AGM was in this province was 1994, so this is a prestigious opportunity for the teachers of Manitoba.

The CTF AGM also provides a valuable professional development opportunity for teachers in Manitoba.

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President's message:



For the two days (July 7th and 8th) prior to the start of the CTF AGM, the CTF will host the CTF President's Forum. At this forum, national issues will be examined and discussed. The theme for the CTF President's Forum this year is "Equity & Social Justice: The Heart and Soul of Public Education". This theme should generate much interest and have widespread professional appeal for teachers in Louis Riel and for all teachers in Manitoba.

The Manitoba Teachers' Society is enlisting the support of all Local Associations to ensure that the CTF AGM is a great success. If, as a member of the Louis Riel Teachers' Association, you have some time to volunteer at the CTF AGM, please contact Terry Price at the Manitoba Teachers' Society. Volunteering at the CTF AGM will indeed be an invaluable "opportunity to collaborate, interact and work with other teachers".



Locally, all LRTA members should have Wednesday, April 16th marked on their calendars. This is the date of the LRTA Annual General Assembly. The Annual General Assembly (AGA) is the one meeting which requires the attendance of all members. The strength of the Louis Riel Teachers' Association is the active involvement of our membership. The Association exists to serve its members and to protect member rights and working conditions. In order to best represent and serve the members, all administrators, clinicians, coordinators and teachers need to be actively involved in the Association.



Each member of the LRTA can demonstrate his/her active involvement in the Association by attending the LRTA AGA Wednesday, April 16th, 4:30 p.m. at the Louis Riel Arts and Technology Centre. Council Reps have received nomination papers for the Executive positions. Nomination forms are also available on the LRTA website. The AGA is your chance to vote on any proposed changes to our Constitution, Bylaws and Policies.

The LRTA budget for 2014-15 will also be presented, debated and voted on. These are very important reasons for attending the AGA as your voice and vote will determine the outcomes. The Association requests that each member highlight the AGA on his/her calendar and attend this one meeting on April 16th.



A LOOK at the BUDGET

For all members and the Association itself, this is indeed a very busy time. Striving for personal and professional balance in your lives is a necessity.

Remember, take care of yourself and take care of each other!

Frank Restall

President, Louis Riel Teachers' Association

Call for Nominations for the 2014-2015 LRTA Executive

The Nominations Chair is calling for

nominations to the Louis Riel Teachers' Association Executive for 2014-2015.

Nominations will be accepted beginning March 1, 2014.

Nomination papers must be accompanied by the signatures of two members and forwarded to Sue Wilton at the LRTA Office at École Varennes by 12:00 noon, March 19, 2014.

What is the LRTA? The Louis Riel Teachers' Association represents

all administrators, clinicians, coordinators, substitutes and teachers of the Louis Riel School Division. The LRTA actively supports the well being of its members through various committees such as Collective Bargaining, Professional Development, Social and Public Relations. In addition, the LRTA provides assistance and guidance to individual members upon request.



Who can be an Executive member? Any member who indicates their willingness to run for election to the Executive (when the call for nominations goes out) can be elected. Candidates may be asked to speak at the Annual General Assembly on April 16th where the election takes place. The Executive for 2014-2015 assumes office on August 1, 2014.



What will I do if elected?

All Executive members attend monthly Executive and Council meetings. A one day planning workshop is held in October. All Executive members must familiarize themselves with current issues and be willing to serve on committees.

What is the time commitment for an Executive member? The Executive and Council

meetings last from one to two hours and supper is served. Committees meet according to their mandate and therefore the number of meetings varies from committee to committee. Some Executive positions require less of a time commitment than others and may be ideal entry points.

Will I find the experience rewarding? You will find the experience to be very

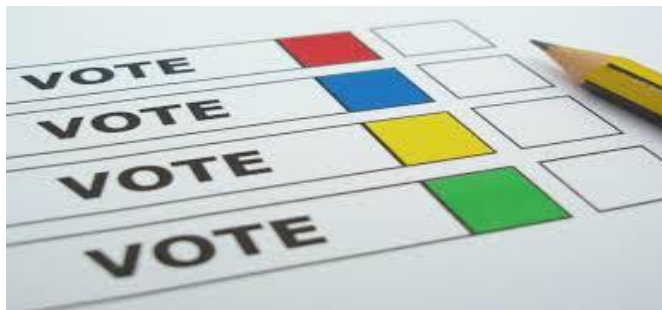
rewarding! Rewards are both extrinsic and intrinsic. Members of the Executive are reimbursed for dependent care, and the opportunities for Professional Development and networking are many. Also, members of the Executive play a pivotal role in achieving improved working conditions for their colleagues and gain an insider's view of the political arena. Executive members know they have helped all of their colleagues by serving their Professional Association.

And there is more! You will get to work with a group of dedicated, supportive and industrious leaders who will also become trusted friends.

Executive Positions 2014-2015

It is time to commence the building of the LRTA 2014 - 2015 Executive. All

positions are one year terms so every position is vacant. Elections will take place at the Annual General Assembly on Wednesday, April 16, 2014, at the Louis Riel Arts and Technology Centre.



The Table Officer positions are:

- PRESIDENT,
- VICE PRESIDENT – COLLECTIVE BARGAINING
- VICE PRESIDENT – PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, and
- SECRETARY-TREASURER

The Committee Chair positions are:

- ÉDUCATRICES ET ÉDUCATEURS FRANCOPHONES DU MANITOBA
- EMPLOYEE BENEFITS
- PUBLIC RELATIONS
- EQUITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE
- SOCIAL
- MEMBER AT LARGE (3)
- LRASA REPRESENTATIVE

Nominations will be accepted until Wednesday, March 19, 2014, 12:00 noon. Nomination forms are available through your Council Rep or the LRTA website and once completed, forms are to be sent to Sue Wilton – LRTA Office - 929 5780 (fax).

Here are the procedures for the election:

- Candidates will be entitled to the following:
 - an election statement (one 8 1/2 X 11 sheet)
 - translation of the election statement
 - distribution of the election statement
 - the opportunity to address the Assembly on April 16
- The expenses for the above will be borne by the Association.
- Materials to be distributed **must** be submitted to the Chair of the Nomination Committee, Sue Wilton, by noon (12:00 p.m.), Wednesday, March 19, 2014. **It is highly recommended that you send in your election statement as early as possible to facilitate translation and printing.** Materials arriving after March 19, 2014, will be translated and copied if time allows.
- No other campaign materials are allowed.
- **No campaign materials may be distributed at the Annual General Assembly.**



Victor and Marie Wyatt Bursary Application

(for courses taken between January 2013-December 2013)- Professional Development – Bob Gaudes

The Victor and Marie Wyatt Bursary Committee are accepting applications for bursaries from teachers and administrators to pursue studies related to public school education.

The Bursary is available to:

Educators who are *currently* employed in the Louis Riel School Division,
Educators who are *currently* on leave from the Louis Riel School Division.
And Educators who have requested a leave from the Louis Riel School Division for educational purposes and who will be *returning to the division*.



Applications must include:

- Proof of course completion – Academic Transcript
- Proof that the course(s) fee(s) have been paid – T2202A Certificate

Application form can be found at www.lrta.ca under 'Bursaries'.

Deadline for submission: Friday, April 25, 2014.
Send completed form and all information to:

Louis Riel Teachers' Association
Attn. Vice President of Professional Development
L.R.T.A. Office, 22 Varennes Ave
Winnipeg, Manitoba, R2M 0N1

Bursary Criteria:

- Tuition at registered universities or colleges (not including such things as parking, dental or medical insurance, or cost of books and supplies) will be considered.
- Payment is made directly to the individual,
 - After completion of the course(s), and only
 - After funding is approved by the Bursary Committee upon submission of all required information.
 - Bursary applications will not be accepted in two consecutive years. (e.g. 2012 recipients may apply again in 2014)
 - Maximum eligible tuition: \$1500.00

Process:

- Applicants will receive their letter of confirmation from the Bursary Committee. It will indicate the amount of bursary awarded by the committee.
- A copy of the confirmation letter is sent to the Winnipeg Foundation.
- A cheque from the Winnipeg Foundation will be mailed directly to the recipient accompanied by a tax receipt for the amount of the award.

The Louis Riel Teachers' Association Presents...



**REVENGE
OF
THE NERDS!**

The
Social!

April 24th, 2014

St. Boniface Country
Club

7:30—11:00 p.m.

Cash Bar, DJ,



See Your
LRTA Rep.
for Tickets!

\$5 Each

Wear your nerdiest duds for a chance
to win a prize!

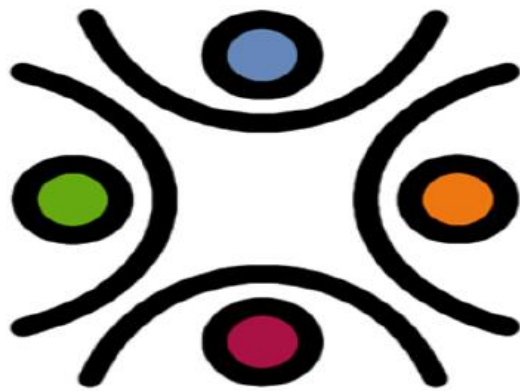
All Staff Welcome!

ANNOUNCEMENTS & CELEBRATIONS!

Congratulations to Sandra Jansen (from CJS) and Steve Kaban (from Winnipeg 1 School Division) on their marriage on December 21st, 2013.

Do you have any special announcements to share? Know of any coworkers who have recently married or had a baby? Please send the good news to Shannon Gibson at Shansyg@me.com

Reminders: If you have recently changed your personal information such as name and or address, please contact the LRTA office at 204-929-5782 and have them update your information.



LRTA

LOUIS RIEL
TEACHERS'
ASSOCIATION