

President's Message

Frank Restall

Each For All and All For Each

For nearly the last century, the Manitoba Teachers' Society and local Associations have worked for public school teachers under the precept or principle of "Each for all and all for each". This succinctly states that members are stronger as a collective but that strength is measured according to the degree to which each member supports the collective.

The active involvement of Louis Riel Teachers' Association members demonstrates the importance of being a collective. The gains and successes we have achieved in the past can be directly attributed to the 1100 LRTA members standing together as a collective. Gains and successes for the future will only be achieved if we continue to work as a collective, bargain as a collective and support the collective. Each of us, in our own way, can have a profound impact on the well being of the collective. Truly, a chain is only as strong as its weakest link.

As I wrote last month, "The 2015-2016 school year will be a very important year for teachers". Elections at both the federal and provincial level will have a great effect upon teachers, students and public education.

This will be a year where the collective voice of teachers in the LRTA and within MTS needs to resonate. However, the strength of our

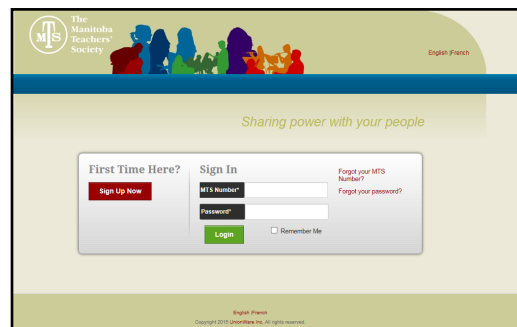
collective voice will be measured by the actions of each member in supporting the collective.



In preparation for the challenges of the next few months and for the future, your Society and your Association are requesting immediate action by LRTA members. Please invest a few minutes to ensure that you are registered with the Manitoba Teachers' Society on the "My Profile" site.

An invaluable source of information for the Society and the Association is the "My Profile" site found on the MTS homepage www.mbteach.org. If you have already used the "My Profile" site by registering your information in the past, signing up for a MTS PD event or requesting a replacement MTS membership card, then you are already registered in the system and there is no need for you to do so again.

However, if you have never registered in the system or you are new to the Society then, from a home computer, please register by visiting the "My Profile" site on the MTS homepage or clicking the link:



<https://memberlink.mbteach.org/Register.aspx>.

Enter your first name and last name, create a password and enter your membership number found on your MTS card (or enter a complete mailing address) and follow the prompts.

We are requesting that each LRTA member be registered as soon as possible. Please send an email reminder to your home account today so that you can register tonight! You need to register for the 15 000 members of the Society and the 15 000 members of the Society need you to register. "Each for all and all for each"! Together, we shall continue to build a stronger Association and a stronger Society.

Thank you, and as we head toward the end of October, be sure to take care of yourself and to take care of each other.

Le coin des



Les réunions du Conseil des écoles des ÉFM 2014-2015 se dérouleront à Winnipeg comme suit :

- Le samedi 9 janvier 2016 de 9 h à 14 h à McMaster House
- Le samedi 7 mai 2016 de 9 h à 14 h à McMaster House

La rencontre en région :

- Région métro-est à Winnipeg le mardi 20 octobre 2015 en soirée

Événement importants à souligner :

42^e Conférence pédagogique annuelle des ÉFM 2015

*N'oubliez pas que les programme est disponible sur le site des ÉFM et que les inscriptions se font en ligne!

<http://www.efm-mts.org/conference-pedagogique-annuelle-des-efm-2014/>

Vendredi 23 octobre 2015 à l'Université de Saint-Boniface et au Collège Louis-Riel

Céleb 5

Formation destiné au personnel enseignant débutant :
vendredi 6 novembre et samedi 7 novembre 2015

Atelier ipartage

Venez découvrir des applications que vous pourrez utiliser en salle de classe!

Samedi 14 novembre de 9h00 à 15h30 à McMaster House.

Frais d'inscription 10\$ (vous recevrez une carte itunes d'une valeur de 10\$)

Date limite pour s'inscrire le vendredi 6 novembre.

Contactez Julie McClintock au (204) 888-7961 poste 224 ou jmclintock@mbteach.org

48^e Assemblée générale annuelle des ÉFM 2016

Vendredi 29 avril 2016 à l'hôtel Canad Inns Destination Centre Polo Park

Réseaux d'apprentissage régionaux (RAR)

Un **RAR** est un groupe d'enseignants qui veut développer et entretenir un réseau de relations professionnelles entre eux. Ces enseignants peuvent avoir accès à des fonds pour subvenir à leurs besoins pédagogiques et de perfectionnement professionnel. Pour plus de renseignement :

<http://www.efm-mts.org/les-reseaux-dapprentissage-regionaux-3/>

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

J'aimerais créer un réseau des représentants ÉFM au sein de la LRSD. Svp, m'envoyer les noms des représentants de votre école à l'adresse suivante : valerie.remillard@lrsd.net

Terry Fox Marathon of Hope Continues

Vice President Professional Development—Marcela Cabezas

The LRTA once again marked the month of September by continuing our commitment to raising money and awareness for cancer research through the Terry Fox Foundation. On September 25th, an interschool relay occurred during the day in which all LRSD schools participated. It was delightful to see our students and members running and cheering on this year's participants.

As well, this year the Association and the Division hosted the first Terry Fox Community Walk and Barbecue at the LRSD Board Office on September 25th. Similar to its predecessor, the LRTA Torchlight Relay, this event afforded members of the community the chance to gather, walk or run, and the opportunity to make a donation to the Terry Fox Foundation on site. Fred Fox, Terry's brother, was in attendance and shared with those present that over the past thirty years, our Association, our Division, our schools and our community have successfully raised over half a million dollars for the Terry Fox Foundation.

This year's event featured musical entertainment from the CJS Jazz Combo. As well, several student volunteers from Collège Jeanne-Sauvé's "Amis de Rachel" student group helped run games, a craft table, and painted the faces of young children in attendance. The barbecue was successfully operated by students and their teacher from ATC's Culinary Arts Program.

Thanks to teachers Jeremy Bender, Marie-Eve Sabourin, Mandy Freynet, and Simone Gendron; the Terry Fox Committee members Joe Laxdal, Pam Deverdenne, and Becky Litchfield; LRTA Executive members Bernard Mazerolle, Marilyn Carter, Chris Arnold, Scott Wood and Nurse Practitioner Simone Mazerolle. Also, many thanks to the members of the Board of Trustees and Superintendents' Team and Staff who assisted in helping make the evening a memorable one.

As teachers, we feel so fortunate to serve this community and we remain committed to furthering the work of the Terry Fox Foundation within our community. We look forward to continuing our partnership with the Division on this event in the years to come until we fulfill Terry's dream of finding a cure for cancer.



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Oct.23: When the Teacher Becomes the Student

Vice President Professional Development—Marcela Cabezas

My six-year old son, who is in Grade 1, was very disappointed on our last PD day. You see, my husband and I are both teachers and he thought no school for him meant no school for mom and dad; ergo a day to spend more time with him. I explained to my son that on PD days, we teachers get to switch roles, be the students and learn all day long, just like he gets to do every day with his classmates. With that explained and his confusion alleviated, he replied, “That sounds like fun, Mom. Have a great day at school!”

While the October PD Day has undergone many name changes in recent memory, much like entertainers Puff Daddy, Snoop Dog, and the artist formerly known as Prince, the very nature of the day remains the same. The 44th Annual **MTS Professional Development Day** (formerly known as SAGE day, formerly known as SAG day) will take place on Friday, October 23rd. With thirty special area groups offering over 800 workshops, there truly is something for everyone to participate in and to enjoy!

The MTS Professional Development Day is similar to any other professional development day, except that it is on a much grander scale. On this professional development day, teacher autonomy is at the forefront as we are able to select which of the many SAGE Co-ordinated Conferences or ÉFM sessions we wish to attend that day. An added bonus is that, through attending these conferences, we are provided the opportunity to meet, network, learn with, and learn from colleagues from across the province. The following Monday in our classroom could fundamentally change as a result of something we learn, someone we meet, or something we see that day. That is what I personally love about attending the MTS PD day.

In any case, I hope that your participation in the MTS Professional Development Day proves beneficial to you and what you do in the classroom. Join thousands of other teachers, including the President and Vice President of the Society, by participating in this valuable professional development opportunity. On Friday, October, 23rd, “You’re the student, stay the day,” and on behalf of my son and me, “Have a great day at school!”



Wanting to switch up your SAGE Day experience?

Bilingual Bonus – Why not attend a session offered by ÉFM this year to brush up on your French? *Ou pourquoi ne pas assister à une session d'un des groupes de SAG cette année?*

50/50 – Do you have more than one teachable area? Hit up two conferences; one in the morning and one in the afternoon! Some Special Area Groups offer a half day rate if contacted ahead of time.

Think Outside the Box – Just because you don't teach a certain subject area doesn't mean you can't go to that conference. Take a look at the program offerings of other SAG groups that could connect to your professional assignment and related activities or addresses needs in your school. Hearing/seeing things from a different perspective might be rather inspiring.

It's a Date! – Attending sessions with a friend is sometimes easier than going alone. Chat with friends to find out where they are going in order to see if you'd be interested in tagging along.

Aboriginal Issues Contact Person LRTA

- **Sean Oliver** Metis
- Aboriginal Education Teacher LRSD since 2013, RDC/Glenlawn Collegiate.
- Years previous: Grade 4/5 teacher at Frontenac.
- Worked with MTYP Aboriginal Arts Program, Aboriginal Youth Opportunities, Helen Betty Osborne Award recipient 2012
- Currently a member of the Aboriginal Voice and Action Standing Committee (AVASC) with MTS, and Council for Aboriginal Education in Manitoba (CAEM)
- Responsible for reporting to LRTA the work of AVASC, as well as the work being done in Aboriginal Education in our division.



Honoured to do this work for LRTA, and willing to answer any questions regarding Aboriginal education as it pertains to the work being done by LRTA and AVASC (MTS) respectively.

Feel Free to contact at sean.oliver@lrtd.net

Benefits Update

Scott Wood—Benefits Chair

As the new school year is firmly up and running (whether we like it or not), it is a good time for a brief overview of the Employee Benefits plan for the Louis Riel Teachers Association.

There are three good resources for learning more about benefits.

The first is our own website: www.lrta.ca.

On the benefits tab you will find a summary of all of the general benefits available to LRTA members. Highlights of these plans are below for your convenience; however for more detail please consult the website.

The second area for learning about benefits is through the new Manitoba Public School Employees website: www.mpsebp.ca.

Here you will find information about the major plans and be able to access most of the forms necessary to make claims and changes to your plans. Also on this site is the MPSE Benefits Plan newsletter that outlines changes happening in the plans. If you used to go to the MTS website (www.mbteach.org) for this information, you should now go to MPSE as they are “rebranding” the plans.

A third option to best manage your own benefits is to register with Blue Cross at www.mb.bluecross.ca and go to “mybluecross”.

By signing up, you receive personalized information about your benefits including coverage limits, status of claims, eligibility rules (very useful for drug prescriptions as not all are covered). As Blue Cross is the carrier for our major plans, what this site says supersedes any other information available.

(As a side note: make sure you do any sign ups from your personal computer, not from work. Any information placed on the work computers may be visible to others on the system and no one really needs to know about how many messages you use each year!)

Benefits Update

Continued

Highlights of the Benefit Plans:

Blue Cross Dental Benefits

- Compulsory for all contract teachers working at least 30% contract time. Term teachers are eligible if term is more than 60 consecutive days.
- Monthly premium is in pre-tax dollars.
- Opt out provisions apply if you already have Spousal coverage.
- Benefits are maximum of \$1500 per person per calendar year. 80% coverage for Basic and Major, 50% coverage for Ortho.

Blue Cross Extended Health Benefits

- Compulsory for all contract teachers working 30% or more. Optional for less than 30% time.
- Opt out provisions apply.
- Coverage is 80% of eligible expenses not covered by provincial health plan.

Prescription Drugs

- Must register with Pharmacare when incurred costs reach \$1000 per contract per year.
- Benefits will be suspended if Pharmacare application not completed.
- Dependent children subject to same rule with \$100 maximum.

Unlimited Travel Health Benefits

- Coverage is provided while traveling providing the trip is less than 90 days.

Ambulance Service

- Full coverage is provided within the province.

Sick Leave- Article 6.00 of the Collective Agreement

- Accumulate 20 days per year for full time employees.
- Maximum of 130 days accumulated (**new as of September 2015**).
- Part-time teachers receive a pro-rated share of sick days.

Manitoba Teachers Society Disability Benefits Plan (LTD)

- Compulsory for all contract teachers hired for more than 40 days working at least 30% time.
- Premium is 1.88% of gross salary.
- Benefits are paid at 80% of pre-disability net income.

Group Short Term Disability Plan (STD)

- Compulsory for all contract teachers hired for more than 40 days working at least 30% time.
- Premium is 0.17% of gross salary.
- Benefits cover time after all sick leave has been used up to qualifying period of LTD (80 days). (If you have more than 80 sick days accumulated, then STD does not come into play)

Group Life Insurance Plan

- Basic coverage is compulsory for all teachers.
- Minimum coverage is 200% of annual earnings. This premium is employee-employer shared.
- Additional coverage available up to 700% of annual earnings at teacher's expense.
- Other optional elements available.
- For term teachers, please note: your coverage ends when your term ends.
- You must designate your beneficiary. Please check who your beneficiary is if your life circumstances have changed.

Teachers' Retirement Allowances Fund (TRAF)

- Compulsory for all teachers.
- Premium is 6.8% of gross salary up to Yearly Maximum Pensionable Earnings. (\$47 200).
- Additional Premium of 8.4% on earnings above YMPE.



Manitoba Teachers Society
presents

Balance—Wellness
programming for home and
work

For more information, visit:
mbteach.org/balance



**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.**

Contact Us

LRTA office
204- 929-5782

President
Frank Restall
preslrta@shaw.ca

Collective Bargaining
Bernard Mazerolle
cblrta@shaw.ca

Professional Development
Marcela Cabezas
pdlrta@shaw.ca

**All matters will be dealt with in
confidence.**

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

Calendar of Events



LRTA
LOUIS RIEL
TEACHERS'
ASSOCIATION

LRTA Calendar 2015 – 2016

September

Tuesday, 8 th	Opening Day
Wednesday, 16 th	LRTA Executive Meeting
Wednesday, 23 rd	LRTA Council Meeting
Friday, 25 th	LRTA Terry Fox Run
Wednesday, 30 th	LRTA New Member Celebration

October

Friday, 9 th	LRTA Executive Retreat
Wednesday, 21 st	LRTA Council Meeting
Friday, 23 rd	SAGE
Wednesday, 28 th	Maternity/Parental Leave Seminar

November

Wednesday, 4 th	LRTA Executive Meeting
Wednesday, 18 th	LRTA Council Meeting

December

Wednesday, 2 nd	LRTA Executive Meeting
Wednesday, 16 th	LRTA Council Meeting
Monday, 21 st through Friday, January 1 st	Winter Break

January

Wednesday, 6 th	LRTA Executive Meeting
Wednesday, 20 th	LRTA Council Meeting
Wednesday, 27 th	LRTA Benefits Seminar

February

Wednesday, 3 rd	LRTA Executive Meeting
Wednesday, 10 th	Pre-Retirement Seminar – ATC
Wednesday, 17 th	LRTA Council Meeting

March

Monday, Feb 29 th through Friday, March 4 th	Operation Donation
Wednesday, 2 nd	LRTA Executive Meeting
Wednesday, 16 th	LRTA Council Meeting
Monday, 28 th through Friday, April 1 st	Spring Break

April

Wednesday, 6 th	LRTA Executive Meeting
Wednesday, 13 th	LRTA Council Meeting
Thursday, 14 th	Maternity/Parental Leave Seminar
Wednesday, 20 th	LRTA Annual General Assembly – ATC Thursday, 28 th
	LRTA Appreciation Dinner

May

Wednesday, 4 th	LRTA Executive Meeting
Wednesday, 11 th	LRTA AGM Binder Meeting
Wednesday, 18 th	LRTA Council Meeting
Wednesday, 25 th through Saturday, 28 rd	MTS AGM

June

Wednesday, 1 st	LRTA Executive Meeting
Wednesday, 8 th	LRTA Retirement Reception
Wednesday, 15 th	LRTA Council Meeting

Revised September 1, 2015.

Subject to change.