

President– Frank Restall

You Don't Have To Be Hit By Lightning To Know You Are In A Storm

**LRTA Annual General Assembly
Wednesday, April 19th**

The strength of our Association continues to be the active participation of our membership. From our newest members, whom we welcomed at the LRTA function in September, to our most experienced members, who might be considering retirement, the LRTA relies upon each and every one of our 1200 members for support, direction and active involvement.

The active involvement of members attending the Annual General Assembly on Wednesday, April 19th, demonstrates the recognition by members of the importance of being a collective. Being a collective means to stand with and support your colleagues. As a member, your benefits and working conditions are in existence today only because of members willing to support one another and to bargain as a collective in the past. The gains that have been made in the past can be directly attributed to members standing in solidarity.

Now, more than ever, LRTA members standing as a collective and in solidarity with the 15000 members of the Manitoba Teachers' Society is a necessity. I believe that what I used to refer to as "the gathering storm" is now upon us and every Manitoba member and LRTA member should be very, very concerned. Talks of reopening current collective agreements, extensions of collective agreements with wage freezes, mandated wage settlements, reduced work weeks (salary rollbacks), and changes to pensions are a sampling of the challenges that every member could face in the not too distant future.

I would suggest that members need to think and act upon how such challenges are going to impact them, their colleagues and public education in this province.

Members can demonstrate a commitment to the collective by attending the Annual General Assembly (AGA). **The LRTA AGA is at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 19th, at the Louis Riel Arts and Technology Center.** To provide a provincial perspective on some of the aforementioned challenges, the President of The Society, **Norm Gould**, will briefly address the LRTA AGA at the start of the meeting. All LRTA members need to attend to hear this provincial perspective.

The AGA is where the LRTA Executive for 2017-18 will be elected. Council Reps have received nomination forms and the forms are also available on the LRTA website. Please consider running for a position. The AGA is your chance to vote on any proposed changes to our Constitution, Bylaws and Policies. In addition, the LRTA budget for 2017-18 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. However, I would suggest that the most important reason to attend is for you to come together with other members in solidarity and to demonstrate your commitment to the collective.

So, whether this is your 1st year or 51st year as a member, the Association requests that you save the date on your calendar and attend the AGA on April 19th. The Association exists to serve its members and protect member rights and working conditions. **In order to best represent and serve the members, all clinicians, coordinators, principals and teachers need to attend the AGA.** A chain is indeed only as strong as the weakest link!

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! Have a wonderful Spring Break!



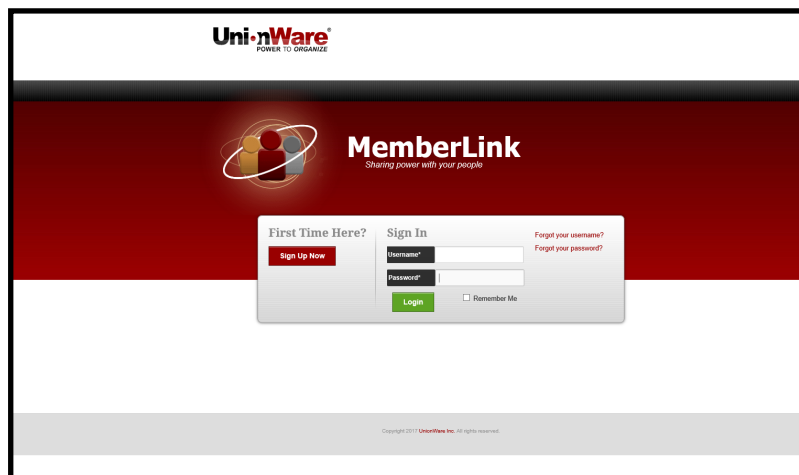
“My Profile” Is Your Profile

Frank Restall – LRTA President

In preparation for the challenges of 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. If necessary, and only when needed, MTS will have to be able to contact all members and the only secure way of doing this is through “My Profile”.

The “My Profile” site is 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 (or if already registered, check to ensure your information is accurate) 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.



ELIGIBLE EDUCATOR SCHOOL SUPPLY TAX CREDIT

A reminder to LRTA members of the School Supply Tax Credit by the Government of Canada. If you are an eligible educator, you can claim a 15% refundable tax credit on up to \$1,000 of supply purchases per year.

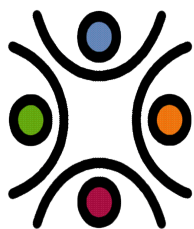
To find out more, please visit:

www.cra-arc.gc.ca/nwsrm/txttps/2016/tt160906-eng.html

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*Louis Riel
Teachers'
Association*



**Wednesday, April 19th,
4:30 pm**

**Louis Riel Arts &
Technology Centre**

Come out and support
your Association!

. Vote on the 2017-18
budget, proposed
changes to the LRTA
Policies, Bylaws and
Constitution, as well as
the 2017-18 LRTA
Executive.

ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Opening Remarks:

**Norm Gould, President of The
Manitoba Teachers' Society**

**THIS IS THE ONE
MEETING LRTA
MEMBERS
MUST ATTEND!**

**Free Childcare
Provided!**

Call the LRTA office at
204-929-5782
or e-mail
preslrta@shaw.ca
to register your
child(ren)!

The State of Professional Learning in Canada

Vice President Professional Development—Marcela Cabezas

This past August, Professional Development Chairs from across the province of Manitoba had the opportunity to participate in focus groups held at the MTS Summer Seminar. These focus groups were led by researchers Dr. Carol Campbell (Ontario Institute for Studies in Education - OISE) and Dr. Brenton Faubert (University of Western Ontario) who were gathering information regarding the state of professional learning in Canada.

With the conclusion of their research and in collaboration with researchers from across Canada, a final report was released by *Learning Forward* and the findings were shared with PD Chairs at the MTS PD Chairs Winter Seminar a few weeks ago. Presenting the key findings from the report to Association's PD Chairs was Dr. Pamela Osmond-Johnson (University of Regina), one of the researchers on the national study. During the session, PD Chairs had the opportunity to contribute to the evolving debate about what constitutes quality professional learning and what this looks like in Manitoba. There was also the opportunity to consider how the findings of this study could change PD access, opportunities, and delivery for our members.

Notably, these were the findings of the researchers. Every teacher should reflect upon his/her own personal experience with professional development as he/she reviews the findings below:

- > Evidence, inquiry and professional judgment are informing professional learning policies and practices.
- > The priority area identified by teachers for developing their knowledge and practices is how to support diverse learners' needs.
- > A focus on broad range of students' and professionals' learning outcomes is important.

- > The appropriate balance of system-directed and self-directed professional development for teachers is complex and contested.
- > There is no "one-size-fits-all" approach to professional learning; teachers are engaging in multiple opportunities for professional learning and inquiry with differentiation for their professional needs
- > Collaborative learning experiences are highly valued and prevalent within and across schools and wider professional networks.
- > Teachers value professional learning that is relevant and practical for their work; "job-embedded" should not mean school-based exclusively as opportunities to engage with external colleagues and learning opportunities also matter.
- > Time for sustained, cumulative professional learning integrated within educators' work lives requires attention.
- > Inequitable variations in access to funding for teachers' self-selected professional development are problematic.
- > System and school leaders have important roles in supporting professional learning for teachers and for themselves.

For more information on each of these findings and to read the Executive Summary report, visit:
<https://learningforward.org/docs/default-source/pdf/CanadaStudyExecSumm2016.pdf>



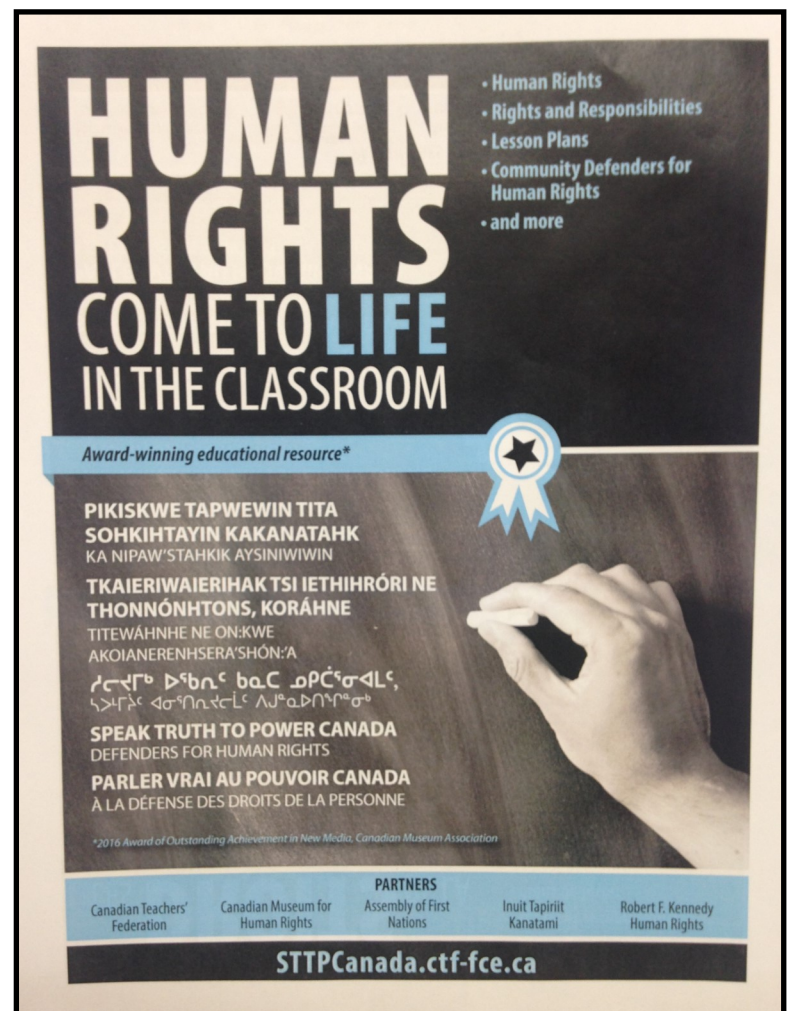
Equity and Social Justice—Information

Public Relations—Cynthia Taylor

Speak Truth to Power Canada

“A free online teacher resource that bring the life of education of human rights for Grade 6-12 across Canada”. **Lesson Plans and Activities are focused on Canadian defenders of Human Rights.**

Crimes Against Humanity
Women's Health and Safety
Inclusion for All
Truth and Reconciliation
Human Trafficking
Cultural Identity and Education
Displacement to Activism
Gender and Sexual Diversity
Children's Health and Wellness
Equality and Redress
Human Dignity
Equitable Education for All



At the Heart of Human Rights is Human Dignity—Conference

March 21 and 22

Hilton Suites Winnipeg Airport

9:30—4:30

\$50.00

Presented by: Islamic Social Services

Victor and Marie Wyatt Bursary

Vice President Professional Development—Marcela Cabezas

The Victor and Marie Wyatt Bursary Committee are now being accepted for bursaries from teachers and administrators to pursue studies related to public school education. This bursary is for courses which were taken from January 2016 to December 2016.

The Victor and Marie Wyatt 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.

Educators who have requested a leave from the Louis Riel School Division for educational purposes and who will be returning to the division.

Bursary Criteria:

Tuition at registered universities or colleges will be considered. This does not include such things as parking, dental or medical insurance, or cost of books and supplies.

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.

Maximum eligible tuition: \$1500.00

Bursary applications will not be accepted in two consecutive tax years (i.e. 2015 applicants can apply again in 2017).

Applications must include:

Proof of course completion – Academic Transcript

Proof that the course(s) fee(s) have been paid – T2202A Certificate

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. The Winnipeg Foundation will review the information received from the Committee and issue a cheque directly to the recipient.

The Victor and Marie Wyatt Bursary Application form can be found at

http://www.lrta.ca/mndata/lrta/uploaded_files/Bursary%20Application%202017.pdf

Applications must be submitted by Friday, April 28, 2017.

Send completed form and all information to: Louis Riel Teachers' Association Attn. Vice President of Professional Development LRTA Office, 121 Hazelwood Crescent Winnipeg, Manitoba, R2M 4E4

For further information, contact the Vice President of Professional Development at 204-929-5782 or pdlrta@shaw.ca.

MTS NEEDS YOU!

Volunteers needed for 2017-2018

2017 VOLUNTEER FORM

****It is only necessary to submit this form once a year.**

Please complete and forward this form via email to: icarroll@mbteach.org.

Name:		My present position is:
		<input type="checkbox"/> Teacher
Home Address:		<input type="checkbox"/> Principal
		<input type="checkbox"/> Vice-Principal
Home Phone #:		<input type="checkbox"/> Clinician
		<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute
		<input type="checkbox"/> Other
Email Address:		Volunteer Positions Available:
Association:		Aboriginal Voice and Action
School Name:		Collective Bargaining
		Curriculum and Teaching
School Address:		Disability Benefits Plan
		Disability Benefits Plan Investment Committee
		Disability Benefits Plan Case Management
School Phone #:		Education Finance
		Equity and Social Justice
Years of Teaching:		Group Benefits
		Outside Body Representation
Areas of Interest:		Professional Development
		Professional Conduct Committee
		Review Committee
		SAGE Council
		Teacher Education and Certification
		Teacher-Led Learning Team
		Workplace Safety and Health
		Young Humanitarian Awards

Please advise which Society Committees you have previously served on and for which years.

The above information will be used for the purposes of processing your volunteer application i.e. sharing the information with the Provincial Executive as well as communicating with you. Should you be appointed to a committee, this personal information will be kept confidential and secure. In order to facilitate communication among committee members, this personal information may be distributed to the other members of the committee on which you are serving.

I agree to this usage of my personal information _____
Signature

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

APRIL

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

MAY

Wednesday May 3	LRTA Executive Meeting
Wednesday May 10	LRTA Binder Meeting
Wednesday May 17	LRTA Council Meeting
Wed May 24—Sat May 27	MTS AGM

JUNE

Wednesday June 7	LRTA Executive Meeting
Wednesday June 14	LRTA Retirement Reception
Wednesday June 21	LRTA Council Meeting

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

@preslrta

