RIELITY CH√CK

FEBRUARY 2019

PUBLICATION OF THE LOUIS RIEL TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION (www.irta.ca)

LRTA Annual General Assembly Wednesday, April 17th

President—Frank Restall

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 October, to our most experienced members, who might be considering retirement, the LRTA relies upon each one of our 1200 members for support, direction and active involvement.

The active involvement of members attending the Annual General Assembly (Wednesday, April 17th) demonstrates the recognition by members of the importance of standing as 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 stand as a collective 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.

On a yearly basis, members demonstrate a commitment to the collective by attending the Annual General Assembly (AGA). The LRTA AGA is on Wednesday, April 17th, 4:30 p.m. at the Louis Riel Arts and Technology Center. Council Reps have received nomination papers for the Executive position elections. Nomination forms are also available on the LRTA website. Please consider running for a position.

The AGA is also your chance to vote on any proposed changes to our Constitution, Bylaws and Policies. The LRTA budget for 2019-20 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



ALL MEMBERS MUST ATTEND THIS ONE MEETING!

come together with other members in solidarity and to demonstrate your commitment to the collective and to your Association.

So, whether this is your 1st year or 53rd year as a member, the Association requests that you highlight the AGA on your calendar and attend this one meeting on April 17th. Schools were asked at the beginning of the year to avoid conflicts by not scheduling events on the day of AGA.

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!

The analogy of a "chain" applies to the provincial Society as well. The LRTA is asking all members to support your colleagues in neighbouring rooms, in your school, in your Association and throughout the province by registering with the MTS "My Profile" site. If you haven't done so already, please register from home, by visiting

www.mbteach.org or click the link https://memberlink.mbteach.org/Register.aspx.

The collective needs you to register!

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!

Le coin des

Le coin des ÉFM par Fiona Cook

Les réunions du Conseil des écoles des ÉFM 2018-2019 se dérouleront à Winnipeg comme suit :

• le samedi 2 mars 2019 de 9 h à 15h à McMaster House

Paint Night

Il aura un Paint Night le 2 mars de 16h à 20h au Joe Black Coffee Bar, 2037 avenue Portage. Date limite pour les inscriptions est le vendredi 22 février 2019. Frais d'inscription 25\$ Inscrivez-vous en ligne <u>https://memberlink.mbteach.org/Event.axd?e=998</u> Pour plus d'information contactez Marie-France Baker au 204.837.4666 poste 229 ou mbaker@mbteach.org .

Chandails du 50e des ÉFM

Les chandails du 50e des ÉFM sont encore disponibles à être commandés en ligne. Suivez le lien : <u>https://www.unionproud.com/shop-2/mts-50th-french-design/</u>

48^e Assemblée générale annuelle des ÉFM 2019

le vendredi 12 avril 2019 de 9 h à 16h à l'hôtel CanadInns Destination Centre Polo Park

Prix de jeunes humanitaires

Les soumissions pour les prix de jeunes humanitaires sont à remettre le jeudi 28 février à 16h. Les formulaires de candidature sont disponibles au site mbteach.org.

Réseaux d'apprentissage régionaux (RAR)

Un **RAR** est un groupe d'enseignants qui veut développer et entretenir un réseau de relations professionnelles entre eux. Ils peuvent avoir accès aux fonds pour subvenir à leurs besoins pédagogiques et leur perfectionnement professionnel. Pour plus d'informations : <u>https://efm-mts.org/reseaux-</u> <u>dapprentissage-regionaux/</u>

Programme de mentorat

Le programme de mentorat vous offre l'occasion de cous jumeler à un ou à des retraités.es afin de vivre des expériences culturelles et communautaires enrichissantes et en français! Pour vous inscrire ou pour plus de renseignements, contactez Roland Dion au 204.257.3629 ou à rdion@mymts.net

Suivez les ÉFM sur Facebook, Twitter et Instagram







Call for Nominations 2019-2020 LRTA Executive



The Nominations Chair is calling for nominations to the Louis Riel Teachers' Association Executive for 2019-2020. Nominations will be accepted beginning March 1, 2017. Nomination papers must be accompanied by the signatures of two members and forwarded to Jay McGurran at the LRTA Office at Dr. D. W. Penner School by 12:00 noon, March 13, 2019.

What is the LRTA? The Louis Riel Teachers' Association represents all clinicians, coordinators, principals, vice-principals, 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, Equity and Social Justice and Public Relations. In addition, the LRTA provides assistance and guidance to individual members upon request.

Who can be an Executive member? Any member in good standing with MTS, 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 17th where the election takes place. The Executive for 2019-2020 assumes office on August 1, 2019.

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.



2019-2020 LRTA Executive



It is time to commence the building of the LRTA 2019 - 2020 Executive. All positions are one year terms so every position is vacant. Elections will take place at the Annual General Assembly on Wednesday, April 17, 2019, 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:

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	EQUITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE
PUBLIC RELATIONS	SOCIAL
MEMBER AT LARGE (3)	LRASA REPRESENTATIVE

Nominations will open Friday, March 1st and nominations will be accepted until 12:00 noon Wednesday, March 13, 2019.

Nomination forms are available through the <u>LRTA Website</u> (follow hyperlink to PDF). Once completed, forms are to be sent to:

Jay McGurran LRTA Office Dr. D. W. Penner School 929 5780 (fax).

Election Procedures

- Candidates will be entitled to the following:
 - \Rightarrow an election statement (one 8 1/2 X 11 sheet)
 - \Rightarrow translation of the election statement
 - \Rightarrow distribution of the election statement
 - \Rightarrow the opportunity to address the Assembly on April 17
- 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, Jay McGurran, by noon (12:00 p.m.), Wednesday, March 13, 2019. It is highly recommended that you send in your election statement as early as possible to facilitate translation and printing. Materials arriving after March 13, 2019, 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.



The Collective Agreement outlines the rights and working conditions of Louis Riel teachers. A very important clause found in our Agreement is Article 10:00 – Meal Period.

"Except in cases of emergency or unforeseen similar circumstances, every teacher shall be entitled to an uninterrupted meal period of fifty-five (55) minutes duration between 11:00 am and 2:00 pm daily."

While the idea of having a lunch break may be taken for granted by some, unlike most other employees in Manitoba, teachers were not guaranteed time for lunch. Teachers had to negotiate the right to eat lunch into the Collective Agreement!

It is important that members not compromise this right by scheduling or attending meetings during lunch!

LRTA members do not have the right to schedule, expect, pressure, nor entice colleagues to attend noon hour meetings because in doing so they are proposing an action which violates the Collective Agreement. In addition, there cannot be repercussions if a member wishes to abide by Article 10:00 and not attend a noon hour meeting. All members must support their colleagues and the Collective Agreement by ensuring that the meal period is safeguarded!

In addition, the clause states:

"Designated professional staff will be on call during lunch period to deal with emergencies and unforeseen similar circumstances."

This means that all professional staff will be scheduled on a rotating basis to be on call. "On call" means being in the building to deal with unforeseen emergencies that might arise. Being "on call" would not include supervision, answering phones, duties, etc.

For further information or clarification, members are encouraged to call the LRTA office at 204-929-5782.

Nominating your students is a SNAP!

They're kids with a cause – compassionate, creative and courageous. You see them at every grade level, students who love serving in their schools and communities.

Thank them for their goodness with a Young Humanitarian Award nomination. They could win one of four \$1,000 prizes. Deadline for submissions is Thursday February 28, 2019 at 4:00 pm.





Join us at our MTS YHA Awards April 16, 2019, 7:00 PM at the Manitoba Theatre for Young People.

Nomination forms are available at <u>www.mbteach.org</u>

Manitoba's Commission on K to Gr 12 Education

On January 23, 2019, the Manitoba Government formally announced the establishment of the Commission on Kindergarten to Grade 12 Education.

The mandate of this Commission is to carry out an independent review of the entire system with a focus on improving outcomes for students. The official announcement includes references to "renewed vision", "bold recommendations", and "labour market needs".

To fulfill this mandate, nine people have been named as Commissioners. They have been tasked with taking input from the public, reviewing research, and examining best practices in education. The Commission is led by co-Chairs Dr. Janice MacKinnon from Alberta and Clayton Manness, former Education Minister of Manitoba.

The focus of the review is to be on the following items:

- 1. **Long-term vision**: What should the goals and purpose of K-12 education be in a rapidly changing world?
- 2. **Student learning**: What are the conditions required to achieve excellence in student achievement and outcomes in Manitoba?
- 3. Teaching: How can teachers and school leaders become more effective?
- 4. **Accountability for student learning**: How can the education system develop a stronger sense of shared accountability for student learning?
- 5. **Governance**: What type of governance structures are needed to create a coordinated and relevant education system?
- 6. **Funding**: What actions are required to ensure that the education system is sustainable and provides equitable learning opportunities for all children and youth?

As this is a public consultation about education, all Members are encouraged to participate in providing feedback. You can attend public meetings, submit written reports to the commission, and/or fill out the online surveys. Your voices are important in this process!

The consultation process is expected to last from February 2019 to May 2019. The final report is to be made public in March 2020, leading into the October 2020 election.

For more information about this review, please visit: www.edu.gov.mb.ca/educationreview/.



Help Shape Our Education System.

Participate in the Manitoba Government K-12 Education Review.

ESJ Survey

Equity and Social Justice Chair — Jaclyn Richard



Earlier this school year, the LRTA Equity and Social Justice (ESJ) Committee

distributed its first member survey. The committee wanted to give teachers the opportunity to share their hopes, concerns, and observations regarding equity and social justice in our Association and in our schools. We asked questions about a variety of ESJ issues facing our colleagues and our students, including such topics as: poverty, racism, sexism, access to mental health supports, and religious discrimination. 340 members responded over the three weeks in which the survey was open. Some notable themes emerged.

When asked: "What do you believe to be the ESJ challenges currently facing your students? Select all that apply".

73% responded Poverty72% responded Access to Mental Health SupportsMore than 50% selected RacismMore than 50% selected Sexism and Gender Discrimination43% indicated Homophobia

When asked: "Which ESJ challenges are you currently facing, or you believe your colleagues may be facing? Select all that apply."

68% responded Access to Mental Health Supports38% responded Sexism and Gender Discrimination

When asked: "In what type of ESJ event would you be most interested in participating?"

55% selected Guest Speakers and Presentations25% selected Public Group Events23% selected Walking and Museum Tours

When asked: "How might LRTA best help you with your ESJ work/interests?"

52% stated by Providing Resources 34% stated by Discussing or Offering Ideas for ESJ Initiatives

The LRTA ESJ Committee thanks all members who participated in this year's survey. Information collected has already begun to guide the planning of the Association, allowing us to continue supporting, protecting, and furthering the working conditions and personal identities of our members.



Menses Madness

LRTA's Equity and Social Justice Committee challenges members to donate menstrual hygiene products during the month of March.

Tampons

Liners

Pads

Menstrual cups

Donations can be sent to the LRTA office or dropped off with your LRTA council rep. Products will be donated to Teen Stop Jeunesse to support youth in our community.

If you would like to learn more about the equity issues surrounding menstrual hygiene, email: jaclyn.richard@lrsd.net

MTS PD EVENTS

VP Professional Development — Marcela Cabezas



March 1 and 2, 2019 McMaster House 191 Harcourt Certification: Special Education and School Counselling

AUTHENTIC EQUITY: MOVING BEYOND CELEBRATING DIVERSITY

Teachers and leaders will learn how to create equitable classrooms and schools and to avoid common pitfalls that create the illusion of equity while maintaining inequity. Using the equity literacy framework, participants will learn content, practical strategies, and facilitation skills to strengthen equity efforts and intervene with bias and inequity.

Topics: Safe and inclusive classroom environments where students can express themselves; how to recognize and respond to bias; age-appropriate strategies for teaching about equity issues such as sexism and poverty; and teaching strategies to develop critical thinking and analytical skills to recognize bias in resources, interactions and policies.

Fee: Member \$150; Non-Member \$200

Presenters: Paul Gorski, Sarah Gazan and Eric Sagenes

March 25 and 27, 2019 McMaster House 191 Harcourt Certification: Special Education and School Counselling Max: 25 Participants

MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID FOR ADULTS WHO INTERACT WITH YOUTH

Education professionals will learn how to provide initial support to someone who may be developing a mental health problem or experiencing a mental health issue.

Topics: Sensitivity to the unique aspects of mental health issues and concerns in young people; identification of mental health problems; and appropriate mental health first aid intervention strategies.

Fee: Member \$150; Non-Member \$200; Student \$75

Debra Radi is an educator with teaching and administrative experience in both K-12 and university settings. She has a passion for supporting professional learning and growth. As an advocate for positive mental health promotion, offering the MHFA for Adults Who Interact With Youth is one way that she can support increased mental health awareness.

Visit link here to MTS PD Workshops and Courses







LEAN IN Building Capacity, Confidence, and Voice

March 8, 2019 | 5:00 pm - 10:00 pm March 9, 2019 | 8:30 am - 3:30 pm McMaster House

We are often standing on the edge - edge of change, new opportunities, challenges and more! This symposium will provide an opportunity to network, dialogue, collaborate, and share experiences as women in leadership roles, formal or otherwise. Plenary and breakout sessions are designed to explore assumptions about and practices of leadership through a variety of lenses. Celebrate the expertise and experiences of women who hold leadership positions. Be prepared to laugh, learn, and be inspired.

\$75 per person

FEATURING: Erna Braun, Katherine Bueti, Lorelei Bunkowsky, Kathy Antymis, Uzoma Asagwara, Donna Davidson, The Honourable Myrna Driedger – Speaker of the House, Terri Hill, Anna Mangano, Barb McAfee, Peggy Prendergast, Valérie Rémiliard, Ashley Richard, Treaty Commissioner Loretta Ross, Lynne Skromeda, Kerri Twigg, Judy Wasylycia-Leis, Jen Zoratti

Light supper included

Register at: https://memberlink.mbteach.org/Event.axd?e=880 REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 5:00 P.M. FORMAL PROGRAM BEGINS AT 6:00 P.M.

LRTA Winnipeg Harvest Volunteer Night

Equity and Social Justice Chair — Jaclyn Richard

On Wednesday, January 30th, LRTA teachers, along with their friends and family members, braved the cold to make a difference. Twenty-four hardworking volunteers spent the evening at Winnipeg Harvest, sorting 2,000 pounds of bread and baked goods, unboxing and date-checking non-perishable food items, and organizing more than 1,000 pounds of food. A good time was had by all!

We look forward to returning to Winnipeg Harvest to volunteer on Tuesday, March 5th and Thursday, May 2nd from 5:30 -7:00 PM. All LRTA members, along with their friends, family members, and children are welcome to join. Email <u>jaclyn.richard@lrsd.net</u> to reserve your spot(s)!





Victor and Marie Wyatt Bursary Application

The Victor and Marie Wyatt Bursary Committee is accepting applications for bursaries from teachers and principals to pursue studies related to public school education. The Bursary Fund, which is overseen by the Winnipeg Foundation, sits around \$8000 in a given year and is divided up by mathematical formula amongst all the approved applicants. This bursary is for courses which were taken from January 2018 to December 2018.

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; and
- 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:

- Proof of course completion is required via university transcript.
- Applicants may apply for tuition at registered universities or colleges. Maximum eligible tuition request is \$1500.00.
- Applicants may not apply for such things as (re)-registration, comprehensive exam fees, parking, dental or medical insurance, or cost of books and supplies.
- Applicants must provide a copy of their T2202A Certificate **and** a university-generated account summary which indicates a separate breakdown of course (education) tuition and fees.
- Bursary applications will not be accepted in two consecutive tax years (i.e. **2017** applicants can apply again in **2019**).



Victor and Marie Wyatt Bursary Application (CONTINUED)

Applications must include:

- Proof of course completion Academic Transcript;
- Proof that the course(s) fee(s) have been paid T2202A Certificate; and
- A university-generated account summary which indicates a separate breakdown of course (education) tuition and fees.

Process:

Applications will be reviewed by the Victor and Marie Wyatt Bursary Committee. Approved applicants will receive a letter of confirmation from the Bursary Committee indicating the amount of bursary they will be awarded. A copy of the confirmation letter is sent to the Winnipeg Foundation which will issue a cheque directly to the recipient.

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

https://www.lrta.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Bursary-Application-2019-fillable.pdf

Applications must be submitted by 4:00 pm Friday, April 26, 2019.

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 <u>pdlrta@shaw.ca</u>.

Contact Us

LRTA office 204- 929-5782

President Frank Restall presirta@shaw.ca

Collective Bargaining Scott Wood <u>cblrta@shaw.ca</u>

Professional Development Marcela Cabezas <u>pdlrta@shaw.ca</u>

All matters will be dealt with in confidence.

Manitoba Teachers' Society To Request Staff Officer Assistance 204-888-7961

February

Wednesday, 6th Thursday, 7th Wednesday, 13th

March

Wednesday, 6th Wednesday, 13th Monday, 25th through Friday, March 29th

<u>April</u>

Wednesday, 3rd Wednesday, 10th Thursday, 11th Wednesday, 17th Thursday, 25th

May

Wednesday, 1st Wednesday, 8th Wednesday, 15th Wednesday, 22nd through Saturday, 25th

June

Wednesday, 5th Wednesday, 12th

Wednesday, 19th

LRTA Executive Meeting Pre-Retirement Seminar – ATC LRTA Council Meeting

LRTA Executive Meeting LRTA Council Meeting

Spring Break

LRTA Executive Meeting LRTA Council Meeting Maternity/Parental Leave Seminar LRTA Annual General Assembly – ATC LRTA Appreciation Dinner

LRTA Executive Meeting LRTA AGM Binder Meeting LRTA Council Meeting

MTS AGM

LRTA Executive Meeting LRTA Retirement Reception LRTA Council Meeting

Subject to change. As of Sept. 5, 2018.

Calendar of Events

Reminder:

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

Follow us @presirta



lst LRT gth LRT