



## “Committed to Building a Stronger Society”

President's Message Frank Restall



Over the next few months, LRTA and other local associations across this province, as well as the Manitoba Teachers' Society, will be holding elections for executive positions. These are always important elections but given the actions and perceived intentions of the provincial government, these local and Society elections take on an importance that cannot be overstated.

Our collective memory can recall the times of the turbulent 90s when funding to education in this province was cut back and the public-school system seemed to be under constant attack. The government of the day seemed to be less concerned with supporting teachers and best practice and more concerned with fiscal restraint. Being on the frontlines, members were vocal opponents to the actions of the government and the negative impact these actions were having in the classroom.

Fast forward twenty years, and it appears that public school educators and public schools are faced with very similar challenges. In the late 90s, teachers and the Society were able to focus the electorate's attention upon public education which became a major, if not the deciding issue, in the following election. This clearly illustrated the effectiveness of member unity, solidarity, and collective action. Member unity, solidarity and collective action will once again be the keys to preserving a strong public-school system and ensuring the role of teachers as advocates and vanguards of public-schools far into the future.

As we embark upon this path of collective action, there are three ways that each LRTA member can be actively involved:

Firstly, the LRTA is asking all members to register with the MTS “My Profile” site. If you haven't done so already, please register from home, by visiting [www.mbteach.org](http://www.mbteach.org) or click the link <https://memberlink.mbteach.org/Register.aspx>. The collective needs you to register!

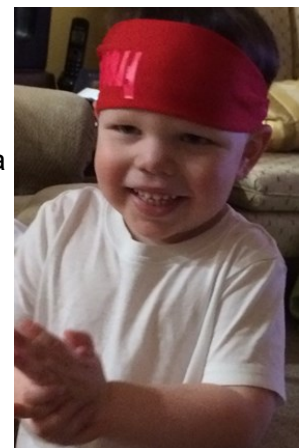
Secondly, the K-12 Comprehensive Education review will run through May 2019. Please participate in this review. Attend and speak at a town hall. Submit an online submission. “If you do not speak up when it matters, when would it matter that you speak?” Always remember that change can only happen when enough people speak up in the same voice. Members must be committed to the collective and our collective voice must be strong. Information about the Education Review can be found at <https://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/educationreview/submissions.html>

Lastly, and most importantly on a local level, attend the LRTA Annual General Assembly (AGA) scheduled for Wednesday, April 17, at ATC. The LRTA AGA begins at 4:30 p.m. and it is where the LRTA Executive for 2019-20 will be elected. The AGA is also your chance to vote on any proposed changes to our Constitution, Bylaws and Policies. In addition, 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 come together with other members in solidarity and to demonstrate your commitment to the collective.

So, whether this is your 1<sup>st</sup> year or 53<sup>rd</sup> year as a member, the Association requests that you save the date on your calendar and attend the AGA on April 17<sup>th</sup>. The Association exists to serve its members and protect member rights and working conditions. 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, 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!



*“I applaud and thank you for protecting public education and my future!”*

# K-12 Comprehensive Education Review



## What We Know

The K-12 education review will be led by a nine-member Commission tasked with proposing a “renewed vision” for kindergarten-to-Grade 12 education and making “bold recommendations to ignite change” within existing systems and programs that will inspire excellence in teaching and learning.

The Review will concentrate on six broad areas of focus:

**Long-term vision** – What should the goals and purpose of K-12 education be in a rapidly changing world?

**Student learning** – What are the conditions required to achieve excellence in student achievement and outcomes in Manitoba?

**Teaching** – How can teachers and school leaders become more effective?

**Accountability for student learning** – How can the education system develop a stronger sense of shared accountability for student learning?

**Governance** – What type of governance structures are needed to create a coordinated and relevant education system?

**Funding** – What actions are required to ensure that the education system is sustainable and provides equitable learning opportunities for all children and youth?

The Commission will be led by Janice MacKinnon, a former Saskatchewan NDP cabinet minister, and Clayton Manness, who served as finance and education ministers under former Manitoba premier Gary Filmon. They will be joined by former education minister Ian Wishart, Terry Brown, Mark Frison, John Daniel Lees, Laura Repski, Jill Quilty and Denis Robert.

The consultation process will run from February to May 2019 and the public release of the recommendations will occur in March 2020.

## MTS Position

The Society agrees that a review of the education system is necessary and will participate fully to ensure that the voices of teachers are part of the consultation process.

## What can I do?

Stay informed on this issue and many more by connecting with MTS on social media, updating your profile in MyProfile and visiting our website. More information about the review, including profiles of the commissioners can be found on [www.edu.gov.mb.ca/educationreview/](http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/educationreview/).

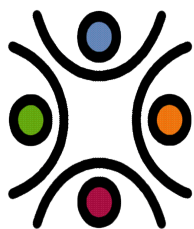
We encourage you to participate in this Review, whether it is speaking at a town hall, sending in an online submission or completing the survey, it's crucial that the voices of teachers are part of the conversation.

For more information, contact MTS President, Norm Gould at 204- 888-7961 or [ngould@mbteach.org](mailto:ngould@mbteach.org)

## IN THIS ISSUE

- |   |  |                                    |
|---|--|------------------------------------|
| • P.1 President's Message                       | P.2 K-12 Comprehensive Education Review        | P.3 AGA Information                |
| • P.4 The State of Professional Learning in CAN | P.5 Collective Bargaining Survey               | P.6 Victor and Marie Wyatt Bursary |
| • P.7 LRTA Trivia Night                         | P.8 ESJ Info/ Calendar and Contact Information |                                    |

**Louis Riel  
Teachers'  
Association**



**Wednesday, April 17th,  
4:30 pm**

**Louis Riel Arts &  
Technology Centre**

Come out and support  
your Association!

- Vote on the 2019-2020  
budget, proposed  
changes to the LRTA  
Policies, Bylaws and  
Constitution
- Vote for 2019-20 LRTA  
Executive.

# **ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**IF YOU ATTEND  
BUT ONE  
MEETING THIS  
YEAR,**

**MAKE IT THIS ONE!**

**Free Childcare  
Provided!**

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

# The State of Profession Learning In Canada

Vice President Professional Development—Marcela Cabezas



At the MTS Winter PD Chairs' Seminar, *The State of Professional Learning in Canada: Executive Summary* was shared with and discussed by all local Association PD chairpersons.

On January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 the Manitoba government announced the establishment of the Commission on Kindergarten to Grade 12 Education. One of the foci of the Commission is to examine how teachers and school leaders can become more effective.

Our Code of Professional Practice speaks to the importance of members making an ongoing effort to improve professionally. School Divisions play a key role in the delivery of professional learning through their non-instructional day PD offerings as well as through the employment of individuals tasked with

supporting teacher learning.

This year's current funding announcement from the Province has caused school divisions to closely re-examine their budgets and make hard decisions regarding many areas, including professional learning. The Louis Riel School Division's 2019-2020 proposed budget makes mention of a possible cut of nearly \$500,000 to professional learning which will undoubtedly impact not only professional staff, but also the students who directly benefit from the knowledge base of their teachers.

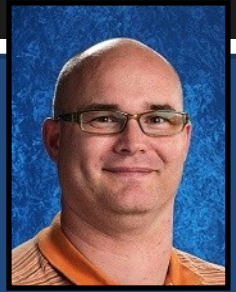
Below is a table featuring the Key Findings from their study. To read the report in its entirety, please visit

<https://learningforward.org/publications/canada-study>.

Key Components and Features of Effective Professional Learning Identified		Key Findings from Study of Educators' Professional Learning in Canada
QUALITY CONTENT	Evidence-informed	Evidence, inquiry and professional judgement are informing professional learning policies and practices
	Subject-specific and pedagogical content knowledge	The priority area identified by teachers for developing their knowledge and practices is how to support diverse learners' needs
	A focus of student outcomes	A focus on a broad range of students' and professionals' learning outcomes is important
	A balance of teacher voice and system coherence	The appropriate balance of system-directed and self-directed professional development for teachers is complex and contested
LEARNING DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION	Active and Variable Learning	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	Collaborative learning experiences are highly valued and prevalent within and across schools and wider professional networks
	Job-embedded learning	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 matter also
SUPPORT AND SUSTAINABILITY	On-going in duration	Time for sustained cumulative professional learning integrated within educators' work lives requires attention
	Resources	Inequitable variations in access for teachers' self-selected professional development are problematic
	Supportive and engaged leadership	System and schools have important roles in supporting professional learning for teachers and for themselves

# Coming Soon To A Staff Meeting Near You—The Collective Bargaining Survey!

Vice President Collective Bargaining—Scott Wood



The LRTA Collective Bargaining Committee has been working industriously on negotiations for our next Collective Agreement.

As members are aware, our current Collective Agreement expired on June 30, 2018. During this school year we have been working under the terms of the previous agreement as we hoped to negotiate amendments to the Collective Agreement.

As part of our negotiations, we exercised our right to apply for Interest Arbitration in July 2018. This process sets up a third-party panel to look at our proposals and any of the Division's responses to come up with a new contract.

In preparation for the Interest Arbitration Hearings, scheduled for the fall of 2019, we are looking to refine our supporting positions for a number of issues that concern our membership.

This is where you, the LRTA membership, comes in.

At the May Staff meeting all LRTA members will be asked to complete a short survey regarding bargaining issues. This is to help direct our preparations and case for Arbitration.

I must emphasize this is a local survey. The responses will be confidential and no identifying information, beyond basic demographics, will be collected. In fact, the survey results will be tabulated by a third-party survey provider and the CB committee will only receive the summaries.

Is this important? Absolutely. We need a full response from membership to be able to help support the proposals we make at the bargaining table. It gives weight to negotiations when we are able to say that our membership believes strongly in the proposals we are presenting.

Please support all LRTA members by completing the survey.

**SURVEY DAY: Tuesday, May 21<sup>st</sup>**

**SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL BARGAINERS!**

**SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL ASSOCIATION!**

**SUPPORT YOUR COLLEAGUES!**





# Victor and Marie Wyatt Bursary

Vice President Professional Development—Marcela Cabezas



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**).

## 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 [pdlrta@shaw.ca](mailto:pdlrta@shaw.ca).

# TRIVIA NIGHT

## LRTA 2ND ANNUAL TRIVIA NIGHT

**FRIENDS~FOOD~FUN**

**April 30, 2019**  
**7 – 10 pm**

**Royal Pizza**  
6-1500 Dakota St.

*ADULT ONLY EVENT*

\$25.00 Per Team/ 5 people per team/  
**10 TEAM MAX.**

Individual Rate – \$5.00

Contact [kristjan.robinson@lrsd.net](mailto:kristjan.robinson@lrsd.net) to  
confirm your participation and  
payment!

# ESJ UPDATE

Equity and Social Justice Chair—Jaclyn Richard



## LRTA FAMILY VOLUNTEER NIGHT AT WINNIPEG HARVEST!



**Thursday May 2  
5 :30 to 7 pm**

Please email  
[jaclyn.richard@lrsd.net](mailto:jaclyn.richard@lrsd.net)  
to confirm your spot(s)!

**FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENT, ALL AGES ARE WELCOME!**

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

### Calendar of Events

#### APRIL

Wednesday April 3	LRTA Executive Meeting
Wednesday April 10	LRTA Council Meeting
Thursday April 11	Maternity/Paternity Leave Seminar
<b>Wednesday April 17</b>	<b>Annual General Assembly – ATC</b>
Thursday April 25	LRTA Appreciation Dinner

#### MAY

Wednesday May 1	LRTA Executive Meeting
Wednesday May 8	LRTA Binder Meeting
Wednesday May 15	LRTA Council Meeting
Wed May 22—Sat May 25	MTS AGM

#### JUNE

Wednesday June 5	LRTA Executive Meeting
Wednesday June 12	LRTA Retirement Reception
Wednesday June 19	LRTA Council Meeting

### Contact Us

**LRTA office**  
204- 929-5782

**President**  
Frank Restall  
[preslrta@shaw.ca](mailto:preslrta@shaw.ca)

**Collective Bargaining**  
Scott Wood  
[cblrta@shaw.ca](mailto:cblrta@shaw.ca)

**Professional Development**  
Marcela Cabezas  
[pdlrta@shaw.ca](mailto:pdlrta@shaw.ca)

All matters will be dealt with  
in confidence.

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

**@preslrta**

