

JUNE 2025

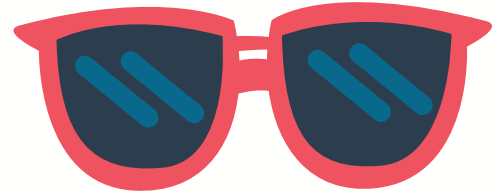
RIELITY CHECK

A PUBLICATION OF THE LOUIS RIEL TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION www.lrta.ca



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Jay McGurran



As we reach the end of another school year, I want to take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you. This year has once again demonstrated the strength, compassion, and professionalism that define the membership of the Louis Riel Teachers' Association.

It's always remarkable how quickly June seems to arrive. One moment we're welcoming students back in September, full of plans and possibilities—and the next, we're packing up classrooms, celebrating milestones, and reflecting on all that's been accomplished. The pace of the school year can be relentless, but it's a testament to the energy, care, and commitment you bring to your work every single day.

Throughout the year, you have shown unwavering dedication to your students, your colleagues, and your communities. Whether navigating new challenges in the classroom, supporting one another through professional and personal hurdles, or advocating for the needs of public education, you have done so with grace and determination.

As your LRTA President, I've had the privilege of witnessing the incredible work you do—often quietly, often behind the scenes, but always with purpose. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed. From early years to senior years, from specialized support to leadership roles, your collective impact is profound and lasting.

This year, we strengthened our union through meaningful dialogue, collective action, and a shared commitment to our profession. The solidarity and support within our association are what make us strong—and I am proud to represent such a dedicated and passionate group of professionals.

I want to take a moment to recognize and celebrate our retiring members. Your years of service have left a lasting legacy—not only in the lives of the students you've taught, but in the hearts of your colleagues and the fabric of our profession. Thank you for your dedication, your wisdom, and your unwavering belief in the power of education. We wish you all the best in this next chapter—may it be filled with joy, adventure, and well-earned rest.

President's Message Continued...

As we look ahead, I remain optimistic. A new collective agreement is already in the works, and with it comes the opportunity to continue advocating for improvements that reflect the realities of our profession and the needs of our members. The future of education is shaped by those who care deeply, who innovate, and who believe in the potential of every learner. That's you. And together, we will keep building a stronger, more supportive professional landscape for all.

But for now, I hope you take time this summer to rest, recharge, and reconnect with the people and activities that bring you joy. You have earned it—many times over.

Thank you for your dedication, your resilience, and your heart. I look forward to continuing our work together in the new school year.

Wishing you a safe, restful, and joyful summer.

All the best,

Jay McGurran

President, Louis Riel Teachers' Association



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LRTA PPDF

Written by Jaclyn Porteous
VP of PD

What to know for September 2025

- ✓ PPDF has a few New Guideline Changes that may affect you.
 - Funds for out-of-town PD events has been increased to \$2750 (every 3 years)
 - The overall PPDF budget has increased for the 25/26 year, so get planning your PD!
 - The Meal per diem has been replaced by a **Travel per diem of \$150 for a full day and \$75 for a half day**. The Travel per diem would include food, local transport and transportation to and from the airport. This would also eliminate the option of claiming a rental car separately as members could use their per diems towards one if they choose.

Don't forget!!

- ✓ 10-day Rule: It is required for members to submit their applications 10 teaching days before the PD event.
- ✓ You are eligible for up to \$50 of funding for a SAGE group event taking place on MTS PD Day on October
- ✓ It is important to get your applications in early! We vet applications on a first come, first serve basis and we don't always have enough money to fund all applications.

PPDF Terms

Term	Dates	Term Opening Dates	Term Closing Dates
1	September 2 – December 31, 2025	September 2nd, 2025 @ 8am	December 5th, 2025
2	January 1 – February 28th, 2026	October 15th, 2025 @ 8am	February 13th, 2026
3	March 1 – April 30th, 2026 May	November 15th, 2025 @ 8am	April 16th, 2026
4	1 – August 31st, 2026	February 15th, 2026 @ 8am	June 19, 2026

Louis Riel Teacher's Association would like to recognize this year's

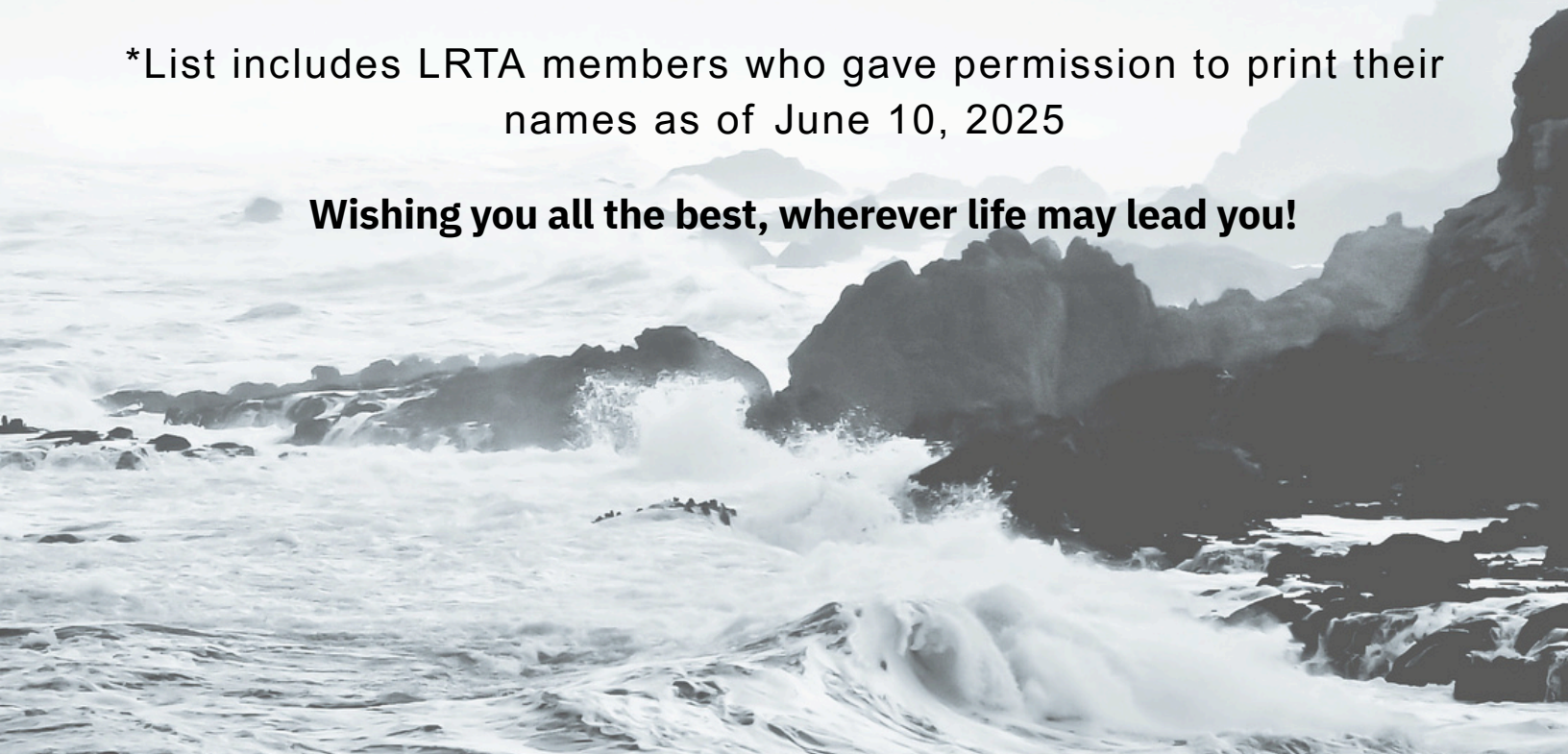
Retirees:

**Lori Arthur
Michelle Bacon
Cloyd Barth
Sharri Bertram
Verna Bridges
Ross Cathers
Tracey Chilton-Durand
Susan Ciastko
Darcy Cormack
Candace Côté
Keith Dyck
Anita Fedoruk
Diane Fontaine
Lisette Freynet
Marc Giguere
Kathy Grenier
Brian Heintz
Greg Kiesman
Nicole Lafrenière**

**Lise-Anne Mandaliti
Viktor Messejnikov
Lisa Monney
Dawn Muir
Angele Parrington
Ingrid Pedersen
Daniel Philippot
Jacqueline Philippot
Philippe Picoux
Troy Reinhardt
Arthur Rey
Gisele Rohatynsky
Karen Ross
Tracey Shields-Jarvis
Elena Stangherlin
Jean-Luc Suszko
Amy Warriner
Alana White**

***List includes LRTA members who gave permission to print their names as of June 10, 2025**

Wishing you all the best, wherever life may lead you!



2025 MTS AGM Update

The 106th Annual General Meeting of Provincial Council of MTS took place from May 22-24 at the RBC Convention Centre. A total of 335 delegates from associations across the province, including 26 from LRTA, attended to the business of the membership.

- **Indigenous Inclusion:** Thanks to the Indigenous Voice and Action Standing Committee and the Circle of Indigenous Educators, new bylaws were adopted. These include:
 - A designated member-at-large position for an Indigenous individual.
 - Invitations for Circle representatives to attend key council and executive meetings.
 - These steps support truth and reconciliation efforts.
- **Governance Improvements:** The Constitution, Bylaw, and Policy Ad hoc committee introduced changes to strengthen governance practices.
- **Policy Update:** A new section in MTS Policy now formally includes long-standing grant programs.
- **Budget Adjustments:** Member feedback led to budget amendments, reducing the proposed membership fee increase. However, fees will rise by \$60 in 2025–2026 (to \$1288 per FTE).
- **Mission Statement Update:** The Society's mission now explicitly includes commitments to equity and social justice in education.
- **Legal Services Bylaw:** Long-debated changes to legal services bylaws were finally approved, providing clarity for members.

Provincial Executive election results.

- **President: Lillian Klassen** – River East Transcona Teachers' Association
- **Vice President: Joel Swaan** – Garden Valley Teachers' Association
- **Members at Large**
- **Lindsay Brown** – Seven Oaks Teachers' Association (2-year term)
- **Jeff Cieszecki** – Seven Oaks Teachers' Association (2-year term)
- **Adam Grabowski** – Park West Teachers' Association (2-year term)
- **Serena Klos** – Sunrise Teachers' Association (2-year term)
- **Shawn Kozarchuk** – Winnipeg Teachers' Association (2-year term)
- **Nicole Bobick** – Swan Valley Teachers' Association (1-year term)
- **Jason Oliver** – River East Transcona Teachers' Association (1-year term)
- **Mervat Yehia** – Thompson Teachers' Association (1-year term)

Arlyn Filewich was announced as the new Executive Director of the Manitoba Teachers' Society.

Thank you to all delegates and alternates for their support over the three and half days. While there were some challenging conversations and some disputed decisions, we are hopeful that the

Manitoba Teachers' Society will be able to orient itself toward membership and the growing concerns that face public education.

All the best,

Jay McGurran

Jay McGurran

President, Louis Riel Teachers' Association

LRTA Executive for the 2025-2026 School Year

President: Jay McGurran
V-P Professional Development: Becky Lauze
V-P Collective Bargaining: Scott Wood
Secretary Treasurer: Charmaine Rudnicki
Nominations/Resolutions Chairperson: Lindsay McDonald
Employee Benefits Chairperson: Leah Dilworth
LRASA Representative: Shannon Baxter
EFM: Unfilled
Indigenous Education: Rose Bird
Social Committee Chairperson: Laurie Tyndall
Equity and Social Justice Chairperson: Curtis Lowton
Public Relations Chair: Paul Nelson
Member at Large: Kim Melvin
Member at Large: Stephanie Timmerman
Member at Large: Marcela Cabezas

CONTACT US

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Jaclyn Porteous
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All matters will be dealt with in confidence.

Call MTS at 204-888-7961 to request assistance from a Staff Officer

 **@louisrielta**



LRTA Calendar 2025-2026

September

Wednesday, 10 LRTA Executive Meeting
Wednesday, 17 LRTA Council Meeting

October

Monday, 6 LRTA New Rep Info (virtual)
Friday, 10 LRTA Executive Retreat/Training
Wednesday, 15 LRTA Executive Meeting
Wednesday, 22 LRTA Council Meeting
Friday, 24 MTS PD Day
Thursday, 30 Maternity/Parental Leave Seminar

November

Wednesday, 12 LRTA Executive Meeting
Wednesday, 19 LRTA Council Meeting

December

Wednesday, 10 LRTA Executive Meeting
Wednesday, 17 LRTA Council Meeting (virtual)
Monday, 22 through Friday, Jan. 2 Winter Break

January

Wednesday, 14 LRTA Executive Meeting
Wednesday, 21 LRTA Council Meeting

February

Wednesday, 11 LRTA Executive Meeting
Wednesday, 18 LRTA Council Meeting

March

Wednesday, 11 LRTA Executive Meeting
Wednesday, 18 LRTA Council Meeting
Monday, 30 through Friday, April 3 Spring Break

April

Wednesday, 8 LRTA Executive Meeting
Wednesday, 15 LRTA Council Meeting
Thursday, 16 Maternity/Parental Leave Seminar
Wednesday, 22 LRTA Annual General Assembly

May

Wednesday, 6 LRTA Executive Meeting
Thursday, 7 LRTA Appreciation Event
Wednesday, 13 LRTA Council Meeting
Wednesday, 13 MTS AGM Binder Meeting
Thursday, 21 through Saturday, 23 MTS Provincial Council

June

Wednesday, 3 LRTA Executive Meeting
Wednesday, 10 LRTA Council Meeting (virtual)
Wednesday, 17 LRTA Retirement Reception

