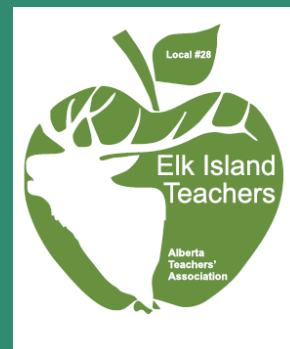




ROBERT TWERDOCLIB IS A CANDIDATE FOR PROVINCIAL ATA PRESIDENT - VISIT [HIS WEBSITE](#)

THE BUGLER

ATA Local #28



February 2016

TEACHERS SUPPORTING TEACHERS

Tax Time Tips for Teachers

by Irene Deatcher

Yes, it is that time of the year again and everyone is busy gathering up and organizing their pertinent documents. Do you know how to access your necessary forms and information?

T4 SLIPS

Since our district no longer sends paper copies of T4s, you will need to get it online. Visit Employee Self Service (ESS) by following the link (under 'Staff Quick Links') on the [main EIPS page](#).

If you are doing this from home, you will be directed to a system login page. Your username is the same

as your usual one for when you login at school (firstname.lastname) but with EDUC/ in front. As well, you will use your main EIPS password.

When you get to the ESS site, you will have to login to your account – for this you will need your employee ID number. There is a 'forgot password' option if needed.

Once you have accessed your account, the side bar will display a 'T4 Reprint' option. Clicking that allows you to select your previous and current T4 information.
(continued on page 2)



Nominations Are Open!

Would you like to run for president of Elk Island Local #28? Find out how.

Page 7



"Lucky Charm" Contest

Find out the results of the Cupid Contest plus enter our new one for a chance to win a \$100 Amazon gift card.

Page 8

(Tax Time Tips for Teachers continued)



SCHOOL SUPPLY TAX CREDIT

Did you save your receipts for classroom purchases so that you could make a claim for the [School Supply Tax Credit](#)? That was only the FIRST step. Now you have some paperwork to do before you submit your tax information.

Everything is available on [Staff Connect](#), but I wasn't able to create any hyperlinks for these in the rest of this article. Once you have logged into the site, you can visit the Division Documents tab and search for the forms by name (document names are in italics and underlined). The information below comes from the [*EIPS Eligible Educator School Supply Tax Credit Process*](#)

document on Staff Connect:

You will need to complete 2 separate forms (both available on Staff Connect): the [*Eligible Educator School Supply Tax Credit Letter Template*](#) AND the [*Eligible Expense Summary Report*](#) (in spreadsheet format).

The [*Eligible Educator School Supply Tax Credit Letter Template*](#) must be filled in by your principal. The principal's role is to ensure that the purchases qualify, that the transactions were in the correct time frame, and that the purchases were not already reimbursed though the school or fundraising. It would be helpful to give your principal a copy of the [*EIPS Eligible Educator School Supply Tax Credit Process document*](#) when having the letter (certification) completed.

In order to complete the letter, your principal will also need your completed [*Eligible Expense Summary*](#)

[*Report*](#) along with a copy of the receipts. ***Note: keep the original receipts YOURSELF!

When filling in the [*Eligible Expense Summary Report*](#), you will have to separate the item costs from the GST for each purchase.

Employees must keep the receipts, letter (certification) and summary report on file. Elk Island Public Schools will NOT provide another copy.

Although you will keep the original signed [*Eligible Educator School Supply Tax Credit Letter Template*](#), [*Eligible Expense Summary Report*](#), and receipts, your school is also required to keep a copy of each of these items.



Remember: This is a Tax Credit and therefore could be subjected to an investigation or audit by the Canada Revenue Agency.

ROBERT TWERDOCLIB - MEET THE CANDIDATE!

It has been an honour and privilege to serve teachers in Alberta for the past 9 nine years on Provincial Executive Council.

As Vice-President for Finance (2013-2015) working with a strong team, we together were fiscally responsible as we faced austere measures levied by provincial legislation. As Vice-President for Resolutions (2015-2017) working with another strong team, we upheld the measured policies of our resilient and nimble organization while honouring membership's desire to keep "skin in the game" in terms of policy, practice and member interests.

Work on Provincial Executive Council is hard work: work that strains time, necessitates attention to detail, requires analysis from multiple perspectives, and work that demands diplomacy. Work that at all stages entails active listening, engaged consultation and participatory conversations. Work that result in an engaged and informed membership. But it is work each member of the executive commits to and works hard at and, from time to time, enjoy. We do know it is a privilege to serve our members.

I want to be your provincial President. I am committed to do the work such a role requires so as to best represent the present and future interests of our members. You should know that:

- My aspiration and desire to serve has not waned since being elected to serve membership in 2009.
- My dedication and commitment to colleagues is steadfast and determined.
- My experiences and capabilities continue to grow—with each new challenge there are opportunities to learn, grow and develop.
- My accountability and responsibility to membership is primary—it is all about doing what you said you were going to do and demonstrating a strong, unwavering commitment.
- My passion and enthusiasm for student learning is relentless—growing each time I see students do remarkable things.
- My consensus building and team player skills are proven.

In travelling the province listening to the concerns and desires of membership I hear a lot about what's getting in the way of teachers doing best for kids. The teacher voices are strong and their voices need to be heard and acted upon. My campaign will carry these voices across Alberta and to the heart of Government. Your request for me to attend and to listen to the teachers from your Local, to participate February 15, 2017 in your District's All Candidate Forum was a top priority in this campaign. I was eager to hear what you and your colleagues had to say, I participated enthusiastically and I am grateful for the opportunity you afforded me.

I want to be your provincial President. Thank you for your commitment to teaching and your fellow teachers. Thank you for your continued support.

ROBERT for PRESIDENT

 @VPRobertATA
 780-292-0881
 twerdo@shaw.ca
 Robert Twerdoclib
 #twerdoclib17



www.twerdoclib.ca

KELLY MARONEY - MEET THE CANDIDATE!

TEACHERS ARE PROFESSIONALS:

Albertans need to support the essential role of professional teachers in community building. Our classrooms are a microcosm of society, growth must start there. The ATA should control Teacher Certification. Teachers should control our own Professional Development.

SALARY:

We have lost considerable financial ground. Our last contract was inequitable, we gave up far too much. From this point forward, our

salaries must increase alongside the consumer price index or the Alberta weekly earnings index.

WORKING CONDITIONS:

My primary concerns are teacher wellness and efficacy. We are stretched far too thin. The expectation of volunteerism in our profession needs to end.

Alberta's future depends upon a considerable increase in the investment in education. I will advocate for that change in four ways: an increase in paid prep time, an enforceable cap on class sizes, equitable pay for extra-curricular activities and an enforceable cap on assignable time. Inclusive classrooms require adequate supports.

IT'S TIME FOR CHANGE:

Teachers are more stressed than ever. The attrition rate for our bright, new teachers is staggering and unacceptable. We continue to work in adverse conditions that should have been resolved long ago. Change is necessary.

Voting is March 13 – 30, 2017

Please [register online](#) and vote.



(Information taken from Mr. Maroney's campaign flyer)

FEBRUARY 15TH CANDIDATE FORUM

by Irene Deatcher; pictures courtesy of Linda Butler Dunn

Five different locals worked together to organize and sponsor an event where members could meet and listen to candidates running in our upcoming PEC election. It was held at the Enjoy Centre (where you can find 4-leaf clovers) in St. Albert.

Presidential candidates (Greg Jeffery, Kelly Maroney, and Robert Twerdoclib) each delivered 5 minute speeches. There were 3 questions prepared by members of the Locals. Each candidate was given 2 minutes to respond to each question as they were presented.



The main table was then re-organized to accommodate the 5 candidates for vice-president: Greg Carabine, Myrna McLean, Jenny Regal, Jason Schilling, and Diane Sellars-Myschcyshyn. Each speaker was allotted 3 minutes for their speeches. During the question period, they each had 2 minutes to answer questions as they were shared.





HYPERLINKS TO INFORMATION SOURCES ABOUT ATA PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES



GREG JEFFERY

[ATA Profile and Platform](#)

[Campaign Speech Video](#)

[Facebook Page](#)

[Twitter Feed](#)

[Website](#)

Please read Mr. Jeffery's "Meet the Candidate" article [in the Jan. Bugler](#).

[Email](#)



KELLY MARONEY

[ATA Profile and Platform](#)

[Campaign Speech Video](#)

[Facebook Page](#)

[Twitter Feed](#)

[Instagram](#)

Please read Mr. Maroney's "Meet the Candidate" article above.



ROBERT TWERDOCLIB

[ATA Profile and Platform](#)

[Campaign Speech Video](#)

[Facebook Page](#)

[Twitter Feed](#)

[Website](#)

Please read Mr. Twerdoclib's "Meet the Candidate" article above.

[Email](#)



School reps have a vital role in engaging our membership with information about the election and with encouraging voting!



School Reps' Corner - PEC Election

by Irene Deatcher

The following information and advice for school reps has been taken from the article '[*Five things school representatives should know about the 2017 PEC election*](#)' published in the February 13, 2017 edition of the ATA News (written by the ATA News Staff). I have used their headings and paraphrased the content below each point.

1. **Your assistance with promoting the election is invaluable.**

Not only do you ensure that our members are aware of the election, you also remind them that their

votes count and are important part of our democratic process. Voting has an impact on keeping our profession strong.

2. **There will be a campaign booth at all teacher conventions.**

Our convention has passed and hopefully you and others on your staff had a chance to stop by to get information and meet the candidates. You may know some members that will be attending an alternate convention this year; encourage them to check out the booth.

3. **Online voting instructions will be emailed to you on or about February 28th.**

The package will contain copies of voting instructions which you can give to each member at your school.

4. **Election resources are available on the Association website at www.teachers.ab.ca.**

Just visit the homepage! You will see links to items related to the election in the rotating banner, the top right graphic box and the "Information On.." section on the right hand side of the page.

5. **Your time and efforts are greatly appreciated.**

I couldn't have said that better myself! Our school reps are our voice and connection to ALL of the members within the Elk Island Public School District. Although I do not yet have an 'official' Communications Committee, I consider every school representative to be a vital part of how information is shared with our members.

YOU are my committee and I TRULY value all that you do!

Here I will add one last piece of advice:

6. **Keep offering to help members set up or access their ATA website accounts.**

There are still about 340 members in our district who do not have accounts and will not be able to vote. Substitute teachers should be encouraged to sign up as well. [Resources](#) are available for you to use when helping members with their accounts, including [this video](#). Teachers who do not have access to their teaching certificate number may [need extra assistance](#).

LOCAL PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

by Karen Atkinson

The position of president for Elk Island Public Local #28 is coming open.

Nomination forms will be available at the February Local Council Meeting. Interested members can also request a form from the returning officer (Karen Atkinson) [via email](#).

Completed nomination forms must be submitted by March 15. Send them via courier to the returning officer.

Should there be more than one candidate, an opportunity to meet and hear them will

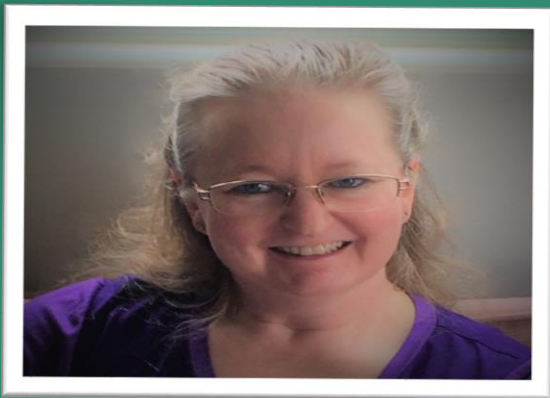
be given at the Local Council meeting in April.

For the election, ballots will be distributed to schools. It is recommended that the voting be done at the May staff meeting. All ballots are to be collected by the [staff ATA representative](#) and sent via courier to the returning officer. They need to be in the hands of the returning officer no later than May 15. Votes will be counted in the presence of scrutineers. The results will be reported at the Annual General Meeting in May.

Any questions should be directed to the returning officer.

Via courier - Karen Atkinson c/o Lana Bilodeau at the ATA Local office

Via email - ka88@telus.net



Maj-Britt Bigotti - Candidate for Local President

Hello and I am so glad you are reading The Bugler! I am excited to announce that I am running for President of Elk Island Local 28.

Over the next couple months I will be looking for your support so that I can represent you and your concerns to both our School Board and also bring forward any concerns to the Provincial ATA.

I have a variety of experience with the ATA and I love to help and support all teachers.

Teachers' working conditions are very important to me and I want to help make them the best they can be.

I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible over the next few months and please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Maj-Britt Bigotti

Maj-britt@shaw.ca

[780-695-2053](tel:780-695-2053)

QUICK BITS

by Irene Deatcher

Browse through these 'bits' for fast facts and information for our local.

RETIREMENT SEMINAR

Thinking about retiring in the next 5 years? Plan to attend the [full day session](#) being hosted by Elk Island Local #28 on March 11. It will be held in the Bev Facey Library from 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM. Lunch and snacks will be provided. Spouses/partners are encouraged to attend as well. Please register with [Lana Bilodeau](#) by March 3rd.

ATA SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS

The [ATA has 3 amazing opportunities](#) you can apply for now if you are looking for funds to aid with professional development or post-secondary education. Deadline for applications is February 27, 2017.

The [ATA Doctoral Fellowships in Education](#) awards 2 people \$15 000 each when entering or attending their first year of a doctoral program in education.

The [Nadine M. Thomas Graduate Research Bursary](#) presents \$5000 to one member who is enrolled in a graduate program in education.

The [John Mazurek Memorial – Morgex Insurance Scholarship](#) will award \$2500 to members

pursuing professional development in the area of business education or the use of computers / technology in education.



LUCKY CHARM CONTEST

"Do you feel lucky, punk? Well, do ya?"

Everyone has a chance to test their luck with this new contest. Somewhere in this edition of The Bugler is a phrase that refers to a well-known lucky charm.

Send me an email titled "Lucky Charm Contest" and tell me the phrase and where you found it. Emails should be sent to deatcher.ata@gmail.com.

Please note that the correct answer is a phrase / set of words NOT a picture.

Anyone sending in a correct answer will be entered into a random draw for the prize. Contest ends on March 17th.

One very lucky person will win a \$100 gift certificate from [Amazon.ca](#). Happy hunting!

CUPID CONTEST WINNERS

Congratulations go out to 2 lucky winners from last month's contest.

Megan Burns from Glen Allen won a \$50 gift certificate from Amazon. Matt Matheson from Westboro won a \$50 Indigo/Chapters gift card.

They found Cupid hiding in a headline –

"Convention: Useful, Professional, Interesting Days". Thanks go out to all who participated!

DEHR MEETING

The Diversity, Equity & Human Rights committee will be meeting on February 27th. The meeting will take place at F.R. Haythorne school at 4:30. Anyone interested in joining the committee is encouraged to attend. Please RSVP to [Maj-Britt Bigotti](#).

CLAUSE 9.5 FUNDING

Term 2 funding covers professional development occurring between February 1, 2017 and August 31, 2017. Currently there is a balance of \$24 350 available to be accessed by members.

IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

February 27th

DEHR meeting at 4:30 at F.R. Haythorne

February 28th

Final day for applying for [ATA Scholarships and Fellowships](#)

March 3rd

Professional Learning Day

March 4th

Local #28 Funspiel – 1 to 7pm at the Ottewell Curling Club

March 11th

Retirement Seminar – 9am to 4pm at Bev Facey High School

March 12th

Daylight Savings Time begins

March 13 -17th

Substitute Teachers Appreciation Week

March 13 - 20th

Voting is open for the Provincial Executive Council elections – voting [is online only](#).

March 20th

[Edmonton Catholic Local #54 is holding a GSA](#) meeting at Barnett House from 4:15 to 6:00. All members from ANY ATA local are welcome.

March 24th

Day off in lieu of Parent Teacher Interviews

[March 25th - April 2nd](#) Spring Break



Don't be a 'Missing Person' - Sign up for your ATA account now!

by Irene Deatcher

Currently, about 340 teachers in our local have not signed up for an ATA account. That means 340 people won't be able to vote in the PEC elections. 340 people can't access their free specialist council membership. 340 people will have no say in negotiations as central bargaining progresses. 340 people cannot use the ATA library and other resources.

We miss you and want you to have a voice! Please follow the link to an [easy step-by-step guide](#) OR ask your [school ATA rep](#) for help.

LOCAL EXECUTIVE

President:

Lynn Johnston
(school) 780-467-0044
cell: 780-920-2131
lynndale08@gmail.com

Vice President/Local Communications Officer:

Irene Deatcher
cell: 780-937-4915
deatcher.ata@gmail.com

Vice President/Annual Representatives Assembly:

Maj-Britt Bigotti
(school) 780-998-2216
cell: 780-695-2053
Maj-britt@shaw.ca

Vice President/Political Engagement:

Jordan Smith
(school) 780-467-5591

Economic Policy Committee:

Linda Butler Dunn
780-281-0850
butlerdunn@gmail.com

Jennifer Fredeen EPC
780-217-3197
jennifer.fredeen@gmail.com

Treasurer:

John Murphy
(school) 780-416-9018
John.c.murphy@hotmail.com

Negotiating Subcommittee Chair:

Karen Atkinson
cell: 780-915-6168
ka88@telus.net

Professional Development Chair:

Janet Vader
(school) 780-449-2787

Teacher Board Advisory Committee Chair:

Deneen Zielke
(school) 780-467-2246
dkzielke@shaw.ca

Secretary:

Tyson Parker
(school) 780-416-9018
tysonbparker@gmail.com

District Representative:

Paul Froese
cell: 780-951-2461
Paul.Froese@teachers.ab.ca

The Bugler ATA Local #28

WHO ARE YOU GOING TO CALL?



For policy concerns, working conditions and issues related to how things operate in EIPS contact the Teacher Board Advisory Committee (TBAC):

Deneen Zielke
(school) 780-467-2246
dkzielke@shaw.ca

For questions about ARTA (Alberta Retired Teachers' Association) that are not answered on [the website](#) or for questions about SCRTA ([Strathcona County Teachers' Association](#)):

Inge Coates
scrta@shaw.ca

For pay issues, leaves and anything related to the [collective agreement](#), contact the Economic Policy Committee (EPC) or the Negotiating Sub-Committee (NSC):

Jennifer Fredeen EPC
780-217-3197
jennifer.fredeen@gmail.com

Linda Butler Dunn – EPC
780-281-0850
butlerdunn@gmail.com
Karen Atkinson (NSC)
cell: 780-915-6168
ka88@telus.net

For professional conduct issues, contract concerns and employment issues, contact the [ATA at Barnett House](#):

The Alberta Teachers' Association
780-447-9400
OR
1-800-232-7208