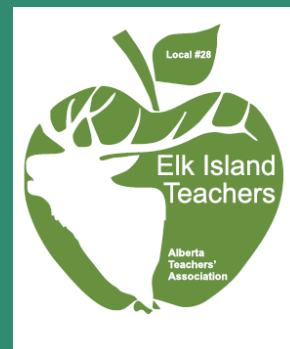




SUMMER PHOTO CONTEST – DETAILS ON PAGE 4

THE BUGLER

ATA Local #28



June 2017

TEACHERS SUPPORTING TEACHERS

From the Local President

by Lynn Johnston

Dear Colleagues,

I have had the pleasure as serving as your local president over the last two years. It has been a position that allowed me to meet some pretty amazing people, develop some collegial relationships with people I might have otherwise never gotten to know, and to learn more about what the provincial ATA has to offer.

This is not a job one can do on their own and I have many people to thank for supporting me and assisting me along this journey.

Your local exec has some pretty special people who all work tirelessly to make sure your concerns and needs are addressed. These people all volunteer their time and are collaborative, engaged leaders who want to do what they can to make sure you are able to do your work in the best possible conditions.

While I would like to thank all exec members, a special thanks goes out to Karen Atkinson who is stepping down from all things ATA and EIPS to officially

(continued on page 2)

URGENT! AGM August 28th



Find out why this is SO important!
Save the date. *Page 10*

New Scholarship



The creation of scholarship in honor of Sharon Volgrinetz was announced at the ARA. *Page 5*

(From the Local President continued)

retire. Karen has worked with the local in some capacity for over 25 years. She is our historian, our handbook, our policy reference guide and our negotiations expert. We will miss Karen's input, wisdom and guidance and we wish her well as she moves forward into this new chapter of life.

A special thanks goes out to all school reps. While this role may seem like a rather thankless job at times, we appreciate everything you do to keep our members informed. You have an important role to fulfill and you all are to be commended for promoting engagement and interest in our members.

I would like to thank all committee members. Your involvement and interest in supporting your colleagues is key to creating working conditions that allow everyone to do their best work.

It goes without saying that Lana Bilodeau, our admin assistant, is truly a remarkable support. She keeps us focused and on task and does everything behind the scenes to keep us moving forward in the right direction. Thank you, Lana.

Finally, I would like to thank each and every one of you. Every one of you does amazing things each and every day. You are dedicated, committed and inspiring and the work you do with our children will impact our communities for years to come. You are all Albertan teachers and you should wear that badge with pride.

Have a great summer everyone. You have earned it.

SUMMER – A GREAT TIME FOR PD

by Janet Vader – PD Chair

It's summer!!!

The time has come ... those two glorious months that teachers look forward to and dream of and sometimes long for! I am a firm believer that summer is meant to be a season of rest and rejuvenation for teachers. It is intended to bring us back in the fall refreshed and ready to tackle another school year. And I, for one, am ready to get seriously refreshed!

But ...I can't help but wonder if there might be times during our summer break when we can do a little bit of professional

development amidst our rest?! Perhaps we can find ways to grow in our knowledge of curriculum while we're lying on a beach? Maybe we can do a little bit of collaborating while we're sipping cool beverages on a patio? Perhaps you can take a few extra pictures while your family enjoys a road trip?

Professional development doesn't have to be in a classroom or a meeting room or at a convention. Every day we can grow in our profession as we just experience life. Isn't that what we encourage our students to do? Find a lesson in every moment.

So, this summer as you enjoy sunshine and lazy days, I encourage you to set a goal for yourself to find at least one new thing that you can learn and add it to your repertoire to use in your classroom next year.

Happy summer vacationing and happy summer PD-ing!

Janet Vader

PD Chair



TEACHER BOARD ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TBAC)

by Deneen Zielke

TBAC met with board representatives and district leaders on May 16th to review previous discussions and seek to understand and resolve current teacher concerns.

Items brought forward at our last meeting:

CSL comment writing –

Since our last meeting Deb Barron sent out an email to administrators clarifying the district position and made suggestions to mediate teacher concerns. She has also noted that in the CSL Toolkit in Staff Connect resources have been posted to assist teachers with comment writing. Concerns were raised that a current small pilot project that entails uploading video/image proof of student learning to the online report card would increase teacher workload when a goal of the board was to decrease workload. We were told that the district committed to a small pilot but they don't have any expectations beyond that. To proceed many

discussions would need to take place. This is an issue that will remain a focus of TBAC next year.

AP 410 – Professional Learning and AP 421 – Certificated Assigned time –

The concerns raised will be tabled to the fall as the new Memorandum of Agreement will have an impact that needs to be considered.

AP 460 -Substitute Teachers –

concerns were expressed regarding the reassignment of substitute teachers from classrooms during scheduled preps when work is left by the absent teacher for the sub to complete. The concern will be discussed at a leadership meeting and followed up at our next meeting.

AP 408 – Employee Services to Other Agencies –

concerns were raised that the process involved in determining release to mark exams for Alberta Education is not providing fair access for all teachers. It was shared that Alberta Education instructions state that teachers put forward to provide this service must be recommended by their administrator.

Administrators consider many factors when making their decisions. These include experience, absence from school,

building capacity, etc. The district involvement is to manage the process.

AP 407- Leaves of Absence –

A section of this policy states that an individual can only access a personal leave for a maximum of two years during their employment with the district. Through the discussion of many scenarios we could understand why this was something the district was implementing and they were able to see how this could be limiting to some members whose requests are reasonable. The language will be reviewed and we will discuss this further in the fall.

Anti-spam legislation –

Concerns were discussed regarding the desire for clear guidelines that allow teachers to communicate with parents. We are currently working with the district to develop clear and concise information to administrators, teachers, and parents. Look for updates in upcoming communication bulletins.

Staffing – our discussions entailed the need for consistent distribution of district administration staffing announcements, the inclusion of Fountas and Pinnell experience as an asset for all positions, the need to hire more substitute teachers to

avoid unfilled jobs and internal coverage. As well, we shared specific concerns that were brought forward.

AP 417 – Staff

Reduction- It was requested that we make sure teachers are aware of how seniority is applied in relation to this clause. To be clear your seniority is with the system and not the school. Your adjusted hire date is the date from which your seniority is determined. Therefore, if you have been with the district for ten years and you transfer to another school and that school must reduce staff, if there are teachers there with less than ten years with the district they will be looked at first, considering programming needs.

Fall operational day – finally we discussed the need for teachers to have a proper amount of time to prepare for student arrival. We know that all teachers are in classrooms preparing prior to the scheduled P.D. and operational days scheduled before students return. But, often after staff meetings are done there is very little time left for teachers to complete the tasks they couldn't do without information provided that day. This often means very long days and nights to be ready for the students to arrive. Our

request was taken back for further discussion.

As I will be stepping into my new role in July, this will be the last time I report to you on TBAC matters. I look forward to working closely with whomever becomes the new TBAC chair and would encourage you to continue to contact them or myself with your concerns. Have a wonderful summer!

“WHAT I DID ON MY SUMMER VACATION” PHOTO CONTEST

by Irene Deatcher

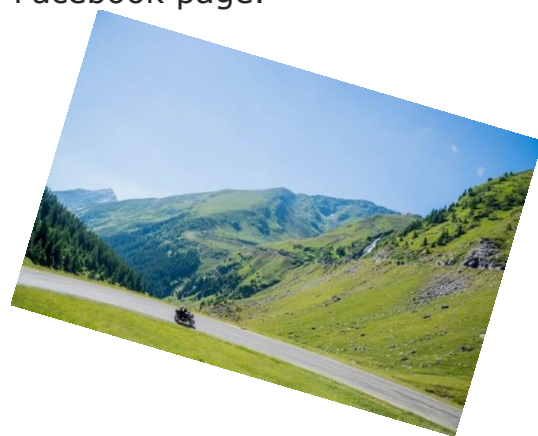
Don't tell us – show us! We want to know where you went, what you did, or what you saw during your summer break.

Send photos to deatcher.ata@gmail.com by September 12th for your chance to win one of 2 \$50 gift certificates for Packrat Louie's restaurant. If you prefer, you can also enter by sharing photos on our Facebook page. There will also be 3 honorable mention prizes of \$10 gift cards for Tim Horton's.

Photos taken by Elk Island Local #28 members between June 30th and August 31st are eligible. Entries will be judged by the communications committee based on photographic elements, relation to theme, and creativity.



By submitting a photo, you are giving permission for that photo and your name and school to be published in the September Bugler and on the Local #28 Facebook page.



Please add a short caption to your photo to explain the context. This caption may also be used or paraphrased in The Bugler or on Facebook.

Snap those photos! Smile! Enjoy your summer!!

SHARON VOGRINETZ EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP

by Karen Atkinson

Sharon Vogrinetz has been honoured as 'one of our own'. The reasons for this are best summed up in the following, which is a transcript of the speech made to the Annual Representatives Assembly in May of this year. The speech was presented by EPC chair Jennifer Fredeen who also happens to be Sharon's daughter. Any of you who know or have met Sharon will understand more of the 'in jokes', but the general information gives the picture explaining why we decided to recognize Sharon for her work and contributions to the profession.

Members of the assembly, and honoured guests, it is with great pleasure that I finally get to speak about someone who I've known all my life. My mother. She'd probably rather I didn't speak, But I claimed rights to this presentation due to genetic similarities. Knowing that, I'll try to talk in my slow voice for you all or there's only one other person in this room who'll be able to understand me. Mom, get your Kleenex.



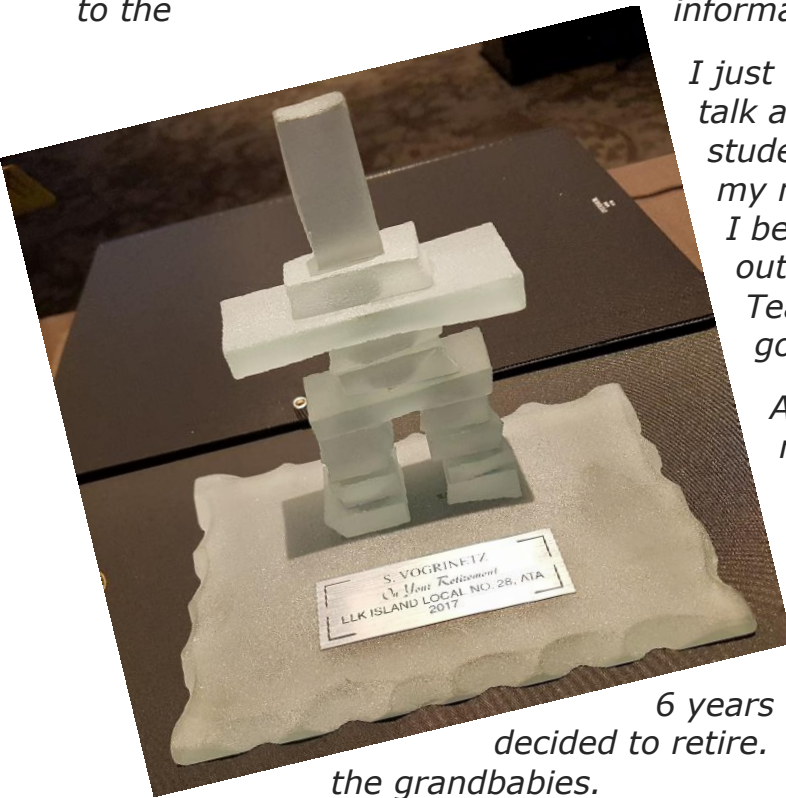
In 1982, Sharon Vogrinetz, newly graduated from Western University, decided to take a leap of faith and move to the tiny school board of Lamont county. She was to be the band teacher in Lamont High School and Mundare School. For 13 years she built an amazing band program, taught a little math and also managed French education in Lamont. She went on a few band trips, international student trips, (without me) and had to send a few students home early due to some rule breaking.

She also was an active member of her local. She was in the ARA committee, the EPC committee, a Local president and an Economic Consultant. I remember she was really excited when my brother and I got into the ATA news when ARA still had a babysitting service. I was 6. I think being at ARA is in my DNA now.

In 1995 Lamont County was amalgamated into the newly formed Elk Island School board. I was in grade 6. That will make my colleagues groan because they were all teaching then. In grade 7, I would be taking band for the first time. I had waited and waited and finally my mom was going to teach me!!

Mom then applied to a job in Teacher Welfare. My mom as teacher fantasy was about to be broken. I was not happy when she came in skipping about not having to teach me the next year. She's been serving the teachers of this province ever since. As a child of a staff officer, I got to be a part of a little club. We were the kids of the "Cone of Silence". If I tell you anymore she'll have to kill me.

I also have a similar voice to my mother. In the words of Sean Brown the first time he met me "it's like Sharon is sitting at the table with us!" I remember one occasion, the esteemed Earl Hjelter phoned the house. He heard my hello and steamrolled on for a bit before I could politely inform him that I wasn't who he thought I was, and I probably wasn't privy to the information he was about to tell me.



I just want to brag a bit about my mom. We always talk about equality in our classrooms with our students. When she was hired into Teacher Welfare, my mom was the only female TW staff officer. Now I believe the women of teacher welfare often outnumber the men. She was also the first woman Teacher Welfare Coordinator. The moment she got that position made me so proud.

Another one of my mom's favourite activities run by the ATA is summer conference. Which she still is involved in today. We made it a summer trip. We'd bring the bikes out and have fun in the pool while mom "Worked" and then hang out in the evenings.

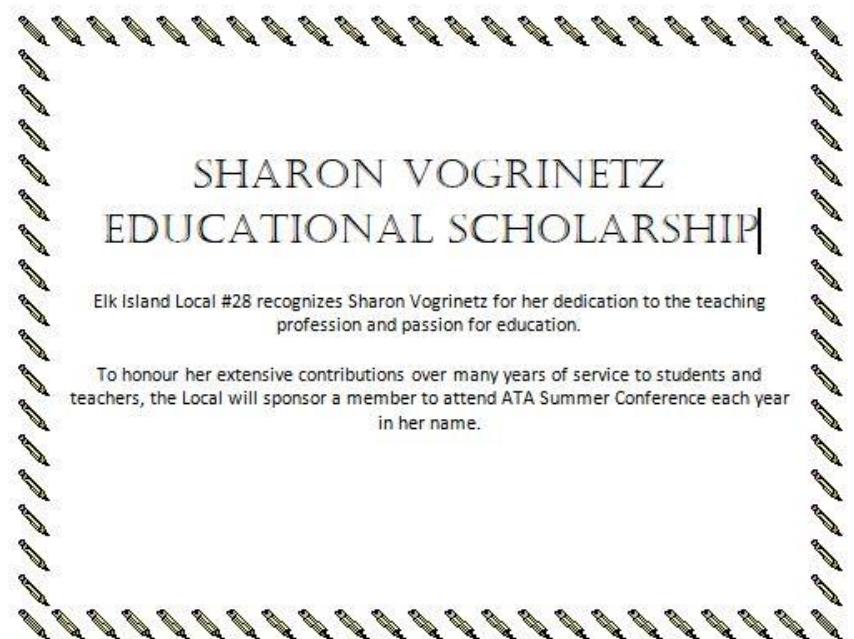
I feel very fortunate that I was able to spend 6 years doing Teacher things with her before she decided to retire. I.. I mean She wants to spend more time with the grandbabies.

We would all like to congratulate you on your retirement, but if I know my mom she won't stay away forever. She's sure to be back for some project or another.

To celebrate your retirement, Elk Island Public Local is honouring Sharon's contributions to the ATA and the local by creating the Sharon Vogrinetz Educational Scholarship. This scholarship will allow one active member of EIPS Local 28 to attend summer conference.

I've never been good at endings, so instead I'd like you to help me celebrate a new beginning.

Thank you Mom. It's been one heck of a ride. I can't wait to see what you get up to now.



PRIDE PARADE!!!!

by Darlene Gillis

On Saturday, June 10, 2017 Elk Island Local participated in the Edmonton Pride Parade for the very first time and it was a huge success.



Almost 50 Elk Island Local members, family and friends walked to celebrate diversity, make our stand for equity and to support all gender identities and expressions. The event was a true celebration and we left with a positive and sincere sense of community. DEHR is looking forward to participating again in 2018!



I would like to thank all of our amazing participants, Irene Deatcher for help spreading the word, Jodi Elgie and Karen Atkinson for being our volunteer Parade Marshalls, Lynn Johnston and Karson Campbell for attending the Orientation and coming early Saturday morning to support me, Spencer Dunn and his connections at Ardrossan Jr./Sr. for our Pride T-Shirts, and the rest of our planning committee: Denis Schell, Symonds Botchey, Khrysty Grief, Lori Nelson and Maj-Brit Bigotti, as well as our Local for their support.

The DEHR Committee is breaking for the summer, but has some more ideas in the works for you next year, including Food Trucks, a Diversity and Human Rights Book Club, (stay tuned for a short summer reading list if you like to read in the summertime!), a Paint Night Against Racism, special PD opportunities and one or two special movie screening collaborations!

If there is a special topic of interest to you, or if you have suggestions of your own, or would like to join our committee, we believe that many hands make light work, and more friends! Please contact me at darlene.gillis@eips.ca.



GOOD-BYE! – A TRIBUTE TO RETIRING TEACHERS

by Karen Atkinson

I have been a part of Elk Island #28 since it began and a member of one of the pre-amalgamation Locals for quite a while before that. The time has come to step away and take off all the hats I have worn over the years. I pass on those hats to many different people, who have already shown me that they wear them well.

It has been a long journey, with all the joys and sorrows that can be expected of any such. I look back and am thankful to have been part of it. Now I move on.

I offer a small tribute to all teachers retiring this year. Some of the words may trigger a memory or two. It is not a new writing but I think it still is worth sharing.

How do you say good-bye?

To a place you've spent so many years;

To a room you've tried to make your own;

To a building that echoes with so many voices;

How do you say good-bye?

To the people who have been here all along;

To others newly met but still special;

To the children growing up within your sight;

How do you say good-bye?

To the bits and pieces remembered most;

To the special moments shared here;

To the laughter shared, the tears shed;

How do you say good-bye?

To the pictures on the walls;

To all the books along the shelves;

To the desks, now sitting empty;

How do you say good-bye?

To habits developed over so much time;

To procedures and schedules and bells;

To ceremonies and celebrations;

How do you say good-bye?

To the little ones' giggles in the halls;

To the excited babble of games;

To the pandemonium of changing classes;

How do you say good-bye?

To a quarter of a lifetime;

To the memories living here;

To friends and colleagues, loved dearly;

How do you say good-bye?

To unspoken words of friendship,

To smiles and words of greeting,

To time well spent and shared.

I can't

So I say...

Remember -

The first days we worked here,

The unknowns, uncertainties,

Discovering so much together;

Remember -

*The children in that one large class,
You know the ones,
We knew what they would come to be;*

Remember -

*The frantic pace, the anxiety
Preparing for all those meetings.
Wondering what answers we would need;*

Remember -

*The special days when times were slower,
Celebrations shared and joys remembered,
That extra 'something' given;*

Remember -

*Inservice days in town,
A treat to go out for lunch,
Sharing much more than the sessions;*

Remember -

*The people who came and went,
Faces, all facets of the whole,
Cherished as colleagues and friends;*

Remember -

*The first days in September,
That Monday morning feeling,
Waving good-bye to the last bus;*

Remember -

*The feeling of hope in each beginning,
The successes and the failures,
Knowing it was worth it all;*

Remember.

I will.

Good-bye, colleagues and friends. Enjoy your summer break. I will think of you all (briefly) as I enjoy breakfast at "To Hell with the Bell" in the fall!

And a plug here for ARTA ... I encourage all retirees to join the Alberta Retired Teachers Association. Great stuff available for you! The local branch SCRTA (in the process of changing to Elk Island Retired Teachers Association – EIRTA) is also a fun bunch to join!

Take good care.

Karen Atkinson
Teacher



Editor's Comment: EIPS Local #28 Executive would like to thank Karen Atkinson for her many years of service within our Local. On a personal note, I also want to thank her for her inspirational leadership – it is solely because of her that I took the leap into becoming involved as local communications officer. We were very fortunate and blessed to have her as part of her team. She will be truly missed! We wish you all the best, Karen!!

QUICK BITS

by Irene Deatcher

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

SHARON VOGRINETZ EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP

Congratulations go out to Maxine Holm (Mills Haven Elementary School) who is the first recipient of the Sharon Vogrinetz Educational Scholarship. Maxine will have the opportunity to attend the ATA summer conference in Banff in August. As the first member to join the new Communications Committee for Elk Island Local #28, Maxine will join Irene Deatcher (Local Communications Officer) taking courses related to communications.

For details on the origin of this scholarship, please refer to the article on pages 5 and 6.

"CONTEST" CONTEST RESULTS

Many great suggestions were given for new contest ideas for next year. People would like to see photo contests and a chance to win gift certificates for restaurants – that wish comes true for our summer contest (see details on page 5).

Other activity ideas submitted include missing words, find the misprint, spot the difference pictures, Facebook contest, caption a photo, create a headline, and trivia questions. Offering certificates for stores (especially Dollarama) was another alternative given for prizes.

There were also ideas given for new sections or features. A puzzles, games and humour page was suggested. Articles spotlighting different conferences would be possible. Encouraging guest columnists is something we will try.

Congratulations go to Jen Rice (Lakeland Ridge) and Tracey Thompson (Fort Saskatchewan Elementary) – both were randomly selected to win \$50 gift cards from Amazon or Indigo.

AGM – URGENT!!

Although the Annual General Meeting held on May 26th was successful in many ways, quorum was not met so resolutions voted upon are considered void.

Elections and their results that evening are still valid. Deneen Zielke was announced as our new Local President. The positions of Treasurer, Secretary, Local Communications Officer were decided by acclamation and

there are no changes to the people in those roles.

Many people stepped up to fill spots on the various committees. The new Communications Committee officially has started up with 5 members! We appreciate the commitment to supporting the Local that everyone demonstrated that evening.

Unfortunately, since quorum was not achieved, the resolution moving the acceptance of the budget for next year is no longer valid. Although the people in attendance voted strongly in favour, without quorum we do not have a budget with which to conduct the business of the local.

It is with the utmost urgency that we encourage all members to attend the follow-up AGM to be held August 28th at 4:30 at Bev Facey. We need at least 85 members in attendance in order to pass resolutions. At the meeting, we will vote again on the budget and will also present proposed changes to the local constitution.

A BBQ meal will be available – come and fill your plates! Door prize draws will be held so don't forget to get a ticket when you sign in. Hope to see you there!

IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

June 29th

Last day for students

June 30th

Last day for teachers

July 1st

Canada Day – 150!!

August 8th - 11th

Educational Leadership
Academy

August 14th - 18th

ATA Summer Conference

August 28

Professional Learning Day

August 28

Annual General Meeting
and BBQ – URGENT! 4:30
at Bev Facey

August 29

Operational Day

August 30

First day for students

September 19th

Local council meeting -
4:30 at Bev Facey

September 28th - 30th

Beginning Teachers'
Conference

September 29th - 30th

Outreach Education Council
Conference

SUMMER RESOURCES

by Irene Deatcher

The celebrations of Canada 150 will continue through to the end of 2017. Check out [the special edition created by 2Learn](#). Most of the resources in this section are more suited to Div 3 and 4 – they focus a lot on history and government.

There are 86 different [“Heritage Minutes” available on youtube](#). Heritage Minutes are produced by [Historica Canada](#) to build awareness of Canadian history and citizenship. There is a WIDE variety of topics – they are worth previewing to determine curricular connections for your grade level.



LOCAL EXECUTIVE

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dkzielke@shaw.ca

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Linda Butler Dunn
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Treasurer:

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tysonbparker@gmail.com

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Paul Froese
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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

Twitter: [@ElkIslandLocal](https://twitter.com/ElkIslandLocal)



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

Facebook: [ATA Local #28 – Elk Island Public](#)



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

