

From the Local President

by Deneen Zielke

The year 2017 marks many important milestones, not least of which is the 150<sup>th</sup> birthday of our country. But, this year also marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Alberta Teachers' Association. The influence of the Association on education in our province is immeasurable, and the role played in moving the profession forward is appreciated by those of us that enjoy the benefits achieved.

Most of us are aware that demographics indicate our profession is currently about 75% female and 25% male, but things were very different a hundred years ago. Most teachers were male and only under special circumstances were women allowed to teach.

Male teachers made just enough to live, had restrictions placed on them regarding where they lived, who they socialized with, and how they spent their wages.

Women faced similar challenges, but theirs also included restrictions placed on them when they married or had children. It was only when war took young men away from their homes and careers that

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**Conference Corner** This new monthly feature highlights upcoming conferences. *Pages 3-4* 



**Contest Results** See the summer photo contest winners. *Pages 5-6* 

(From the Local President continued)

female teachers were 'tolerated'.

Various economic crises and job shortages would often force teachers to bid against each other to fill positions. There was no such thing as job security or a pension plan and teachers would be forced from their jobs if another teacher submitted a lower bid to fill the position. It has only been in relatively recently that maternity and sick leaves have been attained through collective bargaining.

We all know we have had a pension plan in place for many years, but only lately have we been able to deal with the unfunded liability issue and ensure a sustainable plan for Alberta teachers.

These are but a few examples of how our profession has changed over 100 years. What hasn't changed is our commitment to our students, our commitment to education, and the influence we have on society. As you watch the new ATA commercials and see the 100 year logo, think of where teaching started in our province, where it is now, and dream about what it can become.

# AUTUMN RESOURCES



by Irene Deatcher

So much happens so quickly once the new school year begins!! Thank goodness that there are so many great sites to use as resources for our classrooms.

<u>2Learn</u> has put together a great <u>special edition</u> page with links to resources about Terry Fox and the Terry Fox Run. There are items for every grade level. Examples include: <u>lesson</u> <u>plans</u>, the <u>Heritage Minute</u> video about Terry, and <u>CBC's video clips</u> about his Marathon of Hope.

You may also want to check 2Learn's pages for <u>Thanksgiving</u>, <u>Fire</u> <u>Prevention Week</u>, <u>Halloween</u>, <u>Bats/Spiders</u>, and <u>A Butterfly's Life</u> younger grades will enjoy the arts & craft activities as well as the interactive sites. For older students try the links for <u>Zombies</u>, <u>Women's</u> <u>History Month</u>, <u>Truth and</u> <u>Reconciliation</u>, and <u>Canada</u> <u>150</u>.

Many schools are preparing to participate in Orange Shirt Day. Because the official date (September 30<sup>th</sup>) falls on a Saturday this year, people are encouraged to commemorate on whichever nearby date fits best for their community. The t-shirt order page lists a deadline for ordering (for items to be shipped) of September 20<sup>th</sup>. If you want to pick up your order in Edmonton, the deadline is September 28<sup>th</sup>.

To share information about Orange Shirt Day, a great place to start is with <u>Phyllis' Story</u> (also related in <u>this video</u>) which was the starting point for the event.

Some other resources which relate to the impact of residential schools are a video of the <u>original event</u>, <u>Phyllis' story in French</u>, a video about <u>Canadian</u> <u>history and residential</u> <u>schools</u>, and a <u>Heritage</u> <u>Minute</u> about Chanie Wenjack. Children's books about the subject include <u>"When I was Eight", "Shi-Shi-Etko", "Stolen Words",</u> and <u>more</u>.

# CONFERENCE CORNER

by Irene Deatcher

By popular request, we have a new monthly feature! Although we usually listed up-coming conference dates in our calendar section, we did not give any highlights or details about the events. That all changes now!

Check out 5 conferences which will happen within the next 2 months. Please pass on the information to anyone you think may be interested.

# Substitute Teachers' Conference

WHO: Any substitute teachers working within Alberta.

WHAT: An opportunity to connect with other substitute teachers from across the province to share ideas and experiences. Sessions aimed at professional development are being offered.

# WHERE: <u>Sheraton</u> <u>Cavalier Calgary Hotel</u>,

2620 32<sup>nd</sup> Ave NE

WHEN: October 20 (eve)-21, 2017 – please note that the registration deadline is October 16<sup>th</sup>.

WHY: Participate in a Blanket Exercise, hear a stand-up routine by Jebb Fink, <u>attend sessions</u> about resume writing, residential schools, language arts, pensions, LBGTQ issues, math, expectations of substitute teachers, and much more! This conference is offered by the ATA in recognition of the valuable service provided by all substitute teachers.

**HOW:** Early bird registration (received by September 22<sup>nd</sup>) is \$40 and later registrations costs \$50.



qualify for travel (via car) and accommodations reimbursement <u>as per</u> <u>details on the website</u>.

A block of rooms has been reserved at the hotel but the rate of \$119 per night is only guaranteed for bookings made by Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>. You can register online at the event website.

# Outreach Education Conference

**WHO:** Any interested ATA members – members of the <u>OEC (Outreach</u> <u>Education Council)</u> attend at reduced cost.

WHAT: A conference

hosted by the OEC to support teachers at outreach schools/programs with innovative ideas and a chance to network.

# WHERE: Edmonton

Marriott at River Cree Resort, 300 East Lapotac Blvd., Enoch, Alberta T7X 3Y3

**WHEN:** September 28 – 30. Registration deadline information has not been provided.

**WHY:** The conference theme is "Finding Our Voice". Attendees will learn about new resources and will be able to choose from a variety of sessions.

**HOW:** Registration cost for OEC members is \$425. If you want to join the specialist council, you may purchase membership and registration for \$435.

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(Conference Corner continued)

Registration may be <u>completed online</u>. Fee includes some meals.

### **Inclusive Education Conference**

WHO: Any interested ATA members – members of the <u>Council for Inclusive</u> <u>Education (CIE)</u> attend at reduced cost. The conference may also be attended by psychologists, school support staff, administration and specialists (SLPs, OTs, etc.)

WHAT: <u>A conference</u>

organized by the CIE to assist teachers with building inclusive classrooms, programs, schools and communities.

WHERE: <u>Fantasyland</u> <u>Hotel, West Edmonton Mall,</u> <u>Edmonton</u>

**WHEN:** October 12 -14. Registration deadline information has not been provided.

WHY: <u>Keynote</u> speakers include <u>Shelley Moore</u>, <u>Lisa</u> <u>Hilsenteger</u>, and <u>Sarah</u> <u>Garr</u>. Other featured speakers include Chris Ulmer (<u>Special Books by</u> <u>Special Kids</u>) and Sasha Long (<u>The Autism Helper</u>)

**HOW:** <u>Costs vary</u> – please check the website for more information. <u>Registration is</u> online. Fee includes some meals.

### **Math Conference**

WHO: Any interested ATA members – members of the <u>Math</u> <u>Council</u> attend at

reduced cost.

# WHAT: <u>"2017: A Prime</u>

Year for Mathematics" is being hosted by the Math Council.

#### WHERE: <u>Edmonton</u> Mariott at River Cree

<u>Resort</u> Edmonton Mariott at River Cree Resort, 300 East Lapotac Blvd, Edmonton, Alberta. Conference accommodations rate is only guaranteed for bookings up to October 6<sup>th</sup>.

WHEN: October 20 – 21. Registration deadline information has not been provided.

WHY: Keynote speaker Michael Pruner will share his knowledge of and experiences with developing <u>Thinking</u> <u>Classrooms</u>. Sunil Singh (author of <u>Pi of Life – The</u> <u>Hidden Happiness of</u> <u>Mathematics</u>) will speak about relating math to human-ness.

**HOW:** Fees vary – please check the website's

registration page. Some meals can be purchased at an extra cost when registering.

**Religious and Moral Education Conference** 

**WHO:** Any interested ATA members.

WHAT: A <u>conference</u> organized by the <u>Religious</u> <u>and Moral Education</u> <u>Council (RME).</u>

WHERE: <u>Rimrock Hotel</u>, <u>Banff</u>

**WHEN:** October 20 -21. Registration deadline information has not been provided.

**WHY:** The featured guest is <u>Sister Helena Burns</u> who will speak on the theme "Theology of the Body and Media".

**HOW:** Registration fee is \$325 and includes meals. Complete the <u>form online</u>.

# WHAT I DID ON MY SUMMER HOLIDAYS!!!

by Irene Deatcher

Hopefully, summer is still very fresh in our memories. We invite you to share in remembering the good times by checking out our photo contest winners.

Disclaimer for honesty: I did not organize a meeting with my newly formed committee so photo selection was solely by me.

**First place** goes to Alfred Yung from Fort Saskatchewan Elementary for the action shot but I couldn't resist also publishing his second entry with that beautiful background. **Second place** was snagged by Amanda Sheridan from Lakeland Ridge. Alfred and Amanda will each receive a \$50 gift card for Packrat Louie's restaurant.



#### (Photo contest continued)

**Honourable mentions** have been awarded to Brad Cooksley (Fultonvale), Diane Hansen (Supports For Students), and Linda Butler Dunn (Salisbury). They each will receive a \$10 gift card for Tim Horton's. Diane submitted 2 pictures that complemented each other so I published both because of the story attached. Congrats, everyone - thanks for sharing your adventures!



I spent close to three weeks in China. A tour took us to a school that was significantly different than our EIPS classrooms. The teacher used a chalk board for the lessons....no smart board, no projector, no chrome books.

The little boy was in the school yard and his dad, in very broken English, said that he hoped he would attend the Viking School when he grew big... – D. Hansen

#### THE BUGLER ATA LOCAL #28

# BE A BUGLER WRITER!!



by Irene Deatcher

Starting from this month onwards, we want to recognize guest contributors to our publication. Any members of ATA Local #28 are invited to sent in articles to The Bugler.

If an item gets published, the author will receive a \$10 gift card for Starbucks or Tim Horton's.

Any submissions will be credited to the author but may be subject to editing for length or clarity. Not all items sent in will be selected. Publishing will depend on space, number of items received, and relevance to current issues/events/themes.

We would love to see accounts of recent conference attendance, ideas for technology in the classroom, lists of great resources, life anecdotes, and advice/experiences from your areas of interest and expertise. Creative writing pieces will also be considered. A maximum of 3 submissions will be chosen each month.

Deadline for submissions for

the October edition of The Bugler is October  $14^{\text{th}}$ .

There will **not be a contest** this month – a new one will be included in the October issue.

Please send in articles for consideration to deatcher.ata@gmail.com

# DID YOU KNOW? YOUR COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT

#### by Jennifer Fredeen

Welcome back to school! I hope you all had a restful and rejuvenating summer.

I would like to encourage you all to brush up on (aka re-read) or, for the first time, read your collective agreement. Please encourage your new and first year colleagues to do the same.

It is our professional responsibility to have a basic knowledge of the content of our collective agreement. This document is the encyclopedia for your salary scale, types of leaves you may access, professional development entitlements, and your benefits.

If you ever have questions in any of these areas, please don't hesitate to call.

ALSO... we are currently engaged in bargaining the local portion of the collective agreement. Be aware that we will be having a Bargaining Unit General Meeting (BUGM) at the conclusion of bargaining. This is the time where you will vote to accept the new collective agreement. Stay tuned to your home email addresses for a notice of meeting. Please forward your home email address to your school rep so that you won't miss out on our local business.

Thank you for taking an interest in your collective agreement. If you ever have suggestions for bargaining or need assistance with the collective agreement call:

Jennifer Fredeen Economic Policy Committee Chair 780-217-3197 jennifer.fredeen@gmail.co m OR

Barnett House 780-447-9400

# **QUICK BITS**

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

# **MOVIE TICKETS**

Movie tickets are available this year again. Members can purchase up to 10 tickets through the Local at \$8.50/ tickets - this is a savings of \$4.75 per ticket!

Cheques can be made payable to Elk Island Local No.28 and sent to Lana <u>Bilodeau</u> via the School Courier.

# WEM CHOICE PASSES

The purchase of the WEM Choice Pass is open to both certificated and classified staff. The tickets can be pre-ordered through the Local for \$30 each - the deadline for ordering is October 31<sup>st</sup>. All preordered passes will arrive in early November.

The passes are good for access to the West Edmonton Mall Waterpark OR Galaxyland OR a combination of 2 of the smaller attractions. Request passes through Lana Bilodeau – make your cheque payable to Elk Island Local #28 and send it to her through the courier.

# POVERTY TO PROGRESS PETITION

Public Interest in Alberta

(PIA) has a new initiative. They are focused on the impact of poverty on children and have started a petition to urge the government to develop a plan to actively address the issues.

# **CLAUSE 9.5 FUNDING**

Term 1 of funding covers professional development occurring between September 1, 2016 and January 31, 2017. So far, \$7350 has been accessed.

### **READ-IN WEEK**

This year's theme is <u>"I'm a</u> <u>Reader! I Read For Me!"</u>. It runs from October 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup>. <u>Global Read Aloud</u> will begin during that week as well.

# SPECIAL EDITION OF THE BUGLER

Within the next 2 weeks, another edition of The Bugler will be sent to all members. The ELECTION EDITION will provide information in plenty of time for personal decision making before the municipal election on October 16<sup>th</sup>. The focus will be on candidates running for school trustee positions and their viewpoints on key issues. Each candidate will receive the same ten questions

from our Past President and their answers will be published for your perusal.



# **STUDENT VOTE**

While we are on the topic of the municipal election, this is a great time to let all teachers know that the latest Student Vote project is focused on that event. Get your class in on discussing the issues and researching candidates. This is a wonderful opportunity for making students more aware about the roles within our local government. Students will be able to compare how their population votes with the election results.

# SAVE YOUR RECEIPTS!

Now that your back to school shopping is done, those receipts can still be put to good use. Your purchases may qualify you for the <u>Teacher and Early</u> <u>Childhood Educator School</u> <u>Supply Tax Credit</u> for your 2017 tax return.

Eligible employees may claim a 15% refundable tax credit on qualified purchases with a total of up to \$1000. Most

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#### (Quick Bits continued)

consumable items (pencils, paper, craft supplies) and some durable products (classroom library books, puzzles, storage containers) may be claimed.

# NEW PHONE NUMBER FOR OUR LOCAL!!

Our contact information for Local business has changed. The new phone number is 587-988-3663. The number can be used to contact our Executive Assistant Lana Bilodeau in regards to clause 9.5 questions or other items related to Local business. Calls must be made ONLY during Local business hours (Monday to Friday from 9 am to 5 pm). During the times when Lana is on vacation, calls to the Local will be answered by our Local President, Deneen Zielke.

# FREE SPECIALIST COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

This is just a reminder to exercise your right to acquire a free membership to the ATA specialist council of your choice. There are <u>many different</u> <u>councils</u> from which to choose! Now is the time to activate the memberships since SO many council conferences happen before the end of December. Members of specialist councils enjoy reduced registration fees for related conferences and get regular newsletters and information about current resources. <u>Sign up for</u> <u>yours today!</u> (\*note: you must have an active account for <u>www.teachers.ab.ca</u> and must be logged in to access the link)

# ATA EDUCATIONAL TRUST GRANTS

On the topic of specialist councils, did you know that you may be eligible to <u>receive a \$500 grant</u> to use to defray costs associated with attending a specialist council conference? At least 30 lucky applicants will be awarded the grant this year! <u>Application</u> deadline is September 30<sup>th</sup>.

# PROFESSIONAL GROWTH PLAN HELP

Most of us have until the end of October to submit our PGPs but many of you may already be identifying your goals and strategies (perhaps by attending a specialist council conference?....). On the ATA website, there are resources which can assist you with formatting your PGP and relating it to the Teaching Quality Standard. As well, there are sample templates and ideas for preparing your PGP review at the end of the year.

Remember: teachers are in charge of their own

professional development goals and these CANNOT be dictated or prescribed by administration or the school district.

# ATA 100<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY JOURNALS

Have you noticed those snazzy leather-bound journals some of your peers have acquired? These journals were created to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Association and <u>are</u> <u>available</u> for \$14.



# **REFLECTIONS ON A 30 TEACHING CAREER**

One of our recently retired members, Violet St. Clair (who taught at Fultonvale, Colchester, and Campbelltown in our District), has been using her time to write and share her experiences. Most recently she wrote a piece that was selected by the CBC to be shared on The Sunday Edition with Michael Enright. Listen to her here – I'm sure there are parts of her story to which many here can relate.

# IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

September 28<sup>th</sup> Terry Fox National School Run Day

September 28<sup>th</sup> (evening)-30<sup>th</sup> Beginning Teachers' <u>Conference</u>

September 30<sup>th</sup> Orange Shirt Day



September 30<sup>th</sup> ATA Educational Trust submissions deadline for <u>ATA Specialist Council</u> <u>Conference Grants</u> September 28<sup>th</sup> - 30th Outreach Education Conference

October 2<sup>nd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> Read-In Week

October 5<sup>th</sup> World Teachers' Day

October 5<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> Professional Learning Days for <u>Elk Island Public</u> <u>Schools</u>

October 9<sup>th</sup> Thanksgiving – stat holiday

October 10<sup>th</sup> World Mental Health Day – theme: Mental Health in the Workplace

October 12<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> Inclusive Education Conference

October 14<sup>th</sup> Last day for submissions for the October Bugler

October 16<sup>th</sup> Municipal elections and Student Vote October 16<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> School Bus Safety Week



October 17<sup>th</sup> Local Council meeting\_- at Vegreville Composite High School

October 20<sup>th</sup> - 21st Math Conference

October 20<sup>th</sup> - 21st Religious and Moral Education Conference

October 20<sup>th</sup> - 21st Substitute Teachers' Conference

October 27<sup>th</sup> Induction ceremony for new members of the ATA

# LOCAL EXECUTIVE

# **President:**

Deneen Zielke cell: 780-940-5525 <u>dkzielke@shaw.ca</u>

# Local Communications Officer:

Irene Deatcher cell: 780-937-4915 <u>deatcher.ata@gmail.com</u>

# Teacher Board Advisory Committee Chair: Stephen Anderson sanderson66@hotmail.com

# **Economic Policy Committee:**

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

#### **Negotiating Sub-Committee:**

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

#### Treasurer:

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

# Professional Development Chair:

Janet Vader (school) 780-449-2787

# **Past President:**

Lynn Johnston cell: 780-920-2131 lynndale08@gmail.com

# Secretary:

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

# **District Representative:**

Paul Froese cell: 780-951-2461 Paul.Froese@teachers.ab.ca The WHO Bugler ARE YOU ATA GOING Local TO #28 CALL?



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

Stephen Anderson TBAC <u>sanderson66@hotmail.c</u> <u>om</u>

For questions about ARTA (Alberta Retired Teachers' Association) that are not answered on <u>the website</u> or for questions about SCRTA (<u>Strathcona County</u> <u>Teachers' Association</u>):

Inge Coates <u>scrta@shaw.ca</u>

Twitter: <a>@ElkIslandLocal</a>



For pay issues, leaves and anything related to the <u>collective agreement</u>,

contact the Economic Policy Committee (EPC) or the Negotiating Sub-Committee (NSC):

Jennifer Fredeen EPC 780-217-3197

<u>jennifer.fredeen@gmail.</u> <u>com</u>

Linda Butler Dunn NSC cell: 780-281-0850 butlerdunn@gmail.com For professional conduct issues, contract concerns and employment issues, contact the <u>ATA at Barnett</u> <u>House</u>:

The Alberta Teachers' Association

780-447-9400

OR

1-800-232

For questions about clause 9.5 applications and Local promotions (movie tickets, WEM passes, etc.):

Lana Bilodeau (Executive Assistant) 587-988-3663 bilodeau.atalocal@eips.ca

Facebook: ATA Local #28 – Elk Island Public

