

December 13, 2007

Issue No. 15

LAST ISSUE BEFORE CHRISTMAS!

www.local54.teachers.ab.ca

Local Office: 451-1196

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

General Meeting of the Bargaining Unit scheduled for Tuesday, January 15, 2008 4:30pm at the Mayfield Inn and Trade Centre, 16615-109 Ave.

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Is it a coincidence that Christmas and New Year's Day fall within a week of one another? Probably, but both are periods of reflection, not so much related to the idea of being "naughty or nice" but rather opportunities to take stock of our lives over the past year in preparation for renewal. As teachers, we are fortunate to celebrate two new years but Christmas is special because, as Christians, we are reminded that the love of the newborn Christ rekindles in us a spirit of compassion and caring for others. This Christmas season let us reflect upon the less fortunate in our communities and make a conscious effort to fulfill the hope of the Christ child. On behalf of the Executive and office staff of the Edmonton Catholic Teachers Local I would like to wish you and your families a blessed and joyous Christmas.

Shannon McElroy, President

THANK YOU COUNCIL REPS

Thank you to all the school representatives and guests who attended our December Council Meeting. It was very well attended and great food, lively conversation and cheerful Christmas music, provided by the *Running Boards* (accompanied by Bert and Jack), followed at the Christmas Cheer Social. Congratulations to Marilena Shipka who was presented with an Educational Trust Award. Thank you to Marvin Hackman, Member Services, for an informative and timely presentation on employment issues associated with the appropriate use of District technology. We will certainly invite Marvin back to speak on the second part of his presentation: *The implications of student and parent use of technology in terms of cyber-libel and case law*. Your school representative will be distributing the Memorandum of Agreement received and discussed at Council. Information has been included in this week's mailing regarding the **Alberta Weekly Earnings Index**.

LOCAL OFFICE CLOSED FOR HOLIDAYS

The Local office will be closed for the holidays from December 24 to January 4, 2008. The Association staff will be available in case of an emergency (447-9400). The Local office will reopen at 8:30am on Monday, January 7, 2008.

GENERAL MEETING OF THE BARGAINING UNIT-a time to vote

Please mark your calendars for a very important night of voting scheduled for 4:30pm on Tuesday, January 15, 2008, at the Mayfield Inn and Trade Centre, 16615-109 Ave. The General Meeting of the Bargaining Unit will be called to allow teachers to vote on both the proposed new Collective Agreement between our teachers and our Board and the UFL Memorandum between the ATA and the Government.

WORDS OF INSPIRATION

"...and it was always said of him (Scrooge), that he knew how to keep Christmas well, if any man alive possessed the knowledge. May that be truly said of us, and all of us!

And so, as Tiny Tim observed, God bless Us, Every One!

(excerpt from *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens)

Included in this mailing: Info on the Alberta Weekly Earnings Index...(goldenrod)...a few per school.. Please post and share

Printed on reverse side: Nothing

Meetings and Events

December 24 - January 4, 2008

Christmas holidays!

Local office will reopen at 8:30am on Monday, January 7

Merry Christmas!

Tuesday, January 8, 2008

Executive Mtg. #05, 4:30pm, Room 406, Barnett House

Tuesday, January 15, 2008

General Mtg. of the Bargaining Unit scheduled for 4:30pm, Mayfield Inn and Trade Centre, 16615-109 Ave.

Tuesday, January 22, 2008

Council Mtg. #04, 6pm, Auditorium, Barnett House. Sandwiches available at 5:15pm.

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Council Dates:

Tuesday, January 22/08

Tuesday, Feb. 26/08

Tuesday, March 18/08

Tuesday, April 22/08

Tuesday, June 3/08

Thursday, June 12/08-

President's Reception