

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT....Greetings everyone!

Just prior to convention each year we are reminded by our Association that attendance is obligatory. If we fail to obtain permission to be absent from the "Convention Attendance Committee" then we may be subject to sanctions under our Code of Professional Conduct. With this being said, I turn to the positive and say that this is a wonderful two day opportunity for over ten thousand teachers from our city and Fort McMurray to proclaim to the entire city that "We are Teachers!" In this "quiet" time it is a great opportunity for each and every one of us to do the positive PR for the Association. As we go about the downtown core to our various venues be mindful that all eyes are upon us. What a great chance to further enhance the public's impression of teachers.

In closing, I extend warm congratulations to Markiana Hryshuk on being elected as one of Edmonton City's District Representatives! Thank you to Superintendent Carr for the email to all users regarding the Alberta Health Care memo from the Government. This was in response to a question we were unable to answer at our last council meeting. Good bye January.. Hello February.

Take care, *Sandy*

E-MAIL ALERT!!!!!!

We are very excited to announce that the Local office has acquired a new domain for our email addresses. Our goal is to, one day, provide each of you with an address at this domain as well. To contact us at the office, please use the new email addresses below:

Local President, Sandy Gillis: sandy.gillis@ecteachers.ca
Executive Director, Kathy MacIsaac: kathy.macisaac@ecteachers.ca
Office Manager, Jan Bossmin: jan.bossmin@ecteachers.ca

We look forward to continuing to serve you.

MATERNITY LEAVE INFORMATION NIGHT- Monday, March 2

If you are expecting a baby, or planning to start a family soon, we invite you to register for our Local's Maternity Leave Information Night being held Monday, March 2, 2009 in Room 502, at Barnett House, beginning at 7:00pm. You and your spouse are most welcome to attend. Please register by emailing Jan at the Local: jan.bossmin@ecteachers.ca

LOCAL PD - INTERVISITATION OPPORTUNITY

Would you like the chance to observe a colleague in another educational setting? This wonderful PD activity is offered each year by your Local. The cost of a substitute teacher for one half day will be covered. If you are interested in this opportunity, please complete the form which was printed on the reverse side of last week's Intercom and fax it to the Local office (780-454-1250). There is no need to put a covering letter. Uncompleted requests will be returned. Once your form is received, an email will be sent to you with your grant number. If you have any questions regarding the Intervisitation Grant, please email Jan at the Local office: jan.bossmin@ecteachers.ca

GETCA UPDATE ON ACCESSING SPEAKER INFORMATION

Due to the number of phone calls and emails we have received at the Local office, we offer this clarification to our members: to access information on convention speakers visit www.getca.com, click on **Convention at a Glance**, then **Sessions**. Clicking on the drop down marked "Speakers" will **not** bring up speaker information. Please share this information with your staff members and substitutes.

WORDS OF INSPIRATION

"Everyone has the power of greatness. Not for fame, but for greatness.
Because greatness is determine by service." ~Martin Luther King, Jr.

Included in this mailing: Poster for Local's Maternity Leave Information Night...please post and share
Printed on reverse side: Invitation to attend an Evening with Keray Henke, Deputy Minister of Education.

Meetings and Events

Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2009
District Faith Development Day-
See you at the Shaw!

Tuesday, Feb. 10, 2009
Executive Mtg. #6, 4:30PM,
Room 406, Barnett House

Wed., Feb. 11, 2009
School Opening Mass
Committee Mtg., 4:30pm,
Room 410, Barnett House

Monday, Feb. 16, 2009
FAMILY DAY HOLIDAY

Wed., Feb. 18, 2009
An Evening with Keray
Henke, Deputy Minister of
Education, 6:30-8:30pm,
Auditorium, Barnett House.
Limited spaces available-
please register by email:
sharon.thorn@edpub.org

Website:
www.local54.teachers.ab.ca

Kathy MacIsaac, Exec. Director
kathy.macisaac@ecteachers.ca

Sandy Gillis, Local President
sandy.gillis@ecteachers.ca

Jan Bossmin, Office Manager
jan.bossmin@ecteachers.ca

Council Dates:

Tuesday, Feb. 24/09
Tuesday, March 17/09
Tuesday, April 21/09
Tuesday, June 2/09