

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT, *Sandy Gillis*

This has been a very challenging past couple of weeks for your Table Officers as Gerry's position was advertised, short listed, and candidates interviewed. On behalf of the Table Officers, I offer a sincere thank you to all the applicants for their interest in the future of the Local and yet, as it is in all things human, there can be only one successful candidate. In addition to the formal announcement, I take this opportunity to welcome Kathy MacIsaac to the position knowing that her enthusiasm and incredible skill set will provide outstanding service to all of us teachers for the foreseeable future.

I have known for many years that I am blessed to be surrounded by a very professional and competent group of teachers and administrators in this Local but now I have the added honour of being able to tell all of you, via this mail – out, how special you all are in the continuing work of Catholic education. This weekend (Nov 2) we celebrate our role as Catholic educators in a special way with our Church community. Stand proud knowing the valuable work that you do on a daily basis!

Stay well, have a great Halloween weekend, and continue to care for each other. ~Sandy

MASTER OF EDUCATION IN EDUCATIONAL STUDIES: Leadership & School Improvement

The Master of Education in Educational Studies is an alternative delivery 2 year graduate degree program designed for professional teachers and education administrators who wish to enhance their own professional knowledge and improve their educational practice. The program is designed for working professionals; therefore it allows you to complete your master's degree without taking time off from your work. For more information go to

<http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/mes/>

SCHOLARSHIP DECISIONS HAVE BEEN MADE

The Local's scholarship committee met on Monday, October 27, to award the 6 Local scholarships. Applicants will be notified of their status by the Local and the successful students will be invited to receive their awards at the December 2 Council Meeting of School Representatives.

CARING FOR OUR MEMBERS

Please advise the Local office (780-451-1196) of instances of bereavement, illness or births, so that the Local can recognize them accordingly.

WORDS OF INSPIRATION

"To avoid sickness, eat less.

To prolong life, worry less." ~ CHU HUI WENG

Meetings and Events

Thursday, Oct. 30, 2008

New Teacher Welcoming Ceremony, 7pm, Auditorium, Barnett House. Social to follow.

Friday, Oct. 31, 2008

Happy Halloween!

Sunday, Nov. 2, 2008

Catholic Education Sunday

Monday, Nov. 3, 2008

ARA Meeting, 4:30pm, Boardroom, Barnett House

Tuesday, Nov. 11, 2008

Remembrance Day

Wed., Nov. 12, 2008

ARA Meeting, 4:30pm, Boardroom, Barnett House

Monday, Nov. 17, 2008

ARA Meeting, 4:30pm, Room 410, Barnett House

Website:

www.local54.teachers.ab.ca

Gerry McHugh, Exec Director
gmchugh@telusplanet.net

Sandy Gillis, President

Jan Bossmin, Office Manager
jbossmin@telusplanet.net

Council Dates:

Tuesday, Dec. 2/08-
Christmas Cheer

Tuesday, January 20/09

Tuesday, Feb. 24/09

Tuesday, March 17/09

Tuesday, April 21/09

Tuesday, June 2/09

Included in this mailing: Nothing

Printed on reverse side: New Executive Director profile



LOCAL SELECTS NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Edmonton Catholic Teachers Local Executive is pleased to announce the selection of Kathleen MacIsaac as their new Executive Director. Kathy will be replacing Gerry McHugh, who will retire on December 31.

Kathy has been with the Edmonton Catholic School District for 27 years and is currently Assistant Principal at St Francis Xavier High School. She brings with her an impressive list of experiences and roles in the field of education.

Among these experiences are the following:

- Implementation of the International Languages Focus Program at St. Francis Xavier
- A member of the visioning team which opened Archbishop Romero High school
- Working with teachers as they developed SMART goals, Assessment practices, Syllabi, etc
- Managing teaching and support staff including evaluation and conflict resolution
- Participating in a wide range of extra-curricular activities – at the school, District, and Local levels including Collective Agreement negotiations
- Supporting teachers in their work and providing opportunities for professional development

Kathy has had a diverse set of roles with the District in Leadership formation, Administrator selection, SPICE committee activities, French Immersion Administrators Group, and Students in Transition Supports.

In the ATA Local 54, she has participated in or chaired the following committees, Economic Policy, Negotiating Sub Committee, Teacher Retirement Reception, ARA, Professional Development Committee and School Opening Mass Committee.

In accepting the position Kathy stated, “I am pleased that the committee has so much confidence in me and I am looking forward to continuing the valuable work our Local performs on behalf of our members within the Catholic School District.”

Kathy is fluently bilingual and a member of the Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers.