

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENTGreetings everyone!

As teachers we are forever planning for the next class, special event and numerous other things that can distract us from enjoying what is right in front of us at the “present” time. With the optimism that comes from a bit of warmer weather and the joy of a New Year might I suggest we all make a conscious effort to notice that being in right relationship with our peers is critical in sustaining us through the tough times. Space is limited. Continue to care for each other. ~Sandy

MATERNITY LEAVE INFORMATION NIGHT—Monday, February 8, 2010

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, February 8, 2010, Room TBA, at Barnett House beginning at 7:00pm. Topics covered during the evening will include: the Collective Agreement, Employment Insurance, ASEBP, and recent developments regarding Maternity Leaves. You and a guest are most welcome to attend. Refreshments will be served. Please register by emailing: jan.bossmmin@ecteachers.ca

2-DAY BUS PASS FOR CONVENTION @ Jan. 19 & Feb. 16 Councils

See back of Intercom for details. Cash only

CONVENTION BOOKLETS @ JANUARY 19th COUNCIL

Schools are encouraged to send a representative to the January 19 Council meeting to ensure that your convention booklets are picked up. Convention booklets will be available to substitute teachers at the Local office and at the sub meeting being held at St. James School on January 28.

GRANTS AND BURSARIES AVAILABLE FROM THE ATA-Ed Trust Fund

Each year your Local donates money to the Association's Education Trust Fund. “The ATA Ed Trust is a charitable organization that supports professional growth opportunities for teachers through specialist council conference grants, continuing education bursaries and grants to support special projects.” This year \$300 grants, \$500 bursaries and \$3000 project grants are available to you. We encourage our members to take advantage of these wonderful opportunities. For more information visit: www.teachers.ab.ca under Professional Development/Grants, Awards and Scholarships/The ATA Educational Trust.

PRE-RETIREMENT WORKSHOPS SCHEDULED!- Only 13 spots left!

Heather Johnson presents a two-part Pre-Retirement Workshop from 6-9pm on Monday, January 18, and Monday, January 25. Both sessions will be offered in the auditorium at Barnett House. Dinner will be served. If interested, email Jan to register: jan.bossmmin@ecteachers.ca

SMART BOARD PRESENTATION OFFERED

The Local's PD Committee has organized a Smart Board presentation for teachers on Wed., February 3 from 4:30-6:30pm at St. James School (7814-83 St). This session is Notebook 10 for Beginners. We will uncover the basics of creating lessons and activities using Notebook 10. One hour presentation will be followed by one hour of hands-on experience. Refreshments will be provided. Limited to 25 participants. Register by email: jan.bossmmin@ecteachers.ca ~Christine Bowers, PD Chair

LOCAL PD - INTERVISITATION OPPORTUNITY-65 Grants remain

The Local's PD Committee is offering 100 Intervisitation Grants for members to observe a colleague in an educational setting. The Local will cover the cost of a substitute teacher for one half day. If interested, please copy and complete the form which is included in this week's Intercom and fax it to the Local office (780-454-1250). Once your completed 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.bossmmin@ecteachers.ca

WORDS OF INSPIRATION

“Goals are dreams with deadlines.”~Anonymous

Included in this mailing: Development & Peace postcards; 2 copies of **ARTA News & Views**; 2010 Intervisitation Grant form; Maternity Info Night Poster-please post and share

Meetings and Events

Monday, January 18, 2010

Pre-Retirement Workshop
Session #1, 6-9pm,
Auditorium, Barnett House.
Dinner available at 5:30pm.

Tuesday, January 19, 2010

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

Wednesday, January 20, 2010

Teacher Retirement Reception
Committee Mtg. #1, 4:15pm,
Room 402, Barnett House

January 23 & 24, 2010

Arbitrator's ruling on the
AAWE

Monday, January 25, 2010

Pre-Retirement Workshop
Session #2, 6-9pm,
Auditorium, Barnett House.
Dinner available at 5:30pm.

Website:

www.local54.teachers.ab.ca

Kathy MacIsaac, Exec. Director
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Sandy Gillis, Local President
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Jan Bossmmin, Office Manager
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Council Dates:

Tuesday, January 19/10

Tuesday, Feb. 16/10

Tuesday, March 16/10

Tuesday, April 20/10

Tuesday, May 18/10