

Edmonton Catholic Teachers
Local 54 of The Alberta Teachers' Association

THE INTERCOM

November 4, 2010

Issue No. 7

Local Ph.-780-451-1196

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Draws for fabulous prizes!!!!

To be eligible, the Local must have your personal email on file. Contact your Council Rep for more info.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hi Everyone

Monday in schools after the biggest sugar fix of the year should be considered a national holiday for schools! Enough said☺

We begin the month with the celebration of All Saints and give pause to remember all of our family members and friends who have died and pray for the repose of their souls. Mother Teresa was fond of telling us that we are called to be holy and to be saints while on earth. The ability and privilege of writing to you and using this kind of language while speaking of such topics is one of the gifts of working within our Catholic system and this, my friends, we should never take for granted. On Remembrance Day we honor our veterans and all who have given their lives in combat so that we enjoy the peace and freedom of democracy. In our tradition, we can connect all Saints Day and Remembrance Day for we believe that there is no greater love than to lay down one's life for a friend. This is what our fallen have done for us. This coming weekend, we celebrate Catholic education and most parishes will have special ways of including the schools and teachers in bulletins and homilies. I encourage us all to take every opportunity to let legislators know how much we value our school system and be vigilant of factions that would seek its demise. Recently, an extensive blog on Citizen, Community and Democracy made very forceful and compelling reasons as to why our Catholic schools should end. Two phrases used: *"Separate school education is an anachronism"* and *"We should disestablish separate school education in Alberta,"* should be answered by all of us who blog. I invite you to take a look at dkingofAlberta where you will find the full article on "A new legislative framework and separate school education". Stay informed and stay tuned.

Continue to care for each other, ~Sandy

Meetings & Events

Monday, Nov. 8

ARA Committee Meeting,
4:30pm, Room 140, Barnett
House

Tuesday, Nov. 9

Trustee Dinner hosted by
the Local

Thursday, Nov. 11

Remembrance Day Holiday-
Local Office closed

Friday, Nov. 12

EPC Survey deadline

Wednesday, Nov. 17

Diversity, Equity and Human
Rights Committee Mtg.,
4:30pm, Room 279,
St. Joseph HS

Thursday, Nov. 18

Substitute Mtg. #2, 7pm,
St. James School-7814-83 St.

Monday, Nov. 22

ARA Committee Meeting,
4:30pm, Room 120, Barnett
House

KEEP EDMONTON ORIGINAL – NOVEMBER IS "SHOP LOCAL" MONTH

www.live-local.ca has a list of places where you can shop local or eat local in Edmonton. Not only will you help to lessen the carbon footprint, you will help to keep our local businesses in business. Watch for other social justice initiatives from the Local's Social Justice Committee, co-chaired by Gail Frost and Ann McFarlane, teachers at J. J. Bowlen Jr High School.

WHAT'S IMPORTANT TO YOU?

Included in last week's mailing was a survey for all teachers and administrators from our Economic Policy Committee. Please complete it and return it to the Local office by November 12th. The information we collect will help us determine what is important when we negotiate our next contract.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

The DEHR Committee of our Local will have its next meeting on November 17 at 4:30pm in Room 279 at St. Joseph High School. If interested, please contact committee chair, Lynn Smarsh 780-426-2010 or lsmarsh@shaw.ca All are welcome. At this meeting, the committee will continue the work indicated by the survey in October.

YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS, PLEASE!!

School reps have been asked to collect the personal email addresses of the teachers in their schools so that we are able to communicate with you regarding issues related to contract negotiations. If you provide your email address (not ecsd.net), you will be eligible for a draw to be held in early December. Fabulous prizes include: gift certificates to local businesses as well as an LG 42" plasma flat screen TV and a \$300 West Jet travel certificate. Deadline for receipt of addresses to Local office is Friday, November 26th.

WEBSITE:

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LIFE'S HANDBOOK OF WISDOM:

He who smiles in a crisis
has found someone to
blame.