

## SPECIAL EVENTS:

The Greater Edmonton Teachers' Convention Association, March 3 and 4, 2011  
[www.getca.com](http://www.getca.com) Visit the Local's display booth for a chance to win a sub for a day!

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Greetings everyone,

I hope you are all looking forward to our convention next week and the many opportunities to gather and discuss the educational scene in our province. We always live in interesting times and, now more than ever, we teachers need to be aware of the changing landscape that will affect classroom conditions for us and our children. One opportunity ahead of us is the public forum taking place on March 17<sup>th</sup>. Two world-renowned speakers, Michael Adams and Jean Twenge will lead the discussion as we explore the theme "Learning Our Way as Aspiring Albertans." This is a huge initiative for our Association and a follow-up to last year's very successful two-day forum held at the Mayfield Inn. This project began in 2004 by "our Alberta Teachers' Association as they hosted a series of public lectures and invitational symposia focused on the role that public education will play in co-creating the future of Alberta. At different times, these public dialogues have been co-sponsored by various community partners: the Creating Tomorrow Foundation, the Faculty of Education of the University of Calgary, Cambridge Strategies, Literacy Alberta and the Calgary and Edmonton Public and Catholic Locals of the ATA. With many of the same issues and concerns connected to the Association's Real Learning First initiative, these conversations were infused in public meetings held in a number of communities including Red Deer, Peace River, and Okotoks. (For more information see [reallearningfirst.ca](http://reallearningfirst.ca))." Please check the ATA website for more information on the evening event being held at the Sutton Place Hotel. It would be great to have all staffs represented and give voice to our wonderful profession! Take care and enjoy Teachers' Convention,  
Sandy

### STOP BY OUR DISPLAY AT CONVENTION!

The Local's convention display will be located by the stairs, next to the Alberta Teachers' Association booth at the Shaw Convention Centre. Stop by for a chat and be sure to sign up both Thursday and Friday for our draws to win a substitute for a day. Looking forward to seeing you all!

### SCHOOL OPENING MASS

You are welcome to join the School Opening Celebration Committee. The first meeting will take place in the Boardroom at Barnett House on Wednesday, March 16 at 4:15pm. This committee is once again being chaired by Floriana Bruni-Bossio (Frere Antoine). If interested in participating, please email Floriana: [floriana.bruni-bossio@ecsd.net](mailto:floriana.bruni-bossio@ecsd.net)

### \$1000 to attend S.P.I.C.E and BLUEPRINTS!!!!

We are pleased to announce that this year your Local has increased its sponsorship of delegates up to four to attend SPICE (April 28-May 1) and BLUEPRINTS (May 3 -6) at The Delta Lodge, Kananaskis. Accommodation (double occupancy), conference registration, materials and meals totaling \$1000 per person will be covered for each teacher chosen. The cost of your substitute will be your responsibility. If you are interested in sponsorship from the Local, just email [jan.bossmin@ecteachers.ca](mailto:jan.bossmin@ecteachers.ca) so that your name can go in the March 18<sup>th</sup> draw. For conference information visit: [www.acsta.ab.ca](http://www.acsta.ab.ca)

### LOOKING TO SERVE THE ASSOCIATION?

The Local has been asked to nominate teachers to serve on various provincial committees such as its Curriculum Committee, Professional Practice Review Committee, School Administrator Issues and Concerns Committee, and Teacher Qualifications Committee. If you are interested in this opportunity, please visit [www.teachers.ab.ca](http://www.teachers.ab.ca) for more information about this work and then phone Kathy MacIsaac (780-451-1196) so that a nomination form can be completed.

### LOCAL PD - INTERVISITATION OPPORTUNITY

Visit [www.local54.teachers.ab.ca](http://www.local54.teachers.ab.ca) to access an Intervisitation Grant form.

### LOCAL SUPPORTS TEACHER FAITH FORMATION/GRADUATE COURSES!

Visit [www.local54.teachers.ab.ca](http://www.local54.teachers.ab.ca) to access a bursary application form. Draw date is March 18<sup>th</sup>.

### Meetings & Events

#### Monday, Feb. 28, 2011

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

#### Tuesday, March 1, 2011

Joint meeting of the Political  
Engagement, Social Justice,  
and Diversity, Equity and  
Human Rights Committees,  
4pm, Room 402, Barnett House

#### March 3 & 4, 2011

Teachers' Convention

#### March 4 (eve) and March 5

Political Engagement Seminar,  
Barnett House. The Local is  
sending 5 delegates.

#### Tuesday, March 8, 2011

Executive Mtg. #8, 5pm, Room  
TBA, Barnett House

#### March 13-19, 2011

Substitute Appreciation Week

### WEBSITE:

[www.local54.teachers.ab.ca](http://www.local54.teachers.ab.ca)

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### QUOTE OF THE DAY:

"Sometimes in  
the winds of  
change we find  
our true  
direction."