



February 9, 2012

Issue No. 12

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

Evening with the Minister of Education to hear your classroom stories. February 21, Government House, from 6-8pm. RSVP to: jan.bossmin@ecteachers.ca

Meetings & Events

February 12-18

Random Acts of Kindness Week

Monday, February 13, 2012

School Opening Mass
Committee Mtg., 4:30pm,
Room 402, Barnett House

Wednesday, February 15, 2012

Maternity Leave Information
Night, 7pm, Room 213, Barnett
House

Monday, February 20, 2012

FAMILY DAY HOLIDAY

Tuesday, February 21, 2012

Political Engagement
Committee Mtg., 4:30pm,
Room 402, Barnett House

Tuesday, February 21, 2012

Economic Policy Committee
Mtg., 4:30pm, Room 402,
Barnett House

Tuesday, February 21, 2012

Meeting with the Minister of
Education, 6-8pm-Government
House. All teachers are invited.

RSVP by email to:

jan.bossmin@ecteachers.ca

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: Greetings everyone

This is going to be a very busy time for the Local as we prepare for our meeting on February 21st with Minister Lukaszuk. His invitation to meet YOU, the teacher members of the Edmonton Catholic Local, has been met with wide approval. You are all invited to Government House from 6-8 pm and it is very important that you call the office or email us with your intention to attend. We are looking forward to at least one hundred thirty of us gathering to hear about his Ten Point Plan, followed by a "Meet and Greet." The Minister is very eager to learn of our experiences in classrooms and to have the opportunity to make personal contact with members of our Local.

On February 27th we will meet as an assembly at Barnett house at 4:30 for our (BUGM) Bargaining Unit General Assembly. At this time, our Economic Policy Committee, chaired by Wayne Prokopiw, will present our opening proposal for negotiations. Please take this opportunity to have your voice heard and concerns aired during the discussion period that evening.

This is the month of Valentine's Day, Random Acts of Kindness, Family Day and Teachers' Convention. Amidst the flurry of activity in the day to day business of teaching, be sure to take some time to gather as staff and celebrate the wonderful work you are all doing to make this one of the best jurisdictions on the planet. We have much to celebrate every day but the impact we have on the students in our care is most important. As professional teachers in this province you are in a class all your own!

Continue to care for each other...

Sandy

ATA COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES FOR 2012/13

Are you interested in serving on one of the provincial Association's committees? Several committees are seeking new members including: Pension, Curriculum, Teacher Qualifications, Professional Practice Review, Professional Conduct, and the Committee on the Well-being of Children and Youth.

The Association's website www.teachers.ab.ca provides more detailed information. Or feel free to call Kathy (780) 451-1196 to discuss.

TAX TIME

If you have taken a personal day, you were required to pay the cost of a substitute. Did you know that you can deduct this as an employment expense on your income tax form? Go to Google and type in 'T2200 Canada' to download the form. Enter the expense on your tax return under "other employment expenses". The amount appears on your December pay information under *Deductions Year to Date*.

HELPING THOSE IN NEED

Youth Emergency Shelter is looking for support! If your staff or school is interested in taking on an initiative in support of the YESS, please contact Sandra Esposito (Social Justice Liaison) via e-mail at espositosandra01@gmail.com to hear about some of the areas of need for the YESS. Initiatives include, but are not limited to: Safeway gift cards, warm clothing drive, food donation, workshop presentations.

If you are interested in volunteering at the Newman College Faith Fun and Fitness Run/Walk with a group of Edmonton Catholic Teachers, please contact Sandra Esposito (Social Justice Liaison) via e-mail at espositosandra01@gmail.com to put your name forward! The Run/Walk is on Saturday, April 28th.

CALLING ALL SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS!

Please email Mary Giampa, your Substitute Teacher Liaison, at marygiampa@shaw.ca to add your name to her email distribution list.

WEBSITE:

www.local54.teachers.ab.ca

Sandy Gillis, President

sandy.gillis@ecteachers.ca

Kathy MacIsaac, Exec. Director

kathy.macisaac@ecteachers.ca

Jan Bossmin, Office Manager

jan.bossmin@ecteachers.ca

Words of Inspiration

"Let's remind ourselves that last year's fresh idea is today's cliché."

~Anonymous

~A SPECIAL INVITATION~

The Minister of Education, The Honourable Thomas Lukaszuk,
has asked me to invite you to, our teachers, to

An EVENING OF CONVERSATION

WHEN: Tuesday, February 21 from 6 – 8pm

WHERE: Government House (near the Royal Museum of Alberta)
12845 – 102 Avenue

Come to hear Minister Lukaszuk's "10 point plan"
and to share your personal stories of teaching.



~Sandy Gillis
President
ECT Local

(Desserts and coffee will be served)

RSVP by email: jan.bossmine@ecteachers.ca