



THE INTERCOM

February 23, 2012

Issue No. 14

There will be no Intercom
on March 1-Next issue is
March 8th!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

BUGM

Bargaining Unit General Meeting
4:30pm, Auditorium, Barnett House
Discussion, debate and vote on the opening
proposal for contract negotiations.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Hello everyone,

Thank you so much for making the effort to be with us last evening for a most engaging session with Minister Lukaszuk. Our two hours quickly became three and the comments were very positive as we were able to have an informative Q and A along with a lot of time in one-to-one encounters. Our Local is very appreciative of his gift of time and attention while the House is in session.

With our Lenten season upon us and the sign of our mortality on our foreheads, we enter this season in a spirit of hope and renewal. It is a time when we can reflect on our collective responsibility for children and ways to renew our respective staff communities. On our staffs we all have specific duties with regards to our assignments but we should always be aware of our need to care for each other. In the world of deadlines and time restraints, it can be easy to let relationships falter and cause dissension among ourselves. Time for reflection is crucial and so often there is a deep need for reconciliation (what better Church season!) . I came across an acronym that might be useful for our staff room fridges. The word "think" can be used by us in this way before making a comment or decision.

T (is it true?)
H (is it helpful?)
I (is it inspiring?)
N (is it necessary?)
K (is it kind?)

This could be a recipe for a lot of us, me included. Take care of each other and enjoy convention.
~Sandy

BUGM (Bargaining Unit General Meeting) – Monday, February 27, 4:30pm

If you are interested in the items your Economic Policy Committee is **proposing** for this next round of bargaining, please mark your calendars and plan to attend the Bargaining Unit General Meeting being held at 4:30pm in the auditorium of Barnett House on Monday, February 27. Teachers who have supplied the Local office with a personal email address should have received an electronic copy of the opening proposal. Hard copies of the proposal will be available at the Local office. Please come prepared to discuss and vote.

STOP BY OUR DISPLAY AT TEACHERS' CONVENTION

The Local's convention display will be located just outside Hall C at the Shaw Convention Centre. Stop by for a visit and be sure to sign up both Thursday **and** Friday for our draws to win a substitute for a day. See you there!

INTERESTED IN RUNNING FOR PRESIDENT OR VICE PRESIDENT OF THE LOCAL?

Nominations for these positions of President and (2) Vice-Presidents of the Local will open on Wednesday, February 22, 2012. Nomination forms will be available on the Local's website: www.local54.teachers.ab.ca Our Local Admin Guidelines dictate that completed forms must be returned to the Local office 14 days after the call which will be 4pm on Wednesday, March 7th. Candidate speeches will be delivered at the Council of School Representatives meeting on Tuesday, March 13. If you are interested or have any questions about the commitment etc., please phone Kathy MacIsaac: 780-451-1196.

\$12,000 AVAILABLE!

Teachers! Are you taking courses in Catholic faith formation? Graduate studies or other post-secondary courses? The Local is offering 12 bursaries (\$1000 each) toward the cost of the course, seminar or conference you are registered in. To access the application visit: www.local54.teachers.ab.ca Deadline for receipt of applications is March 16. Draw on March 20th

Meetings & Events

Monday, Feb. 27, 2012

Calling all teachers to the
BUGM: Join in the discussion
about our opening proposal
for negotiations on Monday,
February 27 at 4:30pm, in the
auditorium of Barnett House.

Thursday –Friday, March 1 & 2

Greater Edmonton Teachers'
Convention Association
(GETCA). See you at the Shaw.

Wednesday, March 7, 2012

Nominations close at 4pm for
the positions of Local President
and (2) Vice Presidents.

Wednesday, March 7, 2012

Executive Mtg. #6, 4:30pm,
Room 402, Barnett House

Thursday, March 8, 2012

Afternoon session at Sacred
Heart School for new teachers
and mentors. Topic: FNMI
Register by email:
jan.bossmine@ecteachers.ca

March 12-16, 2012

Substitute Teacher
Appreciation Week

March 13, 2012

Council Mtg. #05, 6pm,
Auditorium, Barnett House
The agenda features speeches
from all those running in the
Local's election for President
and Vice President.

WEBSITE:

www.local54.teachers.ab.ca

Sandy Gillis, President

sandy.gillis@ecteachers.ca

Kathy MacIsaac, Exec. Director

kathy.macisaac@ecteachers.ca

Jan Bossmine, Office Manager

jan.bossmine@ecteachers.ca

Words of Inspiration

Life is not the way it's
supposed to be. It's the
way it is. The way you
deal with it is what
makes the difference.

~Virginia Satir