



THE INTERCOM

November 9, 2011

Issue No. 5

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SPECIAL ACTIVITIES:

Join Sandra Esposito and the Local's Social Justice Committee and come out on Tuesday, Nov. 22 to the Mustard Seed Church to prepare and serve the evening snack for the needy of our city. If interested, email Sandra.Esposito@ecsd.net

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: Greetings everyone

This has been a whirlwind of a couple of weeks and with all the Remembrance Day activities it seems as though staffs have not had time to take a deep breath. I am sure that every school had a special gathering this week to honor the fallen and all who serve in our armed forces. Schools have the best opportunity to help our families remember this day and all the sacrifice offered for the safe country we inhabit. It is not only the world conflicts that have to be considered this week. This is a great opportunity for all of us to calm ourselves and look at conflict in a different way. As teachers we are able to model for our communities and our peers a way of interacting that will benefit generations to come. I am sure that every generation has hoped that the next would be the one to change our world for the better. As we gathered in our celebration spaces this week, we hoped that the children and young adults who stood for a minute of silence are the one group that will add their peaceful "voice" to the planet and truly transform it. May we all live, work and play in a peaceful school and continue to care for each and every one.

Take care and enjoy the three days.

Sandy

TEACHER EXCHANGE PROGRAM OPPORTUNITY

The Teacher Exchange Program of the Alberta Teachers Association is now accepting applications for full-year teacher exchanges with Australia, the United Kingdom, Switzerland, Germany and Denmark in 2012/13. As well, short-term exchanges taking the form of a home billet and job shadow over a 10-day period in August (Alberta teachers to Europe) and October (European teachers to Alberta) are also available. The application deadline for calendar and school year exchanges is December 31, 2011. The application deadline for short-term exchanges is March 1, 2012. If you have questions or want more information about the Teacher Exchange Programs, here is the contact information:

Website: www.ieep.ca Phone: 780-392-6901

PRE-RETIREMENT WORKSHOPS SCHEDULED!

Heather Johnson, pension consultant, will be presenting a two-part Pre-Retirement Workshop in January for interested teaching staff. The sessions will include dinner and will run from 5:30-9pm on Monday, January 23 (Part 1), and Monday, January 30 (Part 2). Both sessions will be offered in the auditorium at Barnett House. The workshops are free of charge, sponsored by the Local, and are limited to 75 participants. Teachers are welcome to bring their spouses. Email to register: jan.bossmin@ecteachers.ca

HELPING OUR COMMUNITY

Sandra Esposito, our Executive's Social Justice Liaison, along with her committee, invite you to give a couple of hours in service to the needy of our community. The two events are preparing and serving a snack at the Mustard Seed Church – November 22 and selling 50/50 tickets at an Oiler's game for Santa's Anonymous. If you can help, or have questions, please email Sandra.Esposito@ecsd.net

Meetings & Events

Friday, November 11, 2011
Remembrance Day Holiday

Tuesday, November 22, 2011
Social Justice activity: Prepare and serve the evening snack at the Mustard Seed Church.

Wednesday, December 7, 2011
Executive Mtg. #4, 4:30pm, Room 402, Barnett House

Tuesday, December 13, 2011
Economic Policy Committee Meeting, 4pm, Room 402, Barnett House

Thursday, December 15, 2011
Substitute Committee Mtg. #02, 4pm, St. Joseph HS, Room TBA. A SMARTBoard PD session will follow the mtg.

Tuesday, December 20, 2011
Council mtg. #03, 6pm, Auditorium, Barnett House. This is our Christmas Council cheer and we invite you to bring a friend.

December 24 – January 8, 2012
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS
Local office closed.

Monday, January 9, 2012
Local office reopens at 8:30am. Happy New Year!

WEBSITE:

www.local54.teachers.ab.ca

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Quote of the day:

"Positive anything is better than negative nothing."

~Elbert Hubbard 1856-1915