

Prince Albert and Area Teachers' Association

# NEWSLETTER

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FEBRUARY 2003

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## *... from the President's desk*

WOW! February already and it's time for our annual teachers' convention. This year we are pleased to welcome the Nipawin Teachers' Association who are to joining us for the upcoming convention. They have sent representatives to the monthly convention meetings and have been participating actively in the planning. The Nipawin teachers will be supplying the introducers for each of the presenters in the small group sessions this year at convention. This is a real treat for our local planning committee. Be sure to browse through the convention sessions listed within this month's newsletter.

The other noteworthy news is that our PAATA website is now up and running. it can be accessed in one of two ways:

Go to [www.stf.sk.ca](http://www.stf.sk.ca) and follow the link to Local Association Websites

Or go directly to [www.stf.sk.ca/local\\_assoc/paata.paata.html](http://www.stf.sk.ca/local_assoc/paata.paata.html)

The site includes information about our organization, standing committees, convention and also includes our monthly newsletters. Board policy for Sask. Rivers can also be accessed through our website. We hope in the future to provide a link to P.A. Catholic Board Policy as well.

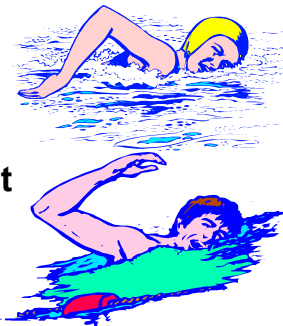
Have a great convention and an even better February break!

- Andrea Gareau

## Convention Items:

The Pool is available for your use during the noon hour at Convention.

*Enjoy!*

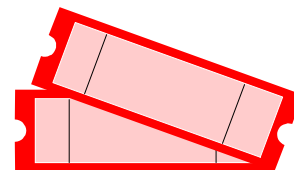


Coffee and Juice Supplied - Snacks - 25 cents each.



## 50-50 Draw at Convention

Although tickets will be sold on both days of convention, the 50-50 draw will take place after the association meeting on Tuesday, February 18<sup>th</sup>. The ticket must be presented to win. A second draw will be made in the event that the first ticket can not be produced.



**The following Notices of Motion will be voted upon at the General Association meeting that will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>. Please take time to review them before the meeting.**

The Constitution Committee proposes the following amendments to the Constitution: [Note that deleted phrases are underlined and added or modified phrases are bold]

**Notice of Motion 1  
Under Section - VI. Duties:**

**Replace the statement:**

3. The Program and Professional Development Committee shall:

- a. Plan and organize selected professional development activities based upon needs and requests.
- b. Provide information about the Prince Albert and Areas Teachers' Association and the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation to teachers new to teaching in the province and/or new to teaching in Saskatchewan Rivers or Prince Albert Roman Catholic School Division or Rivier School.
- c. Plan other activities as assigned by the Executive and/or Representative Assembly of the Prince Albert and Area Teachers' Association.

**With the statement:**

3. The Program Committee shall:

- a. Provide information about the Prince Albert and Areas Teachers' Association and the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation to teachers new to teaching in the province and/or new to teaching in Saskatchewan Rivers or Prince Albert Roman Catholic School Divisions.
- b. Plan other activities as assigned by the Executive and/or Representative Assembly of the Prince Albert and Area Teachers' Association.

**Notice of Motion 2:  
Under Section - VII. Elections**

**Replace the statements:**

A.7. The terms of office of the Executive

members will be from **July 1 to June 30** of the following year.

B.5. The term of office for Councillors shall be from **July 1 to June 30** of the following year.

**With the statements:**

A.7. The terms of office of the Executive members will be from **the beginning of the school year to the beginning** of the following **school** year.

B.5. The term of office for Councillors shall be from **the beginning of the school year to the beginning** of the following **school** year.

**Notice of Motion 3:  
Under Section - VIII. The Convention  
Committee**

**Replace the statement:**

5. The Treasurer shall:

d. Shall refund any surplus funds of the P.A.A.T.A. Treasurer no later than the May Representative Assembly.

**With the statement:**

5. The Treasurer shall:

d. Shall refund any surplus funds of the P.A.A.T.A. Treasurer no later than the May Representative Assembly **leaving a minimum balance in the Convention Committee Account as required by the bank or financial institution.**

**Notice of Motion 4:  
Under Section D: Standing Committees**

**Add:**

**10. The Superannuation Committee shall:**

a. **Organize the superannuation banquet which shall be held on the third Wednesday of June annually.**

b. **Arrange for a gift of \$100 to be presented to each superannuate on behalf of the**

## 2003 Resolutions To Spring Council

The following Resolutions were passed at the General Association Meeting on Wednesday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>.

These will be brought forward to Spring Council on your behalf.

1. **BE IT RESOLVED** that the STF press the government to change the Federation Act to establish the authority of local associations to levy membership fees and the obligation of members to pay them.
2. **BE IT RESOLVED** that the STF hold the Annual Meeting of Council at a time other than Easter Break effective Spring 2004.
3. **BE IT RESOLVED** that the STF establish a fund to assist amalgamated associations with the increased costs of required office space and equipment.
4. **BE IT RESOLVED** that the STF lobby the Department of Learning to:
  - a. develop a math program specifically designed for students entering into post-secondary trade courses
  - b. have this program accepted as an entrance requirement for the appropriate programs at Saskatchewan post-secondary institutions.
5. **BE IT RESOLVED** that the STF encourage the Department of Learning to improve interpersonal counselling services for all students in all schools.
6. **BE IT RESOLVED** that the STF encourage the Department of Learning to improve academic guidance services for all students in our schools.
7. **BE IT RESOLVED** that the STF urge the Department of Learning to develop a compulsory middle years called "Lifestyles", which would have the following components:
  - a. Parenting
  - b. Financial Planning
  - c. Home Management
8. **BE IT RESOLVED** that the STF investigate the inclusion of Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan into the STF Teacher Health and Vision plan.
9. **BE IT RESOLVED** that the STF encourage the Department of Learning and the Government to support and participate in the development of Community Food Charters to ensure that children have access to sufficient and nutritious food to enable them to learn effectively.

**YUK-YUK'S COMEDY EVENING**

**Monday - February 17<sup>th</sup>  
9.00 p.m.  
Diggers Restaurant**

**Dave Nystron & Nigel Walker will entertain  
Teacher-Friendly Content has been assured.  
Tickets available from your Staff Rep. or by  
calling Sharlene Wendland at Carlton  
(922-3115 or Fax 764-1770)**

**Those attending the comedy evening will be  
given 10% off the price of their supper if they  
wish to dine at Diggers prior to the  
performance.**

# Convention 2003 Session Synopsis

## Monday, February 17

### **Strengthening the Team - Keynote Address - Hugh Culver**

Build a stronger team with a focus on Trust, Empowerment, Accountability and personal Mission. STRENGTHENING THE TEAM is a fun, fast-paced presentation that breaks down barriers and build an understanding of what you have in common while you respect differences. This is a wonderful way for people to learn new techniques to enhance performance. STRENGTHENING THE TEAM will get your teams working together on a healthy basis and re-energized!

### **Level I NCCP Coaching Theory - Rob Tomyn:** Feb. 17 and 18, 9:00 - 3:30. General

This session covers general coaching theory for all sports. Topics include : Role of the Coach, Growth and Development, Physical Preparation, and Organizing a Safe and Effective Practice. Certification will be earned upon completion of the course. Advance registration required

### **Sears - Learn to Swim Program -** Feb. 17 10:45 - 3:30 and Feb. 18 9:00 - 11:45 Fee:\$75.00

Learn how to teach swimming in a fun challenging and rewarding atmosphere. Swimming/Natation Canada has developed a program that teaches children the basics of the four swimming strokes. As well, participants are introduced to swimming starts, turns and components of other aquatic sports such as triathlon, synchronized swimming, competitive swimming and water polo. Advanced registration required.

## 10:45 - 11:45

### **The Power of Passion - Hugh Culver General**

Full multi-media visuals from Hugh Culver's Antarctica expeditions are featured. Gain insights on how to get more from your work as Hugh retells his story of overcoming incredible odds to land the first tourist program at the South Pole. The answer is a renewed focus on Purpose, Action, service with Soul, Investment, Ownership, and a focus on the 'Now'.

### **Reffing Volleyball - Jackie Packet** Gr. 7-12

Besides learning the mechanics and art of reffing, this presentation will be a review of rules, especially new or recently revised rules. There will be time for questions and interpretations of situations.

### **Health and Drug Plan - Daryl Nordick (STF)** General

### **Material for Resources: Web Based Development Projects - Judith Byers:** K-12

Have you ever considered using web-based resources in your curriculum? Since 2000, school divisions have been working closely with Saskatchewan Learning to develop web resources for the Saskatchewan curriculum. Come and see what is available in the curricular areas as well as Professional Development and Teachers' Resources.

### **Gateways to Knowledge: Locating, Assessing and Using On-Line Information: Cheryl Erlandson**

Gr. 4-9

This presentation will offer a method of determining when and how to best use Internet resources for research. A set of research skills will be presented as well as an organizer for research that prioritizes the ease of use and effectiveness of resources on the Internet.

### **Water is Life - Al Morhart:** Gr. 2 and 10

This presentation will include:

- 1) A review of a teacher resource entitled "Water is Life" with teacher activities.
- 2) A general discussion of water issues and curriculum links
- 3) A handout of the resource, complete with a listing of other resources related to water.

### **School Plus - Fay Stupnikoff:** Aimed at Administrators

**Safe Schools: Breaking The Silence on Sexual Difference - Kim Tadei:** Gr. K-12

This presentation will deal with the difficult topic of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and two-spirited students in our schools. How can we be sensitive to their needs? How do we deal with the topic of homophobia? How can we be supportive to the students and parents?

**Staying Connected Through the Change Process - Jane Macleod:** General

Recognizing that it is not really organizations that change but the individuals in the organization that make the change, this sessions will present a framework for personal change. Based on the work of W. Bridges (200), this model will help participants understand their reaction to both personal and professional change.

**Prince Albert Food Charter - Rick Sawa -** General

The right to food is a human right that is protected by international law. According to the United Nations, governments have a legal obligation to respect, protect, and fulfill the right to food. A group of Prince Albert citizens will share with participants a food charter and the process used to create the document.

**Dare to Teach Dance - Devona West -** K-5

Fun and simple ideas for the elementary teacher's program will be presented. Minimal participation will be necessary.

**Monday - 1:15 - 3:30**

**Study on Early Childhood in Prince Albert - Linda Nosbush:** 2 hrs. PreK - 12

Understanding the Early Years, a nationally funded initiative, enables us to answer the question, "How are our Children doing?" In order to answer this question, data from parents, children and teachers is used as well as information from Statistics Canada and other locally available socio-demographic information. Phase II involves information to build a community action plan which involves policy and program recommendations. Phase III involves using the Phase I indicators to assess change in early childhood outcomes. UEY is about building capacity within communities and making them aware of their role in facilitation positive developmental outcomes for children. Come and be part of the process!

**Lies in Disguise - John Edwards:** 2 hrs. Adolescents - Adults

This presentation explores the motives and methods of the act of deception, and illustrates the conscious and unconscious behaviors of liars that can be readily recognized. Focusing on elementary application of these recognition skills, the presentation will also briefly explore how the "editing" phenomenon provides real truth.

**Basketball Basics: Fundamental Skills and Drills - Derek Birkham:** 2 hrs. Gr. 7-12

This session is geared towards basketball coaches who are trying to get a grasp of the basic skills they need to teach their basketball players. We will start with individual defensive skill and build up to 2 on 2 defensive skill. If time allows we will move onto offensive fundamentals.

**A Trip to the Islands: The Joy of Cooking - Joyce Polowski, Gerry Skylar, Viv Reeves 2 hrs.**

**Pre-Registration Mandatory -** General

You will learn to prepare exotic foods such as Polynesian Shrimp, Thai Bundles, Crab Stuffed Mushroom Caps, and Bananas Oscar (flambé). Of course, the best part of this session will be sampling the cuisine once the session has been completed!

**Planning Your Life For Retirement - Bert Gordon, Doreen Lloyd and Mickey McLellan:** 2 hrs. General

Yes, there is life after retirement. This is an enjoyable interactive session designed to help you to bridge the gap between work and retirement and to plan for your future. Some of the topics covered are: Your Personal Vision of Retirement, Transition and Change, Income Adjustments, Health Issues, Where do you live and How?, and Lifelong Learning. As well, there is information about the Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan and our Health and Travel Insurance and Dental Insurance plans. Spouses or significant others are invited. Bring your questions and ideas.

**Internet in the Classroom - Judith Byers** 2 hrs. Gr. K-8

Are you looking for some great ideas on how to integrate the Internet into your curriculum? Check out these

classroom-tested resources! Web sites that we will cover include teacher resources, interactive educational sites and games, virtual field trips. Ask the Expert, Web Quests, Email an author, Keypals and more. Time will allow for exploration of these resources.

**Response Process in Visual Arts Education - Debby Noble:** 2 hrs. Gr. 1-6

This session will focus on classroom application of a process for viewing and responding to art. The presentation will focus on the actualization of the visual art strand of the arts education curriculum, and the implementation of the critical/responsive component. Activities using a variety of visual art resources will be explored.

**The Adaptive Dimension: The Road Not Taken - Bev Walker and Cathy Mills** 2hrs. K-12

This session will present research gathered by teachers who implemented the principles of the Adaptive Dimension from K-Gr. 12. Teachers will learn about tool to increase student responsibility and examine the relationship between foundational and learning objectives when implementing the Adaptive Dimension. Finally, teachers will receive information on the differences between adaptations and modified programming.

**Yoga - Lisa Walker** 2 hrs. General

Learn techniques on grounding, centering, meditation. Learn beginner poses (asanas) that create strength, flexibility, stress release, and overall well being. Relaxation guided meditation will finish off the class.

**1:15 - 2:15**

**Team Building Through Effective Communication - Daryl Nordick** - General

In order to work together, we must understand each other. This session will give some basic tips on effective communication skills.

**Genetically Modified Organisms - Al Mohart:** Gr. 9-12

This presentation will review some of the science of biotechnology as well as applications and issues surrounding biotechnology including agricultural biotechnology.

**Uncovering the Stones: Addressing Issues of Equity in the Staff Room - Cheryl Erlandson** General

In order to create healthy school climates and address equity issues, it is necessary to raise awareness and promote health communication. Educators are invited to participate in activities designed to meet these goals. All participants will also receive a copy of a document filled with other ideas and resources that can be used to create a positive teaching and learning environment.

**2:30 - 3:30**

**Conflict Resolution - Daryl Nordick** General

Conflict is natural. It's why we watch sports! But how do we handle conflict with parents? with colleagues? with our supervisors? Conflict resolution skills equate to problem solving skills. This session offers some of these skills.

## **Tuesday, February 18**

### **9:00 - 10:30**

#### **Keynote Address: The Role of Schools in Violence Prevention - Dr. Peter Jaffe**

The time is here for educators to partner with students, parents and community agencies to develop an effective violence prevention program. Children and adolescents at all grade levels are being exposed to and affected by violence. Dr. Jaffe will share innovative approaches in combating violence in our schools.

### **10:45 - 11:45**

#### **Responding to Children Exposed to Domestic Violence - Peter Jaffe - General**

The workshop will focus on the special needs of children and adolescents growing up in homes where there is domestic violence. The aftermath of this violence may hamper normal emotional, cognitive and behavioural development that challenges school staff to provide early identification and intervention efforts in collaboration with community partners.

#### **Reffing Basketball - Jackie Packet Gr. 7-12**

Besides learning the mechanics and art of reffing. This presentation will be a review of rules, especially new or recently revised rules. There will be time for question and interpretations of situations.

#### **Role of the School Report: School Plus: Daryl Nordick Aimed at teachers**

Education in Saskatchewan is undergoing a major review - again! School Plus offers both challenges and opportunities for educational renewal in our province. This session will review the happenings thus far including the Role of the School Report.

#### **Relations Between Teacher Organizations and Governments - Shirley Humphries and Bill Quine**

General

The organization of public school teachers impacts on public elections, education policy and school organizations. Conversely, a nation's history, institutions and policy shape organized teachers' strategies. A comparative study explains 3 types of relations (Quebec, Saskatchewan, Victoria). Participants will consider opportunities to influence government education policy particularly in Saskatchewan. Individuals can make a difference!

#### **Teachers and the Law - Derwyn Crozier-Smith General**

Teachers often go about their work oblivious to the legal context within which we provide our professional services. This session will remind us of the complex legal implications of our work and review recent cases that have an impact.

#### **Multiple Intelligence: An Introduction- Don Rempel K-12**

This session will provide a brief overview of Howard Gardner's Theory of Multiple Intelligence and introduce the implications of how this theory may be used to adapt for individual student needs.

#### **Safe Passage: Teaching Kids to be Safe and Responsible Online - Karen Walliser and Helene Prefontaine K-12**

Young people have taken to technology like fish to water. When asked how they learned about the Internet, the majority of kids say "from friends" or "on my own". This session will explore possible ways in teaching young people how to be safe and responsible while surfing the net.

#### **So You Have a Special Student - Cathy Mills K-12**

This SPDU document was produced to assist Saskatchewan teachers in knowing what supports they might expect when a student with special needs is placed in their classroom. This workshop will acquaint teachers with the contents of this handbook.

#### **The Marquis Project: The Fair Game - Lynn Slobogian Gr. 10-12**

"The Fair Game" is a 35 minute game of change and exchange which offers a clear and tangible model of major forces driving globalization. It stimulates discussion and enables understanding of these forces ;by allowing all players to control and trade all world cash and commodities. The Fair Game is a simple role-playing matrix that can be adapted to demonstrate key aspects of our market system.

### **Gangs - Al Stubbs** General

Gangs are an increasing concern in our world today. Violence takes on a new force as a group. This presentation will focus on the current gang situations and dynamics in Prince Albert and the province.

### **Childhood Obesity: A Population Health Approach - Heather McAvoy and Dori Gaudet** K-12

Childhood obesity is a modern epidemic of considerable consequence. This session will explore the causes from the standpoint of nutrition and physical activity changes in recent years. A population health approach to the problem aims to stabilize the level of obesity in the population, reduce the incidence of new cases, and thus eventually reduce its prevalence. This session will deal specifically with the role of schools in a population health approach.

### **Project Overseas: Team Ghana 2003 - Jeannette Eddolls** - General

Jeannette will provide a brief overview of the procedure for application to Project Overseas and the process that takes place for those that have been selected as potential instructors.

Each year about 50 Canadian teachers are chosen to work, without salary, on CTF's Project Overseas. Their assistance is given, upon invitation, to teachers in Africa, The Caribbean and Asia to improve teaching skills and strengthen professional teaching organizations.

This past summer 46 teachers from across Canada taught in 11 different countries. Jeannette was one of those teachers. She, along with 5 other team members, spent 4 weeks in Ghana during the summer of 2002. Jeannette is prepared to share her experiences and respond to questions and comments.

### **Gentle Gymnastics - Greg Wall and Devona West** - K-5

If you are scared to teach gymnastics, this is the session for you. We will provide an introduction to the basics of gymnastics using a teacher friendly approach. Minimal participation is required; come as you are.

## **10:45 - 12:45**

### **A Trip to the Islands: The Joy of Cooking - Joyce Polowski, Gerry Skylar, Viv Reeves** 2 hrs.

#### **Pre-Registration Mandatory**

You will learn to prepare exotic foods such as Polynesian Shrimp, Thai Bundles, Crab Stuffed Mushroom Caps, and Bananas Oscar (flambé). Of course, the best part of this session will be sampling the cuisine once the session has been completed!

## **1:15 - 1:45**

**Systems Meetings**

## **1:45 - 2:15**

**PAATA Membership Meeting**

## **2:30 - 3:30**

**Entertainment**