



Prince Albert and Area Teachers' Association

# NEWSLETTER

(306) 764-0299 phone

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November 2007

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

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

For those of you who had to miss the Induction evening, it was a wonderful event. A lot of work had been put into planning the evening. There were lots of door prizes, wonderful entertainment, lots of food and lots of conversation. Well done to those who put on the event. Thank you for your effort. It was a very nice welcome to our new members.

I know that fall can be hectic. Many subject councils hold their annual conventions at this time of year. Report cards are being done. Interviews are being arranged. Between testing and "extra" things going on in our schools it can be very, very stressful.

As Showcase 2008 gets nearer on the horizon, we are getting more and more questions. We have been trying to get you to approach your PD committees to see if resources can be made available for teachers to defray their expenses. Hopefully you have been pursuing this. The PAATA has every intention of providing a bus to and from Showcase each day. The cost will be covered by those using the bus. PAATA is subsidizing the cost of everyone's registration fee by about \$40. We are dipping into our reserves to do so. Therefore, there probably won't be any subsidy for people using the bus service. Make sure you keep yourself informed by checking the STF website for ongoing info.

I hope everyone enjoys their Remembrance Day weekend. If the weather holds out, maybe we can all finish our yard, garden and around the house work.

*- Debbie McPherson*

## **FALL COUNCIL**

Another trip to Saskatoon, the big city looms in the distance and the questions about going there swirled in our heads. For the last two weeks, Elaine Serfas and I wondered what the Fall Council experience would be like for us. As new Executive members, the last few months have been a steep learning curve and we knew the incline was going to continue to increase this weekend.

The agenda for the weekend started with Lyle Vinish speaking on the topic of Governance. Although it was not a real attention getter, it did inform us about the varied responsibilities of the STF.

The Role of the Councilor workshop followed and proved to be very beneficial for many of the new councilors. A show of hands indicated that the majority of the 252 councilors had more than 5 years experience; we were truly the new kids on the block.

To describe each session would not be the same as being there. I think my impressions of this experience would serve a better purpose. It might even encourage teachers to become part of the PAATA in some capacity. So, here we go.

The good: the immediate camaraderie, learning about the inner workings of the STF, developing councilor roles and responsibilities, discussing and voting on resolutions.

The bad: not having enough time, MLA's and MPs not showing up for supper.

The ugly: Provincial Collective Bargaining dissatisfaction.

Elaine and I look forward to Spring Council, as we drive again to the big city and wonder . . . in our lifetime, will we ever see the highway twinned?

*- Dave Schneider*

## **P.A. Kiwanis Music Festival**

### **Dates for festival:**

- Voice - March 2-4, 2008
- Strings - March 5-6, 2008
- Piano - March 10-14
- Band - March 17 - 19
- Instrumental - April 7-10

**Registration - January 19, 2008**

## **Welcome to PAATA**

Ashley Anderson  
Deanna Barrett  
Terra Blain  
Marie-Anne Corrigan  
Matthew McCaw  
Marilyn Oleksyn

Grant Person  
Wade Rolles  
Karen Sinoski  
Craig Tilstone  
Matthew Tretiak  
Sheila Vaadland

Many *thanks* to the committees who put on a lovely Induction evening.

Induction - Riverside, St. Anne, Westview  
Program - Turgeon, PACI  
Decorations - Caroline Vis, Janet Toles  
Program design - Gord Bland  
On-site workers - Elaine Serfas, Gisele Stalwick, Jeannette Serfas, Wasyl Rybalka  
Music - Andrea and Rick Lett

Thank you once again to Ecole Holy Cross for allowing us to use the school.

## REMINDER STF Pre-Retirement Seminar

Tuesday, November 20, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.  
Carlton Comprehensive High School  
Lecture Theatre, 2nd floor

Printed copies of the signed Provincial Collective Bargaining Agreement will be distributed to all teachers by mid-November 2007.

At Convention '07, PAATA bought shares in the Roughriders. These shares allow some "perks" for those of us who are Rider Fans. In order to make use of these perks, you need to quote our share number. If interested please contact the office - 764-0299.

### Inductees

|                    |                        |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| Beige Biggins      | Leona Morin            |
| Leanne Bonneau     | Sandra Morley          |
| Ashley Brahniuk    | Elnor Nelson           |
| Amanda Christensen | Jennifer Painchaud     |
| Jeri-Lynn Cook     | Julie Raymond          |
| Renee Gareau       | Jeff Rhinas            |
| Ronald Georget     | Lacey Ruzinsky-Primeau |
| Jennifer Hickey    | Jahnaya Saufert        |
| Andrea Huculiak    | Heather Scriven        |
| Christian Hudon    | Shawna Sinclair        |
| Mandy Jones        | Lindsay Strachen       |
| Samantha Kelly     | Armand Tetreault       |
| Jenilee Kohut      | Teri-Lynn Tremblay     |
| Angelina Lawrence  | Loirel Trumier         |
| Janice Manning     | Shelley Turner         |
| Rylan Michalchuk   | Jason Van Otterloo     |
| Shelley Mitchell   | Devin Van Steelandt    |

## Lest We Forget



### Learning From Practice

An Exchange of Teacher Knowledge and Research

**Feature Theme:**  
*Connecting Research and Assessment: What? How? Why?*

Friday and Saturday  
November 23 & 24, 2007  
Saskatoon

### Showcase 08 Info

- It is the 7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of STF
- Each session is 2 hrs.
- 5 keynotes
- 70 small group sessions
- 2 hr. lunch
- Check the STF website for session info (late Dec.)
- Programs available on-line
- Print programs will not be available on site
- Mini-programs will be available
- Speakers hand-outs will be available on website or will have on-site sign up
- Coffee is being provided on site
- As well as several downtown locations, Prairieland Exhibition will be used as a site. The parking out at Prairieland is free. You can park and use the shuttle provided. This will help with downtown congestion.
- Trade Show will include for profit and not for profit displays.
- If you are still needing hotel rooms you should get on it ASAP and will probably have to look outside the downtown area.
- Restaurants will be extremely busy. Reservations would be a good idea. Patience will be a necessity. You might consider leaving downtown to eat (thus the 2 hour lunches).

**3M** members  
miscellaneous  
messages

#### For Sale

IKEA front facing change table (white). Includes 2 sliding storage baskets and sponge. \$25.  
Contact Denise or Bill - 922-9232.

#### Lakefront Home for Rent

at Emma Lake. Gorgeous View  
Available November 07 - June 08.  
Call 961-7522