



The Alberta Teachers' Association

ATA CENTRAL EAST DISTRICT REPORT

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Issue 1

visit www.standforeducation.ca



Rally for Public Education! Alberta Legislature, Edmonton, Saturday, October 22 at 1:00pm. Family friendly, live music, food vendors. **LET'S PUT PUBLIC EDUCATION AT THE TOP OF THE LIST OF ISSUES IN THE UPCOMING PROVINCIAL ELECTION!**

For more information and to sign up to attend the rally please ask your ATA School Rep and Local Council. This is not an event just for teachers... please bring your family, friends, school/parent council, school board members, any member of the public who cares about the future of public education.

Salary increases! Watch your paystub this September! With the 0.5% salary increase from June, another 1.25% salary increase now, AND because ATRF did so well in their investments, our pension contributions will decrease by 1%, for an effective total increase in your salary of (due to the magic of compounding) 2.77% more than you were paid at this time last year. But it doesn't end there: Since most (or all) of us have already reached our annual maximum CPP and EI contributions, there should be a decent increase in your pay. Please be vigilant and check that you are paid properly! If you have any questions, your first call is your payroll department. Your second call is Teacher Employment Services at 1-800-232-7208. ... and while on the topic of getting paid properly: Please ensure you are paid correctly to your years of education! Your school district can only correct an underpayment of this type for up to 60 days! Please see the "Worth Talking About" bulletins from TES.

LOCAL BARGAINING IS GOING STRONG! Watch for member surveys sent to your personal email soon. Talk to your Teacher Welfare Committee for more info.

Concerns? Questions?
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Website: bit.ly/molalo29

www.teachers.ab.ca
alberta-curriculum-analysis.ca
www.ibelieveinpubliced.ca

standforeducation.ca
[#IStandWithAbTeachers](https://twitter.com/IStandWithAbTeachers)

PANDEMIC PULSE RESEARCH STUDY, FALL 2022 - The Association's seventh pandemic pulse research study will tentatively be in the field from 2022 09 26–10 03. This ongoing research will gather information related to the following issues and perceptions:

- class sizes across K–12
- range of classroom complexities (behavioural, social, emotional, physiological, cognitive)
- early considerations on K–6 curriculum implementation and costs to individual teachers (and school budgets) to implement the new K–6 curriculum
- COVID-19 sentiments (eg, perceptions of spread, fear inducements, media hype)
- well-being/mental health indicators
- changes/impacts to school leader instructional time over the last two years of funding cuts
- key teaching supports or resources being sought for fall 2022/winter 2023

EDUCATOR EXCHANGE PROGRAMS (EEP) are expanding short-term exchanges in the 2022/23 school year, offering two streams: virtual and in-person. In-person exchanges will be available with Iceland, Spain and Germany. The application processes have been updated to ensure participants are well prepared. The year-long in-person exchanges remain paused for the 2022/23 school year; however, a virtual option with the Australian organizations will be offered this year. The 2022/23 school year will also see e-exchanges with Germany, Spain and new areas in Australia. There is continued interest in e-exchanges, which have been very useful for collaborative innovation on a number of participant-driven topics.

Indigenous Education Committee

Speaker Series The *Braves Wear Braids* documentary looks at the spiritual meaning of braids, and the struggles faced by Indigenous youth to keep this important piece of the culture alive. The documentary highlights this importance through interviews with Ethan Bear, Elders, Knowledge Holders, and other Indigenous men who speak about their own personal experiences with their braids. Bryce Starlight will be facilitating a webinar about this film. The full documentary can be watched at <https://www.feralfawn.ca/braves-wear-braids>.

Rupert's Land Institute is reporting: Free Foundational Knowledge Themes Moodle Cohorts. • Rupert's Land App has been expanded to include an alphabet and Michif language portals. • Tutoring programs will continue next year. • Métis memories of Residential Schools Digital Art Mural <https://www.muralmosaic.com/metis-memories/>.

Ways You Help on a Global Scale

As a member of the ATA, you have been supporting international causes:

- Project Overseas, CTF partners' Professional Development programs and \$27,500 as a donation to UNICEF's campaign - over 1,000 teachers were provided professional development in mental health and wellness;
- The ATA Dominica IT Project continued to meet the learning needs of teachers in the Commonwealth of Dominica West Indies online. Five teachers were supported, sharing their information technology knowledge across five courses;
- Tools for Schools Africa Foundation continued to support the education of girls in Ghana. Twenty-three recipients were supported in the 2021/22 year to attend schooling, pay tuition and provide accommodation and a book allowance;
- Canadian Women for Women in Afghanistan had primarily a digital project, adding resources to their online library. The instability in Afghanistan did hamper this project and the 2022/23 proposal is quite different. The organization will be undergoing a name change and, rather than supporting women in Afghanistan, they will be supporting individuals that have relocated out of Afghanistan as well as students that have arrived in Canada.

Teacher Discipline

The Alberta Minister of Education has asked for public input into a new Code of Professional Conduct. Please feel free to participate in this survey before the October 7 deadline at bit.ly/teacherconductsurvey. You are allowed to answer this survey as a member of the general public, a parent, and/or as a teacher.

... on the topic of discipline: **If you are being called to a meeting for a disciplinary issue, you are entitled to ATA representation!** There are 2 ways to go forward:

1. Ask for the meeting to be postponed until your Executive Staff Officer (ESO) from Barnett House or SARO can be there;
2. Take notes at the meeting and WAIT for your ESO to be there with you in person BEFORE you respond.

You may be in contravention of the Code of Professional Conduct if you talk to anyone but your ESO, including your friends or colleagues, making the case worse for yourself. Your first call shall be 1-800-232-7208 and ask for TES.

ASEBP Update

ASEBP reported on a new program called “It takes a village” which supports mental health; teacher exchange benefits; disability and the higher numbers that are currently showing up while the health care sector catches up with backlogs, ineligible providers, plan design, appeal processes and their hybrid workforce. Also, our Employee and Family Assistance Program (EFAP) provider is changing from Homewood Health to Inkblot Therapy. Homewood Health will continue your care until completion but will take your initial call until 11:59 pm November 30, 2022.

Appendix B to Addendum S-2/22



Teacher's Mental Health Matters!

Wellness4Teachers is a free, daily supportive text message intervention based on Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT), designed to address stress, burnout, anxiety, and depression, as well as build resilience and improve professional satisfaction among teachers.



Point your camera to the QR code to learn more.

If you have any questions about the Wellness4Teachers Program, contact the Principal Investigator, Dr. Vincent Agyapong, at 780-215-7771

To subscribe, text “TEACHWELL” to 1-844-618-1234

 UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
FACULTY OF MEDICINE & DENTISTRY
Department of Psychiatry

 DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

 Global Psychological eHealth Foundation

 The Alberta Teachers' Association

 Nova Scotia Teachers Union

 Innovative Health Foundations

My DR Calendar

September

7 - Aspen View TWC
8 - Emergent Local Presidents meeting
8 - Lakeland Catholic Local Council
11-13 - Fall Strategic Planning
13 - Greater St. Paul Local Council
15 - Buffalo Trail TWC
19 - Indigenous Education Committee
20 - Park Plains East Executive
20 - Aspen View Local Council
21 - Park Plains East Local Council
22 - Provincial Executive Council
22 - Battle River Local Council
23 - Provincial Executive Council
23 - Beginning Teachers' Conference
23 - HAK Convocation
24 - Beginning Teachers' Conference
24 - Benefits, Insurance, and Pension Committee
24 - Middle Years' Council
28 - Endless Skies TCA Board
29 - Battle River TWC

October

5 - Battle River Executive
6 - Lakeland Catholic Local Council
6 - Park Plains East Member Induction and Retirement
6 - Aspen View Member Induction
7 - Indigenous Advisory Circle
17 - Greater St. Paul Member Induction
17 - Aspen View TWC
19 - Campus St Jean Area Field Experience Committee
20-21 - Provincial Executive Council
21-22 - Local Presidents' Meeting
22 - [**Stand For Education Rally at the Legislature**](#)

Pre-Retirement Workshops

TES-ESO Myra Rybotycki, the ATA's retirement expert, will be conducting Retirement Workshops and Understanding Your Pension:

"Pre-Retirement Workshop" (designed for teachers in the final 5 years of their career) for Central East and other rural districts:

1. November 26, 2022
2. January 21, 2023
3. March 4, 2023

"Understanding Your Pension" (designed for Early Service Teachers):

1. Wednesday, October 19, 2022
2. Wednesday, January 25, 2023

"Retirement Planning for Women"

1. Wednesday, November 2, 2022
2. Wednesday, February 23, 2023