

Welcome Back!

RETSTA Record

Welcome Back! I hope that everyone is excited to get back into another school year.

It's a bitter sweet start to the school year for me this year. I've spent the last two months with my daughter every day. It's my first experience as a new dad to have a summer with her and I know that there are many more to come. With the start of the year I am excited for new challenges, continuing work begun last year, and looking forward to bargaining. At the same time, I will miss the time I had with my daughter and hope that she adjusts well to daycare.

Chris and I have jumped right back into work and are diligently planning for our contact representative orientation, the first executive and council meetings of the year, and working through other items that we may have to deal with this year. Over the summer, I had the opportunity to attend the Professional Development and President's

Training where we reviewed a lot of the projects MTS will be undertaking this year, reviewed the status with the province, and discussed the bargaining climate moving forward. Chris and I also had the opportunity to meet with the 45 new members who are joining our association.

I am looking forward to another year working on your behalf as President. I am incredibly honoured by this role and I will work to represent you all with the utmost energy and dedication. Remember that we work for you. If you ever have any questions, don't hesitate to call us at the RETTA office, or send me an email. I hope that all of you have a fantastic year.

Tim Breen
President
tbreen@retta.ca



RETSD 5 pin bowling league

The RETSD Bowling League has been part of the Division for many years. The Roll Off Trophy was donated to the League in 1974. We do not know what year the League started but we would love to keep it going.

Gather four or five friends or co-workers and join the fun. Bowling helps reduce stress and is a great place to socialize with colleagues and get some exercise.

We bowl two games every Monday (except holidays) at 4:40pm and are finished around 6:00pm. The cost is \$12.00 weekly. If you cannot make one of the Mondays you only pay \$5.00 prize monies. The prize money is used for the banquet at the end of bowling which will be held on April 2nd, 2018

Bowling starts Monday, September 11th, 2017, ends March 19th, 2018. At Rossmere Bowling Lanes, 1042 Henderson Hwy.

If you have any Questions please feel free to contact:

Sylvia McKague: slysyl002@shaw.ca

or Sharon Miller: miller01@mymts.net.

JOIN RETSTCA CURLING

fun, friends & fitness
October 11-March 14
\$245/player
20 games & banquet
Tues. 4:30-6:30



contact Rob

robertwoodrow@gmail.com

204-995-7629

DO SOMETHING OUTRAGEOUS...

Regulation Change affecting Salary Classification for Vocational Teachers

In July 2015, The teaching Certificates and Qualifications Regulation was revised. Along with routine updates, a significant change was made to the Salary Classification Schedule for Technical Vocational Teachers. However, educational partners were not alerted to that specific change.

The change affects teachers with a Vocational Certificate who are at Class 6 and working towards Class 7. The previous regulation allowed for Class 6 Vocational teachers to complete a 30 credit hour Post-Baccalaureate Diploma in education (PBDE) and move to Class 7. The new wording effectively removes that option. Under the new regulation the qualifications for Vocational Teachers for Class 7 are:

The qualifications for Class 6 combined with;

- A) *an approved program of at least 30 credit hours of post-secondary study related to the vocational area, including at least 12 credit hours of professional course work; or*
- B) *A graduate level degree or other approved program*

The Society became aware

of the change in regulation in the Spring 2017 when a vocational teacher who submitted a completed PBDE to the Department was refused the move to Class 7 because the PBDE course work was not related to their vocational teaching area. This decision was successfully overturned in an Appeal.

An agreement has now been reached with the Department that specifies a *transition period* for teachers caught by this change. Specifically, Vocational Teachers who began a PBDE coursework prior to the 2015 regulation change, and who complete the Diploma prior to September 2018, can be considered for Class 7. Vocational teachers who started a PBDE in the Fall term of 2015 or later, will need to meet the criteria in the revised regulation, i.e. their course work need to be specifically related to their vocational teaching area or they need to complete a full Master's degree.

If this change affects you or you would like further information, please contact Linda Thorlakson at MTS lthorlakson@mbteach.org

If you are reading this, like me, you didn't win the lottery this summer. It's too bad because I was really hoping to head down to Costa Rica this winter. I hear it's the place to be.

Nonetheless here we are, off to another exciting start to the school year. And the truth is there's nowhere I'd rather be. Working for you, the members of RETTA, continues to be my honour this year, and what a year it's going to be.

We are going to hit the ground running this year, especially in terms of Collective Bargaining. I think it is fair to say that the Provincial Government has created a rather hostile collective bargaining environment. For the vast majority of teachers who have seen nothing but wage increases that generally have at least matched the rate of inflation, this will likely be a shocking change. Despite that, we are working every day to ensure the needs and concerns of our members are being dealt with.

That said, I need to hear from you. We have a great start, with a roughly 70% response rate from last year's member survey, but we need to continue to hear from our members. If there are things that you feel are important and need to be included or improved in our Collective Agreement, I implore you to take a couple minutes to send me an e-mail. You may feel you are the only one with a particular concern, trust me, you aren't.

Chris Darazsi
RETTA Vice President
cdarazsi@retta.ca



Project Overseas

Helping colleagues from around the world

Project Overseas is accepting applications from Manitoba educators wanting to assist colleagues in developing countries in the summer of 2018.

Application deadline is Monday, October 30, 2017.

This year, MTS, in conjunction with The Canadian Teachers' Federation, will be sponsoring five teachers. Criteria include membership in MTS, an appropriate teacher's certificate, five full years teaching experience in Canada, Canadian citizenship and excellent health.

For more information and application forms, contact Nancy Kerr at:

The Manitoba Teachers' Society
191 Harcourt Street
Winnipeg, MB R3J 3H2
204-831-3086, 1-866-494-5747 ext. 216
or email nkerr@mbteach.org

