

## President's Message

Welcome to September. Summer break is an excellent and necessary component in the rhythm of our work, but we also look forward to September. And certainly, all of us look forward *in* September. Planning is what teachers do; we make plans, execute plans, revise plans, and then plan when we will make our next plan. The Interlake Teachers' Association and the Manitoba Teachers' society are also full of plans for the upcoming year – those plans will be outlined in upcoming newsletters. The Manitoba Government, undoubtedly, also has plans; what those are will be revealed in the months to come. Whatever your plans, go into the year knowing that you are participating in one of the richest employment experiences in our culture. Teachers are, and continue to be, one of the most respected professions, trusted with performing one of society's most difficult tasks. We teachers are rightly proud of the work we do; the ITA and MTS will continue to work for you and, proudly, with you. Have a great year.

## Contact ITA and/or MTS First

The Interlake Teachers' Association Executive and the Manitoba Teachers' Society are primarily tasked with advocating for members. From simple inquiries to more complex employment-related or personal matters, please contact Association or Society representatives before contacting division personnel. It is our job to guide all members to the solutions that are best for that member. All matters are dealt with in confidence. The Manitoba Teachers' Society encourages all members to avoid using division email when discussing union or personal business. Please use non-division email when contacting either the society or the ITA President. Members always have the right to contact the Manitoba Teachers' Society directly and ask for a staff officer. (204-888-7961).

All the contacts below go directly to the ITA President, John Bock; confidentiality is assured.

Are they in your contacts list?

**Email:**        [president@interlaketeachers.ca](mailto:president@interlaketeachers.ca)

**Cell (call or text):** 204.467.5845

**Web:** Go to [interlaketeachers.ca](http://interlaketeachers.ca) and click on "[Contact](#)".

## Professional Development Opportunities

Here are some upcoming opportunities for professional development offered by MTS.

### Workshop on Workshops– September 30, 2017

Building capacity in teachers to develop presentations and facilitate professional learning for adult learners. Recommended for teachers and leaders who develop and present at PD days and professional learning events.

Fee: \$75

### Supervision & Evaluation: A Toolbox for Principals – October 19, 2017

Developing knowledge and skills for school leaders to supervise and evaluate staff. Differences between supervision, evaluation, and discipline; legislative responsibilities; divisional policy and protocols; documentation; and guidelines for formative and summative evaluation.

Fee: \$150

## Other Deadlines

- Make sure to report all changes in family status to the ISD payroll department within 90 days to ensure continued and correct coverage for your benefits plans. This also applies to spousal health and dental plans. If, because of significant changes to a spousal plan or a change in your spouse's employment you now wish to switch to the ITA plan, you have 90 days from that change to sign up with the ITA plan(s). Again, ISD payroll will have the appropriate forms.
- If you plan to access religious leave as per our collective agreement, remember that the forms must be submitted by September 30.
- The application deadline for Sabbatical Leave is February 1, but the time to start thinking about it is now. If you are considering a sabbatical leave, please contact John Bock to get the process going.



## New Members Event

The annual ITA New Members' Event will take place in the division conference room (room 107 at SCI) from 4:30PM to 6:00PM on September 21 and 22. The seminar on both dates is identical; pick the date that works best for you. This event is for teachers new to the profession or new to the division. If you joined the division part-way through the previous school year or are just starting now, you are welcome to attend. In fact, even if you have been with us for a few years, but missed the session in your first year, feel free to join us. To register simply send an email to [president@interlaketeachers.ca](mailto:president@interlaketeachers.ca) indicating your name and the date on which you wish to attend. There will be food and prizes, so plan to attend to better understand what your association can do for you.