

President's Message

This past weekend as I used the rainy day we had been waiting for to do report card comments, it dawned on me that there were a mere two weeks remaining in the school year. It never ceases to amaze me that despite where we are on the continuum of our teaching careers, June just suddenly seems to show up. More often than not, June arrives and we as teachers want, or feel we need to fit more into our students' year of learning experiences. One more project, exam or concert for them to show off what they've learnt. One more activity day or game outside to spend time with the friends they won't see for two months. One more lab or field trip to help them remember why they want to come back. Perhaps a graduation ceremony is in order for some, and of course, the 6 fire-drills we didn't do during the cold months.

It is true however, that some may be counting the days for a variety of reasons. Some of our colleagues are moving on to new divisions, new jobs, or taking leaves for self or family. To you I say thank you for what you have done for your students this year; thank you for becoming a part of a school staff and family; and good luck to you during the next part of your journey. For others, there may be no term or permanent job next year. It is you who I encourage to stay in touch with our schools by providing the division with your substitution services. Your knowledge and talents are valuable, and there is much work for you in all of our schools. For a few others, this is the last June before retirement. To you I send congratulations and gratitude. You have given of yourself and family during a career that has impacted more lives than you may ever know. I wish you new found passions to pursue, and the time to spend on them and with your family.

To the teachers and clinicians of the Interlake who will be returning in September, I wish you time. Time to breathe and recharge. Take time over the next two months to do what makes you happy, to do what you've been putting off, or just take time for you. Be it slow quiet time, or on a trip making the most of time, be well and mindful to make time personal. Rest, relax, reconnect, and thank you for everything you do, everyday, for students, their families and the communities of the Interlake.

Upcoming Important Dates:

ITA Retirement & Long Service Celebration
Thursday June 27th at the Stonewall Legion
4:00pm with speeches at 4:30 pm
Come celebrate the careers of your colleagues.
Food provided & beverages available. All welcome.

SUMMER EVENTS:

- **PRIDE** Dates & Events from across the Province can be found at this [LINK](#).
- Winnipeg General Strike events such as the musical, concerts, or tours of the city can be found at www.mfl.ca/1919.

A Message from your New MTS President, James Bedford:

Fellow MTS Members,

As the likelihood of an early provincial election call becomes greater, the Society is gearing up. Information and materials are being designed to raise the profile of public education and equip our members to engage effectively with everyone from family and friends, to candidates at their doors. Such materials, however, are only as effective as our members are engaged. Much of the campaign could take place during the summer months, making it easy for political parties (and the public) to ignore us.

So, what can you do to help, right now?

Monitor your email and social media throughout the summer and encourage your colleagues who have not signed up with MTS [My Profile](#) to do so immediately. This creates a direct pipeline between MTS and the membership that is both reliable and secure. Working together, we can ensure that the protection and enhancement of public education will be top of mind as Manitobans head to the polls.

James Bedford
President, The Manitoba Teachers' Society

PLEASE click this [My Profile](#) link or type www.mbteach.org now to stay informed and connected. Be sure to update your home and personal information. **THANK YOU!**

Also In the News:

MTS 100th Provincial Council Highlights: This [LINK](#) will take you to the details.

- A new Provincial Executive was elected, including new President, James Bedford.
- TRAF, the Teachers' Retirement Allowances Fund says the plan continues to be strong and concluded that current funding levels are adequate to provide for the current level of benefits. No changes to member contribution rate will be needed at this time.
- Delegates adopted procedures that would protect whistleblowers who report wrongdoing and passed a resolution that a Women in Leadership (WEL) committee continue to implement an action plan to encourage more women to apply for leadership roles.
- Delegates overwhelmingly agreed that the Society strike an ad-hoc committee to study the feasibility of establishing new Locals with Associate Members of Regular Teachers or Substitute Teachers employed by the Manitoba First Nations School System (MFNSS), First Nations, or First Nation Education Authorities.
- Hundreds of Manitoba public school teachers joined with hundreds of others in a solidarity parade to commemorate the 1919 Winnipeg General Strike.

The MTS 100th Anniversary Website: A Century of Solidarity - is up and running. Click this [LINK](#) to take a trip back in time to see the start of the profession and highlights through the decades.

Facilitator's Forum August 28-29th, 2019: Facilitating quality and engaging learning experiences for adult learners is an art, science, and craft. The Facilitators' Forum is designed to meet the needs of facilitators, consultants, coordinators, coaches, learning leaders and other professionals who work with adult learners. [LINK](#)

K-12 Review: Thank you to all of you who represented the ITA by attending a commission workshop, writing a submission, or sending a letter to the Minister. Teachers, parents, students and community members from across the province made their voices known through these processes. MTS, ITA and ISD all engaged in the review in a variety of ways, and we await the next steps.