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ANNUAL MEETINGS SPRINGING UP ALL AROUND

Spring (or second Winter if you will), is upon us and brings us Annual General Meetings of all sorts. This time of year sprouts an opportunity for all members to speak with those who work for them at the local and provincial level.

The Annual General Meeting of the ITA Tuesday, May 3, 2022 4:30 pm Quarry Park, Heritage Arts Centre.

Agenda

State of the Union – James Bedford – MTS President

Acceptance of 2021 Minutes & adoption of 2022 Agenda

Election of 2022-2023 Officers

Approval of the 2022-2023 Budget & Fees

ITA Year in Review

A chance to catch up with colleagues over pizza.

DOOR PRIZES!

The Annual General Meeting of MTS Provincial Council will be held May 26 – 28, 2022.

The ITA will send 3 delegates. Business will include:

- By-law amendments
- Approval of MTS budget & setting of 2022-23 MTS dues.
- Indigenous, Women’s, 2SLGBTQ+ and Equity Caucuses
- Resolutions on issues such as:
 - ✓ Relevant educator PD
 - ✓ Provincial bargaining
 - ✓ Curriculum content & principles
 - ✓ Learning grants & enhanced training for members
 - ✓ Engagement & training in equity
 - ✓ WSH advocacy
 - ✓ Online teaching
 - ✓ Substitute teachers
- Election of the 2022-23 Provincial Executive (PX)

Did you know? ITA has nominated President, Cathy Pleskach, for a Member-at-Large position on PX? Delegates will cast their votes for PX on May 28. See all candidate information [HERE](#).

News & Current Issues

Benefits: MTS HumanaCare – Have you registered yet?

- You DO NOT need Blue Cross to access.
- 1 in 15 MTS members have already accessed.
- Members can access up to \$850 per calendar year for **other** extended health services.
- For the complete list of all your extended health benefits (Blue Cross), go [HERE](#).



The banner features the HumanaCare logo on the left, the MTS logo on the right, and a QR code on the far right. The text in the center reads: '24 HOURS A DAY ANYWHERE IN NORTH AMERICA', '1-800-661-8193', 'www.humanacare.com/mts', and 'Access Code: MTSMFAP'. The MTS logo includes the text 'THE MANITOBA TEACHERS' SOCIETY'.

Mental Health Resource Guide for Teachers:

For most of us, seeking professional help to maintain our physical health is second nature. But we don't always give our mental health the same consideration. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

Collective Bargaining:

MTS will soon initiate bargaining on behalf of all 38 locals with MSBA who will represent divisions. Our collective agreement expires on June 30, 2022, and we follow this one until a new one is ratified.

Important Dates

ITA end of year celebration – SAVE THE DATE!

Come join us in honouring the past 3 years of retirees & long serving members on...

Thursday, June 16 at Bel Acres Golf Course. RSVP info coming soon.

Retirement/Resignation Dates:

Teachers have until April 30 (if hired on or after December 7, 2004) or May 31 (if hired before December 7, 2004) to give a retirement or resignation notice effective June 30.

MTS Labour School:

Participants will explore a range of labour relations topics while developing leadership and facilitation skills. Each session will provide offerings on behalf of the Teacher Welfare and Professional and French Language Services departments. Participants will examine current initiatives developed by unions to engage the 21st century member and address working conditions for the current labour force. **See poster for application information**

MTS Community Service Grants:

Want to do more for the people in your community? Could you and your students create something unique that would make a real difference for those affected by poverty, racism or one of countless other social justice issues? You can make that difference with a \$1,000 Manitoba Teachers' Society Community Service Grant (CSG). It's our way to help you empower students to make change. [LINK](#)

MTS Spring Campaign – “Manitoba Teachers. Helping Kids Grow.”



It may still look and feel like winter in Manitoba, but on Monday, April 25, MTS launched its spring ad campaign, titled *Manitoba Teachers, Helping Kids Grow*. The campaign features a 30-second television ad, along with a web and social media presence, digital ads on high profile news sites, as well as urban and rural radio spots. The campaign will be in market through the end of May.

Click to watch the TV ad - <https://youtu.be/zUCHsr1dQrg>

MB Gov Long-awaited Education Action Plan – MTS Cautiously Optimistic

This month the Manitoba government released [Manitoba’s K to 12 Education Action Plan: A Roadmap in Response to the Recommendations of the Commission on K to 12 Education](#). The long-awaited do-over of the Better Education Starts Today (BEST) document represents a distinct and welcome departure in tone and focus and is rooted in the [K-12 Commission](#) recommendations.

The *Action Plan* features a shift in position in a number of key areas:

- Principals and vice principals will remain within the teacher bargaining unit,
- “Business managers” will not be appointed to leadership positions within schools,
- Existing school boards will not be consolidated into six to eight regional boards,
- The current school trustee model remains in place, and,
- There are no immediate plans for new legislation affecting public education.

March Trivia Answers:

1. How many school closure days has ISD had this school year?
 - At the time the question was posed, the answer was 11. It is now 13... (and counting?)
2. What year was the previous record and how many?
 - 1996 & 10 days

No member answered all correctly, but KENDRA OBACH receives honourable mention for 2 out of 3.

Questions of concerns, contact your local president at itapres@mbteach.org