

Report from Provincial Executive Council May 2nd and 3rd, 2019

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- **Our new Education Minister is Adriana Lagrange. Adrianna hails from Red Deer Catholic school division, where she served on the school board and has been chair. Our Provincial President, Greg Jeffery has requested a meeting with our new minister, but it has yet to occur.**
- **ARA is being held in Edmonton on the long weekend. Change of venue to the Edmonton Convention Center, downtown due to flooding at the Westin. An invitation has gone out to our new Minister of Education to attend/bring greetings.**
- **Ten different emergent resolutions have been put forward for presentation to delegates during the media portion of the meeting, Saturday afternoon. They are in relation to: government policies implemented about teacher evaluation respecting teacher professionalism and comport the philosophy and direction of the TQSS (Teacher Quality Standard), the use of surveillance devices on students, protection for teachers against discrimination on basis of sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression, continuation of protection under legislation for LGBTQ students and GSA's, grant rate increases from inflation, funding increased enrolment, asking for a rural education strategy so students in rural areas continue to have access to high-quality education, support for students with exceptionalities, support for class-size initiatives, and for support for students in poverty. PEC is asking ARA delegates to consider standing up and speaking to any of these resolutions.**
- **ARA will be able to debate the merits of adding an additional staff member to Member Services to help handle the backlog of investigations. Thought originally to be a temporary spike, Member Services have been facing consistently high numbers of complaints in recent months. With an obligation under legislation to deal with these matters in a specific time frame, attention is required in this program area. Adding this staff member would increase the proposed budget from \$15/year per member by an additional \$3.**
- **A fully transparent outline of ATA expenditures on the building renovations will be presented to delegates attending ARA.**
- **AngelSense is a new produce that teachers in this province are finding attached to student's clothing in the classroom. AngelSense is being marketed as a monitoring device to keep track of students, and conversations around the student with this device attached can be**

listened in to. This device has been used to monitor speeds of school busses as well.

- **Research on Beginning Teachers – The U of L Assistant Dean of Research, Dr. Thelma Gunn, has accepted a research contract with the ATA to assist with the design and development of longitudinal research on beginning teachers. This research will explore the effects of revised Professional Practice Standards, new K-4 curriculum and inclusive learning on teachers in the early years of practice. Dr. Gunn brings a wealth of experience related to preservice teacher preparation and this field of educational research.**
- **Upcoming Public Lecture: “(Un)intended Consequences: Automation and Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Public Education” by Dominic Barton, internationally renowned business leader and advisor, Emeritus Dean of McKinsey and Company and Chancellor of the University of Waterloo. He will be discussing the effects of automation and artificial intelligence on Alberta children, youth, families, schools and communities, culminating in discussing how these rapid technological changes may affect public education systems in Alberta. This evening public lecture will be held on June 5th at the Fantasyland Hotel, Edmonton. Tickets are \$10 each.**
- **2442 teachers attended the MIM’s that were held around the province, 4500 attended the town hall. We will be reviewing the most effective way to get information out to members in situations of ratification of agreements.**
- **Leadership Certification programs are going to be available starting in the summer at universities. People requiring this course/entering into administration should seek information from different universities, as their programs will be implemented in differing ways. Some are for credit, some are not, some are offered at different time intervals, etc. All people requiring this course will now need to seek enrolment at a university.**
- **I have been voted as one of two PEC members authorized to serve on the Interpretation Committee Under Collective Agreement for a term until June 30/19. Robert Twerdoclib is the other PEC member sitting on this committee.**

Meetings Attended; April and May, 2019

April 1	Member Information Meeting – Airdrie
April 2	Foothills CSR
April 2	Member Information Meeting – Spruce Meadows
April 3	Canadian Teacher’s Federation committee meeting
April 4 & 5	Provincial Executive Council
April 8	Rocky View ARA Committee
April 10	Foothills ARA Committee

April 11	Rocky View Executive
April 12 & 13	TWAC – Teacher Welfare Area Conference
April 17	Foothills Induction Ceremony
April 18	Rocky View Budget meeting
April 24	Canadian Rockies TWC
April 25	Finance Committee Meeting
April 26 & 27	Middle Years Council, AGM and Conference
April 30	Provincial Political Engagement Committee
May 1	Canadian Rockies CSR
May 2 & 3	Provincial Executive Council
May 6	CAFEC
May 7	Foothills AGM
May 9	Rocky View CSR

Upcoming Meetings in May

May 9	Palliser District Teachers' Convention – Executive meeting
May 10	Palliser District Teachers' Convention – Board meeting
May 13	Rocky View TWC
May 14	Foothills TWC
May 16	Rocky View Local Golf Tournament
May 17	Emergent PEC meeting
May 17	Local Presidents Meeting
May 18-20	Annual Representatives Assembly
May 21	Canadian Rockies TWC
May 23	Ad Hoc Committee on Women's Issues (DEHR)
May 27	Rocky View TWC
May 28	Canadian Rockies BUGM
May 29	Christ the Redeemer AGM
May 31	Finance Meeting
May 31	Political Engagement Seminar