#### Central East District Representative’s Report

**January 2016**

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District Representative Meeting Dates

January 19: Curriculum Meeting

January 19: ECACS EPC Mtg.

January 20: Aspen View LC

January 22: NETCA Executive Mtg.

January 25: Role of Superintendent Mtg.

January 26: Lakeland Catholic EPC Mtg.

January 27: Battle River EPC Mtg.

January 28: Northern Lights LC

January 29: WellBeing of Children and Youth Mtg.

February 2: Battle River Executive Mtg.

February 4: Lakeland Catholic LC

February 5-6: Local Presidents’ Meeting

February 8: Park Plains East Executive Mtg.

February 11-12: NETCA Convention

February 11: Northern Lights Executive Mtg.

February 16: Battle River LC

February 17: Park Plains East LC

February 22-23: Provincial Executive Council Mtg.



***Professional Development:***

**Webinars:** are offered in conjunction with the Alberta Regional Learning Consortium. See schedule below and find archived events [here](http://www.teachers.ab.ca/For%20Members/Professional%20Development/Pages/Webinars.aspx).

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| --- | --- | --- |
| PRISM: Professional Respecting and Supporting Individual Sexual Minorities Part I January 11, 2016Part II January 25, 2016 | Supporting Positive Behaviours in Alberta Schools Part I March 14, 2016Part II March 21, 2016 | Unseen Hurts: Understanding Mental Health Issues in Our Classrooms Part I April 14, 2016 Part II April 21, 2016 |

Diversity, Equity and Human Rights Conference

* April 8-9, 2016, Barnett House, Edmonton
* Key speakers: Raheel Rahza, current events from a Muslim perspective & Speak Truth To Power, a human rights awareness program.
* Panel discussion on changes to Bill 10
* Two members per local are sponsored to attend
* Possible poverty simulation on Friday afternoon

***Teacher Welfare & Government:***

Provincial Executive Council met on January 14-15. We spent the lion’s share of our meeting in discussion, debate and decision regarding the impact of the *Public Education Collective Bargaining Act* which came into force on January 1, 2016.

1. President Ramsankar met with Minister of Finance Joe Ceci. The minister assured our association that bargaining will proceed as legislated in Bill 8 with NO government interference. The freeze on provincial civil workers’ wages is no indication of government action with teachers bargaining.
2. PEC created policies for central bargaining. These included:
* A central table bargaining committee: consists of five council members, one as chair (each voting), executive secretary, coordinator of teacher welfare and legal counsel (each non voting), plus members of staff and others as needed. A sub committee of these will conduct actual bargaining.
* A process for developing the ATA proposal on central table matters
* The roles and responsibilities related to central table bargaining
* Ratification process for central table memorandum of agreement
* Ratification of central terms conducted through regional information meetings.
* An electronic vote on the memorandum of agreement on central terms – 50% +1 of all votes cast.
* The ability to bind all members to the agreement from this committee’s work exists from the legislation.
1. The list of all matters (LAM) will be discussed with local presidents February 5-6 and the list of central matters will be approved at the February PEC meeting.

***Government:***

The Malatest report (C3) has been completed and is on Minister Eggen’s desk.

Meeting dates for 2016-2017:

Local Presidents’ Meetings: 2016 October 21(eve)–22, and 2017 February 10(eve)–11

Provincial Executive Council: 2016 September 22–23, 2016 October20–21, 2016 December 01–02, 2017 January 19–20, 2017 February 27–28, 2017 April 06–07, 2017 May 11–12, and 2017 June 08–09.

PEC approved the proposed budget for the 2016 Annual Representative Assembly. If this budget is approved member fees for a full-time teacher would be $1,260 per year (this is an increase of 1.45% or $18.00 and associate members would be $189.00. Associate member fees are always 15% of active member fees.

Look for an inforgraphic on the SLA survey out soon.

PEC will write to the premier about the effects of poverty on our children.

Wellbeing of Children and Youth will hold a conference in Grande Prairie on April 22 with a focus on the poverty of our children. Please consider attending. Details to follow.

The Lynden Dorval case demonstrates the courts upholding a teacher’s professional autonomy.

***Member Services:***

Two trends noted were the complications of technology, and harassment.

***Teacher Welfare:***

Notable results from grievances:

1. There is no requirement for principals to have access to medical certificates. (Difficult to keep medical certificates private).
2. New teachers receiving 1/200th in pay for orientations completed outside of school calendar days.
3. Reinstatement of personal days after a board did not hire a sub to cover the personal days.

**Salary Comparisons FYI**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Avg. teacher salary | Avg. Superintendent Salary | Avg. Secretary-Treasurer Salary |
| 1999 | 61 000 | 113 000 | 97 000 |
| 2014 | 97 000 | 197 000 | 197 000 |

Maternity Leave Info.

Please see link for brochures and online tools.-->

<http://www.teachers.ab.ca/For%20Members/Salary%20Benefits%20and%20Pension/Pages/Leaves%20of%20Absence.aspx#maternity-leave>

ASEBP: this carrier has made changes to how billing for services in extended health care and dentistry are handled. From now one, teachers will have to pay up front and seek reimbursement for services or have ASEBP directly billed.

As always, if you have questions or issues you wish to discuss, please contact me.

Elaine Willette-Larsen