

ECSSA News

Edmonton Catholic Support Staff Association

June 2010



President's Message

As always the year has been hectic, fast paced and hopefully fruitful for you. In reflection I would like to remind you of the support you have given the children and staff you worked with during the year.

You believed they could reach their goals.

You encouraged them to reach each goal.

You expected a lot. Without the expectation they would not have strived to reach great heights.

You told the truth with compassion. Telling the truth is a loving act.

You were a role model. Your actions spoke louder than words.

You shared yourself. You gave your experiences, learning and humanity.

You challenged them by asking them to make the commitment to excellence.

You asked good questions so they could come up with good solutions.

You acknowledged them by looking for the best in them.

You valued them and showed them what life is made of.

As we enter the summer I believe that all you have given throughout the year will be continued with each person you meet.

Enjoy the slow pace of summer and look for God's wonderment in every step you take.

Wilma

"Rest is not idleness, and to lie sometimes on the grass under trees on a summer's day, listening to the murmur of the water, or watching the clouds float across the sky, is by no means a waste of time."

John Lubbock

ECSSA is pleased to announce two new Scholarship opportunities for ECSSA members (see pages 3 & 4). We apologize for the quick timing for this year . The deadlines will give more time in coming years.

Application forms can be found at www.ecssa.ca / Education Bursary



Social Committee

We would love to thank the our wonderful sponsors of this years ECSSA banquet: ASEBP, CEP, Audrey Waseylenko, Debbie Engel, Emergia Hair, Doris Hutniak, Irene Short, Kuhlmanns Market Gardens and Greenhouses, Lori Nagy, Lise Viel, Spasation and Safeway

Thanks also to the ECSSA Board of Directors, who gave much needed help and encouragement during the Social Committee transition.

Sincerely... ECSSA Social Committee: Maria Bavaro, Janine Campbell, Francesca Perri, Vera Ussyk

Pay Increase

Effective September 1, 2010 there will be an increase on the paygrid of 2.92%. This reflects the Alberta Average Weekly Earnings that was negotiated for the current Collective Agreement. At the time of printing the new paygrid was not completed. When it is finished it will be made available to all ECSSA members.

General Meeting

At our recent General Meeting, elections were held for the positions of Vice-President and Treasurer. We were very fortunate that Elaine Cardinal will be continuing as Vice-President of ECSSA and Janice Bowman will also continue in her role as Treasurer. These positions will be in place until the end of the 2011-2012 school year. Both Elaine and Janice have continually proved their commitment to the support staff of Edmonton Catholic Schools and we all look forward to the next two years. Congratulations to you both!!

There was a question period and many good questions and view points were shared.

We held a new door prize contest, but unfortunately the winner was not in attendance so we were unable to award the prize. (\$248.00)

Caring Report

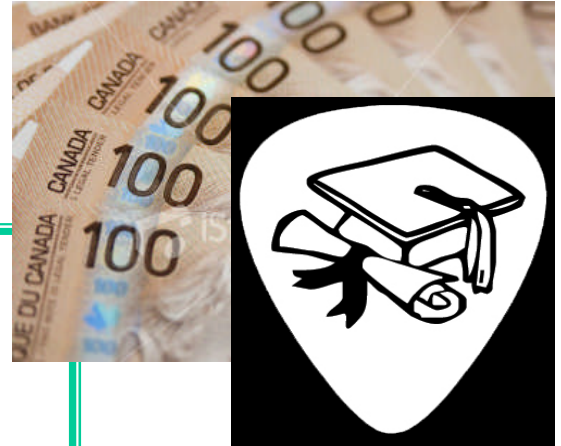
We extend our prayers and sympathies to Carol Lepine of St. Bonaventure on the loss of her mother, Donna Checknita of Catholic Education Services on the loss of her son-in-law, Janice Bowman of St. Francis of Assisi on the passing of her sister-in-law, Tania Paquin of St. Francis of Assisi on the loss of her grandmother, Renee Bourlai of St. Maia Goretti on the loss of her father and Chandrika Maraweera of H.E. Beriault on the loss of her brother-in-law.

Flowers and wishes for a speedy recovery were sent to Lucille Leger of Blessed Kateri and Alina Silva of St. Mark.

Please remember to notify ECSSA if someone at your site has experienced a loss or is ill. The caring forms can be found on our website www.ecssa.ca and then click on the "Newsletter and Caring Forms" link. Please ensure that all information requested on the form is filled out. Thank you.

ECSSA Scholarship Fund

**Scholarship
Opportunity**



To qualify:

- ◇ Student must be a child of an active member of CEP Local 52-A (ECSSA)
- ◇ Student must have successfully completed at least their first year of post secondary education
- ◇ Student must have work or volunteer experience dealing with children in the Edmonton area
- ◇ Student must provide proof of registration in a post-secondary educational institution

**DEADLINE:
June 23, 2010**

To apply for a
\$1000.00 scholarship
fill out application at:

**www.ecssa.ca /
Education Bursary**

Edmonton Catholic Support Staff
Association, CEP Local 52-A



ECSSA Funding Lottery

To Boldly Go...

Special Education Council
Celebrating the Challenges, 2010
Kananaskis, AB

Oct. 14-16, 2010



To qualify the member:

- ◆ must be an active member of CEP Local 52-A (ECSSA).

Winners:

- ◆ must provide proof of payment for conference registration and accommodations.

DEADLINE:
June 23, 2010

To enter the draw to win \$500.00 towards your conference expenses go to:

**www.ecssa.ca /
Education Bursary**

**Edmonton Catholic Support Staff
Association, CEP Local 52-A**



CEP - Local 52-A

ECSSA Annual Report - 2009-2010

- Over 50 meetings were attended to represent our membership
- Over 1750 hours were worked by the Executive, Board of Directors and the Employer Liaison Officer to serve the membership
- “Traveling Union” information sessions were held for members
- New membership packages were distributed to new support staff
- ECSSA assisted in planning, and provided financial support to the Support Staff Conference sponsored by Edmonton Catholic Schools
- CEP sponsored and ECSSA representatives attended the conference for CEP Education Support Workers locals
- Elections were held for the position of Vice President and Treasurer
- ECSSA sent representatives to the CEP Women’s Conference.
- Approximately 20 classification review requests were reviewed by HR/ECSSA joint committee
- Over 500 calls/e-mails were received from our members to discuss work conflicts, contract interpretation, benefits inquiries, and staffing questions
- Members of your ECSSA Board of Directors fielded numerous questions and were on hand to give our members advice
- 51 sympathies and 30 get well gifts/donations and cards were sent to our members who became ill or suffered the loss of a family member
- 21 Education bursaries were provided to our members to pursue professional development activities
- The Education Bursary policy was changed making it easier for our member to access Professional Development
- New Scholarship funds were set up
- The ECSSA Professional Development and Wellness Library loaned 75 resources to members and new resources were purchased and added to the collection
- Donations were made to Edmonton area children’s charities
- Monthly Executive and Board of Directors meetings were held to conduct the business of our Local
- The ECSSA executive met with the ECS Superintendent and Board of Trustees to share information and discuss common concerns and issues.
- Union financial commitments were attended to: preparation of monthly financial reports, payment of invoices, tracking of union dues and reports to CEP
- The ECSSA Social Committee held another successful banquet to honor retirees and long service recipients
- Monthly Liaison meetings were held with the District to address support staff concerns
- Attendance at the Positioning Decision Making Committee, Administrative Support, Budget and Health and Wellness committees.
- Your ECSSA Social Justice committee ran another successful campaign supporting our needy Edmonton citizens
- Newsletters were prepared and sent to all our members to keep them informed of Local news
- ECSSA sent representatives to the Alberta Federation of Labour convention
- Information and applications were sent to members interested in the CEP Scholarship Fund
- The ECSSA website was monitored and updated

Many of our Executive and Board of Directors gave of their time to participate on committees with the Division and/or other employee groups.

This is a very brief overview of the many activities ECSSA undertook on behalf of its members during this past year. Unfortunately, it does not reflect the hard work, dedication and commitment demonstrated by our Board of Directors, our Executive and our members at large. To all who have contributed to ECSSA over the past year, we extend our sincere appreciation. What makes working for ECSSA so special is being part of this amazing team. Many thanks to everyone!!!!

Important Notice for School Related Employees - 2010

Applying for Employment Insurance

Each year Service Canada makes every effort to ensure processing of EI claims for workers in school related occupations is as seamless as possible. When we receive accurate information, it reduces delays in processing your application and helps us serve you better. The following information is provided to assist you in completing your application for benefits.

How and When to Apply

Please be sure to submit your application as soon as you stop working. You must complete the application for EI benefits online. You can use any computer with Internet access and visit the Service Canada Web site at www.servicecanada.gc.ca. From the "On-line Services and Forms" menu, click on "Apply for Employment Insurance Benefits."

If your employer submits ROEs electronically to Service Canada, you do **not** need to request a copy of your Record of Employment from your employer.

Reference Code

A reference code has been assigned to facilitate the processing of school board claims. When you begin the online application process, you will be asked to enter a reference code. Your reference code is:

4812012010SCHOOL. The reference code is case sensitive so **enter it exactly as shown**.

Be sure to apply between June 14 and August 27, 2010, since your reference code is only valid during that time period. However, you can contact us before June 14, 2010 to advise us that you will be terminating your existing claim and opening a new one.

And then this message from Jessie Foley of Edmonton Catholic Schools:

*A reminder to all staff that the **Records of Employment** will **not** be mailed; Human Resource Services will upload them directly to the Service Canada website by June 30th, 2010. You can then access your Record of Employment using the information from Service Canada sent to you in an earlier e-mail. If you have any*

ECSSA Summer Hours

The ECSSA office is officially closed during July and August. However, for our twelve month staff who may need assistance during this time, please feel free to call or email the office. Messages will be checked and your calls will be returned. Please be patient as holiday schedules may cause our response time to be a little slower than usual.

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Support Staff

The glue that holds it all together!!