



**Superannuated
Teachers
of Saskatchewan**

Disposition of Resolutions

*These were the resolutions
passed or tabled at the 2008
Annual General Meeting*



Resolutions Directed to the STS

Resolution Four

BE IT RESOLVED that the STS explore the implementation of automatic membership fee deduction at source for retired Saskatchewan teachers who choose to join the STS.

CARRIED

RESPONSE:

As the membership in the STS is voluntary, members cannot be forced to have their fees automatically deducted at source. An application for automatic fee deduction still needs to be completed. Some members continue to pay fees to their Chapter or directly to the STS office.

Resolution Eight

BE IT RESOLVED that the STS Benefits Committee study the feasibility of covering annual vision tests for members 65 years of age and older.

CARRIED

STS RESPONSE:

This was achieved in negotiations with Saskatchewan Blue Cross.

Resolution Nine

BE IT RESOLVED that the STS Benefits Committee study the feasibility of reintroducing the use of the Member card for submission of costs of prescription drugs to Blue Cross.

CARRIED

STS RESPONSE:

The member card was discussed at some length with Saskatchewan Blue Cross during the latest negotiations. Issues such as costs to the plan, administration issues related to multiple prescriptions, small claims payments and mailing costs and software development at Saskatchewan Blue Cross continue to be explored. However, STS doesn't believe that these issues have been sufficiently resolved at this time in order for the member card to be implemented.

Resolution Ten

BE IT RESOLVED that the STS annual fee for 2008-2009 be \$30.00 per person.

CARRIED

STS RESPONSE:

The annual membership fee for 2008-2009 was set at \$30.00 per person.

Resolution Eleven

BE IT RESOLVED that the annual rebate to Chapters for 2008 – 2009 be \$8.00 per person.

CARRIED

STS RESPONSE:

The annual Chapter Rebate for 2008-2009 was set at \$8.00 per person.

Resolutions Directed to the STF

Resolution Seven

BE IT RESOLVED that the STS request the STF to negotiate for 100% indexing of teachers' pensions.

CARRIED

STF RESPONSE:

See below

Resolution Thirteen

BE IT RESOLVED that the STS request the STF and ACER-CART urge the federal government to review and amend the *Privacy Act* in order to limit the government's ability to collect and share vast amounts of personal information.

CARRIED

STF RESPONSE:

Further clarification is needed. With that clarification, the STF would be prepared to forward a resolution to CTF for their consideration.

STS RESPONSE:

See Resolution 13 directed to ACER-CART.

Resolution Fourteen

BE IT RESOLVED that the STS request STF to negotiate that Pension Indexing be based on the higher of the Saskatchewan CPI or the Canadian CPI.

CARRIED

STF RESPONSE:

See below

Resolution Fifteen

BE IT RESOLVED that the STS request STF to negotiate that on January first of each year all retirees receive the benefit of the indexing for the full year.

CARRIED

STF RESPONSE:
See below

Resolution Sixteen

BE IT RESOLVED that the STS request the STF to investigate alternatives to the Canadian Consumer Price Index as a mechanism for adjusting teacher pensions to more closely reflect the provincial situation, i.e. Saskatchewan CPI, as well as indices related to economic growth, such as Average Weekly Wages in the province.

CARRIED

STF RESPONSE:
The resolutions will be forwarded to the STF provincial Executive and considered in our Strategic planning processes in the upcoming year. In particular, attention to the issues raised will be given within our bargaining planning processes and our advocacy efforts provincially and nationally.
Resolutions 7, 14, 15 and 16 have been presented to the Provincial Collective Bargaining Project Team for consideration as we develop the proposal package for the next round of provincial bargaining.

Resolutions Directed to ACER-CART

Resolution Thirteen

BE IT RESOLVED that the STS request that the STF and ACER-CART urge the federal government to review and amend the *Privacy Act* in order to limit the government's ability to collect and share vast amount of personal information.

CARRIED

ACER-CART RESPONSE:

The 2008 ACER-CART AGM passed a resolution urging the Government of Canada to review and amend the *Privacy Act* to ensure the privacy of personal information is respected.

Resolutions Directed to the Government of Saskatchewan

Resolution Seventeen

BE IT RESOLVED that the Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan (STS) urge the Government of Saskatchewan to take action to reduce wait times for medical procedures.

CARRIED

Resolution Eighteen

BE IT RESOLVED that the Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan (STS) urge the Government of Saskatchewan to make mobility aids and wellness services more available.

CARRIED

MINISTER OF HEALTH RESPONSE FOR RESOLUTIONS SEVENTEEN AND EIGHTEEN:

The Ministry of Health is working with the regional health authorities and surgeons on a number of efficiencies to help reduce the wait to see an orthopedic specialist and the time from that visit to receiving surgery. The government will continue to make improvements to the health care system in Saskatchewan to ensure that our residents receive timely access to health care.

With regards to mobility aids, Saskatchewan has a Special Needs Equipment program that provides the free loan of mobility and assistive devices equipment to clients throughout the province. The operation of the program is contracted out to the Saskatchewan Abilities Council. Depending on health coverage and program eligibility criteria, clients have access to equipment such as wheelchairs, walkers, cushions, paediatric mobility aids, bathroom accessories, hospital beds and transfer lifts. The equipment is owned by the program and clients must return the equipment to a Special Needs Depot when they no longer require it. Repairs and maintenance to loaned equipment are also benefits of the program. If any superannuates have questions about the program, please call (306) 787-7121.

I appreciate your support for wellness services. Our government has made a commitment to strengthen provincial efforts to promote wellness and preventative care through education, nutrition and physical activity.

Please know that the views of the Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan are valued and that they will receive consideration.

Late Resolutions

Late Resolution One

BE IT RESOLVED that the STS investigate including on the T4A slip which is issued to STS members by the Teachers' Superannuation Commission, the amount deducted for the health care and/or dental care premiums and the STS annual membership fee.

TEACHERS' SUPERANNUATION COMMISSION RESPONSE:

The Teachers' Superannuation Commission is not able to include information from a third party on the T4A that is provided to teachers in February of each year. Information recorded on the T4A must be balanced to ensure accurate reporting to Canada Revenue Agency. The Commission is held responsible for any errors or omissions on the T4A. We regret we are unable to assist in this reporting for STS members.

Late Resolution Three

BE IT RESOLVED that the STS explore ways that names of deceased superannuates and where they last taught could continue to be published in "*Outreach*", or barring that, be communicated to members of the STS in some appropriate manner.

CARRIED

STS RESPONSE:

This matter has been thoroughly examined by the STS Executive. Issues such as complete and accurate information, implications for Chapters if they were to be involved in collecting the information and implications for the STS Office were all examined. Following consideration of these issues STS decided that it was not feasible to pursue this matter.

Late Resolution Four

BE IT RESOLVED that the STS lobby Saskatchewan Ministry of Education to include in the K-12 curricula, compulsory components on historical events that lead to Canadian freedoms, on civic responsibilities and on patriotism.

CARRIED

DEPUTY MINISTER RESPONSE:

The Deputy Minister gave assurance that current curricula in social studies and the social sciences do in fact address each of these areas. All students are enrolled in social studies courses through completion of Grade 9, while students

in grades 10-12 select a minimum of three social sciences credits. As well, the curriculum renewal initiative currently underway within the Ministry of Education will ensure these components will once again be included in the renewed social studies and social sciences curricula.

Late Resolution Seven

BE IT RESOLVED that the yearly notice sent by the Teachers' Superannuation Commission informing superannuates of pension increases for the coming year understood to be based upon 80% of the increase in the cost of living for the previous year in Canada, contain exact information on how the CPI figure used for pension purposes for that year was arrived at.

CARRIED

TEACHERS' SUPERANNUATION COMMISSION RESPONSE:

The *Teachers' Superannuation and Disability Benefits Act* provides for retired teachers, survivors, dependants and disability recipients to receive an annual COLA. For those who began receiving payments during the 2008 calendar year, the COLA will be prorated. Allowances are adjusted each January 1 by 80% of the percentage increase obtained by dividing the average Canadian consumer price index for the 12 months ending on the 31st day of October of the previous year by the average consumer price index for the 12 months ending on the 31st day of October one year earlier. Your annual increase is provided to help offset the effects of inflation.

The consumer price index is an indicator of the consumer prices encountered by Canadians. It is obtained by calculating, on a monthly basis, the cost of fixed "basket" of commodities purchased by a typical Canadian consumer during a given month. The package contains products from various categories, including shelter, food, entertainment, fuel and transportation. The consumer price index is a widely used indicator of inflation (or deflation) and indicates the changing purchasing power of money in Canada.

Tabled resolutions from 2008 AGM

Resolution Twelve

BE IT RESOLVED that the opportunity to participate in the Teacher Insurance Plan to age 85 be made retroactive to include all members who were participants of the Plan on July 1, 2006.

TABLED

Late Resolution Eight

BE IT RESOLVED that chairpersons of all Ad Hoc Committees established by the AGM shall be appointed from the elected members of the Executive with the majority of committee members appointed from the membership.

TABLED

