

Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan

Disposition of Resolutions

These were the resolutions passed or tabled at the 2010 Annual General Meeting



Resolutions Directed to the STS

Resolution One

BE IT RESOLVED that the STS Provincial Executive consider developing a section on the provincial STS website that would provide information on the disposition of resolutions presented at the most recent Annual General Meeting and for up to five previous Annual General Meetings.

RESPONSE:

The Disposition of Resolutions for the most recent five years has been posted on the STS website under publications.

Resolution Two

BE IT RESOLVED that the STS Provincial Executive consider that at least one of the interest sessions at the Annual General Meeting be related to matters of STS benefits (i.e. pensions, health care, insurance).

RESPONSE:

This resolution was referred to the AGM Planning Committee. Benefits sessions have been planned for the 2011 AGM.

Resolution Three

BE IT RESOLVED that our Group Benefits Health Plan increase the cardiac rehabilitation lifetime maximum to \$600.00 when prescribed by a physician.

RESPONSE:

The cardiac rehabilitation lifetime maximum has been increased to \$600.00 when prescribed by a physician.

Resolution Six (Notice of Motion)

BE IT RESOLVED that Bylaw 3 -1.2 be amended to read:

"Nominations will be received until four o'clock in the evening of the day prior to the elections for the STS Executive".

RESPONSE:

Bylaw 3-1.2 and Guideline 5.2, page 41, paragraph 3 have been changed in the STS Policy Handbook dated July 1, 2010.

Resolution Seven

BE IT RESOLVED that Bylaw 3 – 2.3 be amended to read:

"Should the Past President decline the offer, the position shall remain vacant and the Executive shall appoint a Nominations Committee Chairperson and elect an additional councillor at the AGM".

RESPONSE:

Bylaw 3-2.3 has been amended in the July 1, 2010 STS Policy Handbook to read:

"Should the Past President decline the offer, the position shall remain vacant and the Executive shall appoint a Nominations Committee Chairperson and an additional Councillor shall be elected at the AGM.

Resolution Eight

BE IT RESOLVED the Bylaw 7-7.1 be amended to read:

"A quorum at Executive Meeting shall be the majority of the members."

RESPONSE:

Bylaw 7-7.1 has been amended in the July 1, 2010 STS Policy Handbook.

Resolution Nine

BE IT RESOLVED that the note under Policy 3 be amended to:

"Any resolutions received after April 30 and not dealt with by the Resolutions Committee shall be designated as Late Resolutions."

RESPONSE:

Policy 3 has been amended in the July 1, 2010 STS Policy Handbook.

Resolution Ten

BE IT RESOLVED that the STS annual fee for 2010-2011 be \$30.00 per person.

RESPONSE:

The annual membership fee for 2010-2011 has been set at \$30.00 per person.

Resolution Eleven

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the annual rebate to Chapters for 2010-2011 be \$8.00 per person.

RESPONSE:

The annual Chapter Rebate for 2010-2011 was set at \$8.00 per person.

Resolutions Directed to the STF

Resolution Twelve

BE IT RESOLVED that the STS urge the STF to work with Saskatchewan Learning to make a senior Canadian History class a requirement for completion of grade twelve.

STF BACKGROUND:

As outlined in the Ministry of Education's *Core Curriculum: Principles, Time Allocations, and Credit Policy* (2009) guide, social studies is one of the seven required areas of study at the secondary level. Students are required to take three senior level credit units of social studies to graduate, but have a choice among History 30, Native Studies 30 or Social Studies 30 (all pertaining to Canadian Studies) to obtain this credit. Student choice may also depend on the courses offered by individual schools, which may vary. According to the Ministry of Education's *Secondary Level Statistics* (2010) report, the majority of students choose History 30: *Canadian Studies*.

Resolution Fifteen

BE IT RESOLVED that STS continue to work with the STF to obtain 100% indexing for the teacher pensions.

STF BACKGROUND:

Please refer to the STF background information for Resolution Sixteen.

Resolution Sixteen

BE IT RESOLVED that the STS examine ways of improving the indexing provisions of teachers' superannuation allowances.

STF BACKGROUND:

Saskatchewan Teachers' Superannuation Plan

The indexing provisions of the Saskatchewan Teachers' Superannuation Plan are a negotiated item for provincial collective bargaining.

Currently, the Saskatchewan Teachers' Superannuation Plan provides postretirement indexing of 80 per cent of the percentage increase in the Canadian Consumer Price Index.

Saskatchewan Teachers' Retirement Plan

Currently, the Saskatchewan Teachers' Retirement Plan provides post-retirement indexing of the lesser of a 3 per cent cap or 80 per cent of the percentage increase in the Canadian Consumer Price Index. The 3 per cent cap is a safety feature in the Plan to protect it from periods of high inflation that could put the Plan into financial difficulty. Should 80 per cent of the percentage increase in the

Consumer Price Index exceed the 3 per cent cap, the STRP *Plan Text* allows for the Federation to go above the cap on an ad hoc basis if the funding is available.

This resolution I also related to the valuation process. In a valuation the Actuary is required by the *The Pension Benefits Act*, 1992, Saskatchewan, to perform two main valuation assessments. The first one is based on the Going Concern valuation. The second valuation involves a calculation based on an assumption that the Plan wound up on a specific date, that is, the date of the valuation. This is called the Solvency valuation.

The Solvency ratio of the Plan was determined to be 88.7 per cent. Rather than reduce benefits already earned in the Plan, the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation applied for the temporary solvency moratorium offered by *The Pension Benefits Act*, 1992 and the relevant regulations.

The Pension Benefits Act, 1992 is clear that in periods where the solvency ratio of a Plan is less that 100 per cent there can be no benefit improvements to the Plan during the solvency relief period. Also, the STRP Plan Text prohibits benefit improvements when the Plan's Solvency ratio is below 100 per cent.

Resolution Seventeen

BE IT RESOLVED that the STS request the STF to negotiate changes to the Teachers' Superannuation Plan and the Saskatchewan Teachers' Retirement Plan to provide a cost of living adjustment to all superannuation allowances based on the following scale:

Superannuation Year	Allowance Adjustment		
2009	1%		
2008	2%		
2007	3%		
2006	4%		
2005	5%		
2004	6%		
2003	7%		
2002	8%		
2001	9%		
2000	10%		
Prior to 2000	10%		

STF BACKGROUND:

Please refer to the STF background information for Resolution Sixteen.

ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND:

The *Income Tax Act* limits cost of living increases that are retroactive to the cumulative increases in the Consumer Price Index for the period in which the pension is paid.

During the years noted in the resolution the retired members have received 80 per cent of the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index for each year.

Resolutions Directed to ACER-CART

Resolution Eighteen

BE IT RESOLVED that STS request ACER-CART to actively lobby the Government of Canada to increase CPP, OAS, and GIS benefits and to take any other measures to ensure that seniors are able to avoid living in poverty.

RESPONSE:

This resolution was presented at the ACER-CART AGM in June 2010 and passed by the delegates.

Resolutions Directed to the Provincial Government

Resolution Nineteen

BE IT RESOLVED that the STS lobby the Government of Saskatchewan Ministry of Health to add drugs for the treatment of erectile dysfunction to the Saskatchewan Prescription Drug Plan Formulary.

RESPONSE:

A letter was received from Kevin Wilson, the Executive Director for the Saskatchewan Ministry of Health.

Mr. Wilson indicated in his letter that medications used to treat erectile dysfunction have been considered by the Saskatchewan drug review process in the past and were not recommended for coverage. Therefore, these products are not included in the Saskatchewan Formulary at this time. However, prescribers and pharmacists will be notified if there is any change in the listing status of these products.

Resolution Twenty

BE IT RESOLVED that the Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan urge the Government of Saskatchewan to structure a nuclear fuel waste management committee representative of all key stakeholders to consider the feasibility of long term storage of nuclear fuel waste and the possible ramifications of such storage to the public.

RESPONSE:

A letter was received from Kent Campbell, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Energy and Resources. It reads as follows:

The Honourable Bill Boyd, Minister, Energy and Resources, announced on behalf of the Government of Saskatchewan a strategic direction for development of Saskatchewan's uranium industry. Minister Boyd's announcement builds upon our uranium industry's important contribution to providing jobs and wealth the Saskatchewan economy since 1953.

This announcement included specific reference to nuclear waste management. Minister Boyd indicated that the Government of Saskatchewan does not propose to develop a nuclear waste management facility, nor has it received any such proposal, and that it will be reserving decisions on supporting Saskatchewan communities interested in hosting nuclear waste management facilities to when such proposals are advanced in a regulatory process.

Since no proposal has been received to develop a nuclear waste management facility, it would seem premature to establish a committee to consider this issue at this time since the specific waste management technology and the location of the facility would be unknown.

