

OUTREACH

To The Superannuated Teachers
of Saskatchewan

President's Report

Maxine Stinka

The STS held its 45th Annual General Meeting May 8-10, 2018 and although the evaluations have not yet been tabulated, all reports indicate that it was very successful. All 42 Chapters were represented accounting for 219 registered Delegates plus the Executive and Staff. Thank you to all who attended. There were a few minor changes from previous years including plate service for all meals except breakfast and a piper to bring in this year's Honorary Life Members. Congratulations to Ralph Wardle (Melville), Roger Marchand (Gravelbourg) and Gloria Ferster (Debden). Also recognized this year were the ten Chapter Award Recipients and the five Chapters who received the Chapter Membership Growth Award. The names of the Chapters and the individuals are listed in this *Outreach*. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of the AGM and Conference. The AGM Planning Committee, co-chaired by Joyce Hoffman and Jane Isinger, the Office Staff Colleen Bailey, Heather Hase and MJ Krips and Executive Secretary Fred Herron worked very hard to provide another top-notch AGM. Details are provided in this edition of *Outreach*.

Each STS Committee Chair has also submitted a report that highlights the year's activities. Three new applications for hosting provincial recreation activities were approved: Bowling, Bridge and Kaiser. The

2018-19 Budget was approved along with the \$30.00 annual membership fee and the rebate to Chapters of \$400.00 per Chapter and \$8.00 per member. Also included in this publication are the resolutions and their fate (carried, defeated, referred or tabled) and the results of the election for the Executive. Diane Marchand (South Central Chapter), Lyle Markowski (Saskatoon Chapter) and Adeline Wuschenny (Regina Chapter) were newly elected to the Executive. A special thank you to Doug Haroldson (Maple Creek-Medicine Hat Chapter) and Robert Wuschenny (Regina Chapter) for their many years of outstanding service on the Provincial Executive.

Several teachers throughout the province will be retiring at the end of this school year. Invite them to join your Chapter and indicate the benefits of doing so. Remind them that membership also entitles them to join our Group Benefit Plan within 60 days of leaving a group plan without requiring medical evidence. Since this is my last President's

Report in *Outreach*, I would sincerely like to thank all those who have supported and assisted me over the last number of years. I look forward to working with President Sunil Pandila as his Past-President. Enjoy your summer!



Highlights of the 45th Annual General Meeting

Joyce Hoffman and Jane Isinger

The 45th Annual General Meeting of Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan was held on May 8, 9 and 10, 2018, at the Travelodge Hotel in Saskatoon.

Registration began on Tuesday, May 8, under the direction of Colleen Bailey, Heather Hase and MJ Krips, assisted by the Wakaw Chapter.

In total there were 219 delegates present with all of the forty-two Chapters represented, including the two Chapters from British Columbia: Fraser Valley and Okanagan Valley. Executive members, Executive Secretary, Fred Herron and the STS Office Staff also attended.

We sincerely thank our corporate sponsors: Travelodge Hotel, ESTI Consulting, TCU Financial and Saskatchewan Blue Cross for their financial assistance.

A very successful McDowell Foundation Raffle, organized by Elaine Broughton, raised approximately \$1400.00.

Tuesday Evening, May 8

Maxine Stinka warmly welcomed Delegates and guests. Past-President Doug Haroldson introduced the Candidates running for Executive positions and invited them to address the assembly. Following the Candidates' speeches, the Chapter Membership Growth Awards were presented and Chapter Award recipients were also recognized.

Taking a cue from last year's successful mixer, the Planning Committee decided to continue the practice. This afforded Delegates an opportunity to meet people from other Chapters.

Following the Candidates' speeches, three draws were made. In order to win Delegates had to be at their assigned table. Background music replaced entertainment, and snacks were served at the individual tables.



Chapter Award Recipients.

Everyone appeared to have a very good time socializing.

Winners of the Tuesday evening draw:

Patti Gatzke – Arbos Gift
Yvette Buehler – TCU Gift Basket
Debbie Olesen – Travelodge Hotel gift certificate

Wednesday, May 9

The morning started off with a delicious breakfast. Candidates then attended a plenary session, chaired by Maxine Stinka. MJ Krips played O Canada on the trumpet. Robert Wuschenny gave the Invocation, followed by a Moment of Silence, in remembrance of superannuates who had passed away during the year.

McDowell Foundation Raffle Winners



Dorothy Thordarson (Regina Chapter) - Cuban Wooden Wall Hanger (donated by Joe Kurtz - Kindersley Chapter)

Sandra Hill (Regina Chapter) - Lap Quilt (made and donated by Marcella Miller - Northwest Chapter)

Ron Veller (Kerrobert Chapter) - Three Paintings (painted by Ellie Dimond and donated by Northwest Chapter)

Executive Secretary, Fred Herron, reviewed election procedures. Vice-President, Sunil Pandila, made several announcements, and then introduced President, Maxine Stinka, who delivered the President's address.

Fred Herron, Executive Secretary, presented the budget, moved the Committee Reports be tabled until Thursday and reviewed late resolution procedures.

Joyce Hoffman and Jane Isinger, Co-chairs of the AGM, covered the convention format. Patrick Maze, STF President, delivered greetings. The Delegates then broke into five small groups to discuss resolutions.

The afternoon consisted of five interest sessions. Delegates could select and attend three of the five sessions.

- Learning How to Advocate – Milton Block and Ian Hanna
- Forever...*in motion* – Kereen Lazurko
- Genealogy – Tammy Vallee
- STS Finances and Benefits – Fred Herron
- Travel Tips – Kathryn Lockhart

On Wednesday evening just prior to the banquet, the 2018 Honorary Life Membership recipients were piped into the Galaxy Room. President Maxine introduced the Honorary Life Recipients and their guests, Honorary Life Members, special

guests, the Executive and Office Staff.

Don Gabel, Chair of the Honorary Life Membership Committee, presented Gloria Ferster, Roger Marchand, and Ralph Wardle with Honorary Life Membership Awards. Ralph Wardle was unable to attend so his award will be presented to him at a later date.

Entertainment provided by the Rosthern Junior College Chorale brought the evening to a suitable close.

Thursday, May 10

Delegates were once again served a delicious breakfast. The Annual Business Meeting began with a review of election procedures by Fred Herron. The candidates for President and ACER-CART were declared elected by acclamation. Voting took place for the Vice-President, Councillors and the Members-at-Large.

Reports were given by Fred Herron, Executive Secretary, and Chairpersons of the Committees. President Maxine and Vice-President Sunil presented the resolutions for debate and voting. President Maxine delivered the Courtesy Resolution. Winners of the McDowell Foundation prizes were announced. There was also a draw for two prizes donated by the Melville Chapter. Elaine Panchuk won the golf shirt and Jan Olesko the ball cap.

President Maxine gave closing remarks and adjourned the Annual General Meeting.

Thank you to all Delegates who completed the evaluation forms. Your comments and suggestions are greatly appreciated and will assist us in planning for next year.



Passing of the gavel to incoming President, Sunil Pandila.



Volunteers from the Wakaw Chapter assisted with the Registration.

Chapter Award Recipients 2018

Kindersley Chapter

Myrna Hauta
Marilyn Hering
Sheila Nunweiler

Prince Albert Chapter Awards of Distinction:

Fran Aiken
Mary Palidwar

Regina Chapter Awards of Merit:

Linda Galenzoski
Robert Wuschenny

Swift Current Chapter Chapter Service Award:

Joyce Hoffman

The Battlefords and District Chapter

Bonnie Flahr

Wakaw Chapter Special Recognition Award:

Philip Mueller

Congratulations!

Honorary Life Members



Roger Marchand, Gloria Ferster

Gloria Ferster

- An active member of the Parkland Chapter
- Over the years she has served as Chapter President, Vice-President and Treasurer
- Actively involved in her community and church

Roger Marchand

- An active member of the South Central Chapter
- Former STS Provincial Executive member who served on many Committees
- Active member in the community

Ralph Wardle

- Has been an active member of the Melville Chapter
- Actively promoted and encouraged STS membership in recreation events
- Dedicated, involved and caring community member

Membership Growth Awards 2018



Swift Current Chapter.....Plaque
 Prince Albert Chapter.....Plaque
 Maple Creek-Medicine Hat Chapter.....Plaque
 Kerrobert Chapter.....Plaque
 Lloydminster Chapter.....Plaque

Spotlight on Superannuates

Submitted by Eunice Martin - Potashville Esterhazy Chapter

Reg Knezacek

On Sunday, October 22, 2017, Reg Knezacek, member of the Potashville Esterhazy Chapter, was one of five Esterhazy recipients of the special Canada 150 medal which recognized recipients as Community Leaders, Not-for-Profit Leaders, Business Leaders and Youth Leaders.

Cathay Wagantall, Member of Parliament for Yorkton-Melville, presented the medal to Reg as a Not-for-Profit Leader with the following citation; "He serves with a smile. Whether at the Legion, where he volunteered over 1660 hours in the past three years, at his local church, or other numerous places, Reg's willingness and efforts, have created ripples of goodness throughout his community."

The medal recipients were nominated by their peers and communities for the work they do as community builders through volunteering.

Reg has been on the Executive of the Potashville Esterhazy Chapter for 12 years.

Fraser Valley Chapter Recruitment

If you are a retired teacher from Saskatchewan and live in the Lower Mainland of BC, you are invited to join the STS – Fraser Valley Chapter.

As a member you will benefit in the following ways:

- meet other retired Saskatchewan teachers
- be involved in the Chapter activities
- stay informed of the events and plans of the STS
- enjoy social events

For further information contact Chapter President Duane Rose at d.rose@telus.net.

STS Resolutions 2018

Mike Kaminski

Resolutions Directed to STS (A)

Information regarding the disposition of resolutions pertaining to Bylaws will be sent to each Chapter President for distribution to members.

(Non-Bylaws)

A 5. BE IT RESOLVED that the Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan (STS) negotiate with Saskatchewan Blue Cross, changes to the Extended Health Care Benefit Plan so that paramedical services (registered massage therapist, reflexologist, chiropract/podiatrist, physiotherapist, chiropractor, naturopath, acupuncturist, registered psychologist and registered speech therapist) remain at the \$500 maximum claim for each practitioner per person per calendar year when these services are prescribed by a physician.

Defeated

A 6. BE IT RESOLVED that the STS request SSM to urge the Government Saskatchewan to rescind the PST on all insurance premiums.

Tabled

A 7. BE IT RESOLVED that the STS consider increasing the grant to local Chapters for hosting major provincial recreational activities to \$1500.00.

Carried

A 8. BE IT RESOLVED that the STS, subject to STF Bylaw 4.5.1 and STS Bylaw 6.2.7.5, lobby the provincial government to stop the collection of the PST on health insurance premiums.

Tabled

A 9. BE IT RESOLVED the STS communicate our appreciation to ACER-CART for their on-going advocacy on behalf of Canadian

seniors on issues such as a National Pharmacare Plan and Bill C27.

Carried

A 10. BE IT RESOLVED the STS reduce the three premium age brackets for the STS Group Dental Plan to a single age premium.

Defeated

A 11. BE IT RESOLVED that the STS investigate the extension of membership in the STS Benefit Plans to all retiring employees of school divisions who are covered by a group medical plan.

Defeated

A 12. BE IT RESOLVED that the STS investigate annual and per service deductibles for the STS Benefit Plans.

Defeated

A 13. BE IT RESOLVED that the STS investigate the establishment of an enhanced second STS Benefits Plan.

Defeated

A 14. BE IT RESOLVED that the STS reimburse the Benefit Plan premium PST rebate directly and individually to members in cash or in the form of a reduction to their premium.

Tabled

A 15. BE IT RESOLVED that in the next round of negotiations with Saskatchewan Blue Cross regarding the Extended Health Plan that the STS Executive investigate reducing the experience brackets from four to three.

Defeated

A 16. BE IT RESOLVED that the STS urge the STF to lobby the provincial government to rescind changes made to The Education Act in 2017 that restrict public input to education governance at the local level.

Carried

A 17. BE IT RESOLVED that the STS, subject to STF Bylaw 4.5.1 and STS Bylaw 6.2.7.5, lobby the provincial government to exempt health insurance premiums from the PST.

Carried

A 18. BE IT RESOLVED that the STS, subject to STF Bylaw 4.5.1 and STS Bylaw 6.2.7.5, lobby the provincial government to exempt life insurance premiums from the PST.

Carried

Resolutions Directed to STF (B)

B 1. BE IT RESOLVED that the STS request the STF to amend STF Policy Bylaw 4.5 Local Associations to add "4.5.2 Notwithstanding 4.5.1, the STS Local Association may make representation for matters not related to collective bargaining, STF policy, or K-12 education."

Defeated

Resolutions Directed to the Government (D)

D 1. BE IT RESOLVED that the STS, subject to STF Bylaw 4.5.1 and STS Bylaw 6.2.7.5, lobby the provincial government to exempt primary residential insurance premiums from the PST.

Carried

D 2. BE IT RESOLVED that the STS, subject to STF Bylaw 4.5.1 and STS Bylaw 6.2.7.5, lobby the provincial government to exempt personal use automobile insurance premiums from the PST.

Carried

Late Resolution

B 2. BE IT RESOLVED that the STS urge the STF to negotiate changes to the Teachers' Group Life Insurance Plan to increase coverage from 85 to 90 years of age.

Tabled

Budget, Finance and Audit – Sunil Pandila

I would like to extend a thank you to the members of the Budget, Finance and Audit Committee for their work over the past year. The members include: Sue Amundrud, Don Gabel, Doug Haroldson, Joyce Hoffman, Jane Isinger, Mike Kaminski, Marie LeBlanc-Warick, Doreen Rathgeber, Doug Still, Maxine Stinka (ex-officio) and Fred Herron. The Committee monitored the financial position of the STS in both the STS Operating Fund and the Extended Health Fund over the course of the year.

Delegates at the 2018 Annual General Meeting received the financial information as of March 31, 2018.

The current year-to-date analysis for the STS Operating Fund shows Net Revenues of \$105,628.89. The Extended Health Fund has incurred

a deficit of \$722,195.08. Our Unappropriated Reserves will be used to cover any shortfall at year end, June 30. The Contingency Fund, as of March 31, 2018, is now at \$1,101,212.64. This resulted from accrued dividend and interest income from our investment.

STS Executive has approved using Deloitte for the 2017-18 audit.

The Delegates at this year's AGM approved the 2018-19 operating budget. The membership fee of \$30.00, and Chapter rebates of \$8.00 per member plus a grant of \$400.00 remain the same for next year. The approved budget calls for a small surplus of \$7,000.00.

For the current 2017-18 budget, major expenditures such as the AGM and

Office Operations and Staff are yet to be incurred but should not have a negative impact as they are already included in the budget and should fall within the allocated amount. To date, we continue to be on track in our current budget in all expenditure areas. The rebate of the PST is in the process of being refunded to all members. This will be completed by June 30. Members should note that the costs associated with implementing the PST and then reversing the whole process is approximately \$50,000.00.

A big thank you goes to our Office Staff for their diligent work in the area of financial management of our operations.

Group Benefits – Doug Haroldson

The Provincial Executive reviewed the Experience Reports for the Health and Dental Plan to March 30, 2018, at the Pre-AGM Executive Meeting on May 8.

The combined surplus/deficit for the first nine months of the third year of the present contract is -\$722,195.08.

The projected deficit for the third year of the contract is approximately \$1,200,000.00. Any deficit will be covered by the Unappropriated Reserve Fund.

As a result of the deficits in the last two years, the balance remaining in the Unappropriated Reserve Fund will be approximately \$3,200,000.00.

The increase in the Plan premiums for 2018-19 are approximately 25% in the Extended Health and Dental Plan with a further increase

in the Extended Health Plan of approximately 15% for the 2019-20 fiscal year. Those increases are projected to leave the Plan in a balanced financial position by June 30, 2021. As part of the agreement there are no changes in coverage for the Extended Health and Dental Plan.

The membership in the Health and Dental Plan as of May 1, 2018, was 7,582.

The refund of the 6% PST will be made to participants, hopefully by the end of June 2018, in the form of a credit to the premium or a cheque to the participant.

Okanagan Valley Chapter Recruitment

For any members of the STS moving or who have moved to the Okanagan area, there is an STS Chapter in Kelowna that oversees the whole Okanagan Valley and the Kootenays.

The Chapter meets eight times a year on the third Tuesday of the month at the Hobson Center just off Lakeshore Road.

If you are interested in joining or have any questions, please call Chapter President Gary Boechler at (250) 769-0290 or email garyboechler@yahoo.ca

Our first gathering in the 2018-19 year will be in September.

See you there!

Gary Boechler

AGM Snapshots



Recreation

- Don Gabel, Alan Laughlin



Upcoming Events

Recreation Activities: Participation STS Style . . .

Bridge 2018

Date: To be determined
Host: Mainline Chapter

Curling 2018

Date: November 5-7, 2018
Location: Callie Curling Club
Host: Regina Chapter
Contact: Liz Duncan
Phone: 306-949-0235
Email: dunliz@sasktel.net
(Registration form is on the STS website and below)

Kaiser 2018

Date: October 16, 2018
Host: Wakaw Chapter
Location: St. Louis at the St. Joseph Seniors Club
Contact: Don Gabel
Phone: 306-278-7918
Contact: Mel Osolinsky
Phone: 306-233-5596
Registration at 10:00 (lunch included with \$25.00 fee)

If Chapters are interested in hosting provincial events please contact the STS office or a member of the Recreation Committee. We would also be open to any proposals for new events.

Stitch'N'Quilt 2018

Date: October 23-25, 2018
Host: Saskatoon Chapter
Location: Travelodge Hotel
Contact: Ann Atchison
Phone: 306-955-2671
Email: atchisona@sasktel.net

Bowling 2019

Date: May 2-3, 2019
Host: Yorkton Chapter

Golf 2019

Date: June 18-19, 2019
Host: Melville Chapter
Contact: Robert Simpson
Phone: 306-728-2714
Email: simps@sasktel.net

Mah Jongg 2019

Date: May 9, 2019
Host: Saskatoon Chapter
Location: STF Building, Eamer Auditorium
Contact: Darlene Danyliw
Email: darlene.danyliw@shaw.ca
(Registration form is on the STS Website)

2018 STS Provincial Curling

Monday, November 5 to Wednesday, November 7, 2018

Callie Curling Club - Regina
2225 Sandra Schmirler Way

Position	Name	Email	Phone
Skip			
Third			
Second			
Lead			

Entry fee is \$240.00 per team.

Please indicate how many extra banquet tickets you will require for guests.

Guest tickets @ \$40.00 (include with entry fee) _____.

Entry forms and fees can be sent to Liz Duncan, Entry Chairperson. Cheques (payable to STS Regina Chapter) send to:

2018 STS Curling
c/o Liz Duncan
2119 Coralroot Way
Regina, SK S4X 0A6

Email: dunliz@sasktel.net
Ph: 306-949-0235

From The Editor's Desk Robert Wuschenny

AGM 2018 brought together Delegates from all of our Chapters. What a great opportunity to attend to STS business and to learn from interest session presenters, as well as, to socialize with friends and acquaintances! Thanks to the Planning Committee for organizing another successful AGM.

Congratulations to the HLM recipients and to the newly elected Executive.

As I leave the position of *Outreach* Editor, I thank the *Outreach* Committee for their work, Chairperson Joyce Hoffman for her capable leadership and the Office Staff for their support.

STS Executive 2017-18

President/Councillor	Maxine Stinka, Assiniboine Chapter
Past-President/ Councillor:	Doug Haroldson, Maple Creek-Medicine Hat
Vice-President/ Councillor:	Sunil Pandila, Moose Jaw Chapter
ACER-CART Representative:	Marie LeBlanc-Warick, Saskatoon Chapter
Executive Secretary	Fred Herron, Saskatoon Chapter
<i>Outreach</i> Editor	Robert Wuschenny, Regina Chapter
Councillors:	
Don Gabel	Wakaw Chapter
Joyce Hoffman	Swift Current Chapter
Mike Kaminski	Assiniboine Chapter
Alan Laughlin	The Battlefords and District Chapter
Helen Sukovieff	Regina Chapter
Members-At-Large:	
Sue Amundrud	Carrot River Valley (Melfort & District) Chapter
Jane Isinger	Saskatoon Chapter
Doreen Rathgeber	Yorkton Chapter
Doug Still	Regina Chapter
Anna Wehrkamp	Carrot River Valley (Melfort & District) Chapter

STS Office Reminders

- Saskatchewan residents who are 65 years or older can apply for the Saskatchewan Seniors' Drug Plan. If you are approved by the Seniors' Drug Plan, you will receive a confirmation letter from the Ministry of Health. STS Group Benefit Planholders who are eligible for the Saskatchewan Seniors' Drug Plan may be eligible for a reduced premium by providing the STS office with a copy of the Seniors' Drug Plan confirmation letter.

For information on the Saskatchewan Seniors' Drug Plan, please speak with your pharmacist or contact the Seniors' Drug Plan office at 1-800-667-7581. If you live in Regina please call 306-787-3317.

- For any changes to your address and/or Group Benefits coverage, please contact the STS office directly at 306-373-3879 or sts@sts.sk.ca.
- If you are on a temporary contract and wish to suspend your STS Group Benefits, please contact the STS office.
- Please make sure that you are using the correct email address for the STS: sts@sts.sk.ca.



To control costs, one copy is sent to households where both spouses are members. If this is not satisfactory, please contact the STS office in Saskatoon.

Please email the STS Office if you wish to receive notification when it is posted on the website instead of receiving a hard copy.

***Outreach* is available online at www.sts.sk.ca.**

Website: www.sts.sk.ca
Phone: 306-373-3879
Email: sts@sts.sk.ca
Fax: 306-242-2538
2311 Arlington Avenue
Saskatoon SK S7J 2H8
Monday to Friday – 8:30 am to noon

Disclaimer of Content

All reports in *Outreach*, excluding STS Executive reports, represent the information and opinions of the authors and not necessarily those of the STS.

Publications Mail Agreement No.40017216
Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to:
STS Office
2311 Arlington Avenue
Saskatoon SK S7J 2H8