

Disposition of AGM 2019 Resolutions

Resolutions Directed to the STS (A) (Bylaws)

April 20, 2021

A.1 **Be It Resolved** that the STS annual fee for 2019-2020 be \$30.00 per person.

Response:

The STS annual fee for 2019-20 has been set at \$30.00 per person.

A.2 **Be It Resolved** that the STS annual rebate to each Chapter for 2019-2020 be \$400.00 plus \$8.00 per member.

Response:

The STS annual rebate to each Chapter for 2019-20 has been set at \$400.00 plus \$8.00 per member.

(Non-Bylaws)

A.3 **BE IT RESOLVED that** Guideline 2 – Chapters and Committees Hosting Recreational Events 2.4 read as follows:

Finances

The Local STS Chapter is the body responsible for financing the recreational activity. The Provincial Organization awards a grant for each of the annual events authorized by the STS Executive. An amount of \$1500.00 is awarded for Curling, Golf, Bowling and Stitch 'N Quilt and will be paid in two installments (\$1000.00 on application and \$500.00 upon receiving the final report for the event). An amount of \$750.00 is awarded for Fishing, Horseshoes, Kaiser, Bridge and other activities approved by the STS Executive and will be paid in two installments (\$500.00 on application and \$250.00 upon receiving the final report for the event). These grants are available upon application to the Executive Secretary at the STS Office.

Response: The STS *Policy Handbook* dated July 1, 2019, has been updated to reflect these changes.

A.4 **BE IT RESOLVED that** the STS investigate the inclusion of coverage for C-PAP units in the STS Group Benefits Plan.

Response: This resolution was sent to Saskatchewan Blue Cross. Their response is as follows:

The only coverage for a CPAP machine would be through a Government program.

There is a document on the Government website that states Patients will have access to the loan of a CPAP machine through the Saskatchewan Aids to

Independent Living (SAIL) Respiratory Equipment Program for a program fee of \$275. The loan of a CPAP machine will include repairs as needed during the useful life of the machine. The bulletin is Extended Health Benefits Information Bulletin September 29, 2017. For residents in Saskatchewan, this can be shared with them as an option versus buying a machine outright.

A.5 BE IT RESOLVED that the STS investigate the inclusion of coverage for the shingles vaccine in the STS Group Benefits Plan.

Response: This resolution was sent to Saskatchewan Blue Cross. Their response is as follows:

This item regarding the inclusion of Shingles vaccine is a complicated one. This is a vaccine and vaccine coverage is not available. It would open a large exposure to include vaccines into the plan coverage and would expose the STS to significant financial risk to do so.

A.7 BE IT RESOLVED that the STS encourage Saskatchewan Blue Cross to consider that a medication substitution initiated by a pharmacy because of inadequate supply not be considered as a new prescription for travel purposes.

Response: This resolution was sent to Saskatchewan Blue Cross. Their response is as follows:

Medication that is substituted because of an inadequate supply is still a concern to travel coverage as there may be complications as a result of changing medication. It is best to advise the pharmacist of the concern as this may have an impact on travel coverage. In addition, we recommend when possible, to call other pharmacies to see if they may have the medication as another pharmacy may have supply. This issue will be brought forward as a concern from the STS to our travel assistance provider.

Resolutions Directed to STF (B)

B.1 BE IT RESOLVED that the STS strongly encourage the STF to have all revisions regarding fundamental changes to Portaplan come to the STF Annual Meeting of Council prior to their implementation.

Response:

This resolution was sent to the STF Resolutions Committee. After some discussion with the STF Resolutions Committee edits were made to the resolution to ensure it would be accepted by the Resolutions Committee. The following was passed at the 2020 STF Annual Meeting of Council:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Pension and Benefits Board communicate any revisions regarding fundamental changes to Portaplan to a meeting of Council prior to their implementation.

Resolutions Directed to ACER-CART (C)

- C.1** **BE IT RESOLVED that** STS work with SSM and ACER-CART to encourage governments to provide income tax credits for seniors who need to access help to be able to remain in their own homes.
- C.2** **BE IT RESOLVED that** the STS together with ACER-CART request the federal government to increase the Pension Income Amount (line 314 on CRA income tax forms) deduction from \$2,000 to \$5,000.
- C.3** **BE IT RESOLVED that** the STS together with SSM, ACER-CART lobby the federal government to withdraw Bill C-27 which would allow defined-benefit pension plans under federal jurisdiction to be converted to target-benefit plans.

Response:

Resolutions C1, C2 and C3 were sent to ACER-CART for presentation at the June Annual General Meeting. A letter was received on June 29, 2019 from Roger Regimbal reporting that all three resolutions were passed. He indicated slight amendments were made to the resolutions that did not alter the intent. Please see attached letter from ACER-CART.

Response:

A letter was sent to SSM on February 4, 2021, regarding the disposition of resolutions C1 and C3.

Resolutions Directed to the Government (D)

- D.1** **BE IT RESOLVED that** STS, subject to STF Bylaw 4.5.1 and STS Bylaw 6.2.7.5, work with SSM to lobby the Government of Saskatchewan to establish a Seniors Advocate position for the Province of Saskatchewan.

Response:

A letter was sent to the Honourable Warren Kaeding, Minister responsible for Seniors. No response has been received to date. A follow up letter was sent to the Minister on April 21, 2020. On February 3, 2021, a letter was sent to the Honourable Everett Hindley, the new Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, Seniors, and Rural and Remote Health. Please refer to the attached letter that was received from the Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, Seniors and Rural and Remote Health.

- D.2** **BE IT RESOLVED that** the STS, subject to STF Bylaw 4.5.1 and STS Bylaw 6.2.7.5, lobby the government of Saskatchewan to invest in attracting, recruiting, training, and retaining of teachers for the North/Northern areas.

Response: Please see the attached letter that was received from the Minister of Education in response to this resolution.

- D.3** **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 fully fund the cost of C-PAP units.

Response:

A letter was sent to the Honourable Jim Reiter, Minister of Health. Please refer to the attached letter that was received from the Minister of Health and Warren Kaeding, the Minister Responsible for Seniors.

- D.4 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 add the shingles vaccine to the Saskatchewan Drug Plan Formulary.

Response:

A letter was sent to the Honourable Jim Reiter, Minister of Health. Please refer to the attached letter that was received from the Minister of Health and Warren Kaeding, the Minister Responsible for Seniors.

- D.5 BE IT RESOLVED that** the STS, subject to STF Bylaw 4.5.1 and STS Bylaw 6.2.7.5, urge the Provincial government to establish a law that seatbelts, as well as on-board event data recorders similar to those in airplanes to expedite investigations and accurate data collection, be made mandatory on all buses.

Response:

This resolution was referred to the STS Executive. The resolution along with background research provided by the STS was sent to the President of the Weyburn Chapter in the event the Chapter wishes to take further steps.

- D.6 BE IT RESOLVED that** the STS, subject to STF Bylaw 4.5.1 and STS Bylaw 6.2.7.5, urge the Government of Saskatchewan to add the insulin Toujeo Solostar to the provincial drug formulary.

Response:

A letter was sent to the Honourable Jim Reiter, Minister of Health. Please refer to the attached letter that was received from the Minister of Health and Warren Kaeding, the Minister Responsible for Seniors.

- D.7 BE IT RESOLVED that** the STS, subject to STF Bylaw 4.5.1 and STS Bylaw 6.2.7.5, work with SSM to encourage the province of Saskatchewan to hire more geriatricians for the province.

Response:

A letter was sent to the Honourable Jim Reiter, Minister of Health. Please refer to the attached letter that was received from the Minister of Health and Warren Kaeding, the Minister Responsible for Seniors.

- D.8 BE IT RESOLVED that** STS, subject to STF Bylaw 4.5.1 and STS Bylaw 6.2.7.5, work with SSM to encourage the province of Saskatchewan to work with the Saskatchewan College of Massage Therapy to move legislation forward to regulate massage therapists in this province.

Response:

A letter was sent to the Honourable Jim Reiter, Minister of Health. Please refer to the attached letter that was received from the Minister of Health and Warren Kaeding, the Minister Responsible for Seniors.

Response – Resolutions D1-D4, D6-D8

In accordance with policy, a letter was sent to the STF requesting permission to advocate to the provincial government as directed in resolutions D1-D8.

A letter was received from Randy Schmaltz indicating that the STF Executive passed a motion at its August 21, 2019, meeting to grant permission to the STS to advocate with the provincial government as requested regarding resolutions D1-D8.

The STS has sent letters to the Minister of Health, Minister of Education and Minister Responsible for Seniors.



**Association canadienne des enseignantes et des enseignants retraités
Canadian Association of Retired Teachers**

June 29, 2019

Fred Herron Executive Secretary
304 – 717 Victoria Avenue,
Saskatoon, SK S7N 2T5

Dear Fred,

STS has submitted three resolutions to the AGM and has requested a follow-up on their disposition. All three were adopted with slight amendments that did not alter the intent.

M-4, it was felt by the assembly that since we were a national body we should intervene only at the federal level, and encourage provincial associations do the same locally.

M-6, the Legislation committee suggested that we replace C-27 by the following wording. Because of the upcoming elections, C-27 has died on the roster and it was felt that your aim would be best accomplished by asking not to reintroduce target benefits in the future. This suggested change was presented to STS Director Marie, which she presented as such.

M-4 2019 STS (STS-C1)

BE IT RESOLVED that ACER-CART encourage the Federal government to provide Income tax credits for seniors who need to access help to be able to remain in their own homes and that we recommend to Members to do so in their respective provinces.

IL EST RÉSOLU l'ACER-CART encourage le gouvernement fédéral à accorder des crédits d'impôt sur le revenu aux personnes âgées qui ont besoin d'aide pour demeurer dans leurs demeures et de recommander aux Membres de faire de même dans leurs provinces respectives.

M-5 2019 STS (STS-C2)

BE IT RESOLVED that ACER-CART request the federal government to increase the Pension Income Amount (line 314 on CRA income tax forms) deduction from \$2,000 to \$5,000.

IL EST RÉSOLU qu'ACER-CART demande au gouvernement fédéral d'augmenter la déduction du montant du revenu de pension (ligne 314 sur les formulaires d'impôt de l'ARC) de 2 000 \$ à 5 000 \$.

M-6 2019 STS (STS-C3)

BE IT RESOLVED that ACER-CART lobby the federal government not to allow defined-benefit pension plans under federal jurisdiction to be converted to target-benefit plans.

IL EST RÉSOLU qu'ACER-CART fassent pression sur le gouvernement fédéral afin qu'il ne permette pas la conversion des régimes de retraite à prestations définies relevant de la compétence fédérale en régimes à prestations ciblées.

We want to thank you for submitting resolution to our AGM. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

Thank you



Roger Régimbal
Executive director

c. c. : Marie Leblanc-Warick, ACER-CART Director STS
Bill Berryman, President ACER-CART



Government
— of —
Saskatchewan

Minister of Education

Legislative Building
Regina, SK Canada S4S 0B3

Resolution D2
RECEIVED JAN 06 2020

Fred W. Herron, Executive Secretary
Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan
2311 Arlington Avenue
SASKATOON SK S7J 2H8

Dear Fred Herron:

Thank you for your letter regarding a resolution on northern teacher recruitment and retention recently passed by the Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan at their annual general meeting. I apologize that I could not be in attendance.

The Government of Saskatchewan acknowledges the issue regarding the recruitment and retention of teachers in northern Saskatchewan. We will continue to collaborate with school divisions affected to ensure that goals to fill vacant positions will be met.

This includes increasing the investments in teacher education programs in northern Saskatchewan. As of the fall of 2019, four teacher education programs are offered in Northern Saskatchewan. Dene Teacher Education Program, Cree Teacher Education Program (CTEP), Northern Saskatchewan Indigenous Teacher Education Program (NSITEP) and Northlands College Bachelor of Education (NCBE) are funded by the ministries of Education and Advanced Education.

These programs follow traditional curricula with the infusion of northern and Indigenous cultural components and Indigenous language. We will continue to work collectively with our partners in education to provide support in meeting the local needs in northern Saskatchewan.

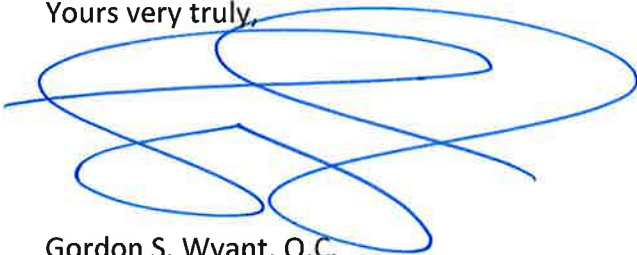
Fred W. Herron, Executive Secretary
Page 2

As a part of the Government of Saskatchewan's investment into northern teacher recruitment and retention plans, housing supplements and northern teacher allowances are also funded. This includes the addition of six new units to be built in La Loche in 2020 as a result of a partnership between the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Social Services, Northern Lights School Division, Methy Construction and the Village of La Loche.

If you have any further questions, please contact Thomas Sierzycki, Northern Education Advisor, at thomas.sierzycki@gov.sk.ca or 1-306-425-4382.

Thank you for taking the time to write.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and lines, positioned below the text 'Yours very truly,'.

Gordon S. Wyant, Q.C.
Minister of Education

cc: Thomas Sierzycki, Northern Education Advisor, Ministry of Education



SASKATCHEWAN

RECEIVED JUN 30 2020

Legislative Building
Regina, Saskatchewan S4S 0B3

JUN 24 2020

Our File: 20-580

Fred W. Herron
Executive Secretary
Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan
(sts@sts.sk.ca)

Dear Fred:

Thank you for your letters regarding the resolutions that were passed at the Annual General meeting of the Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan in 2019. We apologize for the delay in responding and understand there was no record of receiving your letter of November 14, 2019. In addition, our response has been delayed as a major focus for our government and the health system these past few months has been addressing matters related to the COVID-19 pandemic. We are pleased to provide the following information in response to the resolutions.

D3 BE IT RESOLVED that the STS advocate to the provincial government to fully fund the cost of CPAP units.

The Saskatchewan Aids to Independent Living (SAIL) Respiratory Equipment program currently provides the loan of CPAP flow generators to qualifying Saskatchewan residents upon receipt of a \$275 program fee. Individuals who require a CPAP machine can access the program through the referral of a Saskatchewan based respirologist.

D4 BE IT RESOLVED that the STS advocate to the provincial government to add the shingles vaccine to the Saskatchewan Drug Plan Formulary.

As you know, the shingles vaccine is not publicly funded in Saskatchewan; this is similar to all other provinces and territories in Canada except Ontario. The introduction of shingles vaccine would be a considerable budget decision. Provinces and territories review their immunization services on an ongoing basis and new vaccines or expansion of existing services are implemented as resources become available. It should be noted that vaccines are not covered under the Drug Plan Formulary.

Those interested in reducing their risk of shingles may purchase the vaccine from a physician, pharmacy, or health centre that sells vaccines. The Ministry of Health does not subsidize or reimburse individuals who choose to purchase the shingles vaccine. Information about publicly funded vaccines is available at www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/health/accessing-health-care-services/immunization-services

D6 BE IT RESOLVED that the STS urge the Government of Saskatchewan to add the insulin Toujeo Solostar to the provincial drug formulary.

Toujeo Solostar (insulin glargine) is not currently a listed benefit in Saskatchewan. Drug funding decisions in Saskatchewan are informed through a rigorous review process that involves health technology assessments, such as the national Common Drug Review (CDR), in conjunction with consideration by the provincial Drug Advisory Committee of Saskatchewan (DACs), and pricing negotiations via the pan-Canadian Pharmaceutical Alliance (pCPA). Saskatchewan and other publicly funded federal, provincial, and territorial drug programs in Canada participate in the pCPA to work together to achieve greater value for brand name and generic drugs. The decision to list a drug in the Saskatchewan Formulary is based on advice received from these national and provincial review processes following careful consideration of the clinical and cost information for the drug. The Drug Plan will update prescribers and pharmacists if there is a change in the listing status of Toujeo Solostar (insulin glargine). Currently, more than 5,100 drug products are listed in the Saskatchewan Formulary as benefits under the Drug Plan.

D7 BE IT RESOLVED that the STS work with Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism to encourage the province of Saskatchewan to hire more geriatricians to the province.

Saskatchewan has a Royal College certified geriatrician, an American Board certified general internal medicine physician specializing in geriatrics, and a Geriatric Psychiatrist working in the province. Our province also has general practitioners with additional training in geriatrics providing clinical geriatric services to patients. The Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) is responsible for the delivery of health services and programs throughout the province, including staffing. The SHA is in discussions with geriatric residents and internal medicine residents regarding future geriatrician careers in Saskatchewan.

D8 BE IT RESOLVED that the STS work with the Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism to encourage the province of Saskatchewan to work with the Saskatchewan College of Massage Therapy to move legislation forward to regulate massage therapists in this province.

Our government remains committed to protecting the public from possible harm posed by unethical and/or incompetent massage therapy practitioners. However, additional public consultations with key stakeholders, including practicing massage therapists, will need to occur before legislation can be introduced in the Legislative Assembly.

At this time, public consultations have been put on hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We are aware that massage therapists are currently focused on re-opening their practices, so consultations need to be delayed until we are able to thoughtfully engage them and other stakeholders regarding regulation of the profession.

We hope this information is helpful in responding to the STS resolutions. Please let us know if you have any questions about these or other health care matters.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond.

Sincerely,



Jim Reiter
Minister of Health



Warren Kaeding
Minister Responsible for Rural and Remote Health
Minister Responsible for Seniors

cc: Honourable Gordon Wyant, Minister of Education

APR 15 2021



Government
— of —
Saskatchewan

Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, Seniors
and Rural and Remote Health

Legislative Building
Regina, Canada S4S 0B3

APR 12 2021

Our File: 21-307

Murray Wall
Executive Secretary
Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan
2311 Arlington Avenue
SASKATOON SK S7J 2H8

Dear Murray:

Thank you for your February 2, 2021, letter about a seniors advocate for Saskatchewan. I appreciate you taking the time to share the concerns of the Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan and apologize for the delay in response as we have been handling a very high volume of inquiries.

You may be interested to know that Saskatchewan has a number of processes in place to assist seniors in navigating the health-care system, bringing forward issues or concerns about services received, and supporting the protection of vulnerable adults.

The Ministry of Health provides global funding to the Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) for the delivery of health programs and services. Through this funding, the SHA is responsible for the distribution and mix of health care services and staffing needs across the province.

The SHA Quality of Care Coordinators are located throughout the province and are available to anyone wishing to discuss concerns about access to health services. Quality of Care Coordinators act as facilitators between patients and the health system to ensure that patients receive the best support possible. They also welcome any recommendations for changes and improvements to health services. Feedback is taken seriously and can often inform best practices going forward.

Contact information for the Quality of Care Coordinator in your area is available online at www.saskhealthauthority.ca/Pages/Contacts-Quality-of-Care-Coordinators.aspx.

Members of the public are also welcome to contact the Ombudsman Saskatchewan office. Ombudsman Saskatchewan is an independent office, headed by the provincial Ombudsman who is appointed by the Legislative Assembly. The role of the Ombudsman is to hold the government (including the SHA) accountable in matters of fairness.

Ombudsman Saskatchewan promotes fairness by taking complaints about unfairness in government services and making recommendations to government or government agencies about fair practices. Members of the public, including seniors, are welcome to bring their concerns forward to the Ombudsman's Office. The office is separate from the government of the day and free to come to its own conclusions.

The office of Ombudsman Saskatchewan in Regina can be contacted at:

Ombudsman Saskatchewan
500 – 2103 11th Avenue
REGINA SK S4P 3Z8
Telephone: 306-787-6211 or toll free 1-800-667-9787
Email: ombreg@ombudsman.sk.ca

And the Saskatoon office may be reached at:

Ombudsman Saskatchewan
500 – 350 3rd Avenue North
SASKATOON SK S7K 6G7
Telephone: 306-933-5500 or toll free 1-800-667-9787
Email: ombsktn@ombudsman.sk.ca

Saskatchewan has a number of legislative and non-legislative options in place to protect vulnerable adults, such as:

- mandated critical incident reporting under [The Provincial Health Authority Act](#);
- regulated health care professionals are guided by a Code of Ethics that states they must recognize, respect and promote a person's right to be informed and make their own decisions regarding their health. They work with patients/residents to provide care according to each patient/resident's unique needs, values and circumstances. They respect the person's decision on how to receive care and will follow their wishes, either at the time of a crisis or when the person can no longer indicate their wishes; and
- the Ministry of Justice has several acts that serve to protect vulnerable adults.

Again, thank you for writing. Seniors are a vital and growing part of our province and we will continue to find ways to best support and address their health-care needs in a respectful and responsive manner.

Sincerely,



Everett Hindley
Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, Seniors
and Rural and Remote Health

cc: Honourable Paul Merriman, Minister of Health