

OUTREACH



To The Superannuated Teachers
of Saskatchewan

President's Report

Jim Sego

How quickly the year has gone by! Already we're getting the materials and information out to the delegates you have selected to speak to the Executive on your behalf at the AGM! At least the weather seems to have turned and we can anticipate the kind of weather that makes an AGM seem possible.

Since the last time I wrote to you, I have enjoyed the hospitality of the east side of our province as representatives of the Yorkton and Moosomin Chapters have welcomed Carole and me to their Chapter meetings. We have also enjoyed a warm welcome from our Chapter members in Victoria who invited us to meet them in February. Although the weather was below normal, their reception was warm and filled with interest in the organization. The Chapter felt that members from up island also deserved a visit. They encouraged all members regardless of what province they live in to form Chapters for the social value of meeting like-minded people and for the opportunity to provide leadership to the organization. It doesn't matter where you go or where Chapters are located, Saskatchewan Superannuates are interested in their organization and enjoy the opportunity to find out

how their colleagues are thinking about the issues that matter to superannuated teachers!

Another Executive meeting is over and the Office Staff and Fred have the organization putting along in good shape. (How do you know I'm a golfer?) The major items of business, the financial condition of the STS and the Health Benefits Plans, are operating successfully.

We ended the last three-year agreement with Saskatchewan Blue Cross with a modest surplus that we can add to the reserves to protect us from unexpected expenditures during the next three years. When we asked the people at Saskatchewan Blue Cross what they ascribed our success to, they said it was the way you, the membership of the plans, have taken ownership – using them not as a benefit owed by an employer, but as insurance whose premium depends on wise use. Good answer! They also felt it was the communication that we have with you that makes the plans operate so well.

As we indicated last year, we would look at funding for the organization. If you look at the budget presented in this *Outreach*, you will see that increased membership and the good

management of our benefits plan administration funds has allowed us to hold the line on both fees and rebates to Chapters.

While we have not been immune to the effect of the downturn in the economy, our investment of the surpluses of the benefits plans have fared relatively well. Our staff and the executive have looked after your interests well.

I look forward to seeing some of you personally in my upcoming visits to Moose Jaw, Saskatoon, Souris-Moose Mountain, and Nipawin. I also hope to connect with your delegates at the AGM in May. My calendar for travel and Chapter visits is wide open for April. Carole and I would love to visit your part of our province then.

Congratulations

Dorothy Haldenby celebrated 100 on February 21, 2009. Happy Birthday!

Marjory Kornder will celebrate 100 on April 20, 2009. Happy Birthday!



36th STS Annual General Meeting

May 12 – 14, 2009 • Travelodge Hotel, Saskatoon

Shirley Dyck/Doug Haroldson

Thanks to our Office Manager, Colleen Bailey, and our Assistant Office Manager, Heather Hase, the Chapter Presidents have received the package of information about the Annual General Meeting. The names of the delegates were registered and each delegate will be receiving his/her package of information. Delegates, please register at the Travelodge Hotel, Saskatoon by April 16th. Call either (306) 242-8881 or the direct toll free number 1-888-278-4209. When making reservations indicate that you are with the Superannuated Teachers Annual General Meeting to get the preferred rate.

Travel: At the AGM each Chapter will submit one voucher for travel costs. The rate will be \$0.35 per kilometre for return travel on the basis of one car for each three delegates.

We have planned a great AGM. Hope to see you there!

TUESDAY, MAY 12

5:00 – 7:15 Registration
7:15 Welcome by President Jim Segó
Introduction of Candidates
Entertainment – Len Gadica

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13

7:15 – 8:30 Breakfast
9:00 Plenary Session followed by small group sessions to discuss resolutions
1:00 – 3:55 Five Interest Sessions will be offered
6:00 Banquet – Following the banquet, Membership Growth Awards, Announcement of the Chapter Awards and Presentation of the Honorary Life Memberships.

THURSDAY, MAY 14

7:15 – 8:30 Breakfast
9:00 Greetings from the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation
The Annual General Meeting

Group Benefits

Siegrid Schergel

The Group Benefits Committee held its regular meeting on Monday, March 16, 2009, to review our Extended Health and Dental Plan. As you know, on February 1, 2009, we entered into a new three year contract with Saskatchewan Blue Cross that includes a new fee structure. The new contract also includes some changes in coverage. If you have any questions about the coverage or the premiums, please contact the STS office and either Colleen or Heather will be able to help you.

We also received a draft financial statement from Saskatchewan Blue Cross covering the period February 1, 2008 to January 31, 2009, the last year of the old contract. The benefit plan continues on a sound financial footing; the required reserves are full and the plan had a small surplus for the year. This surplus stays with the plan and is invested by us.

In conclusion, my regular reminder to all STS members as you approach your 65th birthday remember to apply to Saskatchewan Health for the

Saskatchewan Senior Drug Benefit. If you are a member of our Extended Health Plan remember to submit a copy of your letter affirming your eligibility for this program to the office so that you will receive the reduced Extended Health premium. There is no retroactivity for the premium reduction. As always, if you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of the Extended Health or Dental Plans, please contact the STS office.

Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan Proposed Budget: July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010

INCOME	2007 - 2008 ACTUAL	2008 - 2009 BUDGET	2008 - 2009 8 MO. ACTUAL	PROPOSED 2009 - 2010
Membership Fees	248,017.00	243,000.00	169,182.50	257,000.00
Admin Commission (Benefits Plan)	132,587.00	135,000.00	103,149.44	154,000.00
Dividend Income				
Interest Income	4,450.00	4,000.00	2,873.93	4,000.00
Other		8,000.00	20.00	
TOTAL INCOME	\$385,054.00	\$390,000.00	\$275,225.87	\$415,000.00
EXPENSES				
Annual General Meeting	62,813.00	68,000.00	82.31	68,000.00
Amortization	3,592.00	4,000.00	74.14	4,000.00
Chapter Rebates	58,480.00	61,000.00	60,648.00	63,000.00
Executive and Committee Meetings	31,467.00	32,000.00	20,641.93	34,000.00
STS Affiliations	5,444.00	6,000.00	3,217.99	6,000.00
Executive Chapter Travel	8,308.00	8,000.00	4,146.21	9,000.00
Chapter Presidents' Meeting	9,332.00	10,000.00	10,495.95	12,000.00
Communications, Membership Growth, PR	32,317.00	34,000.00	21,505.61	34,000.00
Retirement Life Styles Planning Committee	2,636.00	2,000.00		3,000.00
Support Services Planning Committee		2,000.00	659.39	3,000.00
Recreation	914.00	2,000.00	1,286.86	2,000.00
Office Staff	103,923.00	98,000.00	71,368.76	110,000.00
Office Operation	23,387.00	51,000.00	25,638.75	51,000.00
Computer and Programming	6,690.00	8,000.00	11,334.15	12,000.00
McDowell Foundation	1,050.00	1,000.00		1,000.00
Scholarships	3,000.00	2,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00
Bank Service Charge	98.00	1,000.00	676.45	1,000.00
Management Fees				
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$353,451.00	\$390,000.00	\$232,776.50	\$415,000.00
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	31,603.00			

NOTES:

Note 1: The proposed budget for 2009-2010 is based on an annual fee of \$30.00.

Note 2: A financial statement for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009 will be prepared as soon as possible after year-end, audited, and made available to all STS Chapters. Copies of the audited financial statement for 2008-2009 will also be made available to all AGM delegates at the 2010 AGM.

Note 3: The Operations Reserve Fund had a balance of \$184,028.00 as at June 30, 2008. Should a deficit be incurred for the 2009-2010 fiscal year, it would be covered by monies from the Operations Reserve Fund.

ASSUMPTIONS:

1. 8600 Members
2. Rebate to Chapters of \$8.00 per member

Nominations

Siegrid Schergel

As per the Policy Handbook, Page 5, Number 1: Nominations are called to elect the following Executive: President, Vice-President, Five Councillors, Seven Members-at-Large, and an ACER-CART Representative.

Nominations will be received until nine o'clock the morning of the day elections for the STS Executive are held.

Are you interested in a new challenge? Have you considered letting your name stand for the provincial Executive? Now is the

time! If you are interested in having the opportunity to affect the STS at the provincial level, I invite you to submit your name as a candidate for the Executive. The process is simple – forward your name and the position for which you are declaring your candidacy to the STS office. Append a resume that outlines your background and your involvement in STS. This resume will be included in the AGM delegates, package and will serve to introduce you to the delegates as we do not have candidates' speeches at the AGM. That's it!

To date the following individuals have declared their candidacy for the 2009-2010 Executive:

President/Councillor

Jim Sego

Vice-President/Councillor

Margaret Martin

Councillors

Calvin Bachmeier
Shirley Dyck
Michael Gorkoff
Doug Haroldson
Mike Kaminski
Peter Wiebe

Members at Large

Elaine Broughton
Shirley Henderson
Kate McCorriston
James Slough
Maxine Stinka
Robert Wuschenny

ACER-CART Representative

Fred Herron

Nominations remain open until 9:00 am Thursday, 14 May 2009, the day of the elections at the AGM.

Councillor's Report

Margaret Martin

Elaine Broughton and Margaret Martin represented the STS at the STF Symposium on March 20-21, 2009, entitled "Big Questions Worthy Dreams". The symposium considered questions in Social Justice and Teacher Professionalism.

Eight STS Councillors will be attending the STF Annual Meeting of Council on April 22 to 25, 2009 at the Radisson Hotel in Saskatoon. Resolutions we will review and vote on deal with topics such as Social and Political Advocacy, Professional Stewardship and Responsibility, Economic Services – Bargaining and Benefits, Governance and Finance and Administration. We will look carefully at any resolutions that deal with teacher pension plans.

Attention All Former Teachers

Did you ever teach at Perdue, Kinley, or any schools in the R. M. of Perdue #346? If you did and you have not received information on our upcoming 100 Anniversary Celebration, please send your name and address to CELEBRATE "100", Box 94, Perdue, SK S0K 3C0. We will send you a registration – information notice. Our big event will take place the weekend of July 24-26, 2009. Hope to see you there.

The Seniors' Information Hotline: 1-888-823-2211

Please Note: This is not an STS hotline. This is a general hotline for all seniors.

Saskatchewan HealthLine: 1-877-800-0002

Surgery Wait Time Hotline:

Saskatoon Health Region: 1-866-543-6767 / Regina-Qu'Appelle Health Region: 1-866-622-0222

STS Resolutions 2009

Robert Wuschenny

The following are resolutions that were received as of March 15, 2009.

Resolutions Directed to the STF

Resolution One

BE IT RESOLVED that the STS urge the STF to examine all options and pursue the best alternatives for achieving full Canadian CPI annual adjustments to teacher superannuation allowances. – **STS Executive**

Resolution Two

BE IT RESOLVED that the STS request the STF to negotiate changes to the TSP to provide 100% indexing of superannuation allowances. – **Saskatoon Chapter**

Background
(provided by Saskatoon Chapter)

At one time our pensions were fully indexed. This resolution calls for a return to full indexing. Some government plans, e.g. federal government, do have full indexing. Annual resolutions to STF Council have requested a return to full indexing.

Resolution Three

BE IT RESOLVED that the STS request the STF to negotiate changes to the TSP to provide 85% indexing of superannuation allowances effective January 1, 2010, 90% indexing effective January 1, 2011, 95% indexing effective January 1, 2012, and 100% indexing effective January 1, 2013.

– **Saskatoon Chapter**

Background
(provided by Saskatoon Chapter)

Although the STS maintains the goal of full indexing, this resolution sets out intermediate steps in the return for full indexing.

Resolution Four

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the STS request the STF to negotiate changes to the TSP to provide 100% indexing of the first \$30,000 of all superannuation allowances.

– **Saskatoon Chapter**

Background
(provided by Saskatoon Chapter)

Although the STS maintains the goal of full indexing, this resolution sets out a partial return to full indexing until our goal is achieved.

Resolution Five

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the STS request the STF to negotiate changes to the TSP to provide 100% indexing of superannuation allowances for the term of the next STF Provincial Collective Agreement.

– **Saskatoon Chapter**

Background
(provided by Saskatoon Chapter)

Although the STS maintains the goal of full indexing, this resolution would not tie the provincial government in perpetuity to full indexing. Full indexing would have been affordable by the government in the last few years during massive budget surpluses but would provide the opportunity to return to 80% indexing during depressed economic periods.

Resolution Six

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the STS continue to work with the STF to obtain 100% indexing for Teacher pensions. – **Prince Albert Chapter**

Resolution Seven

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the STS request the STF to negotiate changes to the TSP to provide 80% indexing of superannuation allowances based on the Saskatchewan CPI or the Canadian CPI, whichever is highest.

– **Saskatoon Chapter**

Background
(provided by Saskatoon Chapter)

Although the STS maintains the goal of full indexing, this resolution would result in a slight increase to our allowances during times such as the last few years when the Saskatchewan CPI was higher than the Canadian CPI. Increases in our pensions are currently calculated on the Canadian CPI.

Resolution Eight

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.

– **Prince Albert Chapter**

Resolutions Directed to the STS

Resolution Nine

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the STS work with Saskatchewan Blue Cross to re-implement the automatic billing system for prescription drugs. – **Prince Albert Chapter**

Resolution Ten

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the STS urge its health benefit insurance carrier, Saskatchewan Blue Cross, to add Sildenafil Citrate (Viagra), Tadalafil (Cialis) and Vardenafil (Levitra) to the formulary of drugs covered under the plan.

– **Saskatoon Chapter**

Background
(provided by Saskatoon Chapter)

Some other group plans (e.g. federal government) do provide coverage for these drugs. There are cost implications for these treatments.

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Resolution Eleven

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the STS annual fee for 2009-2010 be \$30.00 per person.
– STS Executive

Resolution Twelve

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the annual rebate to Chapters for 2009-2010 be \$8.00 per person.
– STS Executive

Resolutions Directed to ACER-CART

Resolution Thirteen

BE IT RESOLVED that the STS urge the Canadian Association of Retired Teachers (ACER-CART) to request the Government of Canada to ensure that information on Canadian travelers to the US be stored by Canadian Border Security Officials in Canada rather than by US Border Authorities.
– Saskatoon Chapter

Resolution Fourteen

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the STS request ACER-CART to lobby the federal government to phase

in a national prescription drug strategy which would begin with coverage for key catastrophic drug costs with gradual expansion of coverage as finances permit, until the plan is universal in application.
– STS Executive

Resolution Fifteen

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the STS request ACER-CART to lobby the federal government to

Eliminate the renewal of protection of drug patents so cheaper generics are available sooner, saving money for the health care system, patients, hospitals and provinces.
– STS Executive

Honorary Life Members

James Slough

Congratulations!

The following members have been selected for Honorary Life Membership for 2009 and will be presented with their certificates at the AGM:

Volodimer Derkach, Nipawin

Ernie Epp, Saskatoon

Gabrielle Hamilton, Yorkton

Recreation Results

Kaiser 2008

Hosted by Prince Albert Chapter

High Lady: Helen Chernoff
High Man: Walter Paidwar
Cash Prize Winners:
Ruby Rafuse & Frank Will

Rose Yaworski, Stella Shulhan,
Joyce Senger, Tom Brophy, Rick
Murza

Travelling Teams – Regina

George Exner (Regina), Terry Briere
(Regina), Bev Stewart (P.A.), Ken
Mathers (Moose Jaw), Alma Brown
(Yorkton)

Curling 2008

Hosted by Saskatoon Chapter

A Event: George Anderson Trophy
1st Saskatoon – Cec Hodgins, Barry
Davies, Bill Martin, Marg Martin

**B Event: Assiniboine Chapter
Trophy**

1st Swift Current – Ross Orth, Keith
Ahrens, Rick Lake, Ray Finlay

C Event: STS Trophy

1st Saskatoon - John Toles, Roland
Thiessen, Ernie Balzer, John Krahn

**D Event: Saskatoon Chapter
Trophy**

1st Melville – Wilmer Kolyaba,
Wally Oucharek, Polly Wardle, Joan
Oucharek

E Event: Consolation

1st Saskatoon – John Wall, Ken
Theis, Bill Woodward, Elaine Theis

Bowling 2008

Hosted by Regina Chapter

Home Teams – Saskatoon

Golf 2008

Hosted by Maple Creek Chapter

Men's Championship Flight –
Carson Robinson – 79
1st Flight – Don Johns – 89
2nd Flight – Wayne Guenther – 91
3rd Flight – Leroy Starkes – 95
4th Flight – Ed Bath – 100
5th Flight – Doug Haroldson – 106
Seniors Men's Champion –
George Holizki – 80

Ladies Championship Flight –
Doris Morrow – 91

1st Flight – Joan Braaten – 110
2nd Flight – Marjorie Popenia – 121
Seniors Ladies' Champion –
Joan Diemert – 116

Scramble Results

A side – Shirley Helmerson,
Ross Orth, Ron Meyers, Dave
Stewardson

B side – Jim Bobick, Dale Chant,
Robert Gordon, Audrey Gordon

Recreation

Calvin Bachmeier



Upcoming Events

Recreational Activities Participation STS Style . . .

Bowling

Location: Prince Albert
Date: April 30 & May 1, 2009
Contact: Lori Veregan
Phone: (306) 763-7263

Golf

Host: Midlakes Chapter – Craik & Davidson – 9 hole courses
Date: June 15-16, 2009
Contact: Elaine Ebenal
Phone: (306) 567-4763 or (306) 651-7284
2010 Host: Souris-Moose Mountain Chapter
Contact: Merv Walker
Phone: (306) 433-2207

2011 Host: Assiniboine Chapter
Contact: Tom Jordans
Phone: (306) 542-3265

Fishing

2009 Host: Moosomin Chapter
Location: Birds Point, Round Lake
Date: July 2, 2009 (alternate July 9, 2009)
Contact: Horst Sawatzki
Phone: (306) 435-2551

Kaiser

2009 Host - Unity Chapter
Contact: Jim Sego
Phone: (306) 228-3981

Bridge

2009 Host – Saskatoon Chapter
Date: October 23-24, 2009.
Contact: Bill Meger
Phone: (306) 249-1329

Curling

2009 Host – South Central Chapter hosted by Assiniboia Curling Club
Date: November 2, 3 & 4, 2009
Contact: Maurice Koszman
Phone: (306) 268-2867

2010 Host – Parkland Chapter

Stitch 'N Quilt

2009 Host: Mainline Chapter
Date: October 5, 6 & 7, 2009
Location: Calling Lakes Centre in Fort Qu'Appelle
Contact: Gladys Oleksyn
Phone: (306) 332-6179

2010 Host - Saskatoon Chapter

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.

STS Provincial Golf Tournament June 15 & 16, 2009

Davidson Golf Course and Craik Golf Course (Both courses are 9 holes)

PRE-REGISTER BY MAY 30, 2009

First 72 paid golfers accepted.

Cost: \$100.00 Includes two – 18 hole rounds (Monday at Davidson, Tuesday at Craik); a banquet at the Davidson Golf Course Clubhouse on Monday night.

Cart rentals available.

Extra Banquet tickets available at \$ 20.00 each.

Accommodations:

Davidson:

Jubilee Motor Inn (306) 567 -2033
C & T Motel (306) 567-2033
Davidson Hotel/Motel (306) 567-5520

Craik: C & T Motel (306) 734-2476
Trail's End Guest Ranch
1-866-885-0775

Camping:

Town of Davidson
(no reservations accepted)
Craik Regional Park (306) 734-5120
reservations accepted after Jan. 15th

Contact: Elaine Ebenal
(306) 567-4763 or (306) 651-7284
ebenalfarm@sasktel.net or
Elaine.ebenal@sasktel.net

Return completed registration form and fees to:
Elaine Ebenal
Box 296 Davidson SK S0G 1A0

Note: Names of interested participants will be noted if received by phone or e-mail, but registration requires the receipt of the \$100.00 fee.

Come for the Golfing Fun ... then Stay to Explore the innovation and excitement that the area has to offer.

Registration Form

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Extra banquet tickets _____ x \$20.00

Senior Division? ____ (must be 70+)

Cart Rental Required? ____

Average Score for 18 holes ____

Please make cheques payable to STS Golf Tournament.

From The Editor's Desk

As we in Saskatchewan get a fleeting glimpse of spring we are still reminded that winter is not quite ready to give up the reins just yet. What a tease winter has been this year. But as I wrote this I heard geese flying over and they were travelling north. So there is hope!

Another year of the STS will be completed with our AGM. A great deal of planning has gone into this with decisions to be voted on and new Executive to be elected. I hope that if you are attending the AGM you will take an active part.

As reported in the Group Benefits Report our Benefits Plans are doing quite nicely because of our vigilance over them. They are our Plans and we are responsible for their smooth operation.

As you are reading this may the flowers of spring be blooming and showing off their many splendor.

Remember there is no better time to try something new than right now.

Shirley

STS Executive 2008-2009

President/Councillor	Jim Segó	Unity Chapter
Vice-President/Councillor	Margaret Martin	Saskatoon Chapter
Past President/Councillor	Siegrid Schergel	Moose Jaw Chapter
Executive Secretary	Fred Herron	Saskatoon Chapter
Councillors:		
Calvin Bachmeier	Maple Creek/Medicine Hat Chapter	
Shirley Dyck	Swift Current Chapter	
Michael Gorkoff	Red Deer River Valley Chapter	
Mike Kaminski	Assiniboine Chapter	
Peter Wiebe	Regina Chapter	
Members At Large:		
Elaine Broughton	Saskatoon Chapter	
Doug Haroldson	Maple Creek/Medicine Hat Chapter	
Shirley Henderson	Prince Albert Chapter	
Kate McCorriston	Nipawin Chapter	
James Slough	Regina Chapter	
Maxine Stinka	Assiniboine Chapter	
Robert Wuschenny	Yorkton Chapter	
ACER-CART		
Fred Herron	Saskatoon Chapter	

Reminder – STS Group Benefit Primary Plan holders

If you qualify for the Saskatchewan Seniors' Drug Plan **and have not already done so**, please send a copy of the confirmation letter to the STS Office in order to receive the reduced premium for Extended Health.

OUTREACH

To The Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan

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.

The Outreach is available online. Please e-mail the STS Office if you wish to receive notification when it is posted on the website instead of receiving a hard copy.

Phone: 373-3879 • Fax: 374-1122

E-mail: sts@stf.sk.ca

2317 Arlington Ave.

Saskatoon SK S7J 2H8

Monday to Friday

8:30 A.M. to 12:00 noon

website: www.sts.sk.ca

STS Office Notice

1. If there will be a change in your delegates' list for the AGM please notify the Office immediately or no later than May 1, 2009.
2. Chapter Reports need to be forwarded to the Office by April 15, 2009.
3. If your Chapter has awarded any Chapter merit awards, please let the Office know the names of the recipients by May 1, 2009.
4. The list of Chapter Officers for 2009 – 2010 should be sent to the Office by June 30, 2009.
5. The STS Office will be closed on May 12 -14 to enable staff to attend the AGM.

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