

OUTREACH

To The Superannuated Teachers
of Saskatchewan

President's Report

Doug Haroldson

The membership of the STS as of March 8, 2016, was 10,939. Membership is closing in on 11,000. Special welcome to the members who have recently joined the STS. You are encouraged to participate at the Chapter and provincial level. We look forward to your contributions to the organization.

The STS has recently lost two of its valuable members. Judy Buzowetsky passed away on February 20. Judy contributed at the local and provincial level. She was a member of the present provincial Executive. George Georget passed away on March 8. George contributed at the local, provincial and national levels. He served on the provincial Executive before he became ill. At the national level George served as our ACER-CART representative. Both Judy and George were strong promoters of the Dr. Stirling McDowell Foundation. They will be missed.

The STS is presently in a strong financial position. For more details regarding our finances, please refer to the Budget, Finance and Audit Committee report in this issue of *Outreach*.

The Health and Dental Plan continues to perform well. There are several improvements effective July 1, 2016. The details of these

improvements are in the Benefits Committee report in this issue.

The STS AGM is May 10-12, 2016. Local Chapter Presidents received the registration information. The Disposition of Resolutions has been posted on the STS website. Resolutions that were received prior to March 1 are printed in this issue. When reviewing these resolutions please refer to the *Policy Handbook* dated July 1, 2015. Nominations for STS Executive will be received until four o'clock in the evening of the day prior to the elections. Chapters are encouraged to send a full slate of Delegates to the AGM. Members who have not attended an AGM should be encouraged to attend as your Chapter Delegate.

Chapters continue to step up to the plate to host provincial recreation activities. Upcoming activities include bowling on April 28-29 hosted by the Yorkton Chapter, fishing on June 2 hosted by the Nipawin Chapter, golf on June 20-21 hosted by the Weyburn Chapter, and Mah Jongg on April 20 hosted by the Regina Chapter. Attendance at any of these activities is a great way to renew acquaintances and meet new friends. Special thanks to the Chapters hosting these activities.

Attendance at Retirement Life-style Planning Seminars was not as

expected. The seminar at Weyburn was cancelled due to lack of registrants. This program requires consideration by the Executive. Special thanks to those who directed these seminars including STF Senior Administrative Staff.

As the STS is a local of the STF, I had the opportunity to attend a Presidents' Forum on February 27 in Saskatoon. This was a positive experience and certainly aids in building relationships among the locals and the STF provincial Executive and Senior Administrative Staff.

This year is the 25th Anniversary of the McDowell Foundation. Chapters are encouraged to recognize this anniversary. This recognition may include a McDowell Foundation presentation at a Chapter meeting. Another possible way of recognition would be a special donation to the Foundation.

Eight STS Councillors will be attending the STF Annual Meeting of Councillors on April 27-30. We appreciate this opportunity to deal with resolutions affecting practicing teachers and retired teachers.

I will be visiting several Chapters in the upcoming weeks. If your Chapter would appreciate a visit, contact the STS office or me.

43rd Annual General Meeting of the STS

Tuesday, May 10 – Thursday, May 12, 2016
Travelodge Hotel, Saskatoon

Joyce Hoffman and Jane Isinger

The 43rd STS AGM will be held on Tuesday, May 10 to Thursday, May 12, 2016, at the Travelodge Hotel in Saskatoon.

Again this year we will have a McDowell Foundation draw with wonderful prizes. Thank you to the individuals and the Chapters that have so generously donated prizes.

In January, preliminary AGM information was sent to Chapter Presidents. Delegates will receive their information once their names have been submitted to the STS Office. This must be done before April 1, 2016. Delegates are reminded to make their reservations at the Travelodge Hotel in Saskatoon no later than April 9, 2016.

Nominations

Robert Wuschenny

It is still not too late to let your name stand for a position on the STS provincial Executive. Nominations will be received until 4:00 o'clock in the evening of the day prior to elections for the STS Executive. (Bylaw 3, Section 1.2)

To date, declared candidates for the STS provincial Executive are:

President:

- Maxine Stinka

Vice-President:

- Don Gabel
- Sunil Pandila

ACER-CART Representative:

- Marie LeBlanc-Warick

Councillors:

(five to be elected)

- Joyce Hoffman
- Mike Kaminski
- Alan Laughlin
- Helen Sukovieff

Members at Large:

(seven to be elected)

- Calvin Bachmeier
- Jane Isinger
- Roger Marchand
- Anna Wehrkamp

Group Benefits

Robert Wuschenny

Our STS Extended Health and Dental Plan is doing well in its first of a three-year contract with Saskatchewan Blue Cross. Several improvements to the Benefits Plan will take effect on July 1, 2016, with no increase to the premiums now paid. A summary of improvements follows:

1. Eye Examinations – increase from \$100 to **\$125** per person every two calendar years.
2. Glasses – increase from \$150 to **\$250** per person every two calendar years.
3. Hearing Aids/Cochlear Im- plants – increase from \$600 to **\$750** per person every three calendar years.
4. Dental – Major Restorative Benefit – increase from 50% to a \$1200 maximum to **60%** to **\$1500** maximum per person per calendar year.
5. Two additional eye exams within the same two calendar year period to a maximum reimbursement of **\$125** per exam, providing the eye exam(s) is/ are deemed medi- cally necessary. A physician's referral is required.

Congratulations!

The following members were selected for Honorary Life Membership for 2016 and will be presented with their awards at the AGM:

Velma Gerrard
Okanagan Valley Chapter

Bill Meger
Saskatoon Chapter

Melvin Osolinsky
Wakaw Chapter

STS Resolutions 2016

Mike Kaminski

Resolutions Directed to the STS (A) (Bylaws)

A 1. BE IT RESOLVED that Bylaw 3 (1.5) be deleted and replaced with the following: "In the election of members of the Executive, only one ballot shall be held and those candidates receiving the highest number of votes will be declared elected."

Saskatoon Chapter

A 2. BE IT RESOLVED that STS Bylaws be amended by the addition of the following: STS Group Benefits Unappropriated Reserve

1. An Unappropriated Reserve Fund shall be maintained at a level to be determined by the STS Executive.
2. Monies intended for the fund shall be kept in a separate fund.
3. The Unappropriated Reserve Fund shall be used to support the Appropriated Reserve or used for group benefits as determined by the Executive.
4. The Executive shall regularly review the adequacy of the fund in relation to possible uses of monies from the fund.

Saskatoon Chapter

A 3. BE IT RESOLVED that Bylaw 3, Section 2 (2.2) be deleted and replaced with the following: "Should a President be elected for more than one term, the Past-President shall be offered the position of Past-President for a one year term."

Peter Stroh

A 4. BE IT RESOLVED that Bylaw 1, Section 1, be amended by the addition of the following: "(1.7) "A counting committee composed of Members as defined in Bylaw 1, shall be established by motion of the AGM."

Peter Stroh

A 5. BE IT RESOLVED that the STS annual fee for 2016-17 be \$30 per person.

STS Executive

A 6. BE IT RESOLVED that the STS annual rebate to each Chapter for 2016-17 be \$400 plus \$8 per member.

STS Executive

(Non-Bylaws)

A 7. BE IT RESOLVED that the STS request SSM to lobby the Government of Saskatchewan to restore the income threshold level for the Seniors' Drug Plan to the same level used by the Government of Canada for the claw back for OAS.

Saskatoon Chapter

A 8. BE IT RESOLVED that the STS investigate the cost with Saskatchewan Blue Cross of providing coverage for the purchase of a motorized scooter prescribed by a physician and approved by Saskatchewan Blue Cross for a lifetime maximum of \$1500 per person.

Saskatoon Chapter

A 9. BE IT RESOLVED that the following Policy 13 be added to the Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan *Policy Handbook*: "The Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan believes that the income threshold for all Saskatchewan seniors to qualify for the Saskatchewan Seniors' Drug Plan be the same as the threshold for the claw back for OAS."

Peter Stroh

A 10. BE IT RESOLVED that the following Policy 14 be added to the Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan *Policy Handbook*:

"The Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan believes that all Saskatchewan seniors should have free access to physician ordered rehabilitation services."

Peter Stroh

A 11. BE IT RESOLVED that the STS and Saskatchewan Blue Cross consolidate the Extended Health and Dental Plan information into a handbook that provides:

- a) Space to allow any changes in the Plan to be handwritten by the participant to keep information up to date;
- b) How to pursue an appeal; and,
- c) A question and answer section dealing with pertinent topics such as pre-existing conditions, travel, and how to get a print copy of the handbook.

Regina Chapter

A 12. BE IT RESOLVED that the STS place the regularly updated Extended Health and Dental Plan Handbook on the STS website and provide a print copy to participants who request one.

Regina Chapter

A 13. BE IT RESOLVED that effective July 1, 2016, "Guideline 10 – Chapter Activity Support Program" be deleted from the STS Policy Handbook and the program terminated.

STS Executive

A 14. BE IT RESOLVED that the STS add a line on the Application to join the STS asking if the email address of the new STS member could be shared with the Chapter that the new superannuate is joining.

Saskatoon Chapter

A 15. BE IT RESOLVED that the STS Executive look at the feasibility of increasing the amounts of the STS Scholarships for subsequent years.

Saskatoon Chapter

A 16. BE IT RESOLVED that the STS issue printed, official membership cards, with the member's name, to all STS members.

Tisdale Chapter

Budget, Finance and Audit

— Maxine Stinka

The Committee reviewed the financial statements of the STS Operating Fund and the STS Extended Health Fund as of January 31, 2016, as well as the Contingency Fund as of December 31, 2015. (The Committee receives quarterly reports for the Contingency Fund.) All funds are in very good financial position. Membership fees and the administration commission from the Extended Health Fund are above budget due to an increase in memberships and the increase in premiums for the Health and Dental Plan. On the expense side budget lines are as expected and below budget at this time. All reserves for the Extended Health Fund are full and dividend income on Contingency Fund deposits has improved.

The Committee also looked at a third draft of a budget for 2016-17 with a few changes from the previous draft based on experience for the first seven months of the 2015-16 fiscal year. We completed a proposed budget that was passed by the Executive and is included in this edition of *Outreach*. The proposed budget incorporates the increased Chapter rebates in anticipation that the resolution regarding this item will be approved. It proposes a surplus of \$56,000 with the same \$30 annual membership fee and will be voted on at the Annual General Meeting.

The Executive is recommending a \$2500 grant to the McDowell Foundation this year to celebrate their 25th anniversary and a resolution will be presented to the Annual General Meeting for member approval.

A 17. BE IT RESOLVED that the following Policy be added to the Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan *Policy Handbook*: "As a local of the STF, adopt election bylaws, policies and procedures modeled on current STF bylaws, policies and procedures."

Peter Stroh

A 18. BE IT RESOLVED that Guideline 1 – Duties of Executive Committees, Section 1.6, be amended by the addition of the following: "(1.6.11) The Nominations Committee shall present a motion to the AGM naming the Members as defined in Bylaw 1, who will form the Counting Committee".

Peter Stroh

A 19. BE IT RESOLVED that Guideline 9 – Financial Affairs, be amended by the addition of the following: "Section 9.3, Group Benefits Unappropriated Reserve Fund

9.3.1 The goal is to maintain an Unappropriated Reserve Fund at a level of at least twice the amount of the current year's Appropriated Reserve Fund.

9.3.2 Should the reserve exceed twice the Appropriated Reserve Fund, the Executive shall report to members on the use of the surplus to improve benefits and/or lower fees.

9.3.3 The Executive shall report annually to the AGM on all uses of the fund as determined by the Executive."

Peter Stroh

A 20. BE IT RESOLVED that the STS consider a one-time donation of \$2500 to the McDowell Foundation in celebration of the Foundation's twenty-fifth Anniversary.

STS Executive

Resolutions Directed to the STF (B)

B 1. BE IT RESOLVED that the STS request the STF to negotiate with the Government of Saskatchewan

to provide no cost certification for members of the STS by the Saskatchewan Professional Teachers Regulatory Board.

Peter Stroh

B 2. BE IT RESOLVED that the STS urge the STF to negotiate with the Teachers' Group Life Insurance carrier to increase the insurance coverage from 85 years to 90 years for those enrolled in the Group Life Insurance Plan.

**Stella Shulhan (Saskatoon Chapter)
Sturgis Chapter**

Resolutions Directed to ACER-CART (C)

C 1. BE IT RESOLVED that the STS request ACER-CART to lobby the Government of Canada to consult with the Provincial and Territorial Governments in order to implement a National Drug Plan, operating under the Canada Health Act, to cover the cost of Approved Prescription Drugs for all Canadians.

Tisdale Chapter

Resolutions Directed to the Government of Saskatchewan (D)

D 1. BE IT RESOLVED that the Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan lobby the Government of Saskatchewan to amend the legislation that regulates pharmacies and the dispensing of fees to effect required changes which would protect the consumers, provide a consistent approach to the dispensing of medications, and enable dispensing a prescription of more than one month for one fee.

Assiniboine Chapter

D 2. BE IT RESOLVED that the STS request SSM to lobby the Government of Saskatchewan to provide physician ordered cardiac rehabilitation at no cost for seniors.

Saskatoon Chapter

Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan Proposed Budget: July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017

INCOME	2013-2014 ACTUAL	2014-2015 BUDGET	2014-2015 ACTUAL	2015-2016 BUDGET	2015-2016 7 Mo Actual	2016-2017 PROPOSED
Membership Fees	308,352.00	320,000.00	316,545.00	330,000.000	213,516.00	370,000.00
Admin Commission (Benefits Plan)	278,625.00	290,000.00	296,568.00	300,000.000	207,715.94	420,000.00
Dividend Income						
Interest Income	2,818.00	3,000.00	2,884.00	3,000.000	1,524.34	3,500.00
Grant Revenue			1,500.00			1,500.00
Sundry	322.00	1,000.00	256.00	1,000.000	304.00	1,000.00
TOTAL INCOME	590,117.00	614,000.00	617,753.00	634,000.000	423,060.28	796,000.00
EXPENSES						
Annual General Meeting	88,154.00	95,000.00	97,766.00	98,000.00		105,000.00
Amortization	9,043.00	10,000.00	15,235.00	10,000.00	8,594.73	15,000.00
Chapter Rebates	72,768.00	78,000.00	76,516.00	80,000.00	78,166.00	100,000.00
Executive and Committee Meetings	29,313.00	36,000.00	33,797.00	36,000.00	23,322.20	40,000.00
STS Affiliations	5,640.00	10,000.00	7,485.00	10,000.00	5,755.95	12,000.00
Executive Chapter Travel	10,325.00	12,000.00	12,225.00	12,000.00	6,276.13	13,000.00
Chapter Presidents' Meeting	10,444.00	12,000.00	10,574.00	12,000.00	11,481.56	14,000.00
Communications, Membership Growth, PR	52,044.00	56,000.00	50,922.00	56,000.00	22,215.86	56,000.00
Retirement Life Styles Planning Committee	5,919.00	4,000.00	6,698.00	8,000.00	2,925.45	10,000.00
Support Services Planning Committee	1,174.00	3,000.00	396.00	3,000.00	1,212.52	3,000.00
Recreation	1,863.00	3,000.00	2,924.00	4,000.00	1,350.00	4,000.00
Office Staff	158,060.00	170,000.00	195,027.00	190,000.00	113,427.98	230,000.00
Office Operation	71,406.00	100,000.00	100,404.00	90,000.00	51,991.53	100,000.00
Computer and Programming	14,914.00	20,000.00	27,451.00	20,000.00	8,224.90	30,000.00
McDowell Foundation	2,000.00	2,500.00	2,000.00	2,500.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Scholarships	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Bank Service Charge	244.00	500.00	874.00	500.00	504.00	1,000.00
Gain/Loss on Disp of Assets			3,147.00			3,000.00
Management Fees						
TOTAL EXPENSES	535,311.00	614,000.00	645,441.00	634,000.00	339,448.81	740,000.00
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	54,806.00		-27,688.00			56,000.00

NOTES:

Note 1: The proposed budget for 2016-2017 is based on an annual fee of \$30.00.

Note 2: A financial statement for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016 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 2014-2015 will also be made available to all AGM delegates at the 2016 AGM.

Note 3: The Operations Reserve Fund had a balance of \$244,711.00 as at June 30, 2015. Should a deficit be incurred for the 2016-2017 fiscal year, it would be covered by monies from the Operations Reserve Fund.

ASSUMPTIONS:

1. 11,000 Members.
2. Rebate to Chapters as follows: \$400.00 plus \$8.00 per member.



Upcoming Events

Recreational Activities Participation STS Style . . .

<p>Bowling Date: April 28-29, 2016 Host: Yorkton Chapter Contact: Don Pfeifer Phone: 306-783-7849 Email: donpfeifer@sasktel.net (Registration form on STS website)</p>	<p>Fishing Date: June 2, 2016 Host: Nipawin Chapter Location: Tobin Lake Contact: Kate McCorrison Phone: 306-862-3627 Email: mcomr@sasktel.net</p>	<p>Mah Jongg Date: April 20, 2016 Host: Regina Chapter Location: Uplands Community Centre Contact: Helen Sukovieff Phone: 306-545-5566 Email: helens@sasktel.net (Registration form on STS website)</p>
<p>Bridge Host needed for 2016</p>	<p>Golf Date: June 20-21, 2016 Host: Weyburn Chapter Location: Weyburn Golf Club Contact: Dave Unraw Phone: 306-842-7859 email: unraw1234@hotmail.com</p>	<p>Stitch 'N Quilt Date: October 18-20, 2016 Host: Swift Current Chapter Contact: Joyce Hoffman Phone: 306-773-2453 Email: jdthoffman@sasktel.net or Clara Loeppky Phone: 306-773-4876 Email: claraloeppky@sasktel.net</p>
<p>Curling Date: November 7-9, 2016 Host: Yorkton Chapter Contact: Gloria Rathgeber Phone: 306-782-3317 Email: gloriafr@sasktel.net</p>	<p>Kaiser Date: To be determined Host: Wakaw Chapter Contact: Don Gabel Phone: 306-233-3055</p>	

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.

**Happy 100th
Birthday
Greetings To**

Saskatoon Chapter Members

Margaret Leaker – February 17, 2016

Grace Nickel – March 2, 2016

Regina Chapter Member

Ronald G. Mitchell – August 17, 2015

**To: All teachers of
Prairie View S.D. #74,
Milestone S.D. #74,
Milestone S.D. #12.**

You are invited to a REUNION of the teachers of the above named Saskatchewan School Divisions.

Join the old gang on Sunday, August 14, 2016, at Ogema Hall for a FUN day.

For complete information and registration form, please contact:

Georgia Joorisity at 1-306-757-5776 or georgia.joor@sasktel.net

STS Office Hours

Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to noon.

There are three visitor parking spaces located at the East side of the TCU Financial building for STS members.

7th Annual – STS Provincial Fishing Derby

June 2, 2016

Hosted by the Nipawin STS Chapter
 Contact: Kate McCorrison – mcomr@sasktel.net
 To be held at the Resort Village of Tobin Lake
 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon – Registration
 12:00 noon - 4:00 p.m. – Fishing
 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. – Happy Hour
 6:00 p.m. - Fish Fry

Note: Additional information will be sent to those who register.
 Pre-register by May 20, 2016

Accommodations and Boat Rentals (book early)

1. Shorebird Inn, Resort Village of Tobin Lake – 306-862-4272
2. Silver Tip Outpost Cabin and Boat Rentals – 306-862-5954
3. Tobin Lake Marina Ltd. for cabins and boat rentals – 306-862-4976
4. Tobin Lake Hilltop Campground – 306-862-4444
www.hilltopcampground.ca

Name: _____	
Address: _____	
Phone: _____	
Email: _____	
Cost of Registration	Numbers
\$20 per fisher (includes a Fish Fry Supper)	_____
\$10 – supper only	_____
Total	_____

Please make cheques payable to:
 STS Nipawin Chapter
 c/o Kate McCorrison
 Box 814, Nipawin SK S0E 1E0

STS 2016 Golf Registration

- June 20 and 21, 2016
 Monday, 1:00 p.m. Shotgun Scramble
 Tuesday, 8:00 a.m. Shotgun, Medal Play
- Weyburn Golf Club
- All entrants must pre-register by June 8, 2016

- Registration fee:
- \$120 for two days includes green fees and banquet (Weyburn members \$45)
 - Monday scramble and banquet only – \$70
 - Make cheques payable to: STS Golf – 2016

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Registration fee	= \$ _____
Extra banquet ticket(s) ___ X \$25 =	\$ _____
TOTAL ENCLOSED	= \$ _____

Categories:

- Women Senior Women (70+)
 Men Senior Men (70+)

Usual 18 hole score _____ or Handicap _____

- Mail registration and fee to:
 Jean Woodward,
 750 Elm Crescent, Weyburn, SK S4H 0S7
- Information: Dave Unraw – 306-842-7859 or unraw1234@hotmail.com
- For hotel or campground information:
www.discoverweyburn.com/features/business-directory/travel-tourism

From The Editor's Desk

Robert Wuschenny

Having experienced one of the mildest winters on record, it's already feeling like spring, even before the official date. Preparations for our upcoming AGM are well at hand. Please read the resolutions in this issue and let your Delegates know your thoughts. Also, note the proposed budget for 2016-17. Both will be considered and voted on at the AGM in May.

Happy Spring!

STS Executive 2015-16

President/Councillor

Doug Haroldson,
Maple Creek-Medicine Hat Chapter
Maxine Stinka, Assiniboine Chapter
Robert Wuschenny, Regina Chapter
Fred Herron, Saskatoon Chapter
Fred Herron, Saskatoon Chapter

Vice-President/Councillor

Past-President/Councillor

Executive Secretary

ACER-CART Representative

Councillors:

Don Gabel

Joyce Hoffman

Mike Kaminski

Sunil Pandila

Helen Sukovieff

Wakaw Chapter

Swift Current Chapter

Assiniboine Chapter

Moose Jaw Chapter

Regina Chapter

Members-At-Large:

Calvin Bachmeier

Jane Isinger

Alan Laughlin

Roger Marchand

Kate McCorriston

Anna Wehrkamp

Maple Creek-Medicine Hat Chapter
Saskatoon Chapter

The Battlefords and District Chapter

South Central Chapter

Nipawin Chapter

Carrot River Valley (Melfort & District) Chapter

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 Benefits 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 or in Regina at 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.



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.

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.

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