



## TALKING POINTS November Council, 2019

*Please note that Talking Points are intended only to assist you in your PTTA report. Feel free to add any information from the meeting you think is important to share with your staff.*

### 1. **Collective Bargaining**

PTTA continues for its upcoming arbitration hearing in April, 2020. The Louis Riel Teachers' Association arbitration is taking place this week and next. The items in dispute are similar to our own package and is being presented before the same arbitration panel that we will have in our own arbitration.

### 2. **Bargaining Survey Response**

Survey count thus far is at approximately 1050 and total actual teachers in Pembina Trails is 1188 (this number includes everybody, such as people on leave and substitutes and as such should not be the final number used in calculating overall percentage of completed surveys). Final percentage/count will be available after all documents are processed and scanned, etc.

### 3. **Legal Challenges**

The Charter of Rights legal challenge against Bill 28 has been taking place since November 19, 2019 and will recess November 29, 2019. Three days have been set in February to hear final arguments. Hopefully a decision will come down fairly soon (within six months) after that. The verdict is likely to be appealed by the losing side. This is another step towards the end of what will likely continue to be a lengthy legal process.

### 4. **Government Actions**

The Throne Speech was delivered on November 19, 2019. There was no specific mention of Collective Bargaining legislation. Of specific note was the directive that will be given to the Department of Education to "review its mandates" in order to prepare to implement the recommendations contained in the K-12 Review Commission Report. The report is expected to be released in February or March.

### 5. **Contact Time Survey**

This year the contact time survey will be significantly shorter as much of the information that we collect will be collected in the arbitration survey. The contact time survey will once again be online and will be available to December 2, 2019.

### 6. **Changes to Extended Health**

As of January 1, 2020, massage therapy reimbursement will now be done on an hourly basis. Example: Your 1-hour massage will be covered at 80% to a maximum of \$80 . . . so \$64. A 2-hour massage maximum is \$128 reimbursement regardless if the massage costs \$100/hr. or \$500/hr.

### 7. **Access Copyright Lawsuit**

Eight schools in the division have been chosen to participate in the discovery phase of a Canada wide lawsuit between provincial education ministries and Access Copyright. The school division, schools and teachers involved must comply with the court order and have been working very hard to meet the deadlines for submission. MTS opinion is that individual teachers are not at risk for copyright violation through this process.