



TALKING POINTS April Council, 2018

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. Have a great day! Bob, Lise and Debra

1. **Collective Bargaining**

MTS and PTTA are continuing to move forward in this year's bargaining process based on the rules and regulations currently in place. MTS is continuing to work on a response should the government introduce legislation moving towards provincial bargaining for the upcoming round of negotiations.

2. **Workplace Violence Newsletter**

Please take the time to read the information about the WS&H Act provided in the newsletter that was distributed. Any questions can be directed to the PTTA Office or to MTS Staff Officer Darren Hardy who can be contacted at dhardy@mbteach.org or 204-831-3054.

3. **Rally Time!**

On Friday, May 25th, at 4:30 p.m. MTS will be holding a rally on the steps of the Legislature to express our views on the current state of public education, our dissatisfaction with Bill 28, and labour relations with the current government. There is an adage that says that there is strength in numbers. In keeping with that adage, we will be joined by representatives of the Nurses Union, the Manitoba Federation of Labour, CUPE, the MGEU and various other organizations. All PTTA members are also invited and encouraged to participate in the rally. Plan on coming out to join your colleagues in support of public education.

4. **Thoughtexchange**

Pembina Trails has launched its online data collection tool for staff and the community. Concerted efforts are being made to ensure that inappropriate posts are being removed in a timely manner. Please remember that your participation is voluntary! If you get reminders that you haven't yet posted, click the Unsubscribe link at the bottom. You will probably have to do this each time a new topic is posted.

5. **Employee Benefits**

Due to increased access to the long-term disability plan, premiums have increased from 1.39% to 1.9% on all salaries. This represents about \$34 for a full-time teacher. Short term disability remains at 1.7%.

Members are encouraged to use the Preferred Pharmacy Network and take advantage of Express Scripts or Costco. The advantage of PPN is that 90% of your costs are covered versus the 80% at most pharmacies.

6. **PTTA AGM**

The PTTA AGM will be held in conjunction with our June Council Meeting. At the March 20, 2018 meeting Council voted to confer Life Membership on Wayne Schultz and Honorary Membership on Arlyn Filewich. Both Wayne and Arlyn have confirmed that they will attend the AGM. Please take this opportunity to congratulate and thank Wayne and Arlyn for their commitment to your colleagues and the teaching profession and to enjoy some good food, beverages and conversation.