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RTU-SER

Newsletter

•MOVEMBER

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Now that November is over, I would like to thank our Delegates Council members who participated in the Movember fundraising, for a cure for prostate cancer and other related cancers. We raised \$280, which was donated to a bigger fund at St-John's school. I would like to thank Laura and Lisa Yaworski, who spearheaded this adventure in facial hair!

•QPAT

QPAT Convention

Our teacher's convention held November 24th & 25th was a great success again this year. The keynote speaker, Steve Brinder was very entertaining, it is nice to hear we go through a lot of the same things no matter where one teaches. As usual, the workshops and conferences were very informative. It was nice to see RTU well represented at the social event. Special thanks goes out to QPAT and Terri Ann Pine for a job well done.

• MEASLES

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We have been informed by MELS that a mass vaccination campaign against measles will be starting in our schools shortly. People born prior to 1970 are considered to be protected against measles because the disease was very prevalent before then, therefore, those people are not the targeted population. All those born **after** are the ones being targeted. The removal of students and staff who, are not considered to be protected, will be carried out in accordance with the provisions of the Public Health Act.

Removal of staff members who are not considered to be protected against measles when a case is confirmed in their school: Staff members who must stay home because they are not considered to be protected against measles will be on unpaid leave. They cannot use sick days because they are not sick. Staff members who are removed have not suffered a work-related injury and therefore cannot receive compensation from CSST.

Schooling of students who are not considered to be protected against measles and are removed when a case is confirmed in their school: Students who are removed from school for their own protection are not sick. They are therefore responsible for continuing their schooling at home during the time they are away from school, as to not fall behind. The school **must** provide these students with **reasonable support** (e.g. homework; study assignments; a list of what was taught in the classes they missed) that allows them to pursue their education at home while they are away from school.

For more information about measles and the vaccination you can consult the MSSS website: http://www.msss.gouv.qc.ca/sujets/prob_sante/rougeole/rougeole.php

• ADDED VALUE

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We are waiting for a date to have a joint meeting with the delegates from each school (so if your school doesn't have a delegate, now is a good time), and an administrator from each school. We would like this to get a great start, and have everyone on the same page. As well everyone should be keeping track of all their extra-curricular time they are doing with their students.

• PIC

PIC

We are doing well again this year, in that we are spending our PIC money. Please, if you change your mind and don't attend a conference, let Rayna MacDonald know, as that money can be put back into the general fund for another teacher.

If you are submitting a PIC expense account claim, note that the reimbursement will be made according to the following dates:

Requests received before Dec.9th, 2011 will be processed for the Dec. 22, 2011 pay.

Requests received before Dec.12th, 2011 will be processed for the Jan.5, 2012 pay.

All other requests received after Dec.12th, 2011, will be processed in the New Year.

• FREE CONFERENCE

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The David Suzuki Fondation is offering a free conference on "*le volet scientifique du Sommet*". They will be offering different scientific presentations on the different aspects of climate change and the impact on the Arctic and winter. The conference is being offered in collaboration of the University of Laval. It is on the 27th of January 2012, from 8h30-12h00, at the Centre des Congrès de Quebec- room 200, 100, boul. René-Lévesque Est. **Quebec City**

For more info please contact Nadine Légaré at 514-871-4932 ext 202 or by email at: nlegare@davidsuzuki.org

• AESOPS

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The new automated absences reporting system is due to start on the 10th of January. By now everyone should have received training and their pin number to access the system. If not, you can contact Alexandra Melnyk at the board for help.

• CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

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The Prime Minister's Awards for Teaching Excellence nomination period has been extended to January 9th, 2012. These awards honour outstanding and innovative elementary and secondary teachers in all disciplines, who instill in their students a love of learning and who utilize information and communications technology to better equip their students with the skills needed to excel in a 21st century society and the economy. For more information you can go to their website:

www.pma.qc.ca

• EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

INSURANCE

There is good news. We will be having a premium holiday starting in the New Year! Paul Barnes from QPAT will be sending out a memo explaining it all, as well Paul will be coming to our January delegates meeting to explain our insurance plan.

• REMINDER

EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

This time of year can be a joyous occasion for some, but for many it can be a painful time of year, so please, if you, or someone close to you, needs help, do not hesitate to use our Employee Assistance Program. They can be reached at 1-800-268-5211 or visit their website at www.shepellqi.com/go/members.

REMINDER

Don't forget to send in your Council minutes and Special needs minutes!!!!

As well you should try to look at our website everyday, there are changes all the time! www.rtu-ser.ca

The RTU office will be closed for the holidays from noon December 23rd till January 9th, 2012.

I would like to, on behalf of the staff, Frank White & Anne St Pierre, wish everyone a healthy, happy, restful holiday. Enjoy your well-deserved time away from school!!!

Steven Le Sueur
President Riverside Teacher's Union

