

June 2011

No.345

RTU-SER Newsletter

• SUMMER VACATION

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June has arrived and that means more exams, but there is a light at the end of the DARK tunnel- Summer Vacation!!!

My first year has flown by, and what a learning experience it has been. I'd like to thank Frank White for his continuous guidance and support, as well as Anne St-Pierre for keeping the office together and me on my toes, my executive for their tremendous help all year, and all committee members and delegates for their dedication. A special thank-you goes to Carole Houle-Rodger for all her years of service to RTU, enjoy being a fabulous grandmother. I would also like to say a big thank-you to another executive member who is heading to another adventure, his retirement, John Derrick, thank-you John, for everything you've done to support the RTU, have fun with all your grandchildren, they'll keep you young.

• OUR EXECUTIVE

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I'd like to welcome two new members to the executive: Anthony (Tony) McGuinness from St-John's, one of our Secondary Representative and Laurent Boulanger from Courtland Park International, as one of our Elementary Representatives. To complete our executive, Michel Gagnon will be our treasurer, Terri Ann Pine our other Secondary Representative, Sylvia Dawson-Hancheruk our other Elementary Representative. Adam Velin our Chair, Frank White and myself.

• NEW DIRECTOR GENERAL

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Good luck to our new Director General, Sylvain Racette. I look forward to working with him in the coming year in a collaborative and productive fashion.

I would like to also thank Wendy Bernier & Hélène Coupal, and the Human Resources staff for a very solution oriented year, it made my first year a little smoother than I expected and I hope it will continue.

• SURPLUS TEACHERS

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This year was a very difficult year; there were more teachers on surplus than in the past, due to a decrease in enrollment at Riverside. Fortunately, all excess teachers were re-absorbed, so no teacher from Riverside will be non-reengaged or placed on availability next year.

• RESTRAINING STUDENTS

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Should we or shouldn't we?

Article 43 of the Criminal Code States the following: "*Every school teacher, parent, or person standing in place of a parent is justified in using force by way of correction toward a pupil or child, as the case may be, who is under his/her care, if the force does not exceed what is reasonable under the circumstance.*" Now, having stated that, the best advice RTU and QPAT can give is to avoid restraining, or touching

• **RECALL LIST**

• **SOUTH SHORE
WOMENS CLUB**

• **LONG TERM
DISABILITY
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students, especially in light of the recent actions of the school board. The Board's lawyer in a recent p.d. session, has indicated if a student constitutes a danger to others, to you, or to themselves and needs to be restrained, it is imperative that the person who does the restraining be trained in the correct techniques. As very few teachers are trained in the proper techniques, teachers must be very careful when it comes to restraining!

RECALL LIST

The School Board will offer part-time contracts on August 16th, 2011, in the usual manner, by telephone, so make sure the board has all available numbers. We have asked the board to change its method in the aim of greater transparency, but still no changes for next year. We will continue to dialogue with Human Resources for an improved system.

THE SOUTH SHORE WOMEN'S CLUB

Invites you to their Garden Tour.

Sunday July 31st, 2011 at 1:00pm-4:30pm

Visit 5 local gardens. 4 in S-Lambert and 1 in Greenfield Park.

Refreshments will be available at the garden in Greenfield Park between 3:00pm-4:30 pm

Rain or Shine this event will take place, tickets are \$7.00, call Karen Young at 450-671-2484, for tickets and more information.

Books Books Books- The South Shore Women's Club is now accepting book donations for their August 10-13 fundraiser. Profits from their 37th annual Book Sale provide scholarships for CEGEP grads and University students. For arrangements to give a donation please call 450-671-2484 or 450-672-1050.

LONG TERM DISABILITY INSURANCE

Teachers are reminded that if you are within two years of retirement, you may cancel your long-term disability coverage.

Don't forget to visit our website www.rtu-ser@rtu-ser.ca you never know what you might find!

Enjoy your summer holidays, and I look forward to seeing you all in the fall.

Steven Le Sueur

President Riverside Teacher's Union

www.rtu-ser.ca

