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# NEWSLETTER

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## WORKING FOR YOU

### *President's Message*

The Association would like to extend to all members best wishes for a happy and rewarding 2009.

As many of you may know, Paulette announced her retirement as of December 31st, 2008.

After much reflection Paulette decided to spend time with her family and friends and enjoy her much earned retirement.

Executive and Council along with the members would like to thank Paulette for her 12 years as President of WANTE plus her time as Vice-President and commitment to the various roles that she participated in as member of Executive and Council.

Paulette will be missed by all, again we wish her all the best in her retirement and future endeavors.

With the beginning of the New Year it brings changes to our Executive and Council.

I will be assuming the responsibilities of President until the current term ends in May of 2010. Our Executive has appointed Carla Paul as Vice-President and she is looking forward to representing the membership as I do.

We have a very experienced Executive and Council and we will be working together for you the members.

With these changes the Association is willing and prepared to meet with you, the members, at our many work locations. Once we are settled in the office we will be contacting the Liaison Representatives to schedule noon hour visits.

It is important that we come out and meet the membership and allow you the opportunity to meet your new President and Vice-President.

We have a busy year ahead with the incoming changes and Collective Bargaining. It was

*January 2009*

*Editor: Dianne Drummond*



great to have received such a great number of surveys.

On a personal note I am looking forward to representing the membership, and the many challenges it will bring, to the best of my ability. I am not alone and will be counting on the support and experience of our Executive and Council.

Lastly, I will also look for support and patience from you the Membership.

*Luis Tome*  
*President*

# Membership News!

## Did You Know.....

We have had **sixteen** (16) members sign up in December for a total of **forty** (40) new members joining WANTE since September 2008.

*From: (Mrs.) Diane Zimmerman,  
Chairperson,  
Membership Committee.*

### Employee Connect Pay Information & Electronic Notification of Pay Stubs

Payroll Department have officially released pay information on-line with Employee Connect. Employees can now see their pay details on employee connect. If they select the option to **Receive Pay Remittance Notice Web ONLY**, then they will no longer receive a pay stub, only an email notification.

Please log in and change your own option (if you choose) to Web ONLY.

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### *Vice President's Message*

I would like to wish all our members and their families a very happy, healthy and successful New Year.

As you are now aware Paulette has retired, Luis Tome will fill the position of President. My name is Carla Paul and I have been appointed as Vice President for the remainder of this term.

I am looking forward to this new position with all of its challenges and rewards.

I hope everyone is feeling rested and are up for the challenges of 2009.

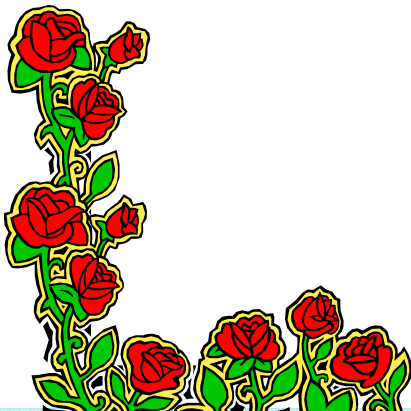
*Carla Paul*  
*Vice President*

### **PENSION PLAN INFORMATION**

Effective January 1, 2009 contribution rates for members of the pension plan will be increased to 7.00% of earnings up to the Years Maximum Pensionable Earnings (YMPE) and 8.20% on the portion of earnings in excess of the YMPE.

### **In Memory of:**

November 11, 2008, Helena Wiebe, Retired Educational Assistant  
a member of the staff of the WSD for 9 years.

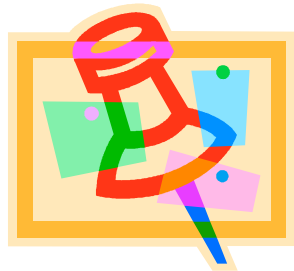


## SENIORITY LISTS

On or before February 28th of each year, up-to-date Seniority Lists will be posted in each building operated by the Division where employees covered by this agreement work. Please review the information to ensure that your personal information is correct.

The seniority list will include all paid hours of employment from January 1st to December 31st of the past year.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Human Resources Department in writing and provide a copy of your letter to our office.



## SUPPORT STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

### Mandatory Professional Development

Activities such as First Aid, CPR, WHMIS and Injury Prevention are not to be professional development days for the purpose of calculating an Educational Assistant's work year under Article 10.06(a)(i). Attendance at these Division in-services are not included in the two or three days allocated during the work year. If the workshop is scheduled for more hours than your regular assignment, you will be paid the additional hours. Please notify the secretary of the additional hours that you have worked.

### Non Mandatory Professional Development

If the school is closed and an Educational Assistant is scheduled to work and does not attend, due to illness, they will be paid for their regular assigned hours of work. This will be one of their two/three Professional Development days.

If the school is open and an Educational Assistant is scheduled to attend a Professional Day and does not attend, due to illness, they will be paid out of their sick leave.

When attending a professional development, administration or in-service day you will be paid your regular assigned hours for the day. If you are scheduled to attend for only one half a day you will be paid half of your assigned hours.

## RETIREMENT

### PLANNING SEMINARS

Are you thinking of retiring in the next five years? If so, you should consider attending the retirement planning seminars offered by the Division. Submit your registration now and your application will remain on file until you have been selected to attend. Depending on the number of applicants, your application may take a few years to process.

Registration forms can be obtained from your school/department or by contacting the Human Resources Department. Registration forms can be accessed on line under Staff Services where you will need your user name and password:

- Go to the heading forms and manuals
- Hi-lite forms
- Hi-lite school office and click
- Choose pre-retirement form

As retirement planning involves not only the retiring employee, but their family as well, spouses are strongly encouraged to participate in the seminars.

## **Collective Bargaining**

The Collective Bargaining committee spent a day in December going through a lot of the surveys. We were very happy with the responses. Our total membership is 1640 and we had 1010 surveys returned. WOW that is awesome. Thanks to everyone who took the time to fill in the surveys and a big thank you to the Liaison Reps for your part in the distribution and collection of the surveys. Of course with so many surveys returned it is taking us a much longer time to go through them. We are meeting again Friday, January 9th and hopefully will get through most of them.

There have been a lot of really good comments made on the surveys. Once we complete going through the surveys I will post an overview of responses.

With Paulette retiring, Luis will move into Paulette's position which left the EA D representative open on the Collective Bargaining Committee. Cynthia Hornstein will be filling that position. Welcome Cynthia!

Thanks again for your support.  
Barb Morrison  
Collective Bargaining Chairperson



## **Retirement reception in honour of Jocelyne Jaremowich**

**Date: Thursday, January 29, 2009**

**Time: 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.**

**Place: Club Regent Casino Hotel,  
1415 Regent Avenue, West  
Ambassador C Room**

**Costs: \$25 - Reception and Gift or \$10 Gift only**

**Please make cheques payable to:  
George V School - Retirement Fund,  
c/o Carol Klawuhn by Thursday, January 15, 2009.**

**W.A.N.T.E. invites you to the next  
Labour Ed Workshop**

**“Wills & Estates”**


**Presented by Sharon Todd of  
Inkster Christie Hughes McKay**



**Sharon has presented this workshop to our members in the past with great attendance. Register now to attend.**

***Thursday, January 22nd, 2009  
5:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m.  
Annex Building***

***Refreshments will be served from 4:30 - 5:00***



Please complete and return to:  
**W.A.N.T.E. office by Friday, January 16, 2009**

YES, I would like to attend the “Wills & Estates” workshop being held on Thursday, January 22, 2009. Confirmation will be sent to your work location.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print)

Workplace: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_