

# WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL



**INTERLAKE  
TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION**

## ITA Today

Our monthly roundup of news and reminders, upcoming events, deadlines, MTS info, talking points and more. Any questions should be directed to [itapres@mbteach.org](mailto:itapres@mbteach.org)

Issue No. 1 | September 2022

### Welcome back!

I hope that the end of September finds you back with familiar people & routines, surrounded by things that fill your bucket.

This new year presents opportunity. To start over, to try something new, or to perfect or rethink that thing you tried last year. It's also the right time to learn how to ration the bucket. Once it is empty, it's already too late. Self care comes first.

As you plan your year, take time to look back at what we've been through as an association, as a profession and as a society. But only for a second. Then "eyes front". Be kind to yourself and others as you set the new course. Not recover but Reset. Refocus. Forward. Onward.

If you need things, reach out to your Principals; if you have questions, connect with your school rep or myself.

I wish you a year of more wins than losses, but more than that... lessons learned from those losses. Let yourself thrive again, let your passion for teaching ground your feet, and may your circle of people support you along the way.

### Upcoming Events

**Sept. 30** - NDTR/Orange Shirt Day

**Oct. 1** - ITA Takes A Hike at Birds Hill Park

**Oct. 5** - World Teachers' Day & MTS Lobby Day at the Leg.

**Oct. 11** - ITA Executive Meeting

**Oct. 21** - **MTS PD Day - Register [HERE](#)**

**Oct. 26** - Trustee & Municipal Election

**Nov. 3** - **Maternity Leave Seminar, 4:30pm at Selkirk United Church, 202 McLean Ave.**

**(RSVP to CATHY [itapres@mbteach.org](mailto:itapres@mbteach.org) by**

**Friday October 21. Dinner provided)**

**Nov. 13** - Walk at the WAG

### Welcome New Members

**The ITA proudly welcomes 12 new faces to our association.**

These folks include brand new graduates and colleagues who have travelled from overseas to teach in our professional community. If you have a new colleague in your school, please lend a helping hand, a voice of experience or sometimes just an ear for their questions.



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[www.interlaketeachers.ca](http://www.interlaketeachers.ca) | [itapres@mbteach.org](mailto:itapres@mbteach.org)

## Bargaining & My Profile:

- An MTS email this week provided a **Provincial Bargaining update** via a link to **My Profile**. If you did not get the email, your My Profile is not accurate.
- **PLEASE use a PERSONAL ADDRESS for My Profile, not your ISD.** It is not good practice to share bargaining information using the employer's email.

## Benefits:

- See all you can access from Group Benefits [HERE](#)
- New this year: **Glucose Monitoring and 24 month Survivor Benefit.**
- Have you been to the **MTS HumanaCare MFAP** site yet or accessed services? This replaces the old EAP program, but is so much more and is **FREE TO MEMBERS!** To request services 24/7 any day of the year, connect by calling 1-800-661-8193 or going online at [www.humanacare.com/mts](http://www.humanacare.com/mts)

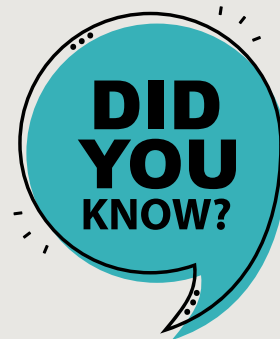
## Equity Audit & Inclusive Language Guide:

- **MTS EDI scan** (Equity, Diversity & Inclusion) has begun.
- Consultants Dr. Catherine McGregor and Dr. Grace Wong Sneddon have been contracted.. A report will be presented at Provincial Council in May 2023.
- The MTS EDI scan will include an internal audit of the staffing and leadership demographics, organizational policies, practices, and experiences of the Society, along with an external audit of membership and leadership demographics, organizational policies, practices, and experiences of the membership.

### Need inclusive language resources for your classroom?

- See the new **MTS Inclusive Language Guide** [HERE](#), to help navigate diversity in and with your classes.
- Easy steps are using "folks", respecting pronouns, and "winter break", just like spring or summer break.

Have you checked you Employee Connect pay stubs?  
Is everything correct? MTS fees for 2022-23 are \$1098, ITA \$130



### To opt in or out of Blue Cross Health/Dental,

you have 90 days from significant life event:

These may include:

- 1.Hired/Fired
- 2.Marriage/Common -Law
- 3.Divorce/Separation
- 4.Loss of Spousal or another Plan
- 5.Arrival of a Child

It is recommended to add children before the birth so there is no gap in potential care.

**NEW: MTS Introduces Blue Cross coverage for SUBSTITUTES!** Go to [www.mbteach.org/mtscms/2022/09/06/mts-introduces-blue-cross-coverage-for-substitutes/](http://www.mbteach.org/mtscms/2022/09/06/mts-introduces-blue-cross-coverage-for-substitutes/)

**Wednesday, October 5**



THE MANITOBA TEACHERS' SOCIETY

[www.mbteach.org](http://www.mbteach.org) | Phone: 204-888-7961 Toll Free: 1-800-262-8803

# National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

by Cora-Leigh Mazurat, Indigenous Voice and Action Chair

Each year, September 30th marks the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. The day honours the children who never returned home and survivors of residential schools, as well as their families and communities. Public commemoration of the tragic and painful history and ongoing impacts of residential schools is a vital component of the reconciliation process.

The National Day for Truth and Reconciliation falls on Orange Shirt Day; an Indigenous-led grassroots commemorative day intended to raise awareness of the individual, family and community inter-generational impacts of residential schools, and to promote the concept of "Every Child Matters".

The orange shirt is a symbol of the stripping away of culture, freedom and self-esteem experienced by Indigenous children over generations. (<https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/campaigns/national-day-truth-reconciliation.html>).

On September 30, we encourage all staff to wear orange to honour the thousands of Survivors of residential schools. Reconciliation is an ongoing process rooted in action. It's time to listen, learn, reflect, support and use our positions and privileges to act.

There are a variety of resources available to teachers and the community on this page. Should you have any questions or if you would like additional resources, please reach out!

**WEAR YOUR ORANGE SHIRT** if you wish, at **Bird's Hill Park**, on our **ITA HIKE, Saturday, October 1st, 10:30 am, meet at East Beach** parking lot. Would be an amazing show of solidarity and sign of our support and belief that all our students matter.



<https://legacyofhope.ca/english/education/>

<https://www.orangeshirtday.org/teacher-resources.html>

<https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/campaigns/national-day-truth-reconciliation.html>

<https://www.canadashistory.ca/education/classroom-resources/remembering-the-children/remembering-the-children-educational-package>



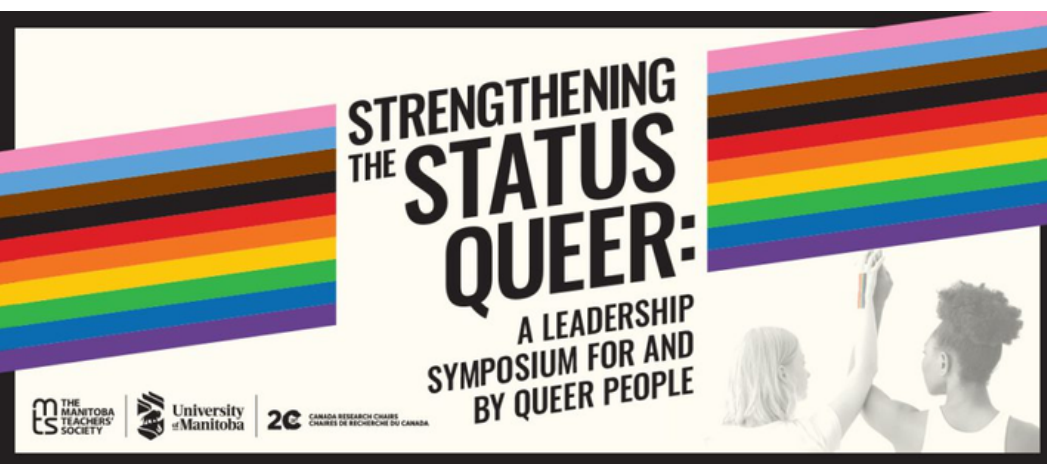
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## The MB Teacher:

- A resolution was passed at the 2022 Provincial Council, moving the default setting for [the MB Teacher Magazine](#) for all members to [electronic](#).
- Members will no longer automatically get a paper copy from their school rep.
- IF YOU STILL WISH TO RECEIVE THE PRINTED COPY OF THE MAGAZINE YOU MUST CHANGE THE SETTING IN MY PROFILE.

## MTS Events & Training:



**A Leadership Symposium for and by Queer People**  
**Fri. Oct. 21, (evening) at the Little Brown Jug**  
**Sat. Oct. 22, at U of M Faculty of Education**  
**For more info, contact [pdevents@mbteach.org](mailto:pdevents@mbteach.org).**

Questions or concerns? Reach out to Cathy Pleskach, your Local President at [itapres@mbteach.org](mailto:itapres@mbteach.org)



**Are you an aspiring ITA executive member,** looking to learn more but don't know where your talents fit? MTS is offering **6 Local Leadership Learning virtual sessions.** More info [HERE](#).



**The ITA is looking for WSH committee members.**

You don't need prior experience. Training, mentorship & PD are available. If you are looking for a place to start getting involved in your union, we have a spot for you. Contact your local President.



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