



Heartland
Alberta
Retired
Teachers'
Association

The Heartland Herald HARTA's Newsletter of Branch Events

The Welcome to September Issue

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A Branch of ARTA



Leduc – AGM, Friday, September 8th, 2017 at St. David's United Church, 10:30 AM.

Proposed Scheduled Events to June 30th 2018:

Wetaskiwin — Luncheon, Wednesday, September 20th, 2017 at 11:30 AM at O'Brien's Restaurant, 4103-56 St. Program: TBA

Drayton Valley – Luncheon, Tuesday, October 17th, HARTA Luncheon at Lakeside Inn & Suites in Drayton Valley. Program: Card Making. Follow-up Body Composition from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Leduc – HARTA Executive Meeting and Luncheon, Wednesday, November 15th, 2017 at St. David's United Church, program: TBA Executive Meeting 10:00 AM.

Leduc HARTA Executive Meeting and Devices Workshop, Wednesday, February 14th, Executive Meeting 10:00 AM, Workshop after the luncheon. Venue, St. David's United Church.

Wetaskiwin Wednesday, March 14th, 11:30 AM, O'Brien's Restaurant, 4103—56 St. Wetaskiwin.

Drayton Valley Tuesday, April 17th, 11:30 AM, Luncheon at Lakeside Inn & Suites in Drayton Valley.

Leduc Tuesday, May 8th, Mini-Conference, 9:30 AM to 3:00 at St. David's United Church in Leduc. More details to follow.

The ARTA Walking Challenge

The Walking Challenge finished up on June 30th. 21 members signed up for the challenge. More details will be released after the ARTA AGM in October.

HARTA's AGM: Preview

The HARTA AGM will be held at St. David's United Church in Leduc. At last year's AGM Walley Porter gave notice of motion of a by-law change to be voted on at the this AGM.

Other issues to be decided are the proposed schedule of events (shown in green at the beginning of this newsletter) and the bylaw change which was emailed to everyone at the beginning of June along with the last newsletter.

The slate of candidates for the executive is as follows:

President and ARTA Rep. Ron Thompson

Vice President and Leduc Director: Open

Director—Drayton Valley: Sandy Hamilton

Director-Wetaskiwin: Ron Holmlund

Director-ATA-ARTA Liaison: Walley Porter

Secretary: Elaine Merriman

Treasurer: Darleen Broadbent

If you have nominations for any of the above positions, please present the nominee's name at the AGM. Please make sure that the nominee agrees to let their name stand.

ARTA Board Highlights

Benefits Committee: Plan Changes:

1. The maximum allowable benefit for repatriation expenses will increase from \$5,000 to \$7,500, effective November 1, 2017, with no change to rates for travel insurance with Allianz Global Assistance.
2. The list of paramedical practitioners will expand, effective with the renewal date, to include Registered Clinical Counsellors under the Psychologist coverage provision, similar to Masters of Social Work and Registered Social Workers currently covered.
3. Coverage for mobility scooters, combined with electric wheelchair coverage, with a five year maximum of \$5,000, will be added effective on the next renewal date.
4. Primary Care Providers, operating within a Primary Care Network, will be permitted to provide written orders for the medical services and medical aids and appliances below; effective with the upcoming renewal date, as long as the service or medical device is within the scope of practice of the practitioner. Please check with the plan provider for a complete list of the above appliances, aids and services.

Communications Committee: A motion was passed reiterating that all members of the ARTA Board of Directors, members of the Foundation, elected Committee Members and ARTA staff shall not be paid for writing for *news&views*. Updates on the Convention Booths, *news&views*, the Writing Contest, the Photo Contest and the Branch Initiative Grant were also shared. With regard to developing Websites for those branches without a website, the committee decided that more information is needed before choosing a software platform.

Finally a Member Outreach Initiative is being undertaken to help branchless ARTA members in Alberta to connect with their nearest branches. Another initiative is being undertaken to assess if there is interest to establish a satellite branch in Victoria B.C.

Governance Committee: Roles & Responsibilities:

- Review and report every two years on all ARTA governance documents and make recommendations as required;
- Review the bylaws annually and recommend changes as necessary;
- Investigate, research and report on issues referred by the Board of Directors;
- Report regularly to the Board of Directors and at the AGM any matters worthy of attention;
- Determine the recipients of the scholarships;
- Approve or reject Branch Project Grant applications; and
- Monitor the compliance of ARTA with the Bylaws and the Policies and Procedures of the association and report to the Board as required.

The Committee updates the Board of Directors quarterly on the status of each of their responsibilities.

Nominations Committee: A reminder from Gordon Cumming for Branches to send in their nominations ASAP so that the nominees' can be included on the slate. Candidates may also be nominated at the ARTA AGM in October.

Strategic Planning and Advocacy Committee: The Strategic Planning and Advocacy Committee was responsible for the Retreat held in Kananaskis last May. The Retreat was very successful. Details were included in the June Newsletter.

Wellness Committee Report: The Body Composition Schedules for the 2017 and 2018 were shared with the Board. Presidents were reminded that the Walking Challenge ended June 30th and Branch Presidents' Walking Challenge Reports were due by July 14.

ARTA Events in Sept. & Oct.

The ARTA Board of Directors' Meeting is September 12th and 13th at ARTA's new office. ARTA's AGM takes place October 3rd and 4th, location to be announced. HARTA is allowed two delegates to represent the Branch. These representatives will be appointed at HARTA's AGM in September.

As well, anyone who is elected to one of ARTA's standing committees is required to attend the New Committee Member Orientation on Wednesday, October 18 at the ARTA office in Edmonton.

The ARTA Reps will meet Monday and Tuesday October 23 & 24 for their yearly In-service. Information on the various ARTA services will be reviewed at this time as well as presentations by other organizations..

Member Welfare

If you know of anyone of our members who is in poor health please let us and other members know so they can give what support is required.

Membership Fees

Members who need to pay their fees can do so at the HARTA AGM: Friday, September 8th in Leduc or the next scheduled HARTA. This year's events schedule will be finalized at the AGM. See you there.

Come!
Celebrate HARTA's
5th Birthday of
Becoming a Branch!
At HARTA's AGM
Friday, September 8th
St. David's United
Church at 10:30 AM

ARTA supports an engaged lifestyle after retirement through member-centered services, advocacy, communication, wellness and leadership.

Executive and Contact Info for the 2016-17 Program Year

Alvin Rurka: Past President & ARTA Rep

Ron Thompson: President & ARTA Rep (alternate)

Beth Rurka: Vice President & Dir. for Leduc

Elaine Merriman: Secretary

Darleen Broadbent: Treasurer

Sandy Hamilton: Dir. for Drayton Valley

Ron Holmlund: Dir. for Wetaskiwin

Wally Porter: ATA Liaison & ARTA Rep.

The Goals of HARTA

- **To carry on social activities, enabling our members to maintain contact with their colleagues.**
- **To provide information to our members about the resources available through the Alberta Retired Teachers' Association (ARTA) and other sources.**