



Heartland
Alberta
Retired
Teachers'
Association

The Heartland Herald

HARTA's Newsletter

of Branch Events

The Welcome To

Retirement Edition

Publisher: Ron Thompson

Volume No. 8

Issue No. 1 Date: September 2019

A Branch of ARTA



Tentative Events for

September 2019 to June 2020

Leduc Friday, September 6th, 2019, 10:30 AM AGM, Election of Officers and Pancake Brunch at St. David's United Church in Leduc. ARTA Benefit Plans Updates. Confirmed

Wetaskiwin Wednesday, September 25th, 11:30 AM at O'Brian's Restaurant: Hearing Life Re: Hearing Aids.

Drayton Valley Luncheon Thursday, October 17th, 11:30 AM at Best Western Plus. Program to be announced.

Leduc Wednesday, November 20th St. David's United Church Program to be announced.

Leduc Wednesday, February 12th at St. David's United Church. Musical Presentation and Devices Workshop. Luncheon at 11:30 AM

Wetaskiwin Wednesday, March 11th at O'Brian's Restaurant. 11:30 AM. Program: Canada's New Food Guide.

Drayton Valley Luncheon Thursday, April 16th at Best Western Plus. 11:30 AM. More details to be announced.

Leduc Tuesday, May 5th, HARTA's Mini-Conference at St. David's United Church. 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM. Save the Date.

Member Welfare

Please let the editor know of anyone who would appreciate a get well note or a phone call from other HARTA members.

HARTA's AGM,

September 6th, 2019

HARTA's AGM will take place on Friday, September 6 in Leduc at St. David's United Church, 4614—48 St. The time will be 10:30 AM. Elections will be held as well as a review of last years activities and the presentation of the coming year's budget. The meeting will be followed by a Pancake Brunch. Our guest speaker will be Gary Sawatzky. Gary will give an overview of ARTA's Benefits after the meal. It might be a good idea to attend the AGM to get the most up-to-date information on ARTA's benefits. Hope to see you on Friday, September 6. Details are also on the poster at the end of this newsletter

Nominations So Far

HARTA's Nominations for the Executive so far: President, Ron Thompson; V P—Drayton Valley, Joan Henry; V P—Leduc, Elaine Merriman; V P - Wetaskiwin, Ron Holmlund; ATA Liaison Walley Porter; Treasurer, Alain Lefebvre; Secretary,

Erika Lefebvre; Treasurer Associate—Drayton Valley (This position is part of a new committee—the Financial Committee, eventually there will be three persons on the committee.)

Confusing Abbreviations

After you retired from teaching you probably noticed a number of abbreviations re: retirement. **ASEBP** (Alberta School Employee Benefits Plan) refers to the health benefits provided by various school districts and which are also available to retired teachers until age 65. The **ARTA** (Alberta Retired Teachers' Association) **Plans**, are plans available to all ARTA members and Associate Members. The **ATRF** (Alberta Teachers' Retirement Fund) is the fund that pays teachers' pensions to former Alberta teachers. Retired teachers with concerns re: their pensions, should contact the ATRF re: these issues. **CPP** (Canada Pension Plan) refers to the Pension Plan provided by the Canadian Government. The **OAS** (Old Age Security) is a supplementary payment to every person over 65 years also created by the Canadian Government. As a review of these abbreviations, I have listed all these abbreviations with their websites where you can get more information on a given topic.

Abbreviations

ASEBP: Provider of Health Care Benefits before 65 years of age: www.asebp.ca

ARTA: Alberta Retired Teachers' Association Provider of many services and Benefits to Alberta Retired Teachers and other Professional Retirees: www.arta.net

Branches: www.artabranches.net

ATRF: Provider and Funder of Alberta Teachers' Pensions: www.atrf.com

CPP and OAS: Pensions provided by the Canadian Government Contact Service Canada at: www.Canada.ca

I hope the above information makes the retirement information world easier to navigate.

Membership Fees

Members who need to pay their fees can do so at HARTA Luncheons. Members may also send a cheque or money order to: HARTA, C/O Ron Thompson, 4020 – 37 Ave. in Leduc, Alberta. The Postal Code is T9E 6C9. Please send \$10.00 for each year you would like to renew. Membership for the first two years is \$10.00 (first year is free.) Our next HARTA event is at St. David's United Church in Leduc. See the details given earlier in this newsletter as well as the Poster at the end of this newsletter.

HARTA Volunteers Needed

At various times during the program year, HARTA needs members to help with various tasks. For the various luncheons, we can always use extra help in preparing the room for our programs. In Drayton Valley check with Sandy, In Leduc, Ron T. or Elaine and in Wetaskiwin either Ron H or Ron T.

Ron Thompson, HARTA President

Leduc Mini-Conference

Preview

Leduc's Mini-Conference will be on Tuesday, May 5th at St. David's United Church. There will be five sessions. They will include Body Laughing Yoga; The History of the City of Leduc and Area; Food Rescue, a plan to "rescue" food that is not being used before it is thrown out; Investment Fraud; and a Keynote on Ageism. More information will become available when presenters and funding have been confirmed.

We Are All Treaty People

For the last few years both the ATA and ARTA have been including a sentence re: indigenous peoples and their traditional lands at each of their

meetings. Starting with the AGM, HARTA will take time to recognize the Ingenious peoples whose traditional territories made up the Counties of Brazeau, Leduc and Wetaskiwin.

WHAT IS A TREATY? A treaty is a binding agreement between sovereign states that outlines each party's rights, benefits and obligations. Across Canada, there are 11 numbered treaties between the Crown and First Nations, with Treaties 6, 7 and 8 encompassing most of Alberta. The two signatory groups had differing reasons for entering into these agreements. The British Crown, and later the Canadian government, wanted land for agriculture, settlement and resource development, so Crown representatives signed treaties in order to transfer land title from the indigenous people to the British Crown, provisions for which had been set out in the Royal Proclamation of 1763.

For indigenous people, treaties were built on an assumption of respectful, cooperative and bilateral relationship, and their provisions were expected to last "as long as the sun shines, the grass grows." The First Nations in the territory now known as Alberta were concerned about the spread of disease, such as smallpox, and the dramatic disappearance of the bison, a main food source. They believed that signing the treaties would ensure the survival of their people.

All treaties included the surrendering of large parcels of land to the Crown, with small parcels set aside for reserve. In many cases, the treaties were very disadvantageous to First Nations people, who often didn't understand the implications of what they were signing. Much reserve land was lost to dishonest deals with government agents. Band

councils that were struggling economically were often tricked into selling off some of their land or signed deals that resulted in the loss of mineral and natural resources on their land. With the signing of treaties, many aspects of First Nations life, such as the nomadic following of buffalo herds, were changed forever. First Nations lost the power to determine their own future and to have an equal role in building the province.

Today, First Nations people view the treaties as a sacred covenant that applies to all the land in the treaty area, not just reserve land. "We are all treaty people" means we all have rights and obligations with respect to the treaty areas.

TREATY 6—1876 Treaty 6 was signed at Fort Carlton and Fort Pitt in Saskatchewan by representatives of the Crown and leaders of the Cree, Saulteaux, Nakota, Dene, Assiniboine and Ojibwa people. The treaty boundaries extend across central portions of present-day Alberta and Saskatchewan.

TREATY 7 — 1877 Treaty 7 was an agreement between Queen Victoria and several — mainly Blackfoot — First Nations in southern Alberta. The treaty was signed at Blackfoot Crossing on the Siksika Nation.

TREATY 8—1899 Treaty 8 was signed between Queen Victoria and various First Nations, including the Woodland Cree, Dunne-za (or Beaver) and Denesuline (Chipewyan) in northern Alberta and those in northeastern British Columbia, northwestern Saskatchewan and southern Northwest Territories. Many First Nations were missed during the count for Treaty 8, which led to several land claims. Approximately 13 land claims have been settled and two are still ongoing — the Lubicon Lake Nation and Bigstone Cree Nation.

MÉTIS The advent of the fur trade in west central North America during the 18th century was accompanied by a growing number of offspring of First Nations women and European fur traders. As members of this population established distinct communities separate from those of First Nations and Europeans and married among themselves, a new aboriginal people emerged — the Métis people — with their own unique culture, traditions, language (Michif), way of life, collective consciousness and nationhood. — Source: Métis Nation of Canada The Canadian Constitution Act 1982 recognizes the Métis as one of three distinct aboriginal groups in Canada.

The Alberta Teachers' Association is committed to supporting teachers

Please turn to page 5 of this Newsletter to see the ATA's map on Canada's Treaties in Alberta.

Other Branch Events

ARTA now has a new website which provides information on events in other Branches throughout Alberta and the Okanagan Branch in BC. If you would like to find other Branch events this website can help you. The website is: www.artabranches.net.

Executive and Contact Info for the 2018-19 Program Year

Alvin Rurka: Past President

Ron Thompson: President & ARTA Rep

Elaine Merriman: Vice President Leduc

Sandy Hamilton: Vice President Drayton Valley

Ron Holmlund: Vice President Wetaskiwin (

Walley Porter: ATA Liaison

Darleen Broadbent: Treasurer

Erika Lefevre: Secretary

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.

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

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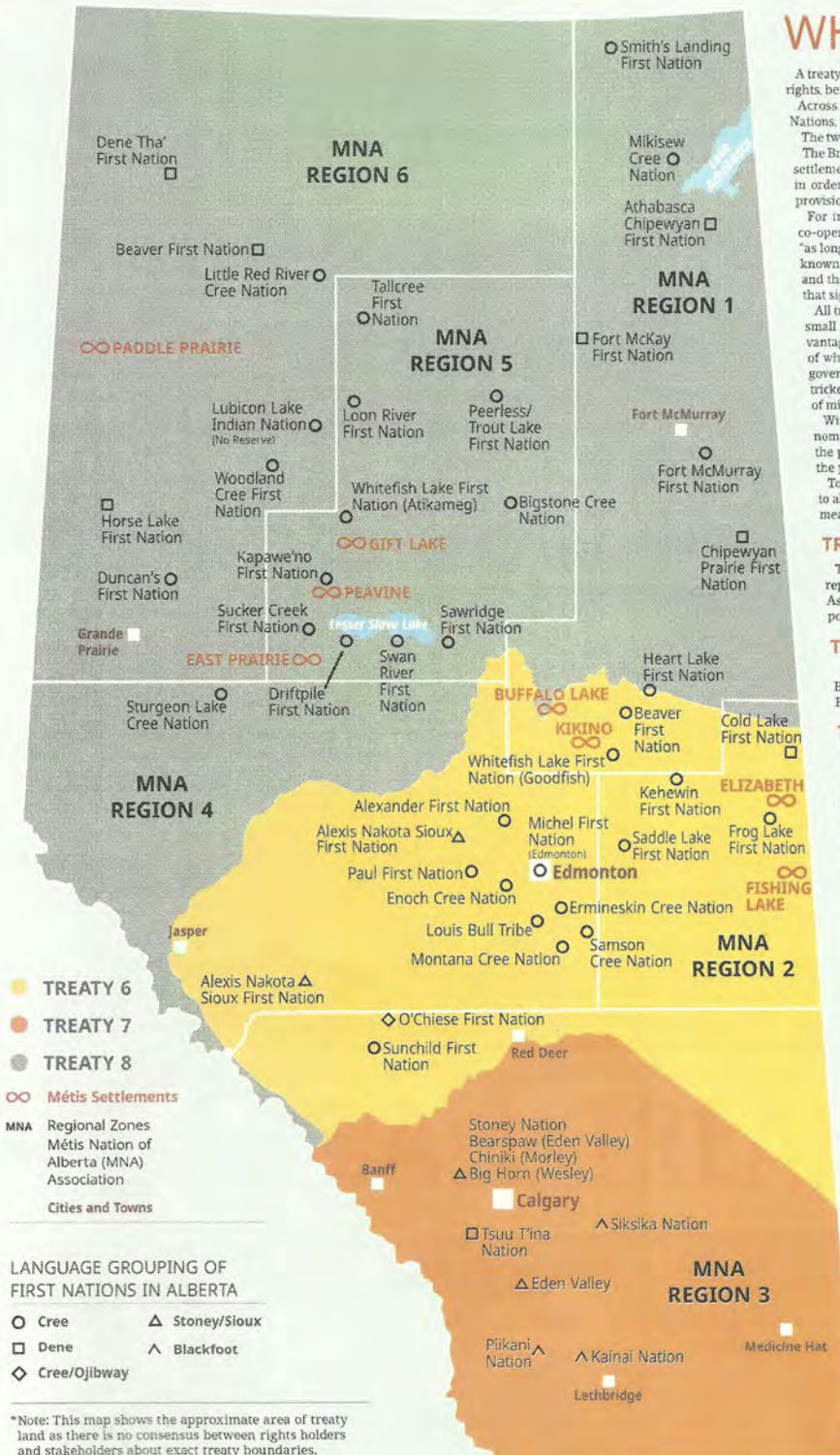
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— Source: Métis Nation of Canada

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- TREATY 6
- TREATY 7
- TREATY 8
- Métis Settlements
- MNA Regional Zones
- Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA) Association
- Cities and Towns

- LANGUAGE GROUPING OF FIRST NATIONS IN ALBERTA
- Cree
 - Dene
 - ◇ Cree/Ojibway
 - △ Stoney/Sioux
 - △ Blackfoot

*Note: This map shows the approximate area of treaty land as there is no consensus between rights holders and stakeholders about exact treaty boundaries.

Adapted from Alberta Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs



EDUCATION FOR RECONCILIATION

The Alberta Teachers' Association

The Alberta Teachers' Association is committed to supporting teachers in treaty education through the Walking Together: Education for Reconciliation Professional Learning Project. For more information about Treaty 6, Treaty 7, Treaty 8, Métis or Inuit people, or the services and resources available through Walking Together, please visit www.teachers.ab.ca > For Members > Professional Development > Walking Together.



**You're Invited to
HARTA's annual
"Welcome To
Retirement!"**

**Pancake Brunch & AGM
ARTA Benefits Presentation by
Gary Sawatzky to follow**

**@ St. David's United Church in Leduc
(4614 - 48 St.) For more details
contact Ron Thompson
(see contact info)**

A Branch of ARTA



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(r n thompson)phone:

(780) 986-8349

Friday, Sept. 6, 2019, 10:30 AM

Brunch \$10.00; Annual Membership \$10.00

(Membership free for new retirees)

Please RSVP by Monday, Sept. 2, 2018