

**Briefing Notes of Regular Meeting of  
PARKLAND AREA RETIRED TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION (PARTA)  
December 3, 2019**

These briefing notes serve as the highlights from the PARTA Regular Meeting, December 3, 2019. This summary does not serve as the official minutes of the meeting. If you have questions or concerns about any of the information contained within this report, please use the contact information on our website to speak with a PARTA Executive member.

[partacontact@canadasurfs.net](mailto:partacontact@canadasurfs.net)

Following a wonderful presentation by the Broxton Park Handbell Choir, the President called the meeting to order with 33 members and a guest speaker present. Members were welcomed to stay and visit following the meeting, regardless of whether or not they partake in the lunch.

The President read the Treaty 6 Acknowledgement Statement.

A summary of the November 5<sup>th</sup> Briefing Notes was read and approved.

The Treasurer presented the Financial Report.

**President's Report** - Attached

**Presentation**

Our guest speaker, Gary Hansen, an ATA Liaison member from HARTA, spoke about the present situation regarding Bill 22 and its effect on Retired Teachers' Pensions. He related a number of changes being introduced by the present government and the effects they will have on the education sector presently and into the future. He urged members to stay current and to be aware of the changes and how they will be affected.

Draws were made for a Merit Travel voucher and an ARTA notebook and pen.

Our next meeting will be held January 7, 2020. Guest speaker will be Gary Garrison, grandparent and author of "Raising Grandkids: Inside Skipped Generation Families".

The meeting adjourned.

Lunch and visiting. Members participated in a "Christmas Songs Trivia" game.

**President's Report: December Regular Meeting**

**ATA Local 10 – Council Meeting, November 6.**

With Judy Cruise, attended ATA Local 10 Meeting on November 6. This is the first Local Meeting held at the Holiday Inn. Many teachers were at their schools for P/T Interviews that evening.

Teachers were looking forward to the Fall Break.

Report cards were due across the district.

Teachers introduced their student teachers and reported on school activities including the Cross-Country Run and sports events.

As with retired teachers, there is great concern over the recent budget and its effects. They were advised to check on the websites provided to us and to support the needs of all practicing and retired teachers by writing short direct letters to MLAs and other government officials.

**[alberta.ca/budget](http://alberta.ca/budget)**

**Alberta Government: Public Engagement for Proposed Choice in Education Act:**

Home> Government> Connect with Government> Consultations and engagements>  
Open engagements> Choice in Education engagement.

**I have hard copies of the online survey which members can fill out at the meeting  
and I will mail to the appropriate government department.**

**Board of Directors' Meeting, November 26-27.**

The following PARTA members attended the Board of Directors' Meeting:

Iona Robertson – PARTA President

Ron Thompson – HARTA President

Laurie Semler – Chair of the ARTA Communications Committee

Maxine Anderson – Chair of the ARTA Governance Committee

ATA Educational Trust

Director – ARTCF (Charitable Foundation)

Bill Fraser – Chair of the ARTA Wellness Committee

**Highlights:**

- Annual Meeting of the Alberta Retired Teachers' Charitable Foundation:
  - Besides the usual information, a new director of the Foundation is Frank Bruseker. Juanita Knight was another nominee.
- The Communications Committee is working to make the publication of 'news and views' more predictable.
- The Board approved a motion for ARTA to send a letter to the Alberta Government about the recent dismissal of the Seniors' Advocate.
- The Alberta Medical Association members and employees have joined ARTA's Health Benefits Plan.
- Next Board of Directors' meeting is February 25-26. If you are interested as attending as an observer, please contact me. I will mention again in January and February meetings.