



ST. ALBERT AND AREA RETIRED TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION BULLETIN

October 17, 2019

Editor: Peggy Bergmann (pbergmann@shaw.ca)

November 1, 2019: Breakfast Meeting

At Sturgeon Valley Golf and Country Club

8:30 am: Doors Open (*Please do not arrive early!*)

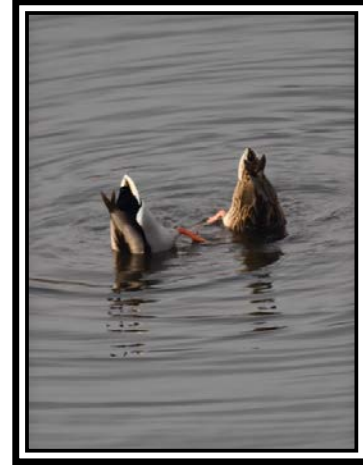
9:00 am: Breakfast

Cost: \$22 for STARTA members

\$27 for non-members

Membership - \$10 (available at the door)

Please bring correct change if possible



Picture by Joyce Keltie

10:00 am ***Remembrance Day:*** STARTA member Lynne Duigou will present on the 75th Anniversary of D-Day and visiting Juno Beach.

We are so excited about the upcoming ONE-DAY CONFERENCE...

'Lively Living'

NOV. 21, 2019 (9:00am – 4:45pm) at Star of the North Retreat House

If you have not yet registered, and are thinking of coming, be sure to register soon, as the conference is now open to the public sector, and spaces are limited.

The Registration DEADLINE is noon on Monday, Nov. 4, 2019. Registration is not complete until payment is received by the registrar, so both the completed form and payment must be received by the registrar by that time.

Get speaker and session information, and print out the registration form from the website: www.artabranched.net/starta/events

Make cheques **payable to STARTA** and send to:

Debbie Kelley

11319-130 St.,

Edmonton AB,

T5M 1A3

Websites to check out

As a follow-up from our October breakfast meeting, here are some links to various reports and programs.

Environmental Master Plan - <https://stalbert.ca/city/environment/reports/environmental-master-plan/>

Community Report on the Environment - <https://stalbert.ca/city/environment/reports/report-on-the-environment/>

Sturgeon River Water Quality Index <https://stalbert.ca/city/environment/sturgeon-river/get-to-know-the-sturgeon-river/>

Air Quality Health Index <http://airquality.alberta.ca/map/>

Integrated Pest Management Plan https://stalbert.ca/uploads/PDF-reports/City_of_St._Albert_IPM_formatted_FINAL_Jan_2018.pdf

Weeds of Concern <https://stalbert.ca/city/environment/natural/weeds/weeds-of-concern/>

Natural Areas Assessment & Management Plan

<https://stalbert.ca/city/environment/natural/natural-areas/natural-area-assessment-and-management-plan/>

Spruce Up St. Albert <https://stalbert.ca/city/environment/programs-events/spruce-up/>

Programs & Events <https://stalbert.ca/city/environment/programs-events/>

Home Energy Assessment Toolkit https://stalbert.ca/uploads/PDF-reports/City_of_St._Albert_IPM_formatted_FINAL_Jan_2018.pdf

Waste and Diversion programs and information <https://stalbert.ca/home/utilities/waste/>

Rain barrel program <https://stalbert.ca/city/environment/water-conservation/rain-barrels/>

City Wildlife <https://stalbert.ca/city/environment/natural/city-wildlife/>



“At-a-distance is not the same as distant.”

Lethbridge College seeks retired teacher/principal

The practicum coordinator for Lethbridge College’s Educational Assistant program is looking for one or two school practicum supervisors (these are paid positions) to supervise one student in **Westlock** and one in **Little Smoky**. Both students are enrolled in Lethbridge College’s Educational Assistant program and want to do practicums in schools near where they live.

We are looking for a minimum B.Ed., some supervision experience, and some technology familiarity (although we do have good technology supports for those a bit rusty) for practicum in the upcoming winter term (January to end of March, roughly). The supervisor would go into each school 3 times, grade weekly assignments, and work with the student to complete practicum assignments. If you are interested in this, please contact Lorraine Leishman at [<lorraine.leishman@lethbridgecollege.ca>](mailto:lorraine.leishman@lethbridgecollege.ca) or Ph. 403-329-7263

Lorraine Leishman B.Ed., M.A. Educational Psychology, Chair and Program Instructor, Educational Assistant Certificate and Diploma Practicum Coordinator, Educational Assistant Program

The IT for Dominica Project

<https://www.itfordominica.com/>

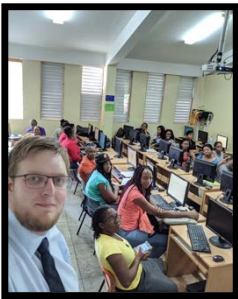
In September 2017, Hurricane Maria devastated the small island of Dominica with over 80-90% of the infrastructure lost.



In the fall of 2018, five St. Albert Public staff learned about the IT for Dominica project at the Alberta Technology Leaders in Education (ATLE) Convergence. We were both humbled and inspired by the stories of Dominica's teachers and school leaders. The goals of the IT for Dominica Project are to restore (deliver & install) the necessary learning technologies in all 85 schools on the island and to provide both the professional development and technical expertise required to successfully integrate the learning technologies into instructional practice.

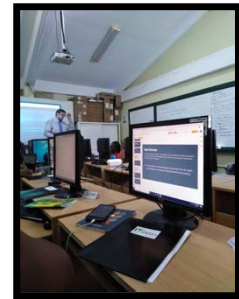
Following discussions with the Board and school principals, St. Albert Public Schools committed to a fundraising goal of \$10 000. From February to June of last year, staff and students raised \$2614. Our fundraising project continues for the 2019-2020 school year.

In the summer of 2019, Matteo Hee, a teacher from Bellerose Composite High School, was part of the IT for Dominica's Summer Institute program. Matteo and four other teachers from Alberta travelled to Dominica to work directly with Dominica teachers. Matteo has described the experience as transformative.



I am consistently in awe of my colleagues in @itfordominica Summer Institute. Risk takers and innovators with an unwavering focus on what is best for kids. Today we worked with #Scratch and @MITAppInventor to spread #ComputationalThinking and #digcit in #Dominica's classrooms.

Matteo Hee



To help us achieve our fundraising goal and donate to this worthwhile cause, go to

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/m/36392/donation>

(If you choose to donate, please reference St. Albert Public Schools in the "message section.")

Additional Facts about the island of Dominica

- English speaking (& some French roots)
- Commonwealth country with a solid parliamentary government and familiar policing/judicial system
- K-12 & Post-Secondary Education System (13 500 students and 65 elementary schools and 15 secondary schools)

Additional Facts about the IT for Dominica Foundation

- Operates on a Zero Administration cost
- Enables charitable tax receipts
- Has nearly 20 years history of working with schools in Dominica (pre-Maria)
- Clearly articulates the resources and processes necessary for success
- Has a long history of success through partnerships
- Annually offers the professional development Summer Institute in conjunction with the ATA

NEWS from ARTA: Co-Presidents attend AGM

One of the privileges of being the ARTA co-presidents is the opportunity to participate actively in the Alberta Retired Teachers' Association. Recently Debbie and I attended the AGM of this organization. We heard reports from the eight committees and trusts (see <https://www.arta.net/organizational-excellence/committees-trusts-foundations/> for further information) and voted on new members for these. Two of our STARTA members are serving on ARTA committees. Vi Oko currently is chair of the Strategic Planning and Advocacy Committee, and Leo Bruseker was just elected to serve on the Health Benefits Committee.

We also elected new executive members and heard about finances and budget from the ARTA auditor and from our own treasurer. ARTA is doing well, which translates into funds for many projects, like the grant awarded to our Lively Living Wellness Day.

In the ACER-CART report (Canadian Association of Retired Teachers, of which ARTA is a member) to the AGM, we heard about recent efforts to encourage members to take an active role in the upcoming election. Members of ARTA received a publication from ACER-CART recently; if you didn't receive it, go to <https://acer-cart.org//wp-content/uploads/2018/03/AGM19-T8-003a-Election-Brochure-en-1.pdf>

The atmosphere at ARTA meetings is that of efficiency but also camaraderie. This year the AGM banquet, organized by the 14-member ARTA staff, had a Canadian theme and was much enjoyed by all in attendance.

Members of the ARTA Retiree Benefits Plan have received a personalized brochure detailing the changes to benefits as of November 1, 2019. The good news is that there will be no change in premiums for the 2019-2020 benefit year and several areas have been added or enhanced. Your ARTA membership card includes contact information if you have concerns.

Leo Bruseker has completed 4 years on the Governance committee, 3 of those as a member of the committee and the final year as Committee Chair. That committee maintains and monitors the ARTA governance structure and administers the ARTA Scholarships/Bursaries. In the picture to the right, Leo is receiving a gift for his work on the Governance Committee.



Leo is now beginning a 5-year term on the Health Benefits Committee.



Robyn McQueen, a student at the University of Calgary was the recipient of the one-time-only ARTA Joan Trettler scholarship to an Alberta Education student. In the picture on the left, Ron Trettler is shown at the ARTA AGM presenting Robyn with flowers and a certificate. STARTA members Pat McQueen (Mom) and Brenda Kane were also in attendance, as well as our co-presidents, Debbie Kelley and Marian

Oberg.

Submitted by Marian Oberg



MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

Important upcoming dates

November 4, 2019: REGISTRATION closes for the 'Lively Living' Conference to be held November 21, 2019, (9:00 am - 4:45 pm)

Thanks Joyce!

December 6, 2019: Book Sale & Exploring Iceland with Roland Van Meurs from AMA: Whether Reykjavik is a stop-over on the way to Europe or if you are considering Iceland as a destination, see some photos and hear about the city of Reykjavik, local tours, attractions, and must sees.

January 10, 2020 (second Friday)

February 7, 2020

March 6, 2020

April 3, 2020 - Silent Auction

No date has been set at this time for the AGM and possible BBQ in May

Thank you to all those who contributed to this News Bulletin.