



Welcome Back!



It is with great pleasure that I welcome you all to a new school year. The start of September always carries a special energy—fresh faces, new colleagues, new courses, new supplies, and most importantly, a new opportunity to begin again. Each year allows us to write another story in the lives of our students, while also opening a new chapter in our own journeys as educators.

This summer, I had the privilege of attending leadership training through the Manitoba Teachers' Society, where I listened to a powerful keynote from Dr. Izzeddin Hawamda. His presentation focused on addressing hatred in education, but one personal story he shared continues to resonate deeply with me.

Dr. Izzeddin recalled his first day in a Manitoba classroom after immigrating to Canada from Palestine during high school. With limited English and little understanding of Canadian cultural norms, he often found himself facing unexpected challenges. One moment, in particular, struck me: in his culture, it is considered disrespectful to enter a room without being invited in by the host. In a school setting, that meant he stood waiting outside his classroom door, expecting the teacher to welcome him inside. While the lesson had already begun, he remained in the hallway, unseen and unacknowledged.

Hearing this story caused me to pause and reflect. Have there been moments in my own teaching career when a student entered my classroom for the first time but didn't feel welcomed? Did I always extend that simple, yet powerful invitation to join the learning space I had created for them?

As educators, we know that building strong relationships is at the heart of teaching. Students need to feel cared for and accepted before meaningful learning can take place. The same is true within our union. As your president, I know that if you don't feel welcomed and included, your experience with our organization will not be a positive one.

So, here is the challenge—for you and for me: **Are we making everyone feel welcome?**

Tammy

president@bta.mbteach.org

Important Dates

September 2nd	LIFT Registration Opens
September 2nd	Administration Day (K-12)
September 3rd	First Day of Classes
September 10th	BSD/BTA Joint PD Fund applications due - 4:00 p.m.
September 25th	BTA Council Meeting - 4:15 p.m. - Hybrid
September 29th	Professional Development Day (K-12)
September 30th	National Day for Truth & Reconciliation (All Schools Closed)
October 13th	Thanksgiving Day (All Schools Closed)
October 23rd	BTA Council Meeting 4:15 p.m. - Hybrid
October 24th	Professional Development Day (MTS PD Day) No Classes - K-12

*Welcome
Back*



Sarah Martin - Neelin

2025 BTA Scholarship Recipient



Calista English - Vincent Massey

2025 BTA Scholarship Recipient



Angie Rubiano Mejia - PHHS

2025 BTA Scholarship Recipient



Brooke Fjeldsted - CPRSS

BTA Scholarship Recipients 2024-2025

LIFT CONFERENCE 2025

 **24** OCT  **9 - 3:30**
AM PM

**Registration closes
at 4:30 p.m. on
October 15th. No
late registrations
accepted.**

- • • **Registration for the**
- • • **Conference is completed**
- • • **through "My Profile/Members**
- • • **Area" at mbteach.org**
- • •

#MTSPDDAY



Sylvia Marusyk
Keynote Speaker
CPRSS

Questions?
Contact the BTA
Office:

204.729.3141
office@bta.mbteach.org

JOINT PD FUND

Apply today for up to \$3,500 to attend the PD of your choice!

Three levels of funding:

LEVEL 1 FUNDING

Up to \$1,000.00 each year to attend PD events.
This is great for local or virtual events.

LEVEL 2 FUNDING

Up to \$3,500.00 once every three years to attend PD. Level 2 will cover PD events which involve extended travel or larger registration costs.

LEVEL 3 FUNDING

For Substitute Teachers.
Up to \$700.00 once each year to attend PD.

Application Process:

- **Step 1:** Find a PD Event you would like to attend.
- **Step 2:** Complete the application form including:
 - a cover letter, conference registration form and conference brochure.
 - Forms can be found under "Docs" at: www.BTAteach.com
- **Step 3:** Submit your application form to: office@bta.mbteach.org

There are 6 opportunities throughout the year to submit an application to the fund. The committee will review your application at their next meeting and be in touch.

Any questions you have please contact the BTA Office
Phone: (204) 729-3141 or Email: office@bta.mbteach.org

IMPORTANT DATES!

Deadlines for submissions to the BSD/BTA Joint PD Fund for the 2025 - 2026 School Year

Wednesday, September 10

Wednesday, October 29

Wednesday, December 3

Wednesday, January 28

Wednesday, April 8

Wednesday, June 10

Please review the funding criteria before forwarding your application.

Please submit your PD application to:

office@bta.mbteach.org

Applications due by 4:00 p.m.

A few sessions our members have picked for their PD:

Fundamentals of Structured TEACCHING

Learning & The Brain: Teaching Engaged Brains

Get Your Teach On

See Me Beautiful

Future Ready Brains

Broadway Teacher's Conference

Podium 2024

Responsive Classroom: EY & MY Core Course

Assessing, & Treating Trauma Across the Lifespan

Take Me Outside 2025 : Outdoor Learning Conference

6th National Center for Trauma Informed Practices

National Council of Teachers of English Annual Conference

CEC 2024 Special Education Convention & Expo

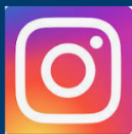


DID YOU KNOW?

Information pertaining to Brandon Teachers' Association upcoming events are shared on FaceBook and Instagram. Follow us at:



Brandon Teachers' Association



@brandonteachersassociation



MTS Beginning Teachers' Handbook

The Beginning Teachers' Handbook developed by MTS consists of a list of helpful resources including:

- At a Glance
- Welcome to Teaching
- MTS Services
- Knowing the Code
- Work with Others in Schools
- Parental/Guardian involvement and Communication
- Professional Development
- Special Area Groups of Educators & MTS PD Day
- Teacher Evaluation



Do You Need Support?



Member & Family Assistance Program (MFAP)

We can help.

Free and confidential support for eligible members
and their families.

Kii (formerly known as HumanaCare) supports &
services can assist in the following areas:

- Relationships & Couples
- Family & Parenting
- Stress
- Anxiety
- Depression
- Substance Use
- Legal & Financial
- Grief & Bereavement
- Career Coaching
- Behavioural Management
- Diet & Nutrition
- Work-Related Stress
- Bullying & Harassment
- Crisis & Trauma

1-800-661-8193 www.Kiihealth.ca

24 HOURS A DAY ANYWHERE IN NORTH AMERICA

Manitoba Teachers' Society

Phone:

1-866-494-5747



MTS Group Benefits

Phone:

1-204-831-3052

Dan Turner, Benefit Plans &
Programs Officer

IMPROVING SELF-CARE & COMPASSION

For Mental Health
Association
National Standards
information scan
the QR code.



For Canadian Mental
Health Association's
Not Myself Today
Campaign
information scan the
QR code.



For Toxic Guilt and
Hyper-Responsibility
information scan the QR
code.





Ryan Appel!
Closest to the pin!



On June 5th the Brandon Teachers' Association held a Golf Tournament at Northern Pines Golf Course with 11 teams participating. Supper and prizes followed.

Congratulations to tournament winners! Kevin Koroluk, Jana Martens, Craig Anderson and Kellie Marvin from Kirkcaldy Heights School!



John McLeod!
Men's Longest Drive!



Krystal Romanow!
Longest Putt!



Kayla Alexander
Ladies Longest Drive!



Congratulations!



Class of 2025!

The Class of 2025 were honoured at the BTA Retirement Event held on June 10th.

L-R: Sukhminder Bath, Joyce Lim, Barb Janzen, Kim Chambers, Lyla Perkins

Missing from photo: Bonnie Alston, Doug Carmichael, Chad Cobbe, Dana Dvorak, Michale DeGroot, Kim Gingras, Shannon Graham, Marcy McCallum, Lori Morningstar, Cory Nevill, Shelly McColl, Norah Pieroni, April Pulak, Patrick Ryan.

Congratulations

The following BTA members have been appointed to Committees of the Manitoba Teachers' Society for 2025-2026

- Tammy Tutkaluk—Education Finance Standing Committee
- Jodi Armour, Betty Gibson School—Practicing the Profession Working Group
- Regina Derewianchuk, Maryland Park School—Manitoba Public School Employees Benefits Trust Committee and Group Benefits Standing Committee
- Lynn Nicol, Crocus Plains Regional Secondary School—Labour School Cohort
- Robyn Paulishyn, Maryland Park School— Teacher-Led Learning Team
- Bryanne DeRoo, St. Augustine School— Teacher-Led Learning Team
- Lee-Anne Featherstone, École New Era School—Collaborative Learning Facilitator Team
- Blake Stephens, Vincent Massey School—Collective Bargaining Standing Committee