



## The Joint PD Fund, The Ins and Outs



Since I have become President of the Association, I have answered various questions about the Joint Professional Development Fund. In this article, I will attempt to answer some of the questions asked.

### ***Why is the Joint PD Fund so important?***

The Joint PD Fund is important because it is one way to ensure that a teacher can attend autonomous professional development.

### ***Why is autonomous professional development important?***

Autonomous professional development is important because it creates the opportunity for you to take ownership of your own professional development. It empowers you to actively identify your strengths and weaknesses and aspirations and enable you to increase learning experiences tailored to your specific needs. When you make decisions about your own professional development, you create a growth mindset, and foster a culture of continuous improvement and innovation. More importantly, autonomy in PD creates a sense of accountability and self-reliance as you seek out new opportunities to grow.

### ***How can I find good Professional Development?***

- You can always find great PD at [www.mbteach.org](http://www.mbteach.org).
- The best advice is Google your specialty, there is a conference for almost any niche in education.
- Seek out advice of colleagues on PD they have found useful.

### ***What PD opportunities have been approved this year?***

- Innovative Schools Summit
- Outdoor Learning Conference 2024
- Learning and the Brain, Teaching Engaged Brains
- Get Your Teach On
- Future Ready Brains
- International Summit on Preventing, Assessing and Treating Trauma
- Fundamentals of Structured TEACCHing
- Responsive Classrooms

### ***How can I apply?***

Application forms can be found on the BTA website: [Documents | Brandon Teachers' Association Brandon, MB \(btateach.com\)](#) Scroll down to the bottom of the page to find the Joint PD Docs and Forms. Fill out the application form and ensure that you include a cover letter, registration form and brochure for the PD you are applying to attend.

### ***Who approves the application?***

Joint PD applications are submitted to the BTA office and reviewed by the Joint PD committee. The Committee consists of the BTA President, BTA Professional Development Chairperson(s), a BTA CoSL representative, BSD Superintendent / CEO (or designate) and one BSD Assistant Superintendent.

### ***How much can I apply for?***

- Level 1 funding, up to \$1000 can be accessed up to twice each year.
- Level 2 funding, up to \$3000, can be accessed once every three years.
- Level 3 funding, up to \$750, is available for substitute members.

### ***What can I claim as part of my professional development costs?***

Successful applicants can be reimbursed for all costs related to their attendance of the professional development opportunity including, hotels, transportation, meals, registration, and substitute costs. **Substitute costs are not calculated as part of the application amounts.**

### ***When do I get reimbursed?***

After attending the PD session, applicants will submit: (within 3 months of the completion of the PD event) their report on the session, completed expense report, receipts for expenses, and credit card statements showing expenses incurred in US funds.

Processing reimbursements may take up to two weeks. Reimbursements will not be processed during summer months.

### ***I heard that there are limited funds left for the 2023-2024 school year. Can I still apply?***

Yes, but due to the fact that there are limited funds available, teachers may wish to apply for their PD of choice for next year. Applications for the 2024-2025 school year are being accepted. The fiscal year for the PD fund is July 1, so any applications for the summer months will be considered in the 2024-2025 budgeted year.

Any other questions? Please reach out to the BTA office.  
[office@bta.mbteach.org](mailto:office@bta.mbteach.org) We will be glad to provide you with assistance.

*Hope to see you access this excellent opportunity!*



# Joint PD Fund

Apply today for up to \$3000 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 \$3000.00 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](http://www.BTAteach.com)
- ✓ **Step 3** – Submit your form to [office@bta.mbteach.org](mailto: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](mailto:office@bta.mbteach.org)



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BTA BSD JOINT PD FUND  
DEADLINES FOR SUBMISSION

Wednesday, April 3rd, 2024

Wednesday, June 12th, 2024

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Submit Your Joint PD application to: [office@bta.mbteach.org](mailto:office@bta.mbteach.org)

Please review the funding criteria before forwarding your application

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## IMPORTANT DATES

March 4, 2024	BSD Public Budget Presentation & Consultation	7:30 p.m. BSD Admin Office
March 11, 2024	BSD Final Budget Approval	7:30 p.m. BSD Admin Office
March 21, 2024	BTA Council Meeting	4:15 p.m. - Hybrid
March 25 - 29, 2024	Spring Break	
April 1, 2024	Deadline for application for Teacher-Initiated Reassignment	
April 3, 2024	Joint PD Fund Deadline for applications	4:00 p.m.
April 11, 2024	Deadline for Internal Placement Competition	
May 23 - 25, 2024	MTS Annual General Meeting	
May 28, 2024	BTA Annual General Meeting	4:00 p.m. - Hybrid
June 7 - June 12, 2024	Deadline for Open Competition for Permanent Staff	12:00 p.m.
June 11, 2024	Retirement Event	7:00 p.m. - Victoria Inn

# New Email Address Alert!

Stay Connected with Us!



**The Brandon Teachers' Association office  
has a new email address:**

**[office@bta.mbteach.org](mailto:office@bta.mbteach.org)**

**Please amend your email contact to reflect  
our new office email.**

**Thank-you!**

REMINDER

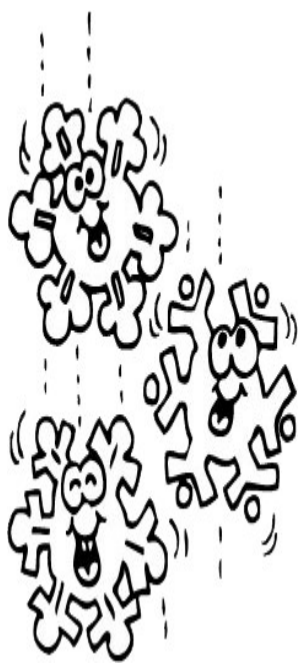


THE CLOCKS  
*spring forward*

**SUNDAY  
MARCH 10TH**

Don't Forget to Change your Clock  
+1 hour





**MTS**  
**HOCKEY**  
**TOURNAMNET**

★ ★

Details and  
Registration at:



Seven Oaks Arena  
745 Kingsbury Ave Winnipeg, MB  
3 Game guarantee  
Banquet on Saturday Evening  
\$950 per team  
Questions? Email: [vicepresident@sota.mbteach.org](mailto:vicepresident@sota.mbteach.org)

**THE MANITOBA TEACHERS' SOCIETY**

**SOTA**  
Seven Oaks Teachers' Association



**ARE YOU OVERWHELMED?**

*Go outside*

**TOO MUCH TO DO?**

*Go outside*

**OVERLY DISTRACTED?**

*Go outside*

**FEELING ANXIOUS?**

*Go outside*

**NEED SOME RESTORATION?**

*Go outside*

## PRE-RETIREMENT SEMINAR

To register please visit the Events page at  
[www.rtam.mb.ca](http://www.rtam.mb.ca). Registration will close on  
Tuesday, March 12th, 2024 at 12:00 p.m.

16 MARCH 2024

**9:30–11:30 A.M**

via Zoom

If you have any questions or  
require further information on  
membership, please email  
[office@rtam.mb.ca](mailto:office@rtam.mb.ca) or call  
toll-free at 1-888-393-8082

**RTAM**  
**RETIRED TEACHERS'**  
**ASSOCIATION OF MANITOBA**





## Brandon and Area Retired Teachers' Association

A chapter of Retired Teachers' Association of Manitoba

**Retiring this school year? Consider becoming a member of BARTA.**

Here's what we do:

- Meet for breakfast at Chicken Chef on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month
- Hold luncheon gatherings four times per year, with a presentation or program
- Host wellness events of an educational and/or active nature, such as pickleball, a live concert, and museum/art gallery tours
  - Support BTA's efforts to raise awareness of proposed government actions in education
    - Assist at BTA's annual LIFT in-service day
    - Support RTAM initiatives (rtam.mb.ca)
      - Host the RTAM AGM in 2023
- Provide information to members about issues relevant to retired teachers
- Offer care and concern to members in times of illness and bereavement.

**We welcome you to the next phase of your life: RETIREMENT!**

We invite you to join our Association and reconnect with colleagues at BARTA events.  
Our annual membership fee is only \$7.00.

For more information, contact

Catherine McLaren, BARTA President

[barta2022.3@gmail.com](mailto:barta2022.3@gmail.com)

204-724-6090



**We look forward to meeting you!**

## Retired BTA Member Recognized by United Nations

The Brandon Teachers' Association is proud to recognize retired teacher Meryl Orth for her recognition by the UN for her work in the field of health care. Meryl's passion for health and wellness in older adults has paid off for the Brandon Health Checks event. This initiative recently received recognition from the United Nations for promoting healthy aging. Meryl is a co-chair of the Health Checks Committee. See the full article in The Brandon Sun.



<https://www.brandonsun.com/local/2023/12/30/un-recognizes-brandons-health-checks>



## Happy belated birthday to Mrs. Hazel Skuce!



The Brandon Teachers' Association would like to thank Mrs. Skuce for her years of service as a teacher in Brandon and to wish her a happy belated 112th birthday.

Mrs. Skuce is the oldest living Manitoban, third oldest person in Canada and is a Life Member of the Brandon and Area Retired Teachers' Association (BARTA).

Please find below the link to the article published in The Brandon Sun on February 8th, 2024.

[https://brandonsun-can.newsmemory.com/?publink=0d7f3d193\\_134d174](https://brandonsun-can.newsmemory.com/?publink=0d7f3d193_134d174)



# Building Capacity, Confidence and Voice

Leah Gazan | *NDP Member of  
Parliament for Winnipeg Centre*

Cynthia Bird | *Indigenous Educator,  
Facilitator*

Karoline Krüg | *PSAC Prairie  
Regional Education Officer*

Bea Bruske | *President of the  
Canadian Labour Congress*

**Friday,  
March 1 &  
Saturday,  
March 2**

Dr. Sharanpal Ruprai | *Associate  
Professor/Chair of the Department  
of Women's and Gender Studies at  
The University of Winnipeg*

Sherry Jones | *MTS Staff Officer*

Andrea Zaroda | *MTS Staff Officer*

Arlyn Filewich | *MTS Department  
Head, Teacher Welfare*

Dana Driedger | *Executive Director  
of The Nellie McClung Foundation*

**McMaster House,  
191 Harcourt Street**

**Members: \$100  
Non-Members: \$150**



## WOMEN AND LEADERSHIP Symposium | 2024



The symposium brings women and gender diverse members together to network, dialogue, collaborate and learn from each other. **Registration opens Monday, January 29, 2024.**

**REGISTER HERE: <https://memberlink.mbteach.org/Event.axd?e=2676>**