



TWC REPORT

Edmonton Public Teachers Local No. 37 of The Alberta Teachers' Association
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June 20, 2018

Bargaining Update

The new round of collective bargaining has commenced! To date, the 2018 List of Matters has been negotiated and finalized. The 2018 List identifies what topics can be bargained and delineates at what table (Central or Local) each topic will be discussed. With List bargaining concluded, the Central Table Initial Proposal is being finalized after consultation with teachers through a survey, focus groups and a telephone town hall. Once the Initial Proposal is ratified by Provincial Executive Council, we will be able to open Central Table bargaining. After our Central Table Initial Proposal is exchanged with the Teacher Employer Bargaining Authority, the proposal will be posted, along with bargaining updates on the Members Only Website.

The Agreed List of Central and Local Matters can be found by Clicking on the Bargaining Updates Teachers Together 2018 Square on the Provincial ATA Homepage (top right corner) and choosing 2018 Negotiations → 2018 Negotiations (yes again) → List Bargaining → Agreed to List of Central and Local Matters:

<https://www.teachers.ab.ca/Members%20Only%20Documents/Members%20Only/Bargaining%202018/Agreement%20LIST%202018%20No%20Sign%202018%2005%2002.pdf>.

NOTE: You will need a username and password to access this information.

In Order to Stay Informed about Bargaining

1. Obtain a login at www.teachers.ab.ca (you will need your teaching certificate number).
2. Update your online member profile if necessary
3. Check for Bargaining Updates on-line.
4. Follow on Twitter: @albertateachers
5. "Like" on Facebook: www.facebook.com/ABteachers
6. Come to Member Information Meetings when they are announced.

Rest Breaks

Effective January 1, 2019, the Employment Standards Code changes to reflect a 30 minute break in duties at some time during each shift in excess of five consecutive hours of work. If a teacher agrees, it can be split into two 15 minute breaks. School staffs cannot vote to collectively agree to two 15 minute breaks. Unassigned or "prep." time counts toward this 30 minute break. Teachers with administrative designations are also entitled to this break.

If you have any questions, please call the Local Office at (780) 455-2164.

Pilot Project on Revised School Calendar: Unbalanced Schedules

According to the Pilot Project on Revised School Calendar, “A teacher must confirm their agreement in writing, prior to assignment, to be timetabled for instructional duties which may vary in the number of hours assigned per semester.”

If you are uncertain how to calculate your instructional and other assigned time, please contact the Local office (780) 455-2164.

Benefits and Health Spending Accounts

Reminder to teachers with temporary contracts ending in June, 2018, as well as those Teachers Retiring this year:

Your benefit entitlements, including any remaining Health Spending Account dollars need to be used before the end of your contract. You then have **60 calendar days** to submit your claims to ASEBP. For contracts ending on June 29, 2018, for example, your claim will need to be submitted before August 28, 2018.

Reminder for teachers on continuing contracts:

Any unused Health Spending Account dollars from 2016-2017 that were not spent by August 31, 2018 and claimed prior to October 30, 2018 will be forfeited back to the Board as per Canada Revenue Agency rules. Health Spending Account dollars from the 2017-2018 school year can be carried forward for one (1) year; expenses cannot. For tax purposes, you need to keep your receipts for seven (7) years.

General information on your Health Spending Account can be found at: <https://www.asebp.ca/my-benefits/spending-accounts>. Claim forms can be downloaded from: <https://www.asebp.ca/forms> (choose Claim Form).

Be sure to update your information for ASEBP and get your login password so you can check your statements on their website or on the ASEBP smartphone app.

Which medical expenses can be claimed on an HSA?

Items and services that can be claimed are dictated by Canada Revenue Agency. Guidance can be found on the CRA website: <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/tax/individuals/topics/about-your-tax-return/tax-return/completing-a-tax-return/deductions-credits-expenses/lines-330-331-eligible-medical-expenses-you-claim-on-your-tax-return.html> or in the CRA S1-F1-C1: Medical Expense Tax Credit: <http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/tx/tchncl/ncmtx/fls/s1/f1/s1-f1-c1-eng.html>

If you have any questions, please contact the Local Office (info@edpub.org) or contact me at kucher@shaw.ca.

Aaron Kucher
Chair, Teacher Welfare Committee