

May 2, 2017 • Issue 5

Proposals for Teachers' Provincial Collective Bargaining – Now Available

The *Proposals for Teachers' Provincial Collective Bargaining* booklet is available to members on the Collective Bargaining page of the Federation website. This document contains the proposals approved by councillors at the Annual Meeting of Council, April 26 to 29, 2017. These proposals will be used to begin negotiations and to guide the Teachers' Bargaining Committee as provincial collective bargaining progresses. Please note that documents containing proposals for provincial collective bargaining are confidential and intended solely for the use of STF members; therefore, members must log in to view.

Commencement of Negotiations

Provincial collective bargaining negotiations will begin on May 3 with the first meeting between the Teachers' Bargaining Committee and the Government-Trustee Bargaining Committee.

Negotiations will commence amidst a number of other current issues in education, including funding reductions resulting from the provincial budget, *Bill No. 48 – The Education Property Tax Act*, *Bill No. 63 – The Education Amendment Act, 2017* as well as uncertainty resulting from the recent court decision between Christ the Teacher School Division and Good Spirit School Division. **During this time it is important that the Federation and its local associations refrain from engaging in any activities that could negatively impact the public's perception of teachers or otherwise have negative impacts on collective bargaining and the collective interests of teachers.** The Federation remains committed to public, member and stakeholder relations activities being deliberate, strategic and measured during these uncertain times.

It is also a fundamental belief of the Teachers' Bargaining Committee that bargaining in the media, including social media, is not desirable; in fact, it complicates the bargaining process and can affect the outcome of negotiations. For this reason confidentiality is an important consideration that must be addressed. Many of the communications shared with teachers are meant to be informational for members and should be held in confidence unless otherwise noted.

New Resources for Teachers

Members are encouraged to check out the new *Guide to Negotiations* print resource on the Collective Bargaining page of the Federation website; the accompanying video will be available later this week. A copy of this document has also been distributed to each school staff liaison in the May 2 all-school mailing. It contains essential information for teachers and principals on negotiation protocols and processes including dispute settlement, sanctions and reaching an agreement.

When accessing the website, www.stf.sk.ca, please remember to log in to access the confidential information available to members.



Questions about teacher collective bargaining?

Contact STF Bargaining Support by email at bargaining@stf.sk.ca.

Discussions about teacher collective bargaining?

Use the TeacherTalk private members' forum in MySTF on www.stf.sk.ca.

