



Mountain View Teachers' Association

The Apple

Spring, 2015

Edited by Sharon Thompson

CMHR Welcoming 20,000 Students Over Six Months

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Students are learning they can make a difference through their actions, as more than 30 classes a week visit the Canadian Museum for Human Rights (CMHR). Students from Kindergarten to Grade 12 are exploring human rights concepts through CMHR school programs such as "My Rights, Our Rights," "Be an Upstander" and "First Peoples' Rights in a Changing Canada."

"We've developed our student programs to support learning objectives in school curricula and to engage students with the stories in the Museum," said June Creelman, CMHR director of Learning and Programming. "It's truly inspiring to see children embrace the concept of human rights and think about how their actions affect others. Some of these young people leave the Museum hoping to influence not only their peers, but the world."

From January until the end of the school year in June, more than 20,000 students from Manitoba and the surrounding region will have participated in school visits to the CMHR. Most of the programs are now fully booked, with just a few spots available before classes end in June. From Tuesday to Friday, between eight to 10 classes visit the Museum each day.

CMHR program interpreters lead students through a series of interactive activities during programs of 90 minutes to two hours. School programs include a visit to three or more CMHR galleries and were developed in consultation with educators. In younger grades, students learn about the rights we all have as human beings and how to respect each other's rights. Older students are challenged to explore concepts of freedoms, rights and responsibilities through analysis of Canadian and world events.

Teacher Angie Baseraba brought her Grade 5 class from Dr. Hamilton School to the Museum in January. "The whole program was amazing," she said. "The students worked in small groups and took part in interactive games. Even though they are children, they learn that they can make a difference."



CANADIAN MUSEUM FOR
HUMAN RIGHTS

The Canadian Museum for Human Rights is the first museum in the world solely dedicated to the evolution, celebration and future of human rights. It is the first national museum in Canada to be built outside the National Capital Region. Using multimedia technology and other innovative approaches, the Museum creates inspiring encounters with human rights appropriate for all ages, in a visitor experience unlike any other.

CMHR press release dated February 24, 2015.

To book school trips: <https://humanrights.ca/learn/school-programs/book-your-school-visit>



Save the Date:

- *Pre-retirement pension and benefits seminar; Saturday, April 25 at the DRCSS cafeteria. Registration required.*
- *MVTA AGM at the DRCSS cafeteria; Thursday, May 14 at 7pm*
- *2015 Retirement Event at the Watson Art Centre; Wednesday, June 17*

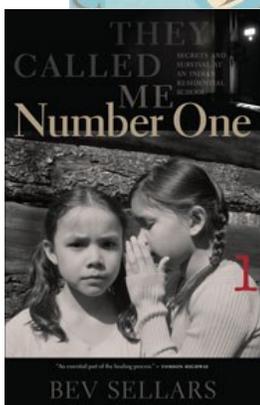
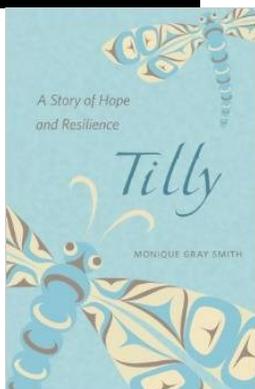
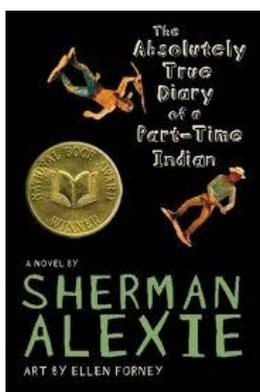
The Winds of Change...

Change is in the air. Kathy is planning on retiring this year so there will be some changes on the executive for the fall. All positions are open and, while we are now getting a slate of possible names together, we will also take nominations

from the floor at our AGM on May 14 at the DR at 7. Chance Henderson, who has been vice president this year, is letting his name stand for president and Katrina Mitchell is letting her name stand for vice president. We are still looking

for people interested in the following positions: public relations, education finance and social. Thank you for your support of your professional association - your participation gives your association its strength and energy.

AVASC suggested reading:



Aboriginal Voice and Action Standing Committee

MTS's Aboriginal Voice and Action Standing Committee (AVASC) meets regularly to advise the provincial executive on matters pertaining to Aboriginal education. MVSD's own Wade Houle has served on the committee for the past five years. Below is a brief summary of some of the committee's actions this year.

The AVASC made two main recommendations to the provincial executive this year:

1. That MTS advocate at all levels with all education partners and organizations in denouncing the inequities, barriers, and mistreatments that demonstrate the vulgar nature of racism.
2. That MTS provide annual Aboriginal Awareness Training for local association presidents commencing in the 2015-2016 school year. ***(This is being presented at the MTS AGM as Resolution B4.)***

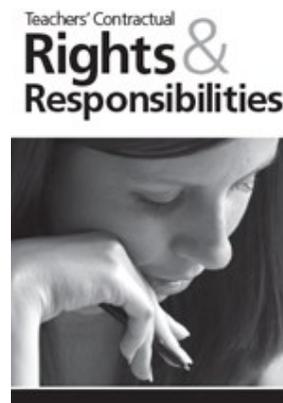
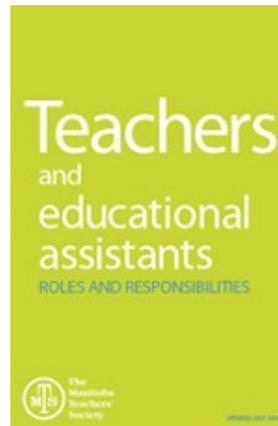
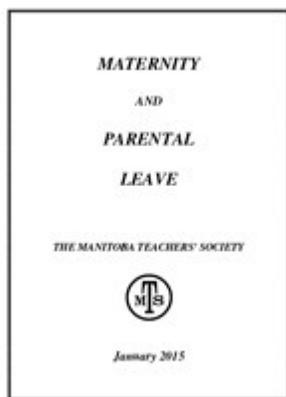
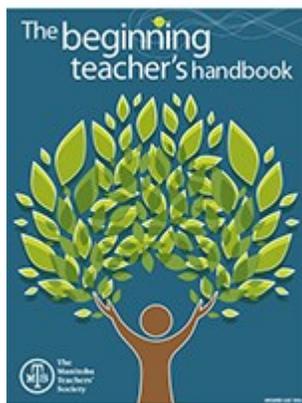
Emamawi Witasoskemitowak: Sharpening the Focus is being planned for Thursday evening, May 28th and Friday, May 29th, 2015. This event builds on the partnership event hosted in May 2014 by MASS, MSBA and MTS. The goal of the 2015 event is to bring together the Aboriginal advisory committees of the three organizations and the Aboriginal Education Directorate (ME&AL) with representatives of the Faculties of Education, TRCM, and others to refine and adopt a joint action plan to improve educational outcomes for Aboriginal students in public schools.

Journeys to Cultural Proficiency - During January and February, members of the committee participated in the four day Journeys from Cultural Awareness to Cultural Proficiency training program that is offered by the Aboriginal Education Directorate. Led by Dr. Myra Laramee, the experience challenges participants to examine their deeply held beliefs and perspectives about Canada's Aboriginal peoples. The program is available on request for educators around the province through the Aboriginal Education Directorate.

MTS Library

Manitoba Teachers' Society maintains an extensive library of electronic documents. On the MTS website (mbteach.org) click the MTS Library icon on the left menu of the homepage to access these and many other interesting and useful documents (some also available in French):

- The Beginning Teacher's Handbook
- Teachers and Educational Assistants: Roles and Responsibilities
- Maternity and Paternal Leave
- Teachers' Contractual Rights and Responsibilities
- MTS Annual Reports
- Past issues of The Manitoba Teacher



Blue Cross Extended Health Benefits

Have you read your Blue Cross Extended Health Benefits booklet lately? Review your benefits plan periodically to ensure you are getting the most out of your plan.

Examples of some of the benefits you may wish to take advantage

of include:

- Chiropractic services
- Orthotics/ orthopedic shoes
- Massage therapist services
- Physiotherapy
- Up to \$300 of vision care benefits ever 24 months

- Travel health

If you cannot locate your benefits booklet, contact the Division Office, or read online at <http://www.mbteach.org/health-benefits/groupbenefits.html>



Mountain View Teachers' Association

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Your Association President, Kathy Bellemare, works on half-time release basis on association business.

Skating Fun!

Your Mountain View Teachers' Association was pleased to sponsor public skating events in each of our communities around the Louis Riel Day long weekend.

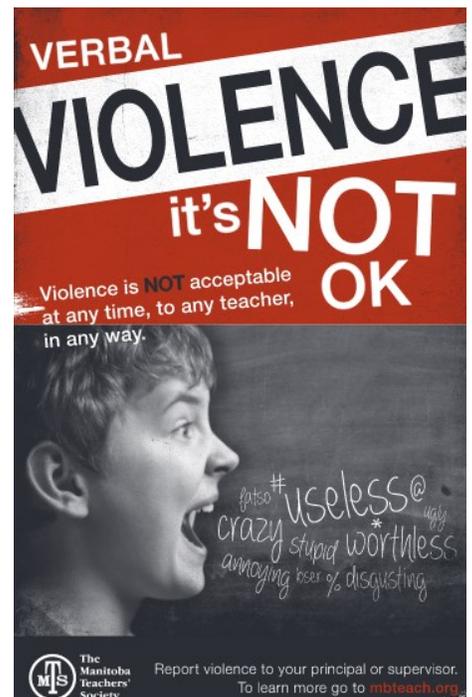
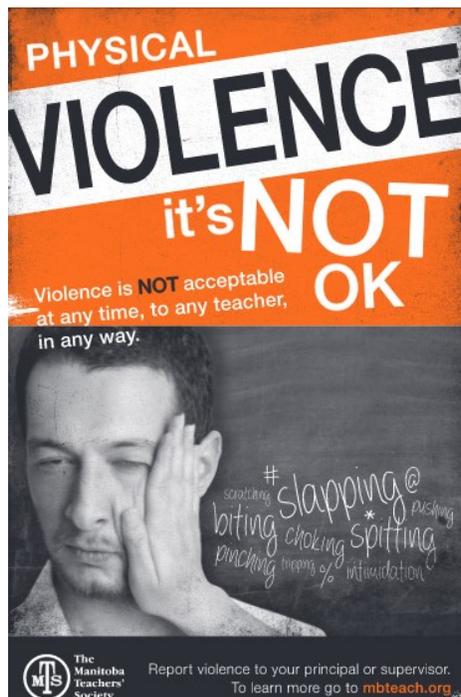
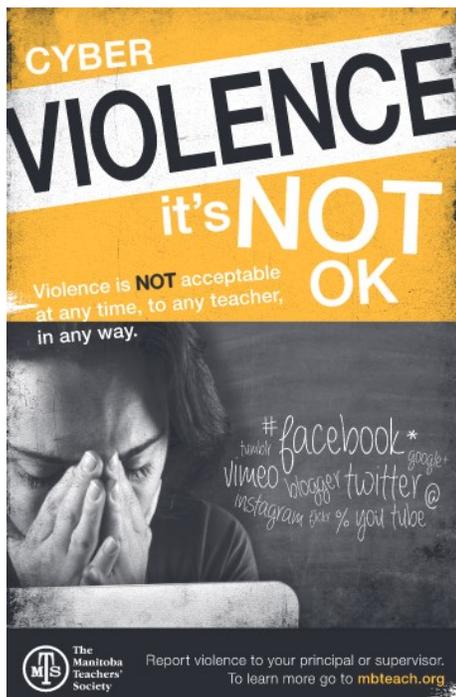
Participants enjoyed fun, fitness, and, in some communities, even a delicious mug of hot chocolate.



With the coming of spring, our students can now enjoy some warmer outdoor activities.

Violence Posters

The posters below are available on the MTS website as part of their campaign against workplace violence. Posters can be printed from the website. Instances of violence should be reported promptly to your principal or supervisor. As well, fill out the reporting form (available on the division website) to ensure there is a record of this incident.



<http://www.mbteach.org/health-benefits/workplacesafety.html>