

# Back Together Again

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As I sit at my computer to write this message, I reflect on the journey teachers have made over the past five months. From evacuation to our return to our classrooms, teachers have exhibited strength in a time of crisis, compassion for colleagues who have lost homes/residence, support for the rebuilding of our community.

The support for our teachers from across our province and country has been amazing - please look at the special Teacher Support feature which outlines the support in this newsletter. As teachers we are often the ones who provide the support and now we are on the receiving side of donations of materials and funds. It is truly humbling.

Many of our Local's events did not take place because of the evacuation - our Local election, the Mullets & Music event to support Canadian Mental Health, our year end Retirement & Celebration, and our Annual General Meeting. Plans are in the works to hold our AGM and local election as soon as possible.

Many Local committees such as Economic Policy, Professional Development, Diversity, Equity, and Human Rights, and Local Political Engagement will be seeking members to fulfil their activities and mandates. Your Local is here to serve you - how will you serve your Local?

As we continue through this year together, please know that your Local is here to support you!

Nancy Ball  
President  
ATA Local 48

**Check out our new  
logo!**



## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Teacher Support
- PD
- Website Update
- Orange Shirt Day—Oct 3



## TEACHER SUPPORT...FROM ACROSS OUR PROVINCE TO AROUND OUR WORLD!

Since May 3rd, teachers from around the world have reached out to support our teaching community.

Donations to the Canadian Red Cross from over 25 Locals, individual teachers, schools, the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation, and matching donations from our Provincial Association, and Federal and Provincial governments totaled \$485, 066.

Our Local also received donations from Grade 1 and Kindergarten teachers from Greater Victoria, retired teachers from New York, the Nova Scotia Teachers Federation, Greater Victoria Teachers Association, Surrey teachers, Rocky View Local, and High Prairie Local. Edmonton Public Local donated \$100, 000 and Edmonton Catholic Local donated \$25,000. These donations totaled \$155, 050 and were used to support teachers returning to Fort McMurray classrooms this year.

Jane Zimmer, a teacher from Slave Lake, has supported our teachers in so many ways - from Scholar's Choice and Education Station discounts, to free subscription to a digital plan book, to driving to Fort McMurray with her truck full of donated resources from Slave Lake teachers.

The Girl Guides of Edmonton donated four boxes containing hole punches, binder clips, staplers and office supplies. We continue to receive emails and phone calls of support from teachers and organizations from as far away as New Zealand. As materials/resources arrive, another teacher support event will be held.

The support has been incredible, and we have undoubtedly, grateful hearts.

### FALL TRADE SHOW

Come check out our fall trade show booth Friday, September 23—Sunday, September 25!

We will have free giveaways as well as free face painting!

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Your Local 48 PD Committee would like to welcome everyone back to this exciting, unusual school year. Some highlights for start up in the PD world include:

- PD grants for 2016/17 will be discussed and voted on at the AGM. Information will also be on the Local 48 website after the AGM.

- Teacher's Institute looks to be spectacular. There is both a national and international flavour to this year's event. Stay tuned for details. We are calling it the

### **ATA Local 48 Research Summit and Professional Learning Day**

- The PD Committee meets every 2nd Wednesday of the month. We meet at Westview School at 4:15 pm. Please come by; check us out. Your involvement in PD can be as short or long as you have time for. We are a very flexible commitment.



**Follow us on Instagram:**

atalocal48

# 2016 ORANGE SHIRT CAMPAIGN



## OCTOBER 3 IS ORANGE SHIRT DAY

Safe and Caring created the Orange Shirt Campaign – **Every Child Matters** remembers the experiences of former students of Indian Residential Schools and is a commitment to ongoing reconciliation in Canada. Originating in British Columbia, this is the third year the campaign will be running in BC and other parts of Canada, and the first coordinated effort to celebrate the campaign in Alberta. The campaign grew out of Phyllis's account of having her shiny new orange shirt taken away on her first day of school at the St. Joseph Mission in Williams Lake, BC. The awareness campaign is an opportunity to continue the discussion on all aspects of residential schools each year.

This year, FMPSD and ATA Local #48 are proud to announce that we will be participating in the Orange Shirt Campaign on **Monday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>**. We are asking all school staff and students to wear an orange shirt that day, to show our support in raising the awareness of this very important campaign.

Please visit [www.safeandcaring.ca](http://www.safeandcaring.ca) for more information or to order your very own orange shirt!

### WEBSITE UPDATE

If you haven't created an online profile with the ATA please do so, we'll be sharing information behind our Members Only wall throughout the year. If you need help please contact your School Representative or a member of Executive.

