



January 2013

W.A.N.T.E.

JANUARY 2013 NEWSLETTER

WORKING FOR YOU

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Happy New Year!

W.A.N.T.E. NOMINATIONS

Have you ever thought about putting your name forward and becoming an elected representative of the W.A.N.T.E. Executive or Council?

Not sure of what's involved or what time commitment is required?

Read on!

Who Can be a Member of Executive?

Any member employed in a permanent position within our bargaining unit may submit their name. To run for the office of President the member must have served as member of the Executive for two consecutive years and be a current officer of the Executive. To run for the office of Vice President the member must have served on Council for two consecutive years.

Who Can be a Member of Council?

Council Representatives are comprised of the various components within the Association. Any member who is employed in a permanent position in that component may submit their name to stand for election to be the representative. No previous experience is required for Council positions.

What is the Time Commitment for an Elected Officer?

Meetings are held monthly. The Executive meets on the second Wednesday of the month and the Council and Executive meet on the third Wednesday of the month. Meetings start at 5:00 p.m. and usually run no later than 7:30 p.m. An elected member will also be appointed to one or more of our various committees and these committees meet at times determined by their mandate or need and can vary from one to two times per year.

What do I Get Out of It?

You will play an important role in the operation of the Association and contribute to meeting the objectives of the Association. You will represent the members and assist them in their working environment and with their successful employment. Becoming an elected representative of the Association will provide you with the opportunity to assist the members and to work with a group of dedicated individuals. The learning experience is very satisfying and rewarding.

All members are welcome and encouraged to participate.

If you have any questions or require any additional information, please contact Carol Gossel, Chairperson of the Nominating Committee at ace30@shaw.ca or call the WANTE office at (204) 953-0250. ***The forms for nominations will be in your workplace by January 31, 2013, Watch for them!!***

Message from the President & Vice President

The Association would like to extend to all our members best wishes for a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year. Both Luis Tome and I, hope everyone enjoyed the holidays and was able to spend some quality time with family and friends.

Please watch for election information in this newsletter and for a following special mailing before the end of January. The process has changed this year and all nominations must be in by Wednesday, February 20, 2013.

If you are interested in letting your name stand for a position or have any questions, please contact Carol Gossel at ace30@shaw.ca or contact the W.A.N.T.E. office at (204) 953-0250.

Wishing you a successful 2013!!

T4 Slips

T4's will be available for print through Employee Connect in February. You should receive an email notification as soon as the 2012 T4's are available.

Remember: The Web print option makes the T4s available to members sooner than waiting for a printed copy to be sent to work locations via division courier.

Please take a minute to ensure that the email address you have recorded in Employee Connect is current.

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Did you know?

If you are off work for a long term illness/injury, there is a 6 month wait period till you are eligible for Disability???

To be eligible for Disability you also must have 2 years of service with WSD and be paying into the Pension Plan.

You will need to have at least 6 months of accumulated sick time to be paid for that period. Twelve month employees can also use accumulated vacation time.

If you do not have that amount of accumulated sick time you will have to either apply for sick benefits thru EI or be off without money coming in for that period till Disability begins.

The W.A.N.T.E. leave will only be available until June 1, 2013. The leave is a negotiated item that we will be renegotiating for during Collective Bargaining.

When you are out of the school with students, on Winnipeg School Division time, employees should go directly from Point A to Point B and make **NO** personal stops, no matter how brief, along the way.

The safety of the students should be first and foremost and any deviation from the schedule or plan could jeopardize the safety of both the student and the employee.

Collective Bargaining Committee - Carla Paul

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Happy, Healthy New Year. My one wish for all is "Happiness".

It is a new year with new beginnings and new outlooks. It is very important for your thoughts and beliefs, as well as your suggestions, be heard and put forward to the Division. The Collective Bargaining Committee will be meeting again, within the next couple of weeks, to continue to prepare the proposal we will put forward to the Division.

I would like to thank all the members who have responded in the past and hope to hear from all members of WANTE. Please send your suggestions to Carla Paul at: cbchair@wante.org.

Hope to hear from you soon.

Health Benefits

Both our Extended Health Benefits and Dental Plans are **MANDATORY** for any employee who has a permanent work schedule of 25 hours or more per week but if you have permanent hours that are less than 25 hours per week you may still join the plan(s) voluntarily.

If you are not part of either plan and should be or would like to be please contact the W.A.N.T.E. office. For more information on either plan please go to www.wante.org/benefits

NEW for ALL W.A.N.T.E. members: W.A.N.T.E. has entered into an agreement with You! Drugmart. YOU! Drugmart is an independently owned pharmacy. They will fill our members prescriptions at one of the lower cost dispensing fees and deliver your prescription right to your workplace. The cost of their dispensing fee is \$6.00. There is no extra charge to our members for the filling of the prescriptions. Please go to the website at www.wante.org/benefits/health for complete details on this offer. Watch for more info coming to your workplaces soon.



In Memory of:



September 5, 2012 - *Evelyn Margaret Scott*, Retired clerk employee of WSD for 18 years.

October 31, 2012 - *Doreen Picken*, Retired Secretary, a employee of WSD for 32 years

December 13, 2012 - *Mary Louise Sveinson*, Educational Assistant, a member of WSD for 13 years.

Liaison News - Luis Tome

The second Liaison meeting of the 2012 - 2013 school year was held on Thursday, December 6, 2012 at Admin Bldg. #2 in Room 106. There were approximately 51 members in attendance including Executive and Council.

The items on the agenda that brought the most discussion were the Role of Liaison Rep., Bereavement and the WANTE Leave.

The chair of Collective Bargaining Committee was once again offered some suggestions for the next negotiations. If you have any topics or suggestions for our next Liaison meeting, please forward them to the WANTE office.

The next Liaison meeting will be held on Thursday, February 7th, 2013. Hope to see you there.

Important Dates

Thursday, Jan 31, 2013	Negativity Virus Workshop Request for Nomination forms in the workplaces
Monday, Feb 4, 2013	Non-Instructional Day**
Thursday, Feb 7, 2013	Liaison Meeting @ Admin #2
Wednesday, Feb 20, 2013	<i>Deadline for all members intentions to run for office on Executive and Council</i>
Monday, Feb 18, 2013	Louis Riel Day—Statutory Holiday
Wednesday, Feb 27, 2013	Gang Awareness Workshop
Thursday, Mar 7, 2013	Wills & Estates Workshop (<i>Tentative</i>)
Friday, Mar 15, 2013	Non-Instructional Day**
<i>Spring Break: March 25 to March 29, 2013</i>	
Thursday, Apr 4, 2013	Liaison Meeting @ Admin #2
Friday, Apr 19, 2013	Non-Instructional Day**
Monday, May 13, 2013	Non-Instructional Day**
Wednesday, May 22, 2013	WANTE Annual General Meeting
Friday, June 28, 2013	Last day of school



** In addition to the Non-Instructional Days indicated above, each school is allotted two additional days that are to be used at their discretion. However, staff, parents and communities must be notified well in advance.

Labour Ed Committee—Pam Elliott

The Labour Ed Committee is pleased to announce the following upcoming Workshops.

Thursday, January 31, 2013

The Negativity Virus
(see information further on in this Newsletter)

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Gang Awareness

Thursday, March 7, 2013

Wills & Estates (*Tentative Date*)

All Workshops are held in Room 106 of Administration Building #2 from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. Light snacks and refreshments will be provided from 4:30 to 5:00 pm.

The registration form for “The Negativity Virus” is at the back of this newsletter. Registration for “Gang Awareness” and “Wills & Estates” will follow at a later date.

Please remember that you MUST register in advance for the Workshop and will only be notified if the Workshop is full. If you have registered for the Workshop and later find that you are unable to attend, please advise the WANTE office as soon as possible.

If you have suggestions about workshops that you would like to see offered to our members, please let me know by email at pamelliott@shaw.ca and the Labour Ed Committee will try to make it happen.

Monday, February 4, 2013 is the next WSD common closure day and all Educational Assistants will be laid off that day.

If your school is holding a PD and you are able to attend, you would have to use one of your remaining EAAD days. If not, it is a No Class Day. Please remember that you can use your Discretionary Day that day as well.

Please be sure to advise the Head Clerk at your work location if you are planning to use an EAAD day or Discretionary Day, otherwise your absence will be recorded as a No Class day and you will be deducted pay.



Snow Days

Please remember that on storm days when the schools and Administration Buildings are **open**, any time taken because of weather conditions is the responsibility of the individual employee.

All absences due to weather, should be reported in SmartFindExpress. Employees who have vacation, compensatory time or discretionary days may use these to cover their absence. Employees who do not have these days available must report their absence due to inclement weather using code 99 WEATHR-Inclement Weather on both SFE and short leave forms. In this case, the absence will be without pay.

It's not too late...



Good

News!

If you thought you missed your opportunity to order one of the very sharp looking royal blue and black WANTE jackets, it's not too late as we will be taking orders again shortly.

Please watch the March Newsletter for the ordering information, or call the WANTE office at (204) 953-0250.

On Line Training Available

W.A.N.T.E. in conjunction with VuBiz, offers members and their families an opportunity to on-line training.

VuBiz offers a huge list of courses available on subjects such as:

- Conflict Management
- Enhancing Your Speaking Skills
- Harassment Prevention for Employees
- Managing Work & Family
- Healthy Workplace Culture
- Employee Ethics
- Communicating Cross Culturally
- Problem Solving In the Workplace
- Time Management
- Working Well with Others

The complete list of On-Line courses as well as the on-line training, may be accessed directly from the WANTE website (www.wante.org).

Online training allows the you the flexibility to work at your own pace and in the comfort of your own home.

The first time that you access the on-line training, you will be required to enter your email address (home or personal) as well as your first and last name. The system uses your e-mail address to create a unique identifier to ensure that you are properly identified in the system which allows for the tracking of your results and printing of certificates in your name.

All subsequent log ins will require only your email address and the WANTE password: WANTE.

We are proud to be able to make this opportunity available to you, our members and their families **all free of charge** and hope you will take advantage of this opportunity and begin your on-line learning experience today!

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT

www.wante.org

Training - On Line

Keeping in Touch !!!

If you have any changes to your address/phone number please let the W.A.N.T.E. office know. We do not receive those changes from WSD.

If you know of a member who is in hospital or ill long term please let the W.A.N.T.E. office know.

Professional Development funding is available to our members from The Winnipeg School Division and from W.A.N.T.E.

Any members seeking funding must first apply through WSD and then to W.A.N.T.E.

WSD PD Funding forms should be available at your work location and WANTE PD Forms are available on the WANTE Website.

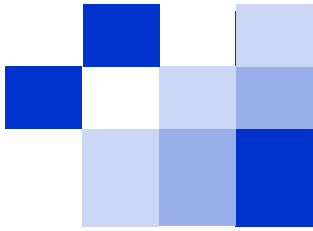
Funding is given up to \$250.00 to an individual once per year or \$500.00 for group funding of more than 5 people.



Remember... We want to hear from you!

Whether it's a suggestion for the Collective Bargaining Committee, an idea for a Labour Ed workshop you'd like to see, or questions about available WSD or WANTE Professional Development funding, ideas, comments etc., we want to hear from you!

Please feel free to contact the WANTE office at (204) 953-0250
or email Barb Morrison, President at wante@wante.org.



W.A.N.T.E.

LABOUR EDUCATION WORKSHOP

Negativity Virus

Do you have a case of the Negativity Virus???

Finding a cure for the “common negative attitude”!!!

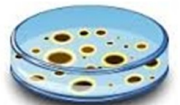
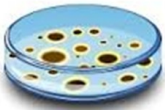
Like a flu or a bad cold, negativity is contagious. It can spread in a matter of minutes and before you know it, the entire environment can be infected with it. No penicillin, antibiotics, or home remedies can stop this epidemic!

This virus is not physical however it does cause negativity to all that it touches.

The Negativity Virus can spread anywhere and has been known to cause a lot of damage to individuals and team productivities in a very short time.

Diagnosing this type of virus is very difficult as the symptoms can be very different for different people. In this workshop, learn:

- How to identify which strain of the negativity virus you or others may catch &/or spread.
- Determine if you are a carrier, susceptible, or immune to this virus.
- Learn the steps for immunization to the negative virus.
- How to develop an antivirus protection program.



Thursday, January 31, 2013

5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Room 106, Administration Building #2

Presented by: Wendy Hofford, Leadership Consultant

A light snack and refreshments will be served from 4:30 - 5:00 pm.

Please complete and return to: W.A.N.T.E. office by Wednesday, January 23, 2013



YES, I would like to attend the “Negativity Virus” workshop being held on **Thursday, January 31, 2013** in Room 106, Administration Building #2.

I will only be notified if the workshop is full.

Name: _____
(Please Print)

Workplace: _____

Signature: _____

Email Address: _____