

# The Apple Core

October 2016

## Upcoming Events

### GVTA Executive meetings:

- December 6
- January 10
- February 7
- March 7
- April 4
- May 2
- June 6

Held at NPC and begin at 4:00. All members are welcome

### Other Events:

- November 1st, 4:30 – Fall General Meeting, Days Inn Conference Center
- November 2nd, 4:00–ESJ book club meeting
- November–School visits by GVTA president

Greetings, GVTA-ers;

I've just returned from two days in Winnipeg: Friday for the MTS PD Day, and Saturday for Presidents' Council. Wow! What a fascinating couple of days to see your organization at work.

The Special Area Groups of Educators (SAGE) represent the Professional Development side of the Manitoba Teachers' Society. The 2016-17 MTS SAGE Brochure states that

**“SAGEs help you:  
keep on top of changes,  
share insights with peers,  
give your teaching the informed edge,  
exercise your autonomy in professional development”.**

The Society and SAGE share responsibility for “promoting innovative activities which provide for improved professional development and promote high standards of professional practice” (MTS Constitution Bylaw VI.4.9.a). Thanks go out to the Division and the Board for supporting our autonomy in choosing appropriate professional development by making it a work day with pay.

After spending my Friday with the Manitoba Music Educators' Association SAGE on Friday, the following day was taken up with MTS Presidents' Council. Local association presidents from across the province meet with the MTS General Secretary, Assistant General Secretary, President, Vice-President, and staff.

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Some tidbits:

The MTS website saw 185% increase over 2015 around Orange Shirt Day. MTS was a national leader with regards to this event.

MTS supports Bill C-262, aimed at adopting and implementing the United Nations' Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act

An MTS Workload Survey is being mailed out in February. The responses help guide the collective bargaining process

MTS' Equity & Social Justice Committee is committed to providing every teacher with an 8½"x5½" card welcoming people to your room as a "Safe & Inclusive Space"

When you leave a meeting, it may be helpful to send a pleasant e-mail to confirm your understandings of any conclusions reached

2017 Summer Jeux Canada Games, sponsored by MTS, is looking for volunteers. It is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the games, and Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary

Keep aware of local and provincial political activities as they relate to educational matters; endeavour to involve yourself

There will be an election for 8 MTS Provincial Executive positions in May 2017. Members are encouraged to consider this opportunity to serve.

As always, I look forward to hearing from as many of you as possible over the course of the year. I can be reached through division e-mail, privately through [gvtapresident@gmail.com](mailto:gvtapresident@gmail.com), or by phone at 204-384-5635. I also hope to see many of you at our Fall General Meeting on Tuesday, November 1<sup>st</sup> at 4:30pm at the Days Inn Conference Centre. After a brief meeting, we will have guest speaker Stephen de Groot, a lasagna supper, and a trivia night hosted by our Social & Teacher Wellness Committee. It looks to be a fantastic evening. Please consider joining us.

Cheers,  
Joel

## Collaborative Learning Groups

The PD committee has approved the Collaborative Learning Groups—CLGs—for this year. Any member is welcome to sign up for a CLG that interests them. The deadline to join a CLG is November 4<sup>th</sup>. Email the contact person listed on the CLG to find out more details. You must have permission from your administrator to join. If you decide to join a CLG, please inform your school's PD rep and the PD chair (Raffaele Bagnulo). Here are a list of the CLGs that have been approved. For more information, talk to your school's PD rep.

- Share and Learn games - PE Staff
- Using the CNC Router
- Book Study - Number Talks
- Fitness instructor Certification
- French Literacy
- Co-teaching
- Book Study Math Mindsets by Jo Boaler
- Articulation Development in students
- Memo Technology Systems
- Research and Development of Math Games for Grade 6
- Book Study - Tanny McGregor
- Educational Psychology Intervention (School Psychologist)
- Online Workshop - Power Storytelling (Social Work)
- Strategies for acting, choreography and vocal skills
- Music Tool Box Orff philosophy of teaching music
- Create Hands on -Electricity Grade 6
- Video - Fine points in film making
- Differentiated Math Instruction Book: Great Ways to Differentiate Mathematics Instruction by Marian Small

# Maintenance Drugs Delivered Right to Your Door!

Manitoba Public Schools Employee Trust is launching a Preferred Pharmacy network on January 1, 2017.

## What is a Preferred Pharmacy Network?

A preferred pharmacy network is a group of pharmacies which involves a prescription drug plan that selects a group of preferred pharmacies (in this case Costco), who are willing to give the plans a larger discount than other pharmacies.

The name of the preferred pharmacy network that we will use is Express Scripts Canada

## How Does It Work?

Express Scripts Canada (through Costco) can deliver your medications by mail!

If you register with this **optional** service, 90% of your medication cost is covered, instead of the usual 80%.

You will have access to on call pharmacists 24/7

Express Scripts Canada provides:

- free home delivery in Canada

- auto refills and renewal reminders

- online transfer and refill requests

- note; Express Scripts will not fill prescriptions that contain narcotics

## Why?

- To help you save money on prescriptions

- Convenience of free home delivery for maintenance medications

- No change in premiums

- Use is optional

## How do you save?

- You pay 10% of the cost, instead of the usual 20%

- Lower dispensing fees

- ESC fills 90 day supplies where appropriate, so you pay for only 1 dispensing fee

- Substitute lower cost alternatives if you and your doctor approve

## How will it be launched?

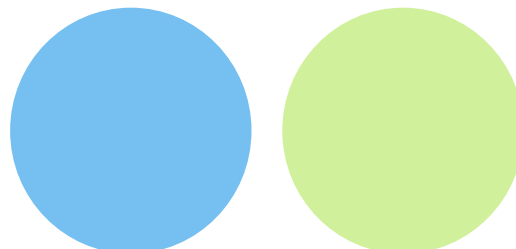
- You will receive an email containing information in mid-November

- Information will explain how to sign up and how to use the network

- Signing up for Express Scripts Canada is easy and you do not need to be a Costco member

- Follow up notification/reminder will be sent in early January

For more information or if you have questions, please contact Sarah Quickfall - [sarah.quickfall@gvsd.ca](mailto:sarah.quickfall@gvsd.ca) or Glen Anderson - MTS Benefits Staff Officer - [ganderson@mbteach.org](mailto:ganderson@mbteach.org)



## Orange Shirt Day

Many GVSD teachers participated in Orange Shirt Day this year. The GVTA executive were provided shirts from MTS for this day. Orange Shirt Day is an initiative to raise awareness of residential school survivors and their experiences in this system. Thank you to everyone who participated this year and we hope to see more orange shirts next year as the movement grows!



**You are supported.**



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**SCHOOL EMPLOYEES**  
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Garden Valley Teachers' Association  
Executive Meeting  
**SUMMARY**  
**Tuesday, October 4, 2016 @ 4:15 pm**  
**NPC – Culinary Classroom**

Present:

Joel Swaan (PKD) – President, CB Chair	Rick Schroeder (NPC) – VP, Ed Finance Chair
Mary Eberling-Penner (PCS) – Secretary	Rhonda Peters (NPC) – Treasurer
James Driedger (NPC) – ESJ Co-Chair	Caitlin Parr (GVC) – Social/Wellness Chair
Anny Froese (PDS) – Ed Finance Co-Chair	Sarah Quickfall (GVC) – Benefits Chair; CB Co-Chair
Gwen Heinrichs (DO) – Member-at-Large	Wes Reimer (BVS) – Member-at-Large
Jacqui Kusnick (ECS) – PD Co-Chair	Karla Rootsaert (SWD) – PR Chair
Joe Lindhorst (NPC) – ESJ Chair	Laura Unger (WES) – Member-at-Large
Dale Martens (NPC) – Benefits Co-Chair	Joanne Unrau (SWD) – PR Co-Chair
Jacque Mitchell (SUB) – WS&H Liaison	Mike Urichuk (ECS) – Social/Wellness Co-Chair
Josh Neufeld (JRW) – Member-at-Large	

1. **First Year Teachers' BBQ** – 23 teachers attended the GVTA First Year Teachers' BBQ on Sept. 22.
2. **"Every Child Matters" Campaign, Sept 30** – Executive members supported the day by wearing orange shirts to honour and raise awareness for Residential School survivors. As the bulk price is cheaper than the individual price, the GVTA is committed to placing a bulk order on behalf of interested divisional teachers in advance of the event, at their own expense, in September 2017.
3. **GVTA Executive Retreat** – The GVTA Executive retreat on Tuesday, November 1<sup>st</sup> will consist of our monthly Executive Meeting, a team-building event, lunch, and then an afternoon with Stephen de Groot, Transformation Architect for Myriad Consulting. The cost is subsidized in part by MTS Balance Wellness program.
4. **Fall GVTA General Meeting** – Tuesday, November 1<sup>st</sup> @ 4:30pm at the Days Inn Conference Centre. After a short meeting of new and necessary reports from GVTA Executive, there will be a presentation by Stephen de Groot, followed by supper for all attendees and a Trivia Night hosted by Social/Wellness Committee Chairs.
5. **Compassion Gifts (Article J, GVTA Policy & Procedures document)** – GVTA Policy is to acknowledge significant loss or illness with a card and/or gift. Cards will be ordered for this outreach activity, and distributed to teachers experiencing significant events via their unit reps. Executive members acknowledged the need to be more diligent in this area.
6. **Divisional E-mail** – Executive members will distribute "all\_teachers" e-mails to the President first, to be mindful of teachers' needs, and to be respectful towards our ability to distribute information using this mechanism.
7. **Benefits** – The MPSE Dental and Extended Health trust along with MPSE Group Life has approved Costco and Express Scripts as preferred pharmacies with 90% coverage. Optional enrollment in Express Scripts will commence on November 15<sup>th</sup>. Benefits Chair will give more details at Fall GM.
8. **Workplace Safety & Health** – Thanks to teachers who serve on the divisional WS&H Committee: Brian Dyck (JRW), Jon Funk (GVC), David Hoepfner (PDS), Jacque Mitchell (SUB), Wes Neufeld (WES), Matt Scholz (SWD), Rick Schroeder (NPC), Marty Siemens (BES), Doug Still (ECS), Joel Swaan (PKD); sub-committee members: Della Friesen (NPC), Bruce Kroeker (GVC), Brenda Richer (NPC). Thanks also to non-teacher members: Monica Ginter (PKD), Helen Guenther (BUS), Andrew Rempel (PCS), & Abe Wiebe (DO).
9. **Next GVTA Executive Meeting** – Tuesday, November 1, 2016 – GVC Hut #1 – 9am; all members welcome.





# GVTA FALL GENERAL MEETING, SUPPER, & TRIVIA NIGHT

IN THAT ORDER

**Tuesday, November 1 @ 4:30pm – Days Inn Conference Centre**  
General Meeting, Guest Speaker, Lasagna Supper, then Trivia Night

Guest Speaker: Stephen de Groot, Transformation Architect  
Co-Sponsored by MTS Balance

