

Annual Representative Assembly

May 22 to 24, 2010

Minister's Address

- Issues – Funding & Staffing
 - Shortage of teachers by 2012/13 and an increase in student population
 - Focus on funding should be towards teacher effectiveness and not about teacher remuneration
- M of A has allowed us to focus on education in future
 - Enhanced Dialogue
 - Inspiring Education
 - Setting the Direction

Honorary Membership – Dr. Julius Buski, Mr. Earl Hjelter

Public Education Award – Dave King, Chair of Public Education Committee

President's Address

- Challenges/Accomplishments
 - Fiscal Challenges (staffing and funding cutbacks)
 - Future Issues → Provincial Achievement Tests to be replaced by an AFL

Annual Report of the Association

- AAWE resolved from 4.9% to 5.99% - arbitration win
- Agreement is working very well
 - 5 year agreement has gone very well
 - Practice Review – 2009
 - Monitoring competence of our professional colleagues
 - Grade 3 Provincial Testing/Special Needs Education/RLF Initiative
 - Renovation of Seymour Tower – done by 2011 (16 million in construction costs)
 - DR Redistricting
 - New Association website
- Year Ahead:
 - Inspiring Education
 - New School Act – role of the profession

Electoral Ballots/Resolutions/Reports:

Electoral Ballot 1 – President's Casting Vote – removes presidents from casting a vote in the case of a tie. This gives this power to the returning officers.	Carried
Electoral Ballot 4 – Publication of the Names of Members Who Opt	Carried

our of Active Membership.	
Electoral Ballot 5 – By-Election Timelines (on, or before, after the first day of July)	Carried
Electoral Ballot 6 – Establishment of a Special Local for Retired Teachers	Carried
147/10 – That the ATA urge school boards to act on the expectation of the Minister of Education to maintain teacher staffing by utilizing reserves or going into short-term debt.	Carried
148/10 – That the ATA urge the Government of Alberta to honour the Premier’s commitment to fully fund school boards for 2010 and 2011 increases in AAWE without reducing the commitment to the Class Size Initiative.	Carried
Report of Committee on Redistricting and DR Workload – 143/10 – In accordance with General Bylaw 34, the 11 geographic districts be named and comprised of locals. In our situation we move from Central East to Central North (Aspen View Local 7, Battle River Local 32, Greater St. Paul Local 25, Lakeland Catholic Separate Local 30, Northern Lights Local 15, Park Plains Local 40). 144/10 – That PEC be directed to prepare an electoral ballot for consideration by the 2011 ARA to add to the General Bylaws the requirement that geographic district boundaries be reviewed every 10 years and that a report be submitted to the ARA. 145/10 – That PEC be directed to re-examine the issue of districting and representation by population and that a report be submitted to the 2012 ARA.	Carried Carried Carried
ATRF Report Stock Market has led to an 8.5% loss in investments. Contribution increase of about \$87 a month with 4 years and 10 experience effective Sept. 1, 2010. 146/10 – The ATA urge the Government of Alberta to amend the Teachers’ Pension Plan Act to remove the Canada Pension Plan offset of 0.6 per cent on salary earned up to the Yearly Maximum Pensionable Earnings so that teachers receive a full two per cent benefit per year of service, with related costs to this amendment to be funded by the Alberta Government for post-1992 service.	Carried
131/10 – Members of the Association corps (instructors, economic consultants, pension consultants, etc.) who are required to attend Summer Conference be given the option of single accommodation. (<i>cost: \$31,500</i>)	Refer to Further Study and Report
132/10 – That there be a Political Engagement Course every year at Summer Conference (<i>cost: \$38,600</i>)	Defeated
133/10 – The ATA obtain e-mail accounts for all active members from a tendered third party provider. (<i>cost: approx. \$500,000</i>)	Defeated
ATA Educational Trust – funding of grants for various projects done by teachers or attendance at specialist councils.	
136/10 – The annual fee payable by an associate member be 15 per cent	Carried

of the fee paid by an active member effective 2010 09 01	
137/10 - The ATA sponsor, with another education partner, a symposium to highlight research efforts related to school improvement and educational development (<i>cost: \$15,000</i>)	Carried
138/10 – The ATA undertake research projects to examine factors to examine factors that contribute to the growth and development of teacher leaders (<i>cost: \$10,000</i>)	Carried
139/10 – The ATA provide funding for the development of a research centre to focus on teacher leadership development (<i>cost: \$10,000</i>)	Carried
140/10 – That the ATA investigate key emerging technologies to evaluate the opportunities or challenges for teaching, learning and teacher workload (<i>cost: \$25,000</i>)	Carried
141/10 – That the ATA assist teachers in integrating francophone cultural components within the Alberta curriculum (<i>cost: \$7,000</i>)	Carried
69/10 – The ATA believes that teachers and school and system administrators must not be expected to adopt a school’s or school system’s improvement goals or format for their individual professional growth plans.	Carried
73/10 – Teacher Growth & Supervision Policy amended to include reasons for the evaluation as well as a statement of the process, criteria and standards to be used.	Carried
74/10 – Long-range policy to align with Practice Review. If on completion of an evaluation the superintendent concludes that the teacher’s suitability for certification is in question, the superintendent shall report to the executive secretary to initiate a professional practice review hearing.	Carried
78/10 – The ATA take action to ensure that teachers are not pressured to accept a school’s or school system’s goals or format for individual teacher professional growth plans.	Carried
98/10 – ATA encourage each local association to establish a standing committee to support diversity, equity and human rights.	Carried
100/10 – ATA encourage its locals to integrate into their political engagement programs, independently or in collaboration with other locals, stakeholders or agencies, projects to support diversity, equity, human rights, social responsibility, justice and democracy in their schools and/or communities.	Carried
63/10 – The ATA urge the Department of Education to take steps to ensure that a principal be assigned as principal of no more than one school.	Carried
124/10 – That PEC initiate a comprehensive review of Summer Conference including, but not limited to, the effectiveness and relevance of programming, the cost and appropriateness of location and the overall impact felt by locals, with a report to the 2011 ARA	Defeated
Financial Statement for 2008/09	
Budget	
142/10 - Increase to member fees of \$54 (from \$1,059 per	Carried

year to \$1,113)	
23/10 – Long term policy amendment to collective bargaining. Government and teachers at the table to talk about compensation, benefits and other matters. Other issues to be bargained locally with school boards.	Carried
4/10 – The ATA urge the Government of Alberta to work with the profession to bring about changes to the diploma examination program.	Carried
33/10 – The ATA urge all levels of government to develop policies and procedures to ensure the appropriate conduct of parents towards teachers in an effort to protect the overall well-being of teachers and students.	Carried
34/10 – The ATA urge the Government of Alberta to allocate funds to eliminate the entire unfunded liability of the ATRF.	Carried
41/10 – ATA urge the Government of Alberta to provide sufficient funding to school boards for major reductions in class size.	Carried
126/10 – In the event a resolution on the floor of the ARA is referred for study and report, the sponsoring local of the member of the original resolution be invited to name one member to the committee formed to conduct the study, should such a committee be created.	Carried
110/10 – Long range policy amended to align with corporate presence in schools. Establishes partnership guidelines.	Carried
111/10 – Long range policy amended to read “In principle, schools should be free of business for profit; to this end ... corporate money, supplied to schools for scholarships and awards is received only in recognition of educational achievement, sporting contributions, community leadership or citizenship; and ...”.	Carried
116/10 – The ATA urge school system officials, schools and teachers to ensure the policies of those corporations which offer scholarships, awards or endowments to students publicly-funded schools do not conflict with the goals and values (such as fair labour practices) of the Association.	Defeated
82/10 – That the ATA in conjunction with the Department of Education and school boards, develop policies and strategies to address issues of student and teacher safety, cyberbullying and the appropriate uses of online and digital technologies.	Carried
94/10 - That the ATA urge the Department of Education to review the efficacy of distributed learning delivery related to the Career and Life Management and Physical Education courses.	Carried
Report of Committee on Subgroup Surpluses Create a strategic 3 to 5 year plan. Fiscal responsibility Appropriate cushion to potential financial risk 120/10 – That, unless there is reason to do otherwise, each local association should maintain an unencumbered accumulated surplus that does not exceed 50 per cent of annual fee revenues.	Carried

<p>121/10 – That, unless there is reason to do otherwise, each specialist council should maintain an unencumbered accumulated surplus that does not exceed 50 per cent annual expenditures from the previous year.</p>	<p>Carried</p>
<p>149A/10 – The ATA urge school jurisdictions to ensure that reductions in substitute pools/lists be done in a fair and equitable manner and as much as possible leave the decision to continue as a substitute up to the individual substitute.`</p>	<p>Carried</p>
<p>150A/10 – The urge school boards to allocate tiered credit-enrollment unit (CEU) funds intended to reduce class sizes in CTS classrooms directly to class size reductions in those classrooms.</p>	<p>Carried</p>
<p>151A/10 – The ATA urge the Department of Education to reinstate the written component to diploma examinations that have had a written component removed.</p>	<p>Carried</p>