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**SUPERANNUATED TEACHERS OF SASKATCHEWAN**

**MEMBER REPORT**

**Information**

**Membership** – 11,362 – 42 Chapters including 2 in British Columbia

**NOTE:**

The Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan is constituted as a local of the Saskatchewan Teachers′ Federation (STF) and is assigned eight voting councillors for all annual meetings of the STF.

1. **MAJOR CONCERNS OF YOUR ORGANIZATION**
2. **FEDERAL LEVEL**
3. Creation of a National Pharmacare Program.
4. Lower age of OAS eligibility from 67 to 65.
5. Introduce Seniors′ Price Index to ensure OAS and GIS benefits align with true increases to cost of living.
6. Continued vigilance regarding Bill C-27 and pension reform.
7. Ensuring a coordinated effort towards safeguarding the interests of seniors and improving their quality of life through a mechanism such as a national seniors care plan or a ministry of seniors.

1. **PROVINCIAL LEVEL**
2. Having reached an impass~~e~~ in provincial bargaining for teachers, the Saskatchewan Teachers’ Federation has applied for binding arbitration. The Education Relations Board has appointed the Arbitration Board and a decision is expected in September 2018.
3. In recent months, leadership elections were held for the Saskatchewan Party and the NDP. The STF launched its How to Pick a Premier Campaign as a first step in a long-term strategy to get education back on the political agenda in Saskatchewan. The STF saw this as a rare opportunity to influence the leadership contests for Saskatchewan’s two main political parties, and to ensure they understand the importance of a properly funded public education system.
4. On February 26, 2018, the Saskatchewan Government announced that the Provincial Sales Tax (PST) no longer applies to insurance premiums for insurance contracts, in particular, for individual and group life insurance, and individual and group health, disability, accident and sickness insurance. The PST exemption is extended retroactive to August 1, 2017.
5. Saskatchewan Budget 2018:

* K-12 education gets back $30 million in funding. School boards had called for the restoration of $54 million cut in last year’s budget.
* Financial support for post-secondary students is cut back $30 million.

1. **MAIN ACTIVIES OF YOUR ASSOCIATION SINCE LAST ACER-CART AGM**
   1. Annual President′s Meeting.
   2. Five Executive meetings annually – conference calls as required.
   3. STS President′s visits to STS Chapters.
   4. Provincial Executive liaison representatives to each of the 42 Chapters.
   5. Publication and distribution of five issues of OUTREACH annually.
   6. Support of Chapters hosting provincial recreational events.
   7. Member of the Saskatchewan Seniors′ Mechanism.
   8. Two $1,500.00 scholarships to support university studies.
   9. Annual grant of $2,000.00 in support of the activities of the Dr. Stirling McDowell Foundation.
   10. Honorary Life Member Awards.
   11. Saskatchewan Teachers Federation Planning for Retirement Seminars –Presenters are guests of STF and represent the Provincial STS Executive who are responsible for the business, financial affairs and policy initiatives of the organization. Their role is to outline the reasons why retired teachers might join the STS, provide an overview of the STS Extended Health and Dental Plan and provide documentation and contact information.
   12. STS Retirement Lifestyle Seminars – The purpose of these interactive seminars is to allow participants an opportunity to examine and discuss foundational questions about retirement and the realities of retirement. Participants explore their preparedness for the changes retirement will bring to their lifestyle and that of their significant others.
2. **AGM MOTIONS FROM YOUR ASSOCIATION TO THE ACER-CART AGM.**

Will be forwarded to ACER-CART immediately following the STS AGM May 8-10, 2018.