

April 4, 2020

www.staffassociation.ca

Message from the Chair...

In this unprecedented time, we want to acknowledge how members have come together to support each other. Many are working from home, providing all the necessary supports to facilitate the emergency “at-home learning” process. “Non-Essential” support staff continue to demonstrate daily exactly how essential they are in supporting learning. So, starting with thank you’s to everyone for their patience and understanding as we work together to navigate this global health crisis and the unfolding financial situation.

Staff Association continues to work hard on your behalf to minimize the impact of these cuts.

There are ongoing discussions with the CBE, and we are being updated on developments and involved in plans as they evolve. We should have a better idea over the weekend or early next week as to what the temporary lay-offs will look like. Updates will come to you via the FYI and our website as plans and agreements are finalized.

There have been many questions come to us around benefits, applying for the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB), Employment Insurance (EI) applications and dates for potential temporary lay-offs. We are still awaiting final numbers from CBE before finalizing all the details.

On behalf of the SA Board of Directors and Office Staff,

Rae-Ann Royal

Q&A's and Important Information

Will support staff receive any notice prior to lay-offs or will they be immediate?

Yes, support staff will get three (3) weeks or more paid notice prior to any lay-off date.

Will support staff continue to receive benefits while on lay-off?

Yes, health and dental benefits will continue uninterrupted.

What happens to our personal leave days?

Personal leave days must be used by June 30, 2020.

Work from home reminder: As those on the modified calendar return to work on Monday, we would like to remind you that all school-based staff who request to work from home may do so. Staff simply need to send their principal an email. There have been issues with many principals who have forgotten that the primary reason we are doing this is to keep people out of the school, to protect all Albertans from the spread of COVID-19 by practicing social distancing.

As you are aware, the federal government has introduced a program to assist those who have lost income due to COVID-19. The Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) program opens on April 6th, but there are things you can do now. You can open a Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) account, necessary for the application for the CERB. If you file your income taxes online, you should already have an account (however, it is a good idea to double check). You can open an account or access an existing one here: <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/my-account.html>

To read about this benefit, please visit the Government of Canada website at:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/ei/cerb-application.html>

In Alberta, residential customers can defer electricity and natural gas bill payments for the next 90 days, regardless of the service provider: <https://www.alberta.ca/utility-payment-deferral.aspx>

Please continue to visit CBE's Insite webpage, Alberta Health and the Alberta Government websites often. Also continue to check the Staff Association website for updated information.

If you would like to share your concerns with the Premier, Education Minister, or your local MLA their information is provided below:

Jason Kenney

Email: premier@gov.ab.ca

Adriana LaGrange

Minister of Education

E-mail: education.minister@gov.ab.ca

Contact your MLA:

<http://streetkey.elections.ab.ca/>

Contact Us

Although our office is closed and SA's office staff is working from home, we will continue to provide information and support as we work through this difficult time.

Rae-Ann Royal , Chairperson	403.242.7555 ext. 1	chair@staffassociation.ca
Mark Johnson , Manager	403.242.7555 ext. 2	mrjohnson@staffassociation.ca
Loren Keister , Manager	403.242.7555 ext. 4	loren@staffassociation.ca
Dawn Scott , Administrative Secretary	403.242.7555 ext. 0	dawn@staffassociation.ca
Sue Wenaas , Staff Development Fund Administrator & Convention Coordinator	403.242.7555 ext. 3	sue@staffassociation.ca

SA's Spring Information Meeting

Staff Association's Board of Directors' confirm, with regret, that our Spring Information Meeting set for April 22, 2020 has been cancelled due the COVID-19 crisis.

Valuable CBE Information

Employee Contact Centre (ECC)

Need Help? Have Questions? Call CBE's Employee Contact Centre: t | 403-817-7333 ecc@cbe.ab.ca. The Employee Contact Centre (ECC), CBE Human Resources, can assist you with questions regarding your salary, payroll, group benefits, pension, leaves, vacation pay, salary verification letters, records of employment, T4's, retirement planning, resignation/retirement processing and any other general inquiry you may have including self-service in PeopleSoft.

Employee and Family Assistance Program

Help to manage work and personal life – at no cost – 24/7

Homewood Health: 1.800.663.1142	TTY: 1.888.384.1152	www.homeweb.ca
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For more information please visit CBE's website (www.cbe.ab.ca): ***Insite → manage your career → compensation & benefits → Employee & Family Assistance Program***