



WESTTA Executive Meeting MINUTES

WESTTA Office @ 4:10pm, Thursday, May 15, 2025

Attendance:

- ☐ Shawna Dobbelaere (MCI) – President
- ☐ Andrei Mardli (EDT) – ESJ Chair
- ☐ Laura Rowley (MCI) – Public Relations Chair
- ☐ Reid Sloan (MLS) – VP & CB Co-Chair
- ☐ Heather Addison (MCI) – Secretary
- ☐ Kathi Hamm (MINN) – CB Co-Chair
- ☐ Dawn Rigaux (MCI) – Social Chair
- ☐ Craig Hawryshko (MCI) – Treasurer

- ☐ Demaris Wilson (MCI) - Indigenous Ed Chair
- ☐ Megan Verrier (EMMS) – WSH Chair

Invited Guests:

- ☐ Norman Davis (EMMS)
- ☐ Bryan Prokopetz (MINN)
- ☐ Taylor Burke (EMMS)

Regrets:

- ☐ Joslynn Orr (Guest) Warren McKennit (Sub)
Tyler Sloan, Tara Routhier
-

1. Call to order & Acknowledgment

Western Teachers' Association operates on the lands of the Anishinaabe and Dakota peoples. WESTTA respects the treaties that were made on this land. As educators, we acknowledge our responsibility to educate ourselves and others about the far-reaching effects of colonialism and we dedicate ourselves to moving forward in partnership with Indigenous communities in a spirit of reconciliation and collaboration.

2. Additions to the agenda

3. Approval of the agenda **Moved by D. Wilson seconded by Kathi Hamm. Carried.**

4. Approval of the WESTTA March 18, 2024 Executive Meeting Minutes. **Moved by H. Addison seconded by R. Sloan. Carried.**

5. Old Business

6. President's Report – S. Dobbelaere

- Mar 21 – Work on WESTTA Indigenous Resources with D. Wilson
- Mar 24 – WSD Regular Board Meeting – Kathi attended-thank you!
- Mar 26 – Meeting with superintendent & VP @ D.O.
- Mar 26 – Liaison lunch with VP
- Apr 10 – WSD WSH Training @ D.O.
- Apr 11 – WSD PD Morning
- Apr 15 – WESTTA AGM (MCI)
- Apr 14 – WSD Regular Board Meeting @ D.O.
- Apr 23 & 24 AM – Observer at Provincial Executive Meeting
- Apr 26 – Presidents' Council #4 (Virtually)
- Apr 28 – WSD Regular Board Meeting – Reid attended-thank you!
- May 1 – MTS Binder Meeting AM (Virtual)
- May 7 – SC Regional PD Meeting (Teams) Unable to attend because of Early Closing
- May 8 – Coffee with PSTA President (Office)
- May 12 – WSD Regular Board Meeting

Upcoming:

- May 22-24 - MTS Provincial Council-Reid, Heather, Dawn, Norman
- June 5 – WESTTA WSH Transition Meeting (WSH grant) (Office)

- June 16 – WESTTA Transition supper meeting (Location TBA)
- June 19 – Office open house with The IceCycle (up to 50 treats)
- June 23 – MAEC Grad

Recent inquiries:

- Lunch duty (on call)
- Investigation notice
- Sick leave/Leave of absence
- WESTTA Elections/Exec roles x 3
- Extracurricular hours/days x 5
- Preparation time
- WESTTA website password reset x2
- On-the-job Injury

Goals:

- Member Communication and Engagement
 - Internal: Website notification problem-solving & elections info/Legends bakery school visits
 - Succession planning for WESTTA president & regular meetings with the VP.
 - External: Connecting with local presidents
- Relationship building with Western Board
 - Attending Board Meetings & Public Board presentation.

Correspondence:

- MTS Elections Bona Fide Candidates – Any endorsement letters have been forwarded to R.Sloan:
 - Jan.15
 - Joel Swaan, GVTA, for President
 - Cathy Pleskach, ITA for Vice President
 - Lindsay Brown, SOTA for Vice President
 - Serena Klos, STA for Member-at-Large (MAL)
 - Jan. 16
 - Jeff Cieszecki, SOTA for MAL
 - Jason Oliver, RETTA for MAL
 - Jan. 17-Nicole Bobick, SVTA for MAL
 - Jan. 21-Mervat Yehia, TTA for MAL
 - Jan. 23-Shawn Kozarchuk, WTA for MAL
 - Jan. 24-Catherine Hart, SOTA for MAL
 - Feb. 5-Albert Krynski, PTA for MAL
 - Feb. 11-Jamie Shuhyta, LSTA for MAL
 - Feb. 13-Jonathan Waite, SRTA for President
 - Feb. 14-Lillian Klausen, RETTA for President
- Jan. 21/25 from Andrea Zaroda, TW Staff Officer
 - Grievance filed regarding the Maternity/Paternity Leave Benefits form signed by members.
 - Asked for update on April 23rd.
- Presidents' Council Update: 25 grievances were filed on the same day. One is going forward to arbitration. The others (including WESTTA's) is in abeyance [sitting until the arbitration is resolved and not subject to timeline limitations].
- March 21/25 from Luisa Vieira Arruda, MTS HR Business Partner
 - Welcome Bryce Mason as Communications Advisor beginning April 14, 2025/
- March 26/25 from Luisa Vieira Arruda, MTS HR Business Partner
 - Welcome Dan McGregor as Chief Financial Officer (CFO) beginning May 20, 2025.
 - Welcome Sandy Welbergen as Professional French Language Services Staff Officer beginning July 15, 2025.
- Apr. 10/25 from Luisa Vieira Arruda, MTS HR Business Partner
 - Welcome Jamie Krutkevich Slight, assisting Teacher Welfare April 14-summer until the posted permanent Staff Officer TW position is filled.
- Apr. 29/25 from Luisa Vieira Arruda, MTS HR Business Partner
 - Anne Bennett, Public Relations Facilitator, announced her retirement as of May 30, 2025.

- May 1/25 from Stephen Ross, WSD
 - Payment schedule for the 2025-26 school year. *Shared on westta.ca and added to calendar.

7. Treasurer's Report:

- March 2025:

WESTERN TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION			TREASURER'S REPORT		2024/2025
Month			March 1st 2025	March 31st 2025	
REVENUE			Received	Year to Date	Budget 2024-2025
					Difference
Fees -\$123			\$ 10,982.14	\$22,418.03	\$ 23,010.00 -\$ 591.97
Interest			\$ -	\$ -	\$ - \$ -
Miscellaneous	El Rebate		\$ 10,385.40	\$10,385.40	\$ 13,000.00 -\$ 2,614.60
	MTS - President release		\$ -	\$37,117.00	\$ 40,250.00 -\$ 3,133.00
	MTS Grants		\$ -	\$ 1,675.00	\$ 500.00 \$ 1,175.00
	WESTTA Events		\$ -	\$ 170.00	\$ - \$ 170.00
	Other		\$ -	\$ -	\$ - \$ -
		Total	\$ 21,367.54	\$71,765.43	\$ 76,760.00 -\$ 4,994.57

			EXPENDITURES		Expended	Year to Date	Balance	Budget
Bank	Balance	\$ 61,512.93						
	Share	\$ 5.00						
	Revenue	\$ 21,367.54						
	Expenses	\$ 3,073.60						
	Balance	\$ 79,806.87						
			Social		\$ 393.75	\$ 2,163.78	\$ 836.22	\$ 3,000.00
			Operating		\$ 2,293.29	\$ 2,958.97	\$ 1,541.03	\$ 4,500.00
			Financial Review		\$ -	\$ 2,128.00	\$ - 628.00	\$ 1,500.00
			Retreat		\$ -	\$ 683.31	\$ 2,316.69	\$ 3,000.00
			Public Relations		\$ -	\$ 460.46	\$ 2,039.54	\$ 2,500.00
			Scholarship		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 2,400.00
			Collective Bargaining		\$ -	\$ 56.42	\$ 243.58	\$ 300.00
			A.G.M.		\$ 17.00	\$ 17.00	\$ 1,983.00	\$ 2,000.00
			Equity & Social Justice		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00
			Professional Development		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
			other		\$ -	\$ 253.26	\$ - 253.26	\$ -
			Indigenous Education		\$ 369.56	\$ 369.56	\$ 130.44	\$ 500.00
			First Year teacher		\$ -	\$ 183.43	\$ 466.57	\$ 650.00
			WTA President's Release		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 53,750.00	\$ 53,750.00
			Total		\$ 3,073.60	\$ 9,274.19	\$ 65,275.81	\$ 74,550.00
			Date:	March 31st 2025				

- April 2025:

WESTERN TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION			TREASURER'S REPORT		2024/2025
Months			April 1st 2025	April 30th 2025	
REVENUE			Received	Year to Date	Budget 2024-2025
					Difference
Fees -\$123			\$ -	\$ 22,418.03	\$23,010.00 -\$ 591.97
Interest			\$ -	\$ -	\$ - \$ -
Miscellaneous	El Rebate		\$ -	\$ 10,385.40	\$ 13,000.00 -\$ 2,614.60
	MTS - President release		\$ -	\$ 37,117.00	\$ 40,250.00 -\$ 3,133.00
	MTS Grants		\$ -	\$ 1,675.00	\$ 500.00 \$ 1,175.00
	WTA Events		\$ -	\$ 170.00	\$ - \$ 170.00
	Other		\$ -	\$ -	\$ - \$ -
		Total	\$ -	\$ 71,765.43	\$ 76,760.00 -\$ 4,994.57
Bank	Balance	\$ 79,806.87			
	Share	\$ 5.00			
	Revenue	\$ -			
	Expenses	\$ 636.09			
	Balance	\$ 79,170.78			

- Motion to accept Treasurer's Report:
Moved by C. Hawryshko; seconded by H. Addison.
Carried.

EXPENDITURES			Expended	Year to Date	Balance	Budget
Social			\$ -	\$ 2,163.78	\$ 836.22	\$ 3,000.00
Operating			\$ 636.09	\$ 3,595.06	\$ 904.94	\$ 4,500.00
Financial Review			\$ -	\$ 2,128.00	\$ 628.00	\$ 1,500.00
Retreat			\$ -	\$ 683.31	\$ 2,316.69	\$ 3,000.00
Public Relations			\$ -	\$ 460.46	\$ 2,039.54	\$ 2,500.00
Scholarship			\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 2,400.00
Collective Bargaining			\$ -	\$ 56.42	\$ 243.58	\$ 300.00
A.G.M.			\$ -	\$ 17.00	\$ 1,983.00	\$ 2,000.00
Equality & Social Justice			\$ -	\$ -	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00
Professional Development			\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
other			\$ -	\$ 253.26	\$ 253.26	\$ -
Indigenous Education			\$ -	\$ 369.56	\$ 130.44	\$ 500.00
First Year teacher			\$ -	\$ 183.43	\$ 466.57	\$ 650.00
WTA President's Release			\$ -	\$ -	\$ 53,750.00	\$53,750.00
Total			\$ 636.09	\$ 9,910.28	\$ 64,639.72	\$ 74,550.00
Date: April 30th 2025						

8. Committee Reports

- Ed Finance – T. Sloan (MCI)
- Equity and Social Justice – A. Mardli (EDT)
 - Goals: Increase awareness of Equity and Social Justice (ESJ) resources available to all members.
 - Ensure members are aware of my role and the services I can provide in supporting ESJ initiatives.
 - Applied for ESJ grant and received it; used it for Early Years indigenous resources and looking for games for QSA Club (Early Years)
 - Library in WESTTA office
- Employee Benefits – H. Addison (MCI) filling in. Vision will be Individual or Family rate only, no Couples option.
- Collective Bargaining – K. Hamm (MINN) & R. Sloan (MLS)
 - Kathi and Reid will be attending the South-Central Region Bargaining meeting to be held on June 9th.
 - There is a Provincial Bargaining Protocol on the MTS website, FYI
 - CB Goal – To familiarize ourselves with the new agreement so that we are able to help answer questions or refer members to the correct section in the new document.
- Social – D. Rigaux (MCI)
 - Goals: I have goals! I want to have another car rally, another BBQ, hopefully a trivia night and I'm working on others.
 - June 6 Car Rally?
- Professional Development – S. Dobbelaere filling in
 - Individual PD grants are open. Information was shared with all schools on April 23rd. There is lots of money available! Please encourage your colleagues to ask!

- Received 55 evaluation responses from attendees. Feedback was compiled and shared with committee members. The Committee needs more representation next year! French rep would be especially helpful to have members receiving access to French PD without interfering with school-based PD.
- The calendar was approved, we can ask for the April 10, 2026 morning so that planning can begin in September!
- Workplace Safety and Health – M. Verrier (EMMS)
 - We applied for the \$1000 grant to host a half or full day transition meeting for our WESTTA WSD WSH Committee reps. Two are leaving, two new reps will be coming on. Scheduled a morning meeting and lunch.
 - Recent WSD WHS meeting: Noticed lots of people bringing up concerns but where should they be directed to? They should be put on an incident form but as a near miss and then it will be documented. They can also go into School Dude for maintenance.
 - Final inspection will be in June
 - Shawna submitted a letter supporting the variance application on March 19, 2025.
- Public Relations – L. Rowley (MCI)
 - Known retirements = 5 announced: 2 @ MINN, 3 @ MCI. Gathering gift ideas and years of service for engravings.
 - MTS PR Grant was approved. Set up a store at Olympic Sports and will offer \$25 to members to order something.
- New to Western – T. Routhier (EMMS)
 - Adding \$25 to the store credit for new to Western Members to use up the budget remaining!
- Indigenous Education – D. Wilson (MCI)
 - In April, Shawna and Demaris uploaded all current Indigenous education resources to the website, along with a form for members to use to reserve/sign out items. Each resource has a brief description to help members find resources that interest them. The high school Truth & Reconciliation Game (x2) is up there as well. The middle school version of the game (x2) will be released in August 2025 and sent out to us then (it is listed on the site as *Coming Soon*). The resources have all been moved over to the new WESTTA office for a central location for members.
 - With the remaining budget for Indigenous Education, Demaris will be looking to purchase some other resources to add to the Indigenous Education Library for members.
- Vice President – R. Sloan (MLS)
 - I attended the binder meeting at the Elm Creek golf course. This was a full day event, in the morning everyone that put forward a resolution gave their rationale, and we were able to ask questions. In the afternoon after a delicious lunch, South Central went over and took some time to talk about the resolutions and their thoughts and feelings on how they might vote. I have been reviewing the questions in the Q and A for AGM and will be putting forward a couple questions.
 - I have been researching furniture for the new office space, helping to select a sign for the outside of the office and worked on a day with Shawna to hold an open house for the new office space.
 - MTS CBSC Committee: We have scheduled the regional South-Central meeting. June 9. Reid is the South Central Rep and is organizing it; it is chaired by PX.

9. New Business

- WESTTA School Contacts
 - Andrei for EDT
 - Reid Sloan for MLS
 - Kathi Hamm for MINN
 - Heather Addison for MCI
 - Taylor Burke for EMMS
 - Update needed in MyProfile information
- MTS Recruitment and Retention presentation April 2025 [attached]
- MTS Provincial Council
 - Binder meeting Recap – May 1, 2025
 - Budget concerns
- WESTTA Exec gifts
 - You will receive an extra \$25 credit for the online store!
 - If you missed out on the zip-up jackets last time, they will be available!
- WESTTA Office Open House – Thursday, June 19th 4:00-5:30 PM
 - IceCycle treats
- Office furniture proposal (R.Sloan)
 - Motion to purchase a desk and printer for approx. \$1000.00 out of surplus monies. Moved by M. Varrier seconded by D. Rigaux. Carried.
- WSD WSH Committee representative appointments for 2025-26
 - Colin Sibilleau, MCI
 - Reid Sloan, MLS
 - Carl Klassen, MINN

Moved to accept these rep appointments. Moved by C. Hawryshko. Seconded by A. Mardli. Carried.
- WESTTA Executive Appointment
 - Bryan Prokopetz, MINN for secretary position
 - Move to accept this appointment for 2025-2026. Moved by R. Sloan seconded by L. Rowley. Carried.

10. Meeting Dates:

- Monday June 16, 2025: Transition Supper Meeting – Supper ideas? Le Parq, Conference Room at Best Western, Reid's Mancave.

11. Motion to adjourn – 5:20 PM. Moved by D. Rigaux.

Board Meetings: 7:30 pm start

~~1. Monday, August 26, 2024 – Shawna~~
~~2. Monday, September 9, 2024 (Board Reorganization Meeting)~~
~~3. Monday, September 23, 2024 – Shawna~~
~~4. Tuesday, October 15, 2024~~
~~5. Monday, October 28, 2024~~
~~6. Tuesday, November 12, 2024~~
~~7. Monday, November 25, 2024 – Craig~~

~~8. Monday, December 9, 2024 – Reid & Shawna~~
~~9. Monday, January 13, 2025 – Tara & Shawna~~
~~10. Monday, January 27, 2025~~
~~11. Monday, February 10, 2025~~
~~12. Monday, February 24, 2025 – Andrei & Megan~~
~~13. Monday, March 10, 2025 – Shawna~~
~~14. Monday March 24, 2025 – Kathi~~
~~15. Monday, April 14, 2025 – Shawna~~

~~16. Monday, April 28, 2025 — Reid~~

~~17. Monday, May 12, 2025~~

18. Monday, May 26, 2025

19. Monday, June 9, 2025

20. Monday, June 23, 2025