

# Communications no. 5

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



*-John Donnelly*

Last June, in the Communications, I referred to a collision course between unions and government being inevitable "...around this time next year". Well, "this time" has arrived and you all know the fender-benders (Demos and in-school actions) have started, with collision due in the autumn.

The government offer is draconian, without merit and an insult to teachers' professionalism.

More ominous is the government's refusal to allow their negotiators to substantively discuss any issue, never mind trying to reach agreement on any issue. It is clear that the head of Treasury (Mr. Coiteux) is the main government point person during these negotiations.

While the government salary demand is ridiculous, more concerning is their grab on our pension. I urge any teacher nearing retirement to immediately get the correct information ensuring that you are maximizing your pension benefit when you retire. Call the Quebec Provincial Association of Teachers to obtain that info. However, every teacher will be impacted, sooner or later, by this government demand.

Increased teacher workload and class sizes plus abolishing Special Needs support are uniquely important to teacher groups and must also be resisted.

PTU has had 2 successful demonstrations and is looking at a 3<sup>rd</sup> – possibly the October 19<sup>th</sup> Ped. Day. Moreover, you have received a list of stronger actions planned upon teachers' return in August. I will be communicating with

the different parent groups (SNAC, CPC, Home and School) to encourage their support of PTU teachers.

I encourage you to talk up the issues with any parent with whom you are in contact. The government probably won't start meaningful negotiations unless the public demands it. If they don't, it seems that the unions must "poke the bear" around October/November with increased actions culminating possibly with work stoppages.

**Let's get ready to mobilize, support each other and stand/stay united!**

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As mentioned above, PTU has held two successful demonstrations on March 25 and May 15. Hundreds of teachers attended each demo, chanting, cheering, making noise and getting an enthusiastic response from the public that passed by the demonstrating teachers. Recognizing that everyone is busy these days, we would still want even bigger turnouts in the autumn. We must make the public aware both of the impact on their children and that Education is an Investment in the Future, not a current cost.

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As you enter the busy final weeks of the year, on behalf of your PTU office staff, I wish for you a successful end of year and a restful, sunny summer of fun and enjoyment.



## PRIORITY OF EMPLOYMENT—Part-Time Teachers

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**DID YOU KNOW THAT** the preliminary Priority of Employment List will be posted on the Portal as of May 25th. To access this list, you must have been granted at least two (2) contracts in two (2) different school years each of a duration not less than or equivalent to one hundred (100) days during the last three (3) school years and have received at least two (2) satisfactory evaluations in two (2) different school years.

It is important for you to verify the information including seniority and categories. If you need to make corrections, you must submit the corrections in writing to the Human Resources before May 29th and a copy must also be forwarded to PTU to the attention of Ann Granger.

Seniority will be recognized as per clause 5-1.11. This means that even the con-

tracts granted prior to accessing the Priority of Employment list will be taken into account.

Do not hesitate to contact the PTU office for any further information.

You must submit your choices for vacant posts by June 14th or before. Please note that the list of vacant posts may be revised regularly between June 8th and June 12th.

This year again, a teacher's name may be removed from the Priority of Employment List if the teacher has failed to submit at least one choice except for reasons deemed valid by the School Board and the Union.



## Reminders for Continuing Education Teachers!

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### To Adult Education Teachers:

Make sure you return your availability forms by May 30th. Failure to do so may affect your assignment for next year.

### To all Continuing Ed. Teachers:

Make sure you renew your PTA on time. Not doing so may affect your assignment and/or result in the loss of your part-time or full-time contract.

### To Vocational Education Teachers:

Clause 13-9.01 of the Collective Agreement states that any part-time teacher in the Vocational Education sector who is offered a 720 hour part-time contract between July 1st and December 1st is entitled to a full-time post (a tenured track post). The teacher who has a full-time contract for 2 years becomes permanent (regular) at the start of their 3rd year. For more information, please contact Paul Pompa at the PTU Office at 514-426-4949 or by email to [paul@pearsonteachersunion.com](mailto:paul@pearsonteachersunion.com)

## Youth Sector - Important Deadlines to Remember

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**May 25** - Preliminary Priority of Employment List

**May 29** - Priority of Employment List: teachers request corrections to the list, if necessary

**June 8** - Posting of list of vacant posts

**June 8** - Posting of the official Priority of

Employment List

**June 14** - Priority of Employment List teachers indicate choices (on Portal)

**June 18 & 19** - Tentative assignment of teachers on Priority of Employment List to various posts

### MONEYABLE SICK DAYS

Moneyable Sick Days are paid ONLY to part-time teachers and teachers retiring this year. The amount owed will be paid in July 2015. Unused moneyable sick days for all regular teachers are "banked" until retirement or resignation.

## Continuing Education - Important Deadlines to Remember

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**June 15** - Teachers are informed of decision regarding their request for voluntary transfer

**June 15** - Preliminary Recall Lists are posted on the Portal

**June 26** - Teachers request changes to Recall List

**July 15** - Official Recall List posted on the Portal

**August 21** - Updated Official Recall

## Parental Rights

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The Pearson Teachers Union would like to thank all the teachers who participated in the two (2) parental rights workshops this past school year.

The turnout was great with teachers going away with lots of information. PTU is planning to continue the workshops next year.

Teachers interested in being part of these workshops are invited to contact Paul Pompa at PTU at 514-426-4949 or by email to [paul@pearsonteachersunion.com](mailto:paul@pearsonteachersunion.com)





## Pearson Teachers Union

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VISIT OUR WEBSITE!

[www.pearsonteachersunion.com](http://www.pearsonteachersunion.com)

Follow us!



## RETIREMENT INFORMATION SESSIONS!

Information Sessions for teachers who are within 5 years of their retirement are offered by QPAT at different locations and dates to accommodate everyone. The dates and locations should be posted in your school/centre and are also posted on our website at: [www.pearsonteachersunion.com](http://www.pearsonteachersunion.com) under the *Events Section, Information Sessions* Tab. Anyone interested in participating should contact QPAT to reserve at 514-694-9777.

## IMPORTANT DATES

### Next Delegates' Assembly

Assembly no. 9  
June 3, 2015 at 4:30 PM  
at PCHS

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

9:30am at PTU office ONLY  
for Continuing Education  
Teachers who teach at night,  
5:15 PM for all other teachers at PCHS

### Banquet to Honour our 2015 Retirees!

June 10, 2015

Invitations have been sent out. If you are retiring this year and you have not received an invitation yet, please contact us at 514-426-4949



### PTU Office Hours

Monday to Thursday  
8:30AM to 4:30PM  
Friday  
8:30AM to 4:00PM

### Holidays

Wednesday, June 24, 2015  
Wednesday, July 1, 2015

### Summer closing

The PTU office will be closed from July 2nd to August 14, 2015 inclusive.

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!