



December 2021 MHADRTA Newsletter

Volume 4, Number 7

General Meeting "Christmas Theme"

Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021

Time: 10:30 am to 1:00 pm

Place: Ralph's Steakhouse

Entertainment: Wally Garrioch

Cost of Luncheon: \$20.00

PROOF OF BEING FULLY VACCINATED, A NEGATIVE RAPID TEST OR COPY OF MEDICAL EXEMPTION WILL BE REQUIRED along with PHOTO ID.

If you have not been phoned by a member of the phoning committee
by **Thursday, December 9, 2021**,
please contact **Jim Black** (403-548-2028) to confirm your attendance.

We will be collecting gifts for the Women's Shelter Society
Donations of gift cards, toiletries and personal hygiene products as well as
gifts for children (including clothing—pajamas, socks, undergarments, etc)
Gifts of cash, also welcome!

MERRY CHRISTMAS

the President's message

Another year is coming to a close, and for many, it can not come soon enough. As we usher out 2021 and welcome 2022, we are still dealing with the pandemic. We continue to practice measures to keep ourselves and those around us safe and healthy. I am hoping that all of you are keeping both healthy and safe.

I know many of you are still uncomfortable attending our meetings, and we respect your decision to wait a while yet. Those who have attended have enjoyed fellowship with their former colleagues. Even with the Restrictions Exemption Program in place, we are still required to wear masks and practice safety measures.

If you are attending the Christmas Meeting, please note that we begin the meeting at 10:30 am. Also note that individual meal choices are pre-ordered at that time. The meal arrives around 11:45 at which time our meeting is just finishing. We encourage you to be on time.

I am not sure what Christmas will look like for everyone, but I think we need to be grateful for the many blessings we have been afforded in spite of the pandemic. I am grateful for my family and my health—that we all have been able to stay safe.

I wish each of you a very Merry Christmas (however that looks) and all the very best this holiday season. May 2022 be a much better year! Stay healthy and stay safe!

Thanks,
Mel Deydey
President, MHADRTA
49ermh@gmail.com



November 30—Executive meeting

December 15—General Meeting
"Christmas Theme"

January 25—Executive Meeting

February 9—General Meeting
"Valentine's theme"

March 29—Executive Meeting

April 13—General Meeting
"Spring Theme"

May 31—Executive meeting

June 15—General Meeting
"Annual General Meeting"

ALL **General Meetings** will be held at
Ralph's Steakhouse beginning at
10:30 am.

All **Executive Meetings** will be held at
Ricky's Restaurant beginning at
10:30 am.

Highlights: November Board of Directors Meeting

Four new committee chairs were officially welcomed. **Linda Manwarren—Wellness, **Karen Atkinson**—Health Benefits, **Lawrence Hrycan**—Strategic Planning & Advocacy, and **Inge Coates**—Communication.

****Carole Malmberg** was welcomed as the new President of the Foothills branch.

Congratulations to **Jim Allan, a member of the Camrose branch, who was elected to a four year term on the Alberta Retired Teachers Charitable Trust Foundation (ARTCF).

The launch for **ARTA Rx is scheduled for **February 1, 2022**. Please refer to the November edition of ARTA-facts for more information and a link to a webinar that you can view.

**There is no emergency travel coverage for members through ARTA plans in the case of a COVID-19 diagnosis as long as Level 3 & 4 travel advisories are in effect. The ARTA plans do continue to offer coverage for anything not COVID-19 related. Many areas are now Level 2 or lower and you are covered for COVID related illness in those areas, but expenses related to a requirement to quarantine are not.

**A new COVID Vaccination Policy for all employees, contractors, directors, committee members is in effect. Proof of vaccination for directors and committee members must be in place



Women's Shelter Christmas Donations

At our Annual Christmas Meeting, traditionally we have brought gifts/gift cards or made cash donations to the Medicine



Medicine Hat

Women's Shelter Society

Hat Women's Shelter Society. They have been eternally grateful for our support and would welcome any support our members

could give this Christmas Season. If you do not plan to attend the December 15 meeting, we ask that you send your donation/gift cards to:

**Medicine Hat Women's Shelter
Society
PO Box 2500 LCD 1
Medicine Hat, AB
T1A 8G8**



Pioneer Village Schoolhouse Report December, 2021

The **Old-Tyme Christmas** was held at Pioneer Village on **December 2, 2021**. There was a festive atmosphere with Santa Claus and his elves in attendance. There were free hot dogs, hot chocolate, caroling, hayrides and a bonfire with s'mores.

Many families toured the village buildings. Children were excited to be in the schoolhouse and for many adults it brought back memories. It always surprises us how many people are not aware of this little gem in the park. Not only were there locals touring, but there were people from places close by or afar.

The market in the Cypress Center was another attraction for people to purchase last minute gifts. At eight o'clock there was a spectacular array of fireworks for everyone's pleasure.

Thank you to **Sandra Craven, Donna Mae Goldade, Ray Morrison, Fay Felesky, Marian Radke** and **Darlene Dee** for being in the schoolhouse to answer any questions and provide information. **Bob and Vicki McCaig** helped in the RCMP building and the store. Everyone had a very good time.

By **Vicki McCaig**
Pioneer Village Representative, MHADRTA

Highlights: November Board of Directors Meeting

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before the next in-person meeting.

**The annual spring retreat is in the works, but at this time, the committee is not sure what format the retreat will take.

**Members are encouraged to visit the ACER-CART website to learn of the many things the organization is doing in terms of advocacy on seniors' issues. The website is acer-cart.org

**A fun-fact is that 88% of the para-medical claims by ARTA members who

belong to the ARTA Benefits Plan are for physiotherapy, chiropractic or massage therapy.

**Another fun-fact is that in 2016 there were 15,052 members. As of our meeting there were 25,083 members. This means ARTA has grown by 66% over five years. Growth in 2021 (over 2020) is currently 8.3%.

Next Board of Directors Meeting is scheduled for February 22-23, 2022.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me by email or phone.



MHADRTA Executive 2021-2022

President: Mel Deydey

Past President: Jim Black

1st Vice-President: Therese Bullin

2nd Vice-President: Donna Mae Goldade

Secretary: Ray Morrison

Treasurer: Henk Hof

Membership Chairman: Jim Kaupp

ATA Rep—Local #1: Darlene Dee

ATA Rep—Local #2: Laurel Schlaht

ATA Rep—Local #39: Dianne Durda

SEATCA: Delle Lovig

**ARTA Reps: Judy Wonnemberg
Dianne Durda**

**Pioneer Village Schoolhouse:
Vicki McCaig**

Cards & Scrapbook: Annita Pinder

Pension & Financial Wellness: Ray Hoger

Health Benefits: Jim Black

Contact: Barb Taylor

Website: Ed Dick

Phoning: Jim Black

Programs: Donna Mae Goldade

ARTA Board Of Directors: Mel Deydey

Contact information for the executive (email addresses and phone numbers) is available to MHADRTA members on the website. It is password protected.

MHADRTA Membership Update

If you have not already done so, it is time to renew your 2021/22 membership as we hope you will continue to be a part of our organization. Of course, we welcome newly retired teachers with a free one year membership. We also invite previously retired teachers who have not yet joined us since they've retired or those who allowed their membership to lapse. Your 2021-2022 membership will be valid from September 1, 2021 to August 31, 2022.

Currently, we have 77 members made up of 50 renewals, 8 new members, 7 Life-time members and two honorary members.

Membership in MHADRTA is \$15.00 per year, payable by cheque or cash.

Membership in ARTA is separate. For more information, visit www.arta.net



By e-mail:
mhadrta3@gmail.com

Visit our website:
www.mhadrta.wixsite.com/mhadrta

Like us on Facebook:



Follow us on Twitter:

[@mhadrta](https://twitter.com/mhadrta)





**Volunteers
for our December 15th
General Meeting**

GREETERS:

Darlene Dee
and volunteer

DECORATIONS:

Laurel Schlaht
Dianne Durda

50/50:

Jim Black
and helper

PRAYER/GRACE:

Delle Lovig



We thank all those who have already renewed their memberships for the current year.

If you have not yet renewed for the 2021/2022 year, please fill in the membership form below and mail it with your cheque to the address at the bottom of the form; or you can deliver it to the address, and leave it in the mailbox. You can also renew your membership through our website, and eTransfer your membership fee to Henk Hof.

We also welcome new members! Feel free to share this newsletter with any of your retired teacher colleagues who are not members.

Membership Form for 2021/22 School Year

Yes, I would like to **RENEW** or **PURCHASE A NEW** (Circle ONE) membership in MHADRTA for the 2021/2022 term.

Cost of the Membership: **\$15.00 per year**. Cash or cheque only.

Name: _____

Address: _____ **Postal Code** _____

Phone : _____ **E-mail:** _____

Providing an e-mail address will enable you to receive the newsletter electronically. Your e-mail address is never shared or revealed to anyone as all mailings are sent as a Bcc (blind carbon copy).

Please enclose payment (cheque or money order) and send to: MHADRTA, 36 Prairie Dr. NE, Medicine Hat, AB T1C 1R2 OR bring it with you to the first meeting you attend in the fall.

Membership will be valid until August 31, 2022.