

# January 2026 MHADRTA Newsletter

Volume 9, Number 1

*Editor*

**Mel Deydey**  
**49ermh@gmail.com**

## [ INSIDE ]

MHADRTA Executive .....	Page 2
President's Message .....	Page 3
Calendar of Events Details ....	Page 3
ATA Special Event .....	Page 4
Olde Tyme Christmas .....	Page 5
Volunteers for Feb meeting....	Page 6
Membership Renewal.....	Page 6



### **General Meeting "Valentine Theme"**

**Date: Wednesday,  
February 11, 2026**

**Time: 10:30 am to  
1:00 pm**

**Place: Ralph's  
Steakhouse**

**Cost of Luncheon:  
\$22.00**

### **Program: Social Activity**

If you have not been  
phoned by a member of the  
phoning committee  
by **Friday, February 06,  
2026,**  
please contact:

**Therese Bullin**  
Chair, Phoning Committee  
(403-952-1668)  
to confirm your attendance.



## **MHADRTA Executive 2025-2026**

**President: Lionel Brideson**

**1st Vice-President: Dianne Durda**

**2nd Vice-President: Bev Wahl**

**Secretary: Lori Karwandy**

**Treasurer: Henk Hof**

**Past President: Therese Bullin**

**Membership Chairman:  
Laura Hoffman**

**ATA Rep—Local #1: Darlene Dee**

**ATA Rep—Local #2: Laurel Schlaht**

**ATA Rep—Local #39: Mel Deydey**

**SEATCA: Delle Lovig**

**ARTA Branch Area Rep:  
Dianne Durda**

**Pioneer Village Schoolhouse:  
Vicki McCaig**

**Cards & Scrapbook: Anne Tomcala**

**Contact: Barb Taylor**

**Website: Ed Dick**

**Phoning: Therese Bullin**

**Programs: Donna Mae Goldade**

**ARTA Board Of Directors:  
Lionel Brideson**

**ARTA President: Ray Hoger**

**ARTA Communications Committee:  
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 2025/26 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 2025-2026 membership will be valid from September 1, 2025 to August 31, 2026.

Membership renewal information can be found on the last page of this newsletter.

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](http://www.arta.net)



**By e-mail:  
[mhadrta3@gmail.com](mailto:mhadrta3@gmail.com)**

**Visit our website:  
[www.mhadrta.wixsite.com/mhadrta](http://www.mhadrta.wixsite.com/mhadrta)**

**Like us on Facebook:**



**Follow us on Twitter:  
[@mhadrta](https://twitter.com/mhadrta)**



# the President's message

Happy New Year Everyone!

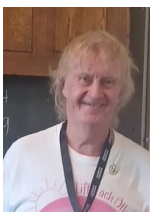
As we welcome the New Year, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to our retired teachers—whose dedication, wisdom, and passion shaped generations of learners. Your lessons continue to live on in classrooms, communities and lives you helped inspire.

May this New Year bring you good

May this New Year bring you good health, peace and happiness. Thank you for the lasting legacy you've given through your years of service. You will always be remembered, appreciated and celebrated.

I look forward to new interactions in our meetings, and getting to know each of you. We will have informative sessions in partnership with the Veiner Centre.

Wishing you a joyful and fulfilling New Year ahead!



All the best!

**Lionel Brideson**  
President, MHADRTA  
labrideson@yahoo.ca



January 27—Executive Meeting

**February 11—General Meeting**  
"Valentine's theme"

March 24—Executive Meeting

**April 08—General Meeting**  
"Spring Theme"

June 02—Executive meeting

**June 17—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.



**Medicine Hat**  
Women's Shelter Society

The Medicine Hat Women's Shelter Society extends a huge thank you to MHADRTA and its members for their very generous cash donations.

A total of \$520.00 was donated by the members of MHADRTA. The Society stated they were eternally grateful for our support.

If you were unable to attend our Christmas meeting, and wish to make a cash donation to the Women's Shelter, here is the address to which donations may be sent.

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



# ATA **SPECIAL EVENT**

I would like to personally invite you to hear a wonderful world-class speaker named Carl Honoré.

Carl Honoré, is an international bestselling author, broadcaster, and two-time TED Talks speaker whose keynotes have drawn more than 10 million views and inspired a global movement toward slowing down, explores how a slower approach can transform family life. From technology and education to extracurricular overload, he shares practical insights to help Alberta parents rediscover the joy of parenting and support children in reaching their full potential. In today's fast-paced, competitive world, children thrive when we make room for slowness. Kids do not need more speed; they need more space.

This is brought to you by the Alberta Teachers' Association.

If you have any questions, please call Heather at 403-528-0562 or private message me. (Please Share)

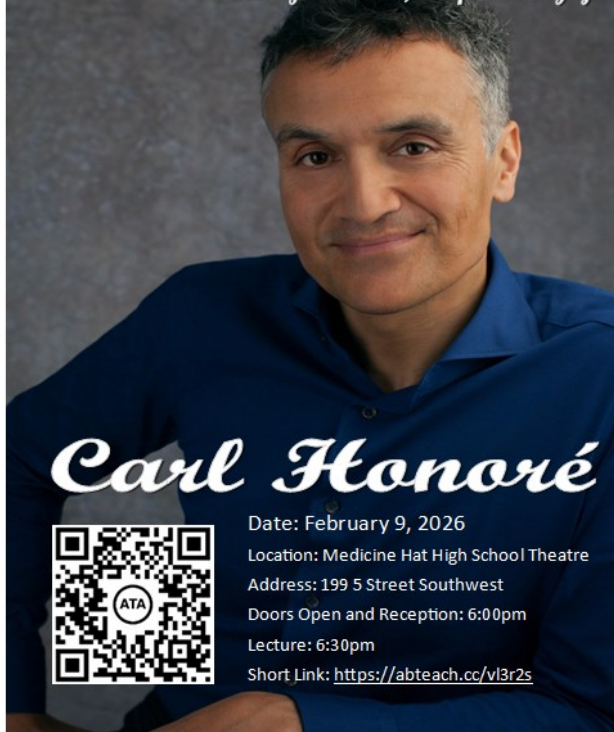
Thank you.  
Heather McCaig  
District Representative, Southeast Alberta  
Alberta Teachers' Association

Register at: <https://abteach.cc/vl3r2s>

Carl Honoré bio: <https://www.carlhonore.com/bio/>

Carl's Website: <https://www.carlhonore.com/>

*Helping Children Thrive in a Fast World:  
Building Resilience, Purpose and Joy*



Date: February 9, 2026

Location: Medicine Hat High School Theatre

Address: 199 5 Street Southwest

Doors Open and Reception: 6:00pm

Lecture: 6:30pm

Short Link: <https://abteach.cc/vl3r2s>

Time: 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Ø 6:00pm Doors Open and Refreshments

Ø 6:30pm to 7:30pm Public Lecture

Ø 7:30pm Q & A

Ø 8:00pm Close

Tickets: \$10 per person or \$30 for four tickets

Registration: Limited seating.

## **MEDICINE HAT** Rotary **MUSIC** **Festival**

The 2026 Medicine Hat Rotary Music Festival will be held from Monday, March 9 to Sunday, March 22. Events for this year's festival

will take place at St. Barnabas Church and St. John's Presbyterian Church. The only event occurring at Medicine Hat College will be the Rose Bowl. There will be no events at the Cultural Centre.

SEATCA will host its annual **Teachers Convention** on Thursday and Friday, **February 19 & 20, 2026.**



Volunteers are needed to oversee the ATA and ARTA booths at the convention. Please contact Delle if you are available to help out.



Happy New Year!

I both hope and trust that everyone was able to spend an enjoyable holiday season—whether you spent it at home with family, or out of town—perhaps even out of the country.

We have been blessed with some unseasonably beautiful weather in January here in southern Alberta. To me, every beautiful day shortens the winter and that is to what I look forward. Hopefully, we don't pay for it later.

We look forward to the second half

of our MHADRTA year with optimism. We eagerly wait to hear what new events the Executive has planned for us as well as out traditional events over the next six months.

I am always looking for members to contribute articles for the newsletter. As you can see on the opening page of this newsletter, this is the first edition of Volume 9. Yes, I am beginning the ninth year of publishing the newsletter. How time flies! Let me know what changes you would like to see in the newsletter'

I look forward to seeing you at our general meeting next month. I wish all of you peace, love, happiness and good health in 2026.

~ Mel



### *Pioneer Village Report December 2025*

*It was a festive atmosphere at the Old Tyme Christmas at Pioneer Village on Thursday, December 4<sup>th</sup>. The trees were all lit, children lined up for the hayride and to see Santa, s'mores were being made over the fire and everyone was enjoying hot chocolate and hot dogs. The schoolhouse was full of visiting parents and children eager to see what life in a one-room school was like.*

*Thanks to Darlene Dee and her husband, Ken, there was a lovely little tree decorated with lights, old-time decorations and ribbon garland. It gave a warm glow and a Christmasy atmosphere to the schoolhouse.*

*Thank you to Mel Deydey, Delle Lovig, and Lionel Brideson, who helped Bob and I greet visitors to the schoolhouse. It was a very busy and cheerful atmosphere with children busy looking at the books and writing on the little chalkboards. Thank you also to Mel Deydey for bringing an extra heater to keep us warm.*



*Submitted by Vicki McCaig*



**Volunteers  
for our February 11th  
General Meeting**

**GREETERS:**

Darlene Dee  
Laurel Schlaht

**DECORATIONS:**

Dianne Durda  
Laura Hoffman

**50/50:**

Bev Wahl  
Paul Nederveen

**PRAYER/GRACE:**

Ray Morrison



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

If you have not yet renewed for the 2025/2026 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 at **hrhof@shaw.ca**

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 2025/26 School Year

Yes, I would like to **RENEW** or **PURCHASE A NEW** (Circle ONE) membership in MHADRTA for the 2025/2026 term.

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

Are you an ARTA member? **Yes** or **No** (Circle one)

**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, 47 Pioneer Cres. NE, Medicine Hat, AB T1C 1S4 **OR** bring it with you to any general meeting you attend.

**Membership will be valid until August 31, 2026.**