

December 2020 Vol. 20, No. 4

# Happy Holidays...Pandemic Style

What a year, so far! We returned to work in midpandemic to an onslaught of public health protocols, additional tasks by decree, "bubble" confusion, and contract negotiations! Many of us are suffering from the months of social isolation, and we are worried about our health and that of

our loved ones. We are all physically, mentally, and emotionally weary. We are in need of a vacation!

This holiday season will provide us all with a very well-



earned break! It is our chance to slow down, catch our breath, and relax for the first time in months! Though we may not be able to celebrate it with gatherings, we can use the opportunity to put ourselves first and practice self-care. Whether it be through music, reading, outdoor activities or taking a bubble bath, taking time for oneself is essential for our physical and mental well-being.

From all of us at the APPA

Happy Holidays!

#### **APPA Mailings**

The APPA occasionally sends out information and objects to all APPA members based on the current

staffing numbers available. Since the number of APPA members in each workplace can fluctuate, please contact us if the



number of items being sent out is incorrect so we can update our mailing lists.

#### The Seniority Lists are out!

The APPA seniority lists are posted on the EMSB eportal. Please verify that your seniority is correct and report any discrepancies to the Human Resources Department. Be sure to copy (cc) the APPA on your inquiry (ltavolaro@appa.qc.ca).

#### Am I paid for the Holidays?

Regular employees and those temporary employees who have worked 10 days since being hired and before the break are entitled to 10 paid days during the Holiday break which extend from December 21<sup>st</sup> to January 1<sup>st</sup> this year.

Temporary employees who have worked less than

10 days (full time) are entitled to two paid days according to the Quebec Labor Standards Law.



Temporary employees who have worked less than 10 days (part time) may contact the Human Resources department to determine how much time to which they are entitled as it is a percentage of time worked.

Employees working 15 hours or less per week are not entitled to any paid holidays since they already receive an additional 11% for fringe benefits on their paycheques.

## **Three Extra Pedagogical Days**

As the government announced, there will be three extra pedagogical days for the 2020-2021



school year. Two of these days will be chosen by the school board and one will be chosen at the school level. Please check with your individual schools for more information regarding these extra days.

# APPA Mobilization and Information Coordinator: Welcome Andrea!

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome Andrea Di Tomaso as our new APPA Mobilization and Information coordinator. Andrea will be replacing Kim until Paul's return. Andrea is a fountain of wonderful ideas for how we can be seen and heard throughout these tough negotiations.

## **New SSQ Insurance Rates for 2021**

During the November 25<sup>th</sup> general assembly, the APPA membership voted in favor of the new SSQ insurance premium rates, effective January 1, 2021. You can find the new insurance rate table on our APPA website or follow the link below:

http://appa.qc.ca/emsb/wpcontent/uploads/2020/12/5-a-tableautarification-janvier-2021-003.pdf

### **APPA Delegates- WE NEED YOU!**



With negotiations moving very well, we may have to increase pressure tactics in the new year. Without someone in the workplace to transmit union information and

documentation, APPA members might end up missing out on important developments.

Please contact Andrea Di Tomaso for more information: <a href="mailto:aditomaso@appa.qc.ca">aditomaso@appa.qc.ca</a> or 514-254-3503 ext. 217)

#### The APPA Executive and Council

Do you have a union-related question? The APPA Union Executive and the APPA Union Council members are there to help. Below is a list of the representatives along with the sector they represent.

#### **Executive Members:**

Linda Tavolaro – 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

Paul Robichaud – Vice President (being replaced temporarily by Kim Watson)

#### Council members:

Andrea Di Tomaso – General Sector

Kim Watson – General Sector (being replaced temporarily by Manila Haghighat)

Todd Roberts – Special Education Sector

Robert Plunkett – Special Education Sector (being replaced temporarily by Mauro Di Ciocco)

Pina Santino – Daycare Sector

Eva Liane Tubio – Daycare Sector