

From the President's Pen

Each year promises its own surprises, anticipations and initiatives. As is the case each fall, we are happy to welcome the new executive members and look forward to their contributions toward making MCATA a continued success. We bid a fond farewell to those members who are leaving the executive—we know they will continue to serve mathematics education in the province in other arenas.

We all enter the coming year with some intrepidity and cautious optimism about what lies ahead for education, particularly mathematics education. One MCATA mandate continues to be that of communication, information sharing and service to our members.

Our first major function of the school year was the September 29–30 conference in Lethbridge. The conference was a worthwhile professional development opportunity for teachers. The executive intends to reach out to as many members as possible in a number of ways. Procedures will be identified and put in place as the year unfolds.

I thank Past President Wendy Richards for her leadership over the last two years. A great number of positive developments took place during those years, and we appreciate Wendy's part in many of them.

Special thanks and congratulations are due to Art Jorgensen, publications editor; Joan Worth; and staff at Barnett House for the job well done in producing the archival and historical publication, *Thirty-Four Years and Counting: A History of the Mathematics Council of The Alberta Teachers' Association*.

In closing, I extend a genuine invitation for anyone with questions, comments, ideas or suggestions to share them with any executive member. We look forward to hearing your opinions and receiving your input. Best wishes for an exceptional year.

George Ditto

From the Membership Director

In future, I would like to use this space to report on activities that members are performing to promote math education in their classrooms, schools or communities. Do you or any of your colleagues have innovative ideas to share? Are math inservice sessions or miniconferences being held in your area that you would like others to know about? Will your school be celebrating Math Education Week, and what activities will the school be involved in? Let me know what is happening with math education at your school: Daryl Chichak, 1826 51 Street NW, Edmonton T6L 1K1; fax 469-0414.

Daryl Chichak