



For Immediate Release, December 4, 2007

## **Memorandum of Agreement between ATA and ECSD**

The Edmonton Catholic Teachers Local and the Edmonton Catholic School District have signed a Memorandum of Agreement for the period of September 1, 2007 to August 31, 2012. This Memorandum will be taken to the teacher members for ratification on January 15, 2008.

The agreement provides for a three percent increase to salary and allowances for 2007-2008. Subsequent annual increases will be based on the Alberta Average Weekly Earnings (AAWE), as negotiated by the Alberta Teachers' Association and the Government of Alberta in the teachers' recent five year Pension Plan Agreement.

This Memorandum of Agreement was negotiated within the constraints of the Pension Plan Agreement and has addressed teacher concerns related to benefits and leaves.

Shannon McElroy, President of the Edmonton Catholic Teachers Local, stated, "Upon ratification by teachers on January 15, this agreement will provide us with an increased opportunity to focus on teaching and learning in a stable work environment. It will also provide greater incentives to attract and retain new teachers to the profession."

Following ratification by teachers, the Board of Trustees will vote on acceptance of the Memorandum. A condition of the Pension Agreement is the requirement for collective agreements between Alberta's 62 publicly elected school boards and local teacher bargaining units, to be in place prior to January 31, 2008.

The new Collective Agreement will be retroactive to September 1, 2007 and will expire on August 31, 2012. The Edmonton Catholic School District employs over 2,240 teachers.

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