

Kevin Kempt Candidate for President



I am seeking re-election as president in order to provide experienced leadership and ensure continuity in the work of Calgary Public Teachers.

The breadth and depth of my experience is more important now than ever. Throughout my career I have seen first-hand how teaching and learning conditions have changed. Class sizes have grown and are more complex. The bureaucratic requirements of our work continues to increase. The education landscape in our city and province is changing. We have a new Board of Trustees, the impending announcement of a new Chief Superintendent (which will create changes within senior administration), significant changes within the leadership of our provincial association, and the possibility of a new provincial government and minister of education next spring. If there is a change in government, a leader with provincial ATA experience and connections will become even more significant. We will also be entering a new round of collective bargaining in the near future. These uncertain times require an experienced president at the helm of our Local. My record proves I have the dedication, skill and ability to speak for you. Now is the time to choose the consistent, principled local leadership I have been providing and will continue to deliver. My extensive experience will serve you well as I continue to fulfill the duties of president.

I am committed to open and honest communication. I will continue to advocate for and represent teachers with integrity. Despite ongoing efforts, our challenges will not be easily or quickly resolved. I will continue to advance our concerns, and search for resolution. Recently, I passionately defended teachers against the ill-conceived and ill-advised proposal of third-party math monitoring. I have broken down barriers and forged alliances. As your president, I will continue to maintain a respectful relationship with the Board and superintendents, while still directly communicating the issues affecting teachers. I believe in healthy working relationships built on mutual respect.

I am dedicated to leading an effective, collaborative, decision-making team, working together, regardless of our differences of opinion, philosophy or political beliefs. I recognize, value and respect the diversity of perspective and experience among the membership and the individuals who work on our committees. I believe in the open and transparent operation of our local based on democratic principles. I do, and will continue to, represent ALL members.

You deserve strong representation. I will advocate for you on workload, the increasingly diverse and complex composition of our student population, the lack of support for students, our professional autonomy around pedagogy, assessment and reporting, the health and safety of teachers, and the fair and equitable treatment of all teachers by our employer regardless of their employment status, teaching assignment or designation.

I have a comprehensive understanding of the issues that matter to you and I am well equipped to present the views of Calgary Public teachers to the public, education partners and critics, through the media and other forums. I will be your voice regardless of the time or context.