



Coquitlam Teachers' Association News

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The CTA office is a scent free workplace.

Visit our Website at www.coquitlamteachers.com

Ken Christensen, President
Amanda Long, First Vice-President
Kara Obojski, Second Vice-President

September 15, 2017
No. 3



CTA Rep Assembly

Wednesday, September 27, 2017
4:00 p.m. Winslow – Gallery Room

Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. President's Report
3. CTA Budget 2017-18
4. School Concerns
5. Prize Draw
6. Adjournment



CTA Annual General Meeting

Wednesday, October 4, 2017
4:00 p.m. Winslow Centre – Gym

Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. President's Report
3. **Timed Item (4:20 pm):**
Election of 2017-18 CTA Executive Committee MAL
4. Financial Reports
 - 4.1 Auditor's Report
 - 4.2 Financial Statements
 - 4.3 2017-18 Finance Recommendations
5. BCTF Rep Assembly (Nov 3 & 4, 2017): CTA Resolutions
6. Other Business
7. Prize Draws
8. Adjournment

Provincial Budget News

The Provincial Government has made some announcements in its budget that appear to start the reversal of the trend of cutting expenditures in public education begun by the former government in 2002. Announcements include:

- \$681 million over three years for K-12 schools.
- This funding includes \$177 million in new funding for this fiscal year to fix the gap between what the districts asked for and what they received around the restoration of contract language.
- \$50 million to district to address immediate space needs.
- \$2 billion over three years for new schools and stalled seismic upgrading.
- \$19 million to restore Adult Basic Education and English Language Learning. This produced lineups out the door at CLOC upon this announcement.

Some other changes to improve society that will impact education are:

- MSP Premiums will be reduced by half, in January, 2018.
- Income and Disability rates go up by \$100 a year. This is the first increase in a decade.
- \$322 million for a long-overdue fentanyl strategy.
- \$312 million to improve child protection services.
- A small business tax cut from 2.5% to 2%.
- An income tax rate increase on incomes over \$150,000 a year, from 14.7% to 16.8%.
- A corporate tax rate increase from 11% to 12%.
- A desperately overdue poverty reduction strategy.
- It's a relief to see a government making education a principal priority after years of needless conflict triggered by government policy.
- It's a relief to see hundreds of new teachers added to the system locally and funded by the provincial government.
- We need to stand by and see how the government allocates this money but, a discussion on addition and not subtraction is welcome.

Local School Staffing Increases

In addition to the 200 or so new teachers in the system locally, directly as a result of the restoration of contract language, the District is doing what it usually does at the beginning of the school year. The district reassesses what needs and organizational changes happened over the summer and allocates staffing as much as it can. This has resulted in a handful of new positions going out (11 or 12 FTE). Again, this is additive and a welcome continuation of long-standing practice. If you feel your school has a significant set of unaddressed needs, please communicate with us at the office as soon as possible.

Vacancy: CTA Executive MAL

The CTA has a vacancy for a member-at-large for the 2017-18 school year. As per CTA policy, Executive Committee vacancies can only be filled at General Meetings. Therefore, an election for this position will be held at the Annual General Meeting on **Wednesday, October 4, 2017**. Any CTA members interested should go to our website and fill out a CV form and send it to the CTA office by **Wednesday, September 27, 2017**.

PD Power

If you hear a voice within you say 'you cannot paint,' then by all means paint and that voice will be silenced ~ Vincent Van Gogh

Professional learning is both an individual and collective endeavor, and as a result, takes many different forms. Meaningful professional development needs to be relevant and autonomous but at the same time, there is a responsibility to the collective. Collaboration and diversity are also important factors for growth. With a new school year ahead of us, setting professional learning goals is exciting but can also feel overwhelming. Here are some great ways for you to get started this year on your PD journey:

Upcoming PD Events

September 19th – PD Informational session for all things PD including PD assistance (yellow forms and group applications), upcoming PD opportunities, booking workshops for your staff and more

September 22nd – School-based PD Day

September 28th - #IGNITE43 – join us at Milestones for our second Ignite “Eureka!” where our presenters will share “ah-ha” moments on their journeys thus far. \$30 includes speakers, apples, dinner, dessert, coffee and tea. Space is limited. <https://www.regonline.com/ignite43sept28>

October 20th -21st – BCTF Super Conference – This year, over 20 of our Provincial Specialist Associations have come together to host this amazing event at Canada Place. Keynote speakers include Gabor Mate, Gordon Neufeld, Carole Fullerton, Cindy Blackstock, Shelley Moore, Adrienne Gear, Faye Brownlie and others. Register now <https://www.psuperconference.ca/>

Take care, Holly Stibbs, PD Chairperson

WANTED: District Design Committee for New Elementary Schools

- 8 CTA members

The District Design Committee will work with the Architect and Facilities Personnel to provide feedback on designing new elementary schools in School District #43. The time commitment will be approximately 2-3 meetings per month from 3:30 – 5:30 p.m. over a period of 3-4 months during the fall of 2017 and early 2018. There will be documents and drawings to review between meeting. *Please go to our website for a curriculum vitae and submit it to the CTA Office.*

#IGNITE43

Join the CTA for an evening of conversation!

Date: Thursday, September 28, 2017

Time: 5:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Location: Milestone’s Restaurant
(Lounge) 2745 Barnet Highway,
Coquitlam

Cost: \$20 (includes 3 course meal and 9 presenters)

To register please click onto this link

<https://www.regonline.com/ignite43sept28>

Upcoming PD Information Session



Are you interested in finding out how to apply for PD reimbursement for workshops and conferences? Are you new to the role of PD rep at your school? Are you passionate about PD and looking for ways to support PD in your school? Do you need ideas for planning school-based PD? Would you like to learn more about CTA’s group applications for PD? Are you wondering about upcoming PD opportunities? This informational session is for you!

Date: Tuesday, September 19, 2017

Time: 3:45 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.

Location: CTA Office

New and Young Teachers: Know your Rights!

With so many new teachers entering classrooms this year, our school communities will have many colleagues in new workplaces, including many 25 years old and younger. In BC, folks 25 and under are considered “young workers.” If you are new to a workplace or a young worker, the employer must provide orientation and training in specific health and safety topics for your workplace. Do you know the emergency procedures for your worksite? The specific hazards that exist? How to access first aid? These are all questions that should be answered before starting work. WorkSafeBC’s brochure in [English](#) and [French](#) can assist new workers in starting a job safely.

October PSA Super Conference

October 20-21, 2017
Please check out this conference as an option for the October 20, 2017 PD day, it’s open to everyone, **even if you are not a PSA member!** Register now for the early bird rate—\$120 for two days!

Please click onto this link for more information and to register: www.psuperconference.ca

Walk for Reconciliation

In the spirit of Truth and Reconciliation, Vancouver is hosting a Walk For Reconciliation:

Date: Sunday September 24th.

Time: 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Location: 650 Cambie Street, Vancouver

The Walk follows a 2km route from Cambie Street and Georgia Street to Strathcona Park. Please click onto this link for more information:

<https://canada150plus.ca/walk-for-reconciliation/>

770 Corner

TTOC Committee

Date: Thursday, September 21, 2017

Time: 4:00 p.m.

Place: CTA Office