

COQUITLAM TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

February 16, 2018 - No.23

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President's Message

Province Invests in Teacher Training Programs

The obvious shortages of certified teachers in BC has prompted an action the local and the BCTF have been requesting for some time: a renewed investment in teacher training programs in BC. Highlights from the government's press release are:

- Over 100 new teacher spaces to be added to existing teacher training programs.
- 37 additional spaces for programs centred on training French teachers, co-funded by the Federal government.
- supporting initiatives to recruit and retain Aboriginal educators.
- Working with BCPSEA to develop regional profiles charting the supply and demand for teachers in those regions.

This is a step towards a long-term solution to the teacher shortage situation in BC right now. We welcome these initiatives and hope for more in the future.

Bargaining 2018

The CTA is working toward preparation for bargaining for our next contract. While 2019 seems a bit of a way off yet, the stated intention of the BCTF and the CTA is to begin bargaining as soon as possible. This is so that, potentially, an agreement can be reached before the expiration of the current agreement in 2019. We will keep members updated on progress towards bargaining and ways members in sites can be involved or help the local out in bargaining. Right now, we are seeking interested applicants for our Negotiations Committee and would love to have a diverse set of educational interests represented on that committee. Interested members, please fill in a CV and submit it to the CTA, as per the directions on the Committee Vacancies page in this newsletter.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

FOLLOWING BC'S THRONE SPEECH, NEXT WEEK'S BUDGET MUST SIGNIFICANTLY INVEST IN PUBLIC EDUCATION

The latest Throne Speech from the new BC government made some important promises around increased spending to upgrade unsafe schools and to get students out of crowded portables. BC Teachers' Federation President Glen Hansman welcomed those commitments and urged the government to invest significantly more in the operating side of public education in next week's budget to ensure students' learning conditions continue to improve.

"Public schools have seen some big changes since the BCTF won our Supreme Court of Canada case, but implementation hasn't been free from challenges," said Hansman. "The ongoing teacher shortage is having a big impact in many communities, and too many students are losing out on their educational programs as a result. This is especially problematic for students with special needs who are seeing their specialist teachers reassigned to cover classroom teacher vacancies. Special education and English Language Learner supports should not be treated like dispensable luxuries."

In the September 2017 budget update, the new government committed to an additional \$110 million for public schools in 2018–19. That is in addition to the funding announced to implement teachers' Supreme Court win.

"Given all of the challenges facing our schools, we need to see that \$110 million figure grow significantly," said Hansman. "The BC Liberal government spent 16 years underfunding our schools and forcing cuts onto school districts that took important programs and learning services away from students. Beyond funding the restoration of jobs, BC still has a long way to go to make up for that era of program cuts, unconstitutional legislation, and school closures."

Hansman called on the government to implement the recommendations of the Legislative Assembly's Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services. This year, the committee has made several sweeping recommendations to improve education funding. The recommendations include several specific points raised in the BCTF's submission. The committee called for more funding to tangibly support implementation of the revised curriculum, provide better support for Aboriginal education initiatives in all regions of the province, hire additional specialists, and many other long overdue changes.

Hansman also called on the BC government to let school districts keep their share of the savings from the recent 50% reduction in the Medical Service Premium (MSP). School districts, as employers, are saving about \$20 million in MSP costs this year for teachers alone.

"For 16 years, the BC Liberal government downloaded costs like MSP increases onto school boards without any funding to pay for them," said Hansman. "That put huge pressure on school districts to make even more cuts. Our hope is that the new government will let school districts keep their share of the MSP savings and not count it toward any increase in funding."

Hansman said the priority for that estimated \$20 million in MSP savings should be used to address the teacher shortage, provide resources for the revised curriculum, support mentoring initiatives for the thousands of new teachers, and hire additional specialist teachers.

Come Join Us! Social Justice Movie Night February 22nd at Gleneagle Secondary



If you are passionate about social justice and would like to socialize with like-minded colleagues, come for socializing, free resources and appies that come with the movie!

Education Inc. Movie Summary:

"American public education is in controversy. As public schools across the country struggle for funding, complicated by the impact of poverty and politics, some question the future and effectiveness of public schools in the U.S. For free-market reformers, private investors and large education corporations, this controversy spells opportunity in turning public schools over to private interests. Education, Inc. examines the free-market and for-profit interests that have been quietly and systematically privatizing America's public education system under the banner of "school choice." Education, Inc. is told through the eyes of parent and filmmaker Brian Malone, as he travels cross-country in search of the answers and sources behind the privatizing of American public education, and what it means for his kids. With striking footage from school protests, raucous school

board meetings and interviews with some of the most well known educators in the country, Malone zooms out to paint a clear picture of profit and politics that's sweeping across the nation, right under our noses."

-- edincmovie.com.



SOCIAL JUSTICE MOVIE NIGHT WITH APPIES:

When: Thursday, February 22nd,
from 5:00pm - 6:30pm

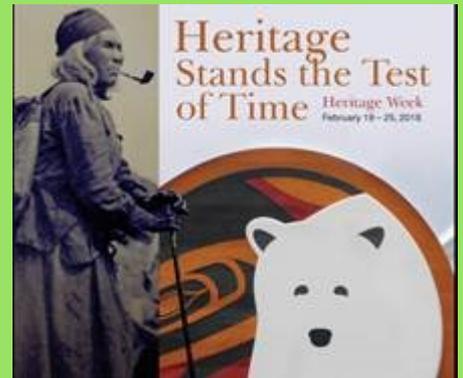
Where: Gleneagle Secondary
(look for signage in the foyer to
direct you)

Please RSVP: Karen Learmonth at
klearmonth@sd43.bc.ca by
February 20th.



February 19 – 25 is BC
Heritage Week. This year's
theme is:

**Heritage Stands the Test of
Time.** Heritage belongs to all
people of Canada and we
must reconcile past mistakes
in order to create a heritage to
which we can all be proud.



February 28 is **Pink Shirt Day**.
CASJ's LGBTQ action group's Day
of Pink posters will be arriving in
your schools soon.

These include lesson plans in
which we honour and celebrate
LGBTQ rights. Find additional
resources on CASJ's Day of Pink
page and at SOGI 1 2 3.



Reclaiming Common Ground

A Cross Border Social Justice Conference
for BC, WA and OR Teachers

APRIL 7 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM SULLIVAN HEIGHTS SECONDARY



Registration
open now

crossborderconference.weebly.com



Keynote Speaker Naomi Klein

Naomi Klein is an award winning journalist, syndicated columnist and international bestselling author, known for her books, *No Logo*, *The Shock Doctrine*, and *This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs the Climate*. Her most recent book, *No is Not Enough: Resisting Trump's Shock Politics and Winning the World We Need* was a New York Times and international bestseller. She is the Senior Correspondent at *The Intercept*.



Keynote Speaker Seth Klein

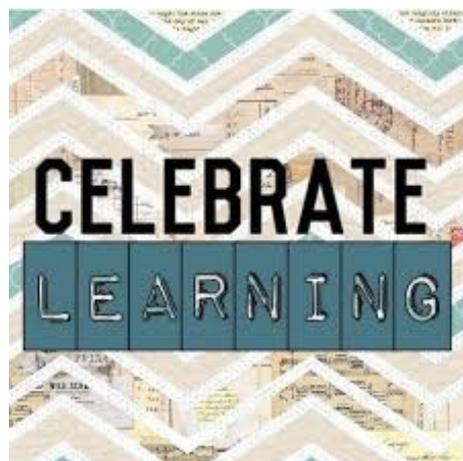
Seth Klein is the British Columbia Director of the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, a public policy research institute committed to social, economic and environmental justice (www.policyalternatives.ca). He has been a social activist for over 30 years.





Friday, February 23, 2018 CTA PD Day AGENDA:

- 7:45 – 8:15 – Band/Coffee/Mingle/Publishers
- 8:15 – Welcome and introductions
- 8:30 – Keynote
- 9:30 – Nutrition Break #1
- 10:00 – Session A
- 11:30 – Nutrition Break #2
- 12:00 – Session B
- 1:30 – Publisher Displays/Collegial Chats



SESSIONS ARE FILLING UP FAST!

REMEMBER:

- Carpool if possible and arrive early to find parking
 - Bring your own water bottle and travel mug
 - Refreshments and snacks are provided between sessions (NO LUNCH PROVIDED)
 - CTA PD Day is a SCENT-FREE event
- See you at Riverside Secondary!
- Holly



CTA PD DAY



Dr. Martin Brokenleg



Ivan Coyote



Merlyn Horton

Join us for a great day of learning!

Opening Remarks, Keynote speaker, features speakers, workshop choices, vendor and publisher tables

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2018

Perspectives on Teaching and Learning in 2018

Riverside Secondary School



www.coquitlamteachers.com

DAY OF MOURNING - BC SCHOOLS PROJECT

APRIL 28 – The National Day of Mourning was officially recognized in Parliament in 1991 with the passing of the Mourning Act designating one day a year to be set aside to commemorate those workers in Canada who were killed or injured on the job. The BCTF has partnered with the BC Labour Heritage Centre, along with the BC Federation of Labour and WorkSafeBC to develop a Day of Mourning (DOM) Schools project.

This year, a partnership of the BC Federation of Labour, BC Labour Heritage Centre, BC Principals' and Vice-Principals' Association, BC School Trustees' Association, BC Teachers' Federation, CUPE BC and WorkSafe BC has taken an important step to actively encourage more schools to participate in the Day of Mourning. This year, a partnership has developed a set of materials that teachers can use in schools throughout the province to raise the awareness of workplace safety with students (future workers) in our schools. The CTA will be sending out these materials to Secondary Schools in the coming weeks. For a full description of the project, click [here](#).

Day of Mourning BC Schools Project



PROJECT DESCRIPTION-2018 (April 27, 2018)

Note: Given that April 28 falls on a Saturday, schools will be honouring the National Day of Mourning on Friday, April 27, 2018.

The Day of Mourning (DOM) was officially recognized in 1991 when Parliament passed the *Mourning Act*. Now endorsed by government, labour and employers, the day commemorates those workers who were killed or injured on the job. The goal: education of our youth on workplace safety to help reduce young worker injuries and fatalities.

WHY A SPECIAL DAY OF MOURNING PROJECT FOR SCHOOLS?

Many students and young people lack knowledge of the dangers of work and their rights as workers and as a consequence, are the most vulnerable group in the workforce as they are statistically more likely to suffer injury or death at the workplace.

- Workers in BC can enter the workplace as young as 12 years of age
- In BC, an average of 27 young workers have time-loss injuries every day.
- Every week, seven young workers are permanently disabled in BC

This year, a partnership of the BC Federation of Labour, BC Labour Heritage Centre, BC Principals' and Vice-Principals' Association, BC School Trustees' Association, BC Teachers' Federation, CUPE BC and WorkSafe BC has taken an important step to actively encourage more schools to participate in the Day of Mourning.

Through a school event, a "teachable moment" can be created to honour the injured and fallen as well as to promote student awareness of their rights to a safe workplace. Our specific goal is to reduce the number of deaths and injuries amongst young workers.

WHAT RESOURCES ARE PROVIDED TO HELP?

An easy-to-introduce program has been created for secondary students to help schools achieve these objectives. The cost-free print or digital package includes: scripts, posters, student postcards, a video for students and a list of suggested student activities including student daily announcements, principle announcements, a moment of silence, and other curriculum.

Project details and sign-up information can be found at:
labourheritagecentre.ca/DOMSchoolsProject

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Day of Mourning BC Schools Project



WHAT IS THE FORMAT FOR COMMEMORATION IN SCHOOLS?

Recognize Day of Mourning at your school (April 27, 2018)

It is easy to observe Day of Mourning for your students through basic announcements or larger school participation. Here are some ideas that you can incorporate into your learning plans and schedules in April.

Announcements

School observes National Day of Mourning through a school-wide or classroom announcement followed by a moment of silence. Script is provided.

Additional activities

- Student announcement for the 5 days leading up to Day of Mourning (script provided)
- Day of Mourning posters for display (available in English and French)
- *Alive After 5* booklets and wallet cards
- Student Day of Mourning postcards (English and French available) and decals
- Day of Mourning safety lesson sequence for teacher-led discussion that includes a scenario with questions, suggested responses and discussion and handout for students.

USEFUL WEBSITE REFERENCES

- "Resources For Young Workers By Group—Educators," (Worksafe BC) <http://www2.worksafebc.com/Topics/YoungWorker/Resources-Educators.asp>
- *Workers Mourning Day Act*, S.C. 1991 c.15, Assented to 1991-02-01 <http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/W-11.5/page-1.html>

Help make sure that every young worker comes home safe by joining the "Count My School In" Campaign starting Monday, January 27, 2018

Project details and sign-up information can be found at:
labourheritagecentre.ca/DOMSchoolsProject

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BCTF NEW TEACHERS' CONFERENCE



WHERE: Radisson Hotel,
Richmond

WHEN:
March 2-3, 2018

KEYNOTES:

- Ivan Coyote
- Verna St. Denis

WORKSHOPS:

- Mentoring
- Classroom Management
- Assessment
- Sexual Health Ed
- Science Inquiry
- French Immersion
- Inclusive Classes
- Health & Safety
- Critical Thinking
- Storytelling
- Boundaries
- ...and much more!

Strong Union, Caring Schools: A place for everyone

BCTF Conference for New Teachers, New TTOCs, and Student Teachers

March 2-3, 2018

Radisson Hotel, 8181 Cambie Road, Richmond, BC V6X 3X9

Networking | Sharing expertise and ideas
Exploring services and resources

For information: bctf.ca/NewTeachersConference2018

Registration opens mid-January 2018

For more information, contact Céline Huard de la Mare,
604-871-1889 or 1-800-665-7183 local 1889 or via email at chuard@kelcomarincbctf.ca



BC Teachers' Federation
Ensemble BC: 8 associations régionales, 70 000 enseignants et éducatrices.
Ensemble régional: unifie les forces éducatives provinciales, nous sommes BCTF.



Registration to the 20th New Teachers' Conference is filling up fast! There are 300 participants registered. Don't wait until the last minute to join many other new and young teachers from across BC for this excellent professional development opportunity. The BCTF will offer each participant a shopping bag full of material and resources at their arrival. This event is a great way to network with colleagues from other school districts, build up your skills, and enjoy enriching conversations while enjoying great food! Don't miss it!

To register please click on the poster or visit:

<http://www.bctf.ca/uploadedFiles/Public/NewTeachers/conference/2018/REGISTRATIONNTC2018.pdf>

Committee Vacancies

Teachers interested in the following committees should go onto our website for a curriculum vitae form and submit it to the CTA Office by:

Monday, February 19, 2018.

If you have questions, call the CTA Office at 604-936-9971.



New Westminster & District Labour Council

- 5 CTA reps

CTA Multiculturalism & Anti-Racism Committee

- 3 elem. reps, 1 middle rep, 2 sec. reps, 1 MAL

CTA PD Committee

- 1 elem reps, 1 middle rep, 2 secondary reps

CTA Teachers Teaching on Call Committee

- 5 members-at-large

CTA Policies & Procedures Committee

- 1 member-at-large

CTA Negotiations Committee

- 3 members-at-large

CTA Social Justice Committee

- 1 elem. rep, 2 middle reps

District Student Services Advisory Committee

- 2 CTA reps

District French Advisory Committee

- 3 CTA reps

District Student Achievement Advisory Committee

- 4 CTA reps

District Review Panel Committee

- 1 CTA rep

District Technology Advisory Committee

- 2 CTA reps

District Student Wellness & Safety Committee

- 3 CTA reps

District Advisory Committee on Aboriginal Education

- 1 CTA rep

District Reporting Template Feedback & Review Team

- 4 CTA reps (Grades K-5)- 1 CTA rep (Grades 6-8)

District Design Committee for New Elementary

Schools

- 4 CTA reps (see p.3 of Issue No. 21 for details)

Calendar of Events

- Social Justice Movie Nite on Feb. 22nd @ Gleneagle
- Elementary Guitar and Ukulele Jamboree on April 11th @ Roy Stibbs
- Elementary Choral Jamboree at on May 9th @ Aspenwood Elementary



Contact Us...



/CTA43



@CTA43

The CTA can be found on Facebook and Twitter. You can also email us or check out the website
www.coquitlamteachers.com

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Andy Gilligan, Labour Relations Officer
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Holly Stibbs, Pro-D Chair
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Kelly Roberts, Executive Coordinator
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Heidi Davis, Finance Administrator
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