

COQUITLAM TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

November 30, 2018 - No. 13

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President's Message

Letter from Minister Fleming

Please find the complete text of a letter from Minister Fleming here:

<http://www.coquitlamteachers.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Hansman-K-12-Funding-Model.pdf>

There are many fine, political words in here. Our concerns remain that the Minister has had the Funding Review in hand since August and, why the secrecy around this? That can and should cause worry as we approach a bargaining round without full clarity on the government's views on funding public education. Education funding will directly affect our ability to bargain improvements to our class size and composition language, our primary workload control. It most certainly affects our ability to bargain a well-deserved salary increase. We certainly won't let the government strip our CA language by alternate means, nor will we just roll over on the fact we are the among the lowest paid teachers in all of Canada.

Inclement Weather coming.....

'Tis the season...of slips, trips and falls due to inclement weather. Please be mindful of your own safety on school grounds, wearing appropriate footwear, keeping your eyes open and using handrails. The District's Closure of Schools for Extreme Weather Conditions policy (AP132) bears some review as it outlines the processes by which schools are closed due to inclement weather. There are many policies and rules like this across the province so, do not just assume that because Surrey does this one way that it is the same here. Please apprise yourself of this policy, which you can find if you look on the district's site but is more easily accessed just by searching "School District 43 Administrative Procedure 132".

CTA UPDATES

Attendance Management Meetings

'Tis also the season for these beloved meetings to start. We are definitely interested in whether these meetings are beginning to happen in your school. We ask that you let us know that these are happening and that you ask for union representation at these meetings, either by a Staff Rep or a Local Released Officer. You will need to ask for this because there is no requirement for union involvement in these meetings, at Step 1, unless you request it. We want every member meeting with admin to do so, with representation, as is your right, if you request it, in any meeting with management. You can communicate your feedback, inform us about meetings or request officer representation by contacting **Kelly at kroberts@cta43.org**.

Superintendent's Heat Message

You will have all read the Superintendent's notification that temperatures will be reduced in schools to meet Fortis' request for reduced natural gas usage. What is prompting this is the explosion at the gas plant in Prince George. Other districts, like Maple Ridge have already taken steps like this and many individual customers of Fortis have done the same. This should not be seen as an excuse for non-functioning heat in schools to remain unaddressed. If your school has non-functioning heat in all or part of it, please report this to your Principal so they can put a work order in to get the system repaired. The CTA will also be asking the employer that the Board office and all other administrative sites take this on, as a show of solidarity with school sites. Brrrr.....

BCTF AGM: Be a Delegate!

The BCTF Annual General Meeting will take place in **Victoria** on **March 16-19, 2019**. We will elect delegates to the BCTF AGM at our General Meeting on **January 23, 2019**. We would like to encourage members to seriously consider attending the BCTF AGM this year.

Please go to:

<http://www.coquitlamteachers.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/cv-agmdelegate.pdf> for the CV form and submit it to the CTA office before **January 14, 2019**.



Dare to Lead Book Club

We noticed on Twitter that a lot of people are reading Dare to Lead. You are invited to a Book Club where Pam Becker and Andrea McComb will facilitate the sessions using Brene Brown's workbook and guide. It is an open invitation.

Tuesdays 3:30-5:00 at Winslow (Big Table) January 29th, February 26th, April 30th, May 28th

Light Refreshments will be provided.

Here is a link to the registration the deadline to register is **Friday, December 14th**.

[https://my432016.sd43.bc.ca/Departments/studentserVICES/PD/registration/Lists/Dare%20to%20Lead%20Book%20Club/AllItems.aspx?](https://my432016.sd43.bc.ca/Departments/studentserVICES/PD/registration/Lists/Dare%20to%20Lead%20Book%20Club/AllItems.aspx?PageView=Shared&InitialTabId=Ribbon.WebPartPage&VisibilityContext=WSSWebPartPage)

[PageView=Shared&InitialTabId=Ribbon.WebPartPage&VisibilityContext=WSSWebPartPage](https://my432016.sd43.bc.ca/Departments/studentserVICES/PD/registration/Lists/Dare%20to%20Lead%20Book%20Club/AllItems.aspx?PageView=Shared&InitialTabId=Ribbon.WebPartPage&VisibilityContext=WSSWebPartPage)

CTA First Vice President, Amanda Long and Labour Relations Officer, Andy Gilligan attended **BCTF Federation Leadership Institute (FLI)** Friday, November 16 and Saturday, November 17 in Richmond. This two day training for released officers across B.C. included information on Communications, Arbitrations, Grievances, Medical Accommodations and more. It was a great professional development opportunity for our officers and a chance to connect with other BCTF local union officers.



TTOC CORNER

What is the TTOC Committee?

This is a committee comprised of teachers teaching on call which is defined as any teacher who has active membership in the CTA and the BCTF who does not have a full-time continuing contract with the District. We have 7 vacancies on the committee and are looking for TTOCs who would like to network, advocate, and raise awareness of TTOC issues. When heading into a bargaining year it's so important to have the voices of TTOCs heard.

What are some of the duties and responsibilities of the TTOC Committee?

- Act as a catalyst in promotion of awareness of the issues and concerns of teachers teaching on call
 - Enhance the profile of TTOCs in the local
 - Prepare bargaining objectives for the consideration of the CTA Negotiations committee
 - Organize social events and information meetings for teachers teaching on call.
- These have included committee meetings, hosting TTOC workshops, and resource fairs.

How do I apply?

CVs can be found on our CTA member portal at www.coquitlamteachers.com and emailed to Pat at padolf@cta43.org or drop it off at the CTA Office. If you have additional questions please contact **Geoffrey Kehrig** at gkehrig@sd43.bc.ca or **Kara Obojski** at kobojski@cta43.org to discuss. We would love to have you!

TEACHING FOR JOY AND JUSTICE - CROSS BORDER SOCIAL JUSTICE CONFERENCE MARCH 2, 2019

We hope to offer workshops on many Social Justice topics such as First Nations education and rights, Reconciliation, the global climate crisis, organizing skills, Social Justice poetry lessons, intersectional ways of teaching and learning, LGBTQ/ SOGI, Social Justice in our curricula, land struggles, anti-colonialism, race/ anti-racism, historic struggles informing our work, Palestinian struggles, democratic schools, mental health for activists, critical literacy, Social Justice Math, Islamophobia, Art for joy and Justice, plus others!

JOIN US AS A PRESENTER. Please click the link below then SUBMIT button to complete a presenter proposal form.

<http://crossborderconference.weebly.com/workshops.html>

#Ignite43

Our fourth #Ignite43 was great success! Thank you to our gracious host, **Jacqueline Favelle** (Mountain View), our eloquent emcee, **Craig Mah** (Walton), and to all our fabulous presenters: **Andrea Maerkl** (Seaview), **Bill Adair** (Pinetree Secondary), **Dario Demetlika** (James Park), **Amanda Long** (CTA), **Bryan Jackson** and **Liam Patterson-Gram** (SFU), **Wendy Yu** (Panorama Heights), **Ian Robertson** (Winslow), **Giovanni Zenone** (Pinetree Secondary), **Kelsey Keller** (Baker Drive and Winslow) and **James Gill** (Meadowbrook).

The powerful messages shared for Creating Balance were diverse, each bringing a different perspective, but together we understand that being aware of the mind-body connections for ourselves and our learners allows us to intentionally create boundaries so we can be fully present in our lives.

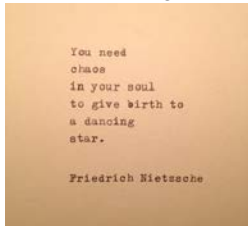
Here is a summary I pieced together from the quick notes I made after each presenter shared their message.

CREATING BALANCE



Who am I?

Am I brave enough to embrace the chaos?



"And I can intentionally integrate aspects of myself

"Becoming fully present, expanding that time between time. Keep it real."



"It's in the [SILENCE] that mind and body heal together and the transition occurs"



Coquitlam Teachers
@CTA43

Some fantastic presenters tonight at #ignite43 thank you to all who attended. #sd43 #bcedchat

7 10:04 PM - Nov 28, 2018

#Ignite43 Tweet Archive

<https://wakelet.com/wake/88gogddc-c671-45a4-a016-719cc487cfaa>



A big shout out to our sponsor partner, Continuing Education for helping make this event possible



Craig Mah
@CraigMah

The final presentation of #ignite43 is @jagill on Balancing the Books! Bringing different, exciting approaches to teaching.

#bcedchat #sd43

6 8:09 PM - Nov 28, 2018

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, December 3, 2018.**

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

New Westminster & District Labour Council

- 5 CTA reps

CTA PD Committee

- 1 elem. rep

CTA Teachers Teaching on Call Committee

- 7 members-at-large

CTA Policies & Procedures Committee

- 2 member-at-large

District Student Services Advisory Committee

- 2 CTA reps

District French Advisory Committee

- 2 CTA reps

District Student Achievement Advisory Committee

- 4 CTA reps

District Review Panel Committee

- 1 CTA rep

District Technology Advisory Committee

- 4 CTA reps

District Student Wellness & Safety Committee

- 2 CTA reps

District Aboriginal Ed Advisory Committee

- 1 CTA rep



WANTED: District Learning Resource Working Group

(2 CTA members)

The District Learning Resource Working Group will work on revising Administrative Procedures 213 & 265 to ensure compliance with the new Ministry Policy for Learning Resources

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/administration/legislation-policy/public-schools/learning-resources>

This working group is project-specific and will help produce supporting materials to assist teachers. Release time will be provided as necessary. The working group will meet periodically between November and January. Ideally candidates should have familiarity with the use of a broad variety of learning resource categories, including books, textbooks, digital and physical manipulatives. Knowledge of ERAC offerings is also an asset. Please go to our website for a curriculum vitae.

<http://www.coquitlamteachers.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/eccv.pdf> and submit it to Pat Adolf, padolf@cta43.org.



UPCOMING EVENTS: submit your details to kstewart@cta43.org for posting.

DECEMBER

CTA Executive Committee Wednesday, **December 5**

Deadline for local resolutions to BCTF AGM Saturday, **December 15**

Schools close for Winter Break (last day in session) Friday, **December 21**

JANUARY

Schools reopen from Winter Break Monday, **January 7**

CTA Executive Committee Wednesday, **January 16**

CTA Rep Assembly/General Meeting...Winslow Gallery Wednesday, **January 23**

CTA Executive Committee Wednesday, **January 30**

*Back issues of the previous school year CTA Newsletters can be found on our website.



[/CTA43](https://www.facebook.com/cta43)



[@CTA43](https://twitter.com/cta43)

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

www.coquitlamteachers.com

CTA Contacts:

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Andy Gilligan, Labour Relations Officer
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Pat Adolf, Administrative Associate
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