

COQUITLAM TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

December 7, 2018 - No. 14

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President's Message

Approaching Holidays

Given the volume, emotion and complexity of calls we are receiving, it is apparent that teachers are feeling quite stressed out there right now. We are always available to you, as are other resources like Employee and Family Assistance Plan provided by the employer (1-844-880-9143). We all know the pull from September to Christmas is often the toughest part of the year so, please, look after yourselves and your loved ones in this holiday season.

Teacher Absences

On a somewhat related note, as noted a couple weeks ago in the newsletter, there are routinely a high number of teacher absences lately. People are falling ill in high numbers right now and that is affecting school communities as they scramble with shortages, late callouts, requests not being met, TTOCs being redirected on route or, from Remedy support, among other problems. The system is stretched and it's a tough balance between having enough TTOCs so you can meet teacher absences and having so many they starve in lean months, aside from the already-noted teacher shortage in BC. Please be patient with our TTOCs, knowing they are doing their very best to help and that these problems are not their fault.

Also on a semi-related note to the above item, the District held a Career Fair last week. I attended it to see what would happen. There were, I'd estimate, around 400 people in the Winslow gym showing interest in teaching and CUPE work. I snuck a quick look at the sign in sheets for teaching and for EAs and was pleased to see that there were a page and half of sign-ins for each group. Now, it's certainly not the job of the union to praise management but, when they make efforts like this that address the shortages affecting our membership, they deserve a little commendation for that. The CTA has written a letter to that effect to Superintendent Patti Gartland and she has shared it with the people that organized the event.

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**.



Ready to Retire? Welcome!

BC Retired Teachers' Association (BCRTA) and local Coquitlam Branch (CRTA) invite you to test drive membership for a year, for free!

As a BCRTA/ CRTA member, you will have access to a wide range of extended health plan benefits, travel insurance, consumer and travel discounts, and many retirement resources. You will be part of an organization that stands up for pension rights, public education, and seniors. You will also find great opportunities for personal and social connections and learning experiences.

It only takes five minutes to join. Go to www.BCRTA.ca for enrolment details and much more. Questions? CRTA Branch President Caroline Malm can be reached at caroline.malm@bcrtc.ca.

CTA REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY

Wednesday, January 23, 2019
Winslow – Gallery Room, 4:00 p.m.

Recorder: K. Roberts

Chairs: S. Cowan/D. Malakoff

Agenda

Recognition of First Nations Greeting

1. Call to Order
 - Adoption of the agenda
 - Adoption of the minutes of the Representative Assembly held November 14, 2018
2. Ratification of Committee Appointments
3. Adjournment [4:10 pm]

CTA GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, January 23, 2019
Winslow Gallery Room, 4:10 p.m.

Recorder: K. Roberts

Chairperson: S. Cowan/D. Malakoff

Agenda

1. Call to order
 - Adoption of the agenda
 - Adoption of the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held November 14, 2018
2. President's Report
3. TIMED ITEM: (4:15 pm): Election
 - CTA Delegates to the 2019 BCTF AGM
4. CTA Policy & Procedure Motions
5. School Concerns
6. Prize Draw
7. Adjournment [5:45 pm]



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.

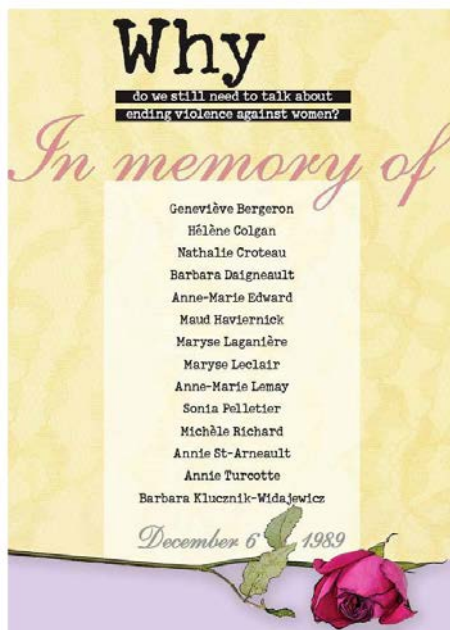
Tuesdays 3:30-5:00 at Winslow (Big Table) January 29th, February 26th, April 30th, May 28th

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



On December 6, we took time to remember and honour the 14 women killed in **1989 at École Polytechnique in Montreal**. Half of women in Canada will experience physical or sexual violence in their lifetime. With leadership, education and action by the federal government, we can end sexual harassment and violence. Add your voice by emailing your MP here: www.donewaiting.ca/harassment_violence

BCTF set to launch BCTF 2050: Engaging the Future

Are you a BCTF member in your first 10 years of teaching? Would you like to be part of a provincial team exploring new teachers' professional and union engagement? The BCTF is seeking 16 facilitators from across BC to be part of BCTF 2050: Engaging the Future. Successful applicants will receive an introduction to the BCTF's organization, staff, and services as well as team-building, resources, and ongoing support for designing and conducting focus group conversations with new teachers. If you are interested in learning more about your union and are seeking an opportunity to meet and collaborate with new teachers from across BC, please submit your application by January 15, 2019, at 4:30 p.m. More information and an application form can be found on the BCTF website at bctf.ca/opportunities/BCTFCommittees.aspx.

New Teachers' Conference 2019: Two events this year

In 2019, the BCTF is hosting two regional New Teachers' Conferences called Gaining ground: New teachers together, leading the way. The first will be in Vernon from April 4-5 and will feature keynote speaker Dr. Deborah MacNamara, presenting on developmental science and making sense of learning, behavioral, and developmental issues in kids (from babies to teens). The second conference will be in Nanaimo from May 9-10 and will feature spoken word artist and activist Tracy Myers. Registration for both conferences will open on February 14, 2019. For more information, visit bctf.ca/NewTeachers.



TTOC CORNER

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 dropped 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!

Two weeks til the break! As we head into the last 10 days before the holidays, this upcoming year's PD theme "**Creating Balance**" seems even more important.

Remembering to pace ourselves can be tricky with all the concerts, tournaments, report cards and shopping!
- Holly

Self Defense for Teen Girls and Women

Police judo is teaming up with Eastside Fitness to deliver a three hour (one hour class room/ two hours in the gym) ladies self defence clinic on December 16th in Vancouver . There is a morning and afternoon session for your convenience. If you are interested, please follow the links below.

LOCATION: Tactical Training Center - 2010 Glen Drive, Vancouver

DATE: Sunday, December 16th, 2018

TIME: 10:00-1:00 -or- 1:30-4:30

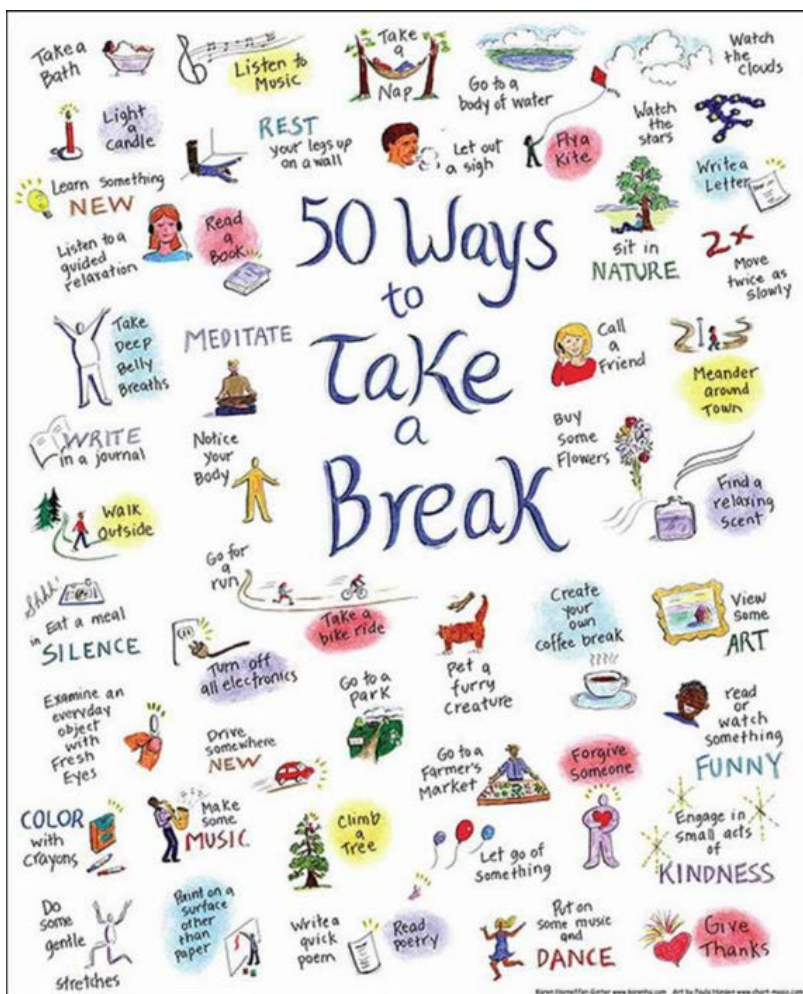
COST: \$55

Session 1 - 10am-1pm

Session 2 - 1:30-4:30pm

<http://clients.mindbodyonline.com/classic/ws?studioid=19796&stype=41&prodid=504>

#Ignite43 presenter **Wendy Yu** (Panorama Heights) shared with us about the importance of interrupting our day with breaks to help re-balance. Here are some suggestions:



The BCSSTA is proud to present another mini-Conference for 2019!

This Conference is a Labour History Conference and is a result of our partnership with The BC Labour Heritage Centre, and the new Labour Studies Program at SFU. All details below.

Did we mention , this is FREE, and includes LUNCH!?!

Some travel and TTOC cost coverage may be available based on need, and on available funds. Many Lower Mainland School Districts have a Professional Development Day on the day of the Conference.

Details of the travel grants and TTOC coverage will be posted on the BCSSTA website, <https://bcssta.wordpress.com/> under the events tab later in December.

REGISTER HERE: before February 13, 2019

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/teaching-labour-history-making-connections-tickets-53330837972>

WHEN: Fri, 15 February 2019 9:00 AM – 2:30 PM PST

WHERE: Vancouver Technical Secondary School
2600 East Broadway Vancouver, BC V5M 1Y5

Check out the co-sponsors' websites for updates on the conference:

BCSSTA:

<https://bcssta.wordpress.com>

BC Labour Heritage Centre:

<http://www.labourheritagecentre.ca>

Labour Studies Program at Simon Fraser University:

<http://www.sfu.ca/labour.html>

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, January 14, 2019.** 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

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

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