



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

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No. 12

Economic Stability Dividend

In addition to the contractual 1% teachers will receive on May 1st, it has now been announced that there will be a further 0.4% increase due to the Economic Stability Dividend that came out of our last round of bargaining. Any pay increase is always welcome, especially since the previous government never thought they'd have to pay out any of this, based upon the way they managed government finances.



EA & TTOC Shortages

This item is on our next agenda for the Labour Relations meeting with management. We have been addressing this issue since the beginning of this year. The CTA recently sent a formal letter speaking about the impact of these shortages on the teaching population and schools, additionally warning them that we feel that protracted shortages constitute a violation of the Collective Agreement's non-enrolling ratios when those teachers are constantly pulled away from their work to mind the gap. We have also written a motion for submission to the BCTF AGM to look at provincial solutions to this and to frame a global strategy to how schools respond in shortage situations. Further, we remind that the prep time lost to TTOC shortages, specifically, needs to be made up by the administrator, as per a grievance decision locally.



Code of Conduct for Parents

The District decided to unveil a policy on Code of Conduct for Parents recently. DPAC and the CTA were consulted on this policy. The media has been very busy with regard to this. CTA President Ken Christensen has given multiple interviews on this policy proposal. We believe the vast majority of parents are contributing positively to the working and learning environment in schools and we value and celebrate their assistance in education. The small percentage that don't get along well with others can do considerable damage to the relationships within a school and the school community. We do wonder if policy is the way to deal with this and we leave that question open for further discussion with the Board.

New Teacher Training

Dates: Thursday, November 23, 2017 (**only a few spaces left!!**)
Times: 8:45 a.m. – 2:45 p.m.
Location: Winslow Centre – Gallery Room

This day workshop is for new teachers who have been teaching 3 years or less and is a **paid** day. Come and learn about:

- Professional Relationships
- Rights & Responsibilities
- Professional Learning and more

Registration is on a first-come first-serve basis. To register please email Pat (padolf@cta43.org).

Coquitlam Teachers' Association invites you to attend an Induction to welcome teachers new to the district and to induct teachers new to the profession into the BC Teachers' Federation.



Thursday, November 23, 2017, 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Milestones Bar & Grill, 2745 Barnet Hwy, Coquitlam, BC

ONLY new teachers hired from November 1st, 2016 to October 31st, 2017 will be inducted.

Please RSVP Pat (padolf@cta43.org) by Tuesday, November 21, 2017



PD Power

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." Helen Keller

A big thank you to everyone who has completed the Call for Presenters form for our upcoming February CTA PD Day! Feedback from the membership clearly shows that members love having choice. Last year we opted for participants to be able to pre-select two workshops (Session A and B). In order to make this happen again, we need more presenters. More choice requires more sessions!

Facilitating or co-facilitating a session at our CTA day is a great opportunity to share your passion for teaching and learning with colleagues. There are many ways to show leadership, and stepping forward to connect with teachers from across the district is another way to offer support.

Please consider joining us as a presenter, as a facilitator or simply hosting a sharing session with your colleagues. The possibilities are endless!

To register as a presenter, go to: [CTA PD Day](#)

Click on Speaker/Presenter Registration. The passcode is 9971.

Featured Speaker #2 for our CTA February Day is Merlyn Horton who founded the Safe Online Outreach Society in 2002. Merlyn's expertise has been utilized developing social media policies for non-profit organizations, advising human resource professionals about online risks and writing group home social media policies. She has spoken at both national and international conferences on topics including cyber abuse, online sexual exploitation, children and media. For more information go to: [Safeonline](#)

Take care,
Holly

Professional Development is not just a workshop at a conference. It's ongoing, collaborative and supportive. Did you know that you can join #BCEdChat on twitter every Sunday night at 7 p.m. to connect, discuss and share with educators from across BC? In fact, SD43's **Kelsey Keller** (*Baker Drive*) will be a guest moderating a #bcedchat "Mistakes" on Sunday, November 26th!

Social Justice Spotlight

November



5-11: Veteran's Week
11: Remembrance Day
12-18: BC Multiculturalism Week
20: National Child Day
20: Transgender Day of Remembrance
24: Buy Nothing Day
25: International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women—16 days of action begins

November 20 is National Child Day, celebrate the United Nations Declaration and Convention on the Rights of the Child. UNICEF Canada's [National Child Day webpage](#) provides resources including an event kit to participate in Bring your MP to School Day, [National Child Day activity kits](#) and a child-friendly version of the [UN Convention on the Rights of the Child](#).

The [Transgender Day of Remembrance](#), on **November 20** is dedicated to remembering victims of anti-transgender hatred or prejudice. Consider booking the workshop [Creating a Gender-Inclusive School Culture](#) for a school-based or district-wide professional development day. The BCTF [LGBTQ](#) webpages contain lesson plans, books and videos to support the development of inclusive attitudes towards trans people, including the new BCTF brochure, [Starting a GSA in BC Elementary Schools](#).

Resource Fair Share

For Early Career Teachers and TTOCs.

Date: Tuesday, November 28th

Time: 4:00 p.m. door prizes/speakers,
Resource Fair 4:30 - 6:00 p.m.

Place: Gallery Room, Winslow Centre

Door prizes, snacks, and free resources! Please come and meet our Mentoring Support Teacher, Tamara Sengotta, District Principal, Jason Hewlett, and the CTA TTOC Committee. It's a great opportunity to make new connections, ask questions, and shop for free resources. Light snacks and beverages will be supplied.

Accepting Resource Donations!

The TTOC Committee is looking for relevant, gently used, K-12 resources such as: novels, classroom décor, craft supplies, cds, kits, DVDs, toys, centre activities, and teacher guides. Please drop donations off at:

Date: Tuesday, November 28th

Time: 12:00 – 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday,

Location: Elm Room - Winslow Centre

Please contact Denise at dlumagbas@sd43.bc.ca for any assistance. Thank you for supporting our early career colleagues!

Congrats to Sophie Bergeron

Congratulations to **Mme Sophie Bergeron** for receiving the annual *André Obadia Award* for excellence in Immersion Teaching at this year's ACPI conference held in Charlottetown, P.E.I. The Canadian Association of Immersion Teachers awards the André Obadia Award annually to recognize professional excellence in immersive teaching. The CAIT Board of Directors presented this year's award to Sophie Bergeron for her tremendous work in advancing immersion in British Columbia and Canada. <http://www.acpi.ca/concours/prix-andre-obadia/recipientaire-du-prix-andre-obadia-2017>

Félicitations Sophie!

How your EFAP can help

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