

COQUITLAM TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

September 14, 2018 - No. 02

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President's Message

Flex-ing?

It's not another Lil Tay video, it's an odd thing that happens in September to our contractual class sizes. We will be sending out more detailed information shortly but here are the basics of this, to help you understand what might be happening to you right now:

First, the employer must organize classes in May, using best efforts to bring them into compliance, without dropping them so low as to go below the floor, because they likely won't be funded for those classes. Let's say you have a Grade 3 class, which has a class size limit of 22. You have 3 kids with a special ed diagnosis. That, in May, would trigger a class reduction by 2. Summer comes, everyone's relaxing and then we roll into September. There's been a bit of a surprise and two new kids show up. The only place they can go is into your Grade 3 class, due to space concerns elsewhere, say. Can the employer do this? Yes, they can, as long as the kids are new enrollments or transfers from other full schools and they couldn't have been accounted for in May. This is flex. The maximum your class can be flexed up in September, with new enrollments/transfers, is two.

As I said, more information will be coming to your staff rep shortly but, if there are any questions or concerns about what is happening at school, please contact us within September, so we can help you navigate these before the classes become set, October 1st.

FSA TESTS

The government is starting off with a bang this year, with regard to FSA testing, which will occur in October and November. The BCTF is continuing to encourage parents to opt their kids out of this testing and teachers can, as usual, communicate their concerns with this testing to parents. Please do so using the approved pamphlets and withdrawal form. The CTA will provide these documents, as per the protocol agreement to any school that wishes them. Just contact us and we will prepare them for pick up. Thank you for your ongoing support of this campaign.

BCTF's TERI MOORING to attend the CTA AGM October 3rd!



Add to your Calendar!

CTA AGM Agenda

Wednesday, October 3rd @Winslow Gym

1. Call to Order
2. BCTF 1st Vice President, Teri Mooring
3. President's Report
4. Election of BCFED Convention Delegates
5. Financial Reports
6. BCTF Rep Assembly (Nov.2-3) CTA Resolutions
7. Other Business
8. Prize Draws (must be in attendance)
9. Adjournment

CTA REP ASSEMBLY Agenda

Wednesday, September 26 @Winslow Gallery Room

1. Call to Order
2. President's Report
3. Ratification of Committee Appointments
4. CTA Budget 2018-19
5. School Concerns
6. Prize Draw
7. Adjournment



WANTED: CTA Delegates to BC Federation of Labour Convention

The 58th BC Federation of Labour Convention will be held November 26-30. As in the past, the CTA is sending three (3) delegates to the convention. The CTA covers the costs of attending the convention (leave, meals, mileage, registration) but does not cover hotel costs, given that the convention is held in Vancouver.

Dates: Monday, November 26 to Friday, November 30, 2018

Location: Vancouver Convention Centre

Teachers interested in attending the BC Federation of Labour Convention as delegates should fill out a CV, (<http://www.coquitlamteachers.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/CV-1.pdf>) which is **due in the CTA office by Monday, September 24, 2018**. Delegates to the convention will be acclaimed or elected at the upcoming CTA General Meeting on Wednesday, October 3, 2018.



The British Columbia Teachers' Federation is currently seeking 100 active BCTF members to evaluate learning resources for ERAC. ERAC is seeking evaluators with proficiency in the use of technology at all grade levels, in all subject/course areas, and for resources presented in both English and French.

The application form and posting can be found here:

bctf.ca/opportunities/ERACCommittees.aspx

The deadline for submission is **September 21 at 5:00 p.m.**



FIVE SIMPLE TRUTHS FOR STAFF REPS

1. The staff rep is the peer of the Principal in matters related to the interpretation and application of the Collective Agreement.
2. The rights and responsibilities of the staff are firmly grounded in the collective agreement, in statute, and in arbitration jurisprudence.
3. The Collective Agreement was not imposed by the union on the employer, but represents the mutually agreed-to-terms and conditions of employment for teachers in the district.
4. The union has a legal obligation to fairly represent members of the bargaining unit.
5. The grievance procedure represents the most appropriate and least disruptive way of resolving disputes between employees and employer.

WWW.COQUITLAMTEACHERS.COM



Looking for TTOC Committee Members!

If you are a TTOC and would like to get involved please consider applying to be a member on our TTOC committee. We plan special events such as resource fairs, co-plan with the mentoring network, organize TTOC workshops, discuss TTOC issues and the collective agreement.

If this sounds interesting to you, the CV application can be found online through our member portal at www.coquitlamteachers.com or please contact us at the office: 604-936-9971. We would love to have you!



ORANGE SHIRT DAY

Saturday, September 30, 2017

A day to listen, learn, and celebrate Aboriginal culture

Why Orange Shirts?

Orange Shirt Day is a legacy of the St. Joseph Mission (SJM) residential school commemoration event held in Williams Lake, BC, Canada, in May 2013. It grew out of [Phyllis' story](#) of having her shiny new orange shirt taken away on her first day of school at the Mission, and it has become an opportunity to keep the discussion on all aspects of residential schools happening annually. Hear Phyllis' story [here](#) (3 minute video).

The date was chosen because it is the time of year in which children were taken from their homes to residential schools, and because it is an opportunity to set the stage for anti-racism and anti-bullying policies for the coming school year. It also gives teachers time to plan events that will include children, as we want to ensure that we are passing the story and learning on to the next generations.

[Orange Shirt Day](#) is also an opportunity for First Nations, local governments, schools and communities to come together in the spirit of reconciliation and hope for generations of children to come.

Aboriginal Peoples and Culture

The Canadian constitution recognizes three distinct groups of Aboriginal peoples, [First Nation](#), [Métis](#), and [Inuit](#) with unique histories, languages, cultural practices, and spiritual beliefs. More than 1.4 million people in Canada identify themselves as an Aboriginal person. Learn about the Aboriginal arts, history and heritage that are woven into the fabric of our country... [more](#)

See what people are doing to celebrate Orange Shirt Day:
<https://www.facebook.com/orangeshirtdayeverychildmatters>

Let's listen, learn, and celebrate Aboriginal culture together on [Orange Shirt Day](#)
Share your photos

Learn more: [Orange Shirt Day](#) • [Reconciliation of Canada](#) • [Gord Downey's Article Canadian History and the Indian Residential School System Video](#)

Upcoming PD Events

September 18th – 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! Please register in advance by contacting kstewart@cta43.org **3:45 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the CTA Office.**

September 21st – School-based PD Day

Did you know that workshops for school-based PD are available through the BCTF? A complete list of workshops along with the booking process can be found here:

<https://bctf.ca/pd/workshops.aspx?id=233053>

October 19th – PSA Day! PSA conferences The October PSA day is especially for, and organized by, PSAs. We have two PSA conferences hosted right here in Coquitlam!



Check out the full list of PSA Conferences here: <https://bctf.ca/uploadedFiles/Public/PSAs/conferences.pdf>

Take care, Holly Stibbs,
PD Chairperson

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, September 17, 2018.**



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

New Westminster & District Labour Council

- 8 CTA reps

CTA PD Committee

- 1 elem. rep, 1 secondary reps

CTA Teachers Teaching on Call Committee

- 5 members-at-large

CTA Policies & Procedures Committee

- 1 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

- 1 CTA reps

District Student Wellness & Safety Committee

- 3 CTA reps



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

BCTF Staff Rep Training Thur/Tues/Thurs Sept 13/18/20

PD Training (after school) Tuesday, September 18

CTA Executive Committee Wednesday, September 19

District PD Day Friday, September 21

CTA Rep Assembly.... Winslow Gallery Room Wednesday, September 26

OCTOBER

CTA Annual General Meeting (Budget/Financials)...Winslow GYM Wednesday, October 3

PD Rep Training (afternoon only) Tues/Wed/Thurs, October 2/3/4

World Teachers' Day Friday, October 5

Thanksgiving Day Stat Monday, October 8

CTA Executive Committee Wednesday, October 10

Provincial PD Day (Provincial PSA Day) Friday, October 19

CTA Executive Committee Wednesday, October 24

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



/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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