

COQUITLAM TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

December 14, 2018 - No. 15

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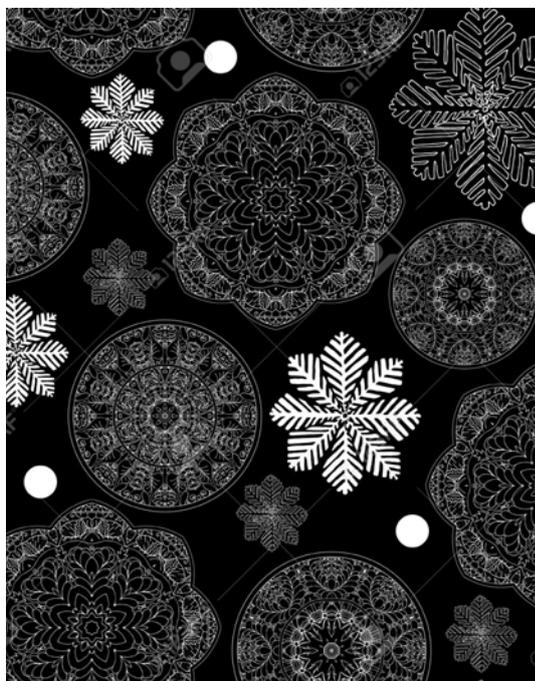
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President's Message

Dangers out there....

The CTA has had a couple of members injured as a result of vehicles striking them, one in a school zone and one on their way to work, in the last couple weeks. That is probably what prompted the Superintendent's letter recently. Both teachers will be ok but, it is still very hazardous in the low light, heavy rain and mist that will follow us through in this El Nino year. Stay safe, watch your environment closely, as a driver or a pedestrian.

Ongoing work in schools

The CTA has received a number of concerned calls about work going on in school sites recently. The concerns mainly stem from communication breakdowns in terms of the purpose of the work, its duration and safety considerations. Facilities works hard to make sure that school environments are safe, healthy and functional. We are working with the employer to try and develop an improved communication plan to avoid misunderstandings or concerns over ongoing work on school sites.

Remedy pullbacks

The CTA remains concerned there may be a high number of remedy pullbacks, i.e. you book a TTOC under remedy and the TTOC gets pulled to cover an absent employee. We are seeking definitive information from the employer on this but, we are interested in your reports as well. If you have information that will help us understand the scope of this matter, please communicate it to us here at the CTA. You can contact us by phone at 604-936-9971 or email Kelly at kroberts@cta43.org. Thank you for your ongoing commitment to using remedy to help your kids.

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
 - BCTF Judicial Council nomination
4. CTA Policy & Procedure Motions
5. School Concerns
6. Prize Draw
7. Adjournment [5:45 pm]



24th Annual Labour Community Christmas Dinner

The BC Federation of Labour is asking for your help!

They need the following:

- unwrapped toys and teenager gifts
- non-perishable foods
- gift cards and passes
- new and gently used, washed clothing for men, women and children (jackets, hats, socks, gloves)

Volunteers are also needed in Vancouver at the Maritime Labour Centre (1880 Triumph Street) on:

December 21st - unloading trucks with food and toys at 10:00 a.m.

December 22nd - filling hampers, setting up the hall, and sorting clothes at 10:00 a.m.

December 23rd - filling hampers, sorting toys and clothes at 10:00 a.m.

December 24th - loading the moving truck at 9:00 a.m., then volunteer for dinner at 4:00 p.m.

Volunteers needed in Surrey at the Whalley Legion (13525 106 Avenue) on:

December 24th - volunteer at the dinner starting at 3:30 p.m.

Please send your name and contact information to labourxmasdinner@hotmail.ca advising if you are available to work the above days in Vancouver or Surrey. For more information please call Marisha Zuckerman at 604-430-1421 or cell 604-306-4156.

CTA UPDATES

The **Aboriginal Education LSA** hosted a workshop for 34 Coquitlam teachers to experience soapstone carving, learn about traditions around Inuit art, and discover the meaning of a few animal totems.

Led by Oliver Harwood of Soapstone Creative, each teacher carved a soapstone animal that they were able to take home with them. Through the workshop, Oliver teaches how soapstone can be easily carved with simple tools due to how soft it is. Oliver offers the same workshop to classes of students up to grade seven, though he has run the workshop with secondary groups as well.

Oliver will also be a presenter at our **February CTA Pro-D day on February 22nd**, so keep an eye out for more soapstone opportunities!



BCTF News

Update on education funding review

In response to the BCTF's advocacy, the Minister of Education has confirmed that his Ministry will engage with the Federation before any final decisions are made about the future of education funding in BC. In a letter (<https://twitter.com/bctf/status/1067545588751720448>) to BCTF President Glen Hansman on November 27, Rob Fleming also reiterated his government's commitment to honour teachers' court win and bargaining rights. Prior to this letter, there had been a great deal of concern that the government was going to move quickly toward a statistical "prevalence model" to fund students with special needs that could interfere with the Federation's restored contract language before we even get to collective bargaining. Read more about those concerns here:

https://issuu.com/teachernewsmag/docs/bctf_nov_dec_teacher_issuu/12

The BCTF will continue to strongly advocate against any funding changes that will negatively affect our working conditions and students' learning conditions. Stay tuned for more updates.

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

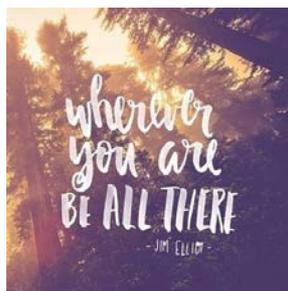
Dr. Deborah MacNamara, presenting on developmental science and making sense of learning, behavioral, and developmental issues in kids (from babies to teens). The second conference will be in Nanaimo from May 9-10 and will feature spoken word artist and activist Tracy Myers. Registration for both conferences 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!



As the last of the bright yellow PD Assistance forms from PSA Day fade away, and with our CTA PD Day approaching faster than I'd like to admit, there can be no doubt this is a team effort. I'd like to give a **BIG** shout out to our wonderful CTA office staff: Kelly R., Heidi, Kelly S. and Pat who patiently answer my questions, make suggestions, and point me in the right direction as we work together to support professional learning in our district.

With much appreciation,
Holly, PD Chair



Coquitlam Teachers' Association

Making Sense of Your CPP, OAS and Group Benefits

CTA After School Session
January 21, 2019
Time: 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm
CTA Boardroom

****30 Spots Available – waitlist will be created****

RSVP to Kelly at kstewart@cta43.org

PRESENTER INFORMATION

Name:	Gerry Tiede
Job Titles	Chair of the BCRTA Pension and Benefits Committee; President of the BC Retired Teachers' Association Former Chair of the Teachers' Pension Plan Board of Trustees
Phone numbers	O 604-871-2260 (BCRTA) H 604-538-8967
Email:	gerry.tiede@gmail.com
BCRTA Address: (mailing address)	100-550 West 6 th Avenue, Vancouver, BC V5Z 4P2

WORKSHOP INFORMATION

Title:	Making Sense of Your CPP, OAS and Group Benefits
Target Audience:	Teachers with less than 10 years to their anticipated retirement
Description to be written into the program	This workshop covers the financial aspects of retirement planning, not provided elsewhere including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government Pension Benefits: Canada Pension, Old Age Security, Guaranteed Income Supplement • Government Health Benefits: BC Medical, Fair Pharmacare • Non-Government Group Benefits: dental plans, extended health benefits, travel insurance, trip cancellation insurance • Assessing your insurance needs: Cost of benefits, options for health care benefits • Key Planning Tools & Resources: for use after the workshop.

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

WHERE: Vancouver Technical Secondary School
2600 East Broadway
Vancouver, BC

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

BCSSTA:

<https://bcssta.wordpress.com>

Labour Studies Program at Simon Fraser University:

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

BC Labour Heritage Centre:

<http://www.labourheritagecentre.ca>

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**

Rock The Fox...Terry Fox Secondary, **January 15, 16, 17**
- <https://www.facebook.com/events/1443699792427634/>

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



@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:

www.coquitlamteachers.com
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