

COQUITLAM TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

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#RedforBCEd

National Day of Action - February 28th, 2020

President's Message

Where's the Money?

People often ask us what happens with the money the district saves when a TTOC is not deployed to cover an absence. The claim is sometimes made that the Employer is purposely not covering absences to save cash. Here is how the situation works: the money forms part of the accumulated surplus but, since the budget is 90% staffing, the surplus is redeployed, in a roundabout way, to staffing again, as that is the majority of the budget. It is not in the Board's interest to try and save money this way. Why? Aside from the absolute chaos this creates, the government looks very closely at accumulated surpluses and has been threatening districts that they will claw the money back. This would leave the district in a precarious position of staffing and other shortfalls if the money was taken. The District is already getting stuck with unallocated inflationary cost pressures and shortfalls in things like the Employer Health Tax. We are continuing to monitor the District's efforts to hire more TTOCs, press them for data on shortages and share information with other locals and the BCTF.

Canadian Teachers' Federation Day of Action

This day, across Canada, is the Day of Action in defense of public education. I saw lots of teachers at the PD Day dressed in #RedforBCEd and thanks for that. Teachers across the nation are doing mark ins, walk ins, some are engaged in strike action, protests and other collective action to make it clear that public education is under threat across the country. Reactionary provincial governments in Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta etc. are employing many of the same tactics employed by the BC Liberals in the past. Here we face failure to fill, teacher shortages and a government that seems to want to ignore their way into a cheap collective agreement with teachers. Together, the teachers of Coquitlam stood together and participated in the growth and development of our profession at PD Day. They followed their head and heart into a place where they could grow, professionally. That is a sign of hope and solidarity and it was something to observe today.

In solidarity,
Ken

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The CTA delegates to the 2020 BCTF AGM have identified 8 motions from the BCTF Reports and Resolutions Booklet as important and they need your feedback.

Please access the CTA Staff Opinion Poll at: [Staff Opinion Poll 2020](#) to provide your feedback.

Please identify any other motion(s) from the Reports and Resolutions booklet that you feel is/are significant. (The complete booklet can be found on the [BCTF Member Portal](#).)

Your response is needed!

DEADLINE: Friday, March 6, 2020.

Due to time constraints this deadline is firm.

We appreciate you taking the time to submit opinions and comments at this busy time of the year!

Mark In for BCED

On Thursday, February 20th, teachers from both the Coquitlam Teachers' Association and the Burnaby Teachers' Association hosted a mark in at the Lougheed Mall Food Court to draw attention to the importance of public education. Teachers dressed in red and sat down to mark and plan lessons. This political action was meant to draw attention, and make visible, the numerous tasks teachers do outside of instructional time. Mark in signs, listing a long and diverse range of these tasks, were displayed on tables so that members of the public could read them and engage in conversations with teachers. Many thanks goes out to the BTA for the invitation to co-host this event, as well as to teachers who came out to take part in this political action. Teachers from different locals are always welcome!



BURNABY TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

Next Mark In

Thursday, March 5th, 2020

Metrotown Centre Food Court 4 - 6 PM



Calling All Fibre Enthusiasts!

Do you enjoy knitting, crocheting, or another yarn hobby? Meggan Crawford and Kara Obojski are hosting a craftivist circle with the intention to connect with new maker friends, share our passion for all things made out of yarn, and to create a space of relaxation and fun while making beautiful things along the way.



Our next meeting will be:

Monday, March 9th from 4:30 - 6pm

Caffe Divano: 3003 Burlington Drive, Coquitlam
Please RSVP to Kara at kobojski@cta43.org by March 6th and bring a project with you!



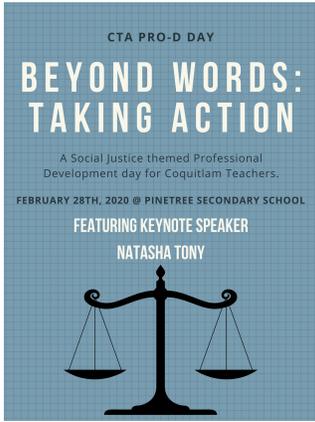
SERVICE LOSS SURVEY FAILURE TO FILL

The CTA continues to gather information on service loss when there are TTOC shortages. We are looking to document any service lost through TTOC shortages, as well as unfilled remedy requests. We have received hundreds of responses to date. We are hoping that every teacher who encounters service loss will fill in this very brief survey. Please fill out the survey for each loss. This information will help us understand the impact of the teacher shortage better here in Coquitlam.

Wear #RedforBCED Campaign

CTA members are encouraged to wear red shirts on Wednesdays and Fridays to show their support for public education and the adequate funding of public education. Join teachers across the province who are also participating in this collective action. Remember to take photos of yourself and willing colleagues, post them on social media and send them to the CTA for posting on our social sites and news letters. Let's all help keep education issues in the news and on peoples' minds.

PD Power



I hope that today's PD Day started some meaningful conversations and sparked an idea or two to carry your professional practice forward.

A huge thank you to the PD Committee: Michelle Ciofitto, Stephanie Duncan, David Grender, Jacqueline Favelle, Ron Morwick, Roger Raghoobarsingh, Amanda Roberts, Aliisa Sarte, Holly Stibbs, Greg Sutherland. Also, thanks go out to the incredible team of office staff at the CTA: Pat Adolf, Heidi Davis, Corbey Heyes-Jones, Kelly Roberts, and Kelly Stewart. This day would not be possible with all the behind the scenes work of these incredible people.

A special thanks to past PD Chair Holly Stibbs for answering my many questions and supporting me tirelessly throughout this year – you're an amazing educator Holly!!

While we are on the topic of thank you's we cannot overlook Pinetree Secondary Staff and Administrators who welcomed us into their space. In particular, thank you to Jeremy Clarke for his ongoing work to support this day.

We will be sending out a short survey asking for feedback on the day, please take a moment to fill it out. Your ideas and answers will help plan CTA PD Day 2021!! If you have photos from the day or photos of you and willing colleagues showing your #redforBCEd that you would like to share please send them to Kelly.kroberts@cta43.org to be included in our newsletters.

-Meggan Crawford
CTA PD Chairperson
Pronouns: she/her/hers
mcrawford@cta43.org

British Columbia Retired Teachers' Association Golden Star Awards 2020

Are you offering a program that involves interaction between students and seniors Has your program been in place for at least one full school year or one full semester?
Could you use \$1500 to enhance your program?

If you answered 'yes' to these questions, you can apply for one of five BCRTA Golden Star Awards. One BCRTA/Legion Golden Star Award is also offered for a program that involves student interaction with veterans.

Deadline for applications is April 15th each year.

To access the Golden Star Awards application forms and a video featuring winners in 2019, please go to <https://bcrtc.ca/bcrtc-golden-star-awards/>

Youth Engagement Surrey (Y.E.S.)

A spring break camp facilitated by SFU Social Ecology and Environmental Diversity in partnership with the City of Surrey that focuses on environmental activism and social justice.

Workshops, speakers and activities emphasize;

climate change, youth leadership and environmental advocacy, waste management and waste reduction, community and mentorship, local and global communities, physical and mental health and wellness

**This is a FREE opportunity for teens during spring break
March 17th to March 20th, 2020.**

Drop in or register in advance below

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/K3FH8VP>

BCATML and MyPITA present:

Grade 5-7 Core French

Support and Sharing Sessions

3:30-5:00pm

Come when you can!

All teachers welcome!

For more info, email:

campbell_tanya@surreyschools.ca



Two available March meeting days:

Tues., March 10th:
Surrey (Mary-Jane Shannon Elementary/10682 - 144 St.)

Wed., March 11th: Burnaby
(Chaffey-Burke Elementary/
4404 Sardis St.)

Topic 1:
My name is _____

Topic 2:
Weather

Holiday/Event:

Spring

Grammar:

Avoir



How EFAP Can Help

Information to help with work and life

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workhealthlife.com

Has anything changed?

Did you move? Get married?

If you have changed your name, address or email please make sure you tell us and remember to

- Notify the CTA email kstewart@cta43.org
- Notify SD43
- Notify BCTF via your [BCTF Portal](#)

Questions about your pension?

Go straight to the source for answers.

<https://tpp.pensionsbc.ca/pension-basics>

Online workshops and learning

<https://tpp.pensionsbc.ca/learning-resources>

Retirement Health Coverage

<https://tpp.pensionsbc.ca/retirement-health-coverage>

Committee Vacancies

District Student Services Advisory Committee

- 2 CTA reps

District Student Achievement Advisory Committee

- 4 CTA reps

District Review Panel Committee

- 1 CTA rep

District Student Wellness & Safety Committee

- 3 CTA reps

District Aboriginal Ed Advisory Committee

- 1 CTA rep

District French Advisory Committee

- 2 CTA reps

New Westminster & District Labour Council

- 5 CTA reps

CTA PD Committee

- 1 Middle, 1 LSA Council Rep, 1 TTOC Rep, 1 Adult Ed Rep

CTA Teachers Teaching on Call Committee

- 4 members-at-large

CTA Committee - Action on Social Justice (CASJ)

- 2 Secondary reps, 2 Middle reps, 2 Elementary reps,
1 member-at-large

CTA Negotiations Committee

- 1 member-at-large

Teachers interested in any of these committees should go onto our website or click here for a curriculum vitae form and submit it to the CTA Office (padolf@cta43.org).

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

Contact Us:

Ken Christensen, President

kchristensen@cta43.org

Kara Obojski, First Vice President

kobojski@cta43.org

Diether Malakoff, Second Vice President

dmalakoff@cta43.org

Andy Gilligan, Labour Relations Officer

agilligan@cta43.org

Meggan Crawford, PD Chairperson

mcrawford@cta43.org

Kelly Roberts, Executive Coordinator

kroberts@cta43.org

Heidi Davis, Finance Administrator

hdavis@cta43.org (Leaves, PD Reimbursement)

Pat Adolf, Administrative Associate

padolf@cta43.org (PD Day/Committees)

Kelly Stewart, Office Clerk

kstewart@cta43.org (Member Records)

Corbey Heyes-Jones, Office Clerk

corbeyhj@cta43.org (Communications)

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