

COQUITLAM TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

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President's Message

Exposures

The amount of Covid 19 exposures has remained mercifully low in SD43, especially compared to some of the other metro locals. That doesn't diminish how scary it is when something happens like this in a site. The employer does inform us when these things happen and does deploy deep cleaning measures in sites, including fogging and touch-point cleaning. What is frustrating to us is the lack of transparency on information. Fraser Health has complete authority over the information disseminated, to whom it's disseminated and when. The BCTF continues to push provincially for better communication here but, I am not hopeful we will see much change.

Meeting with Fraser Health

The local associations, including ourselves, who belong to the Fraser Health region are attempting to set up a meeting with Fraser Health directly, with BCTF support. We would very much like to address some of the specific concerns, like the communication described above, directly with Fraser Health. It is hoped they will agree to meet with us and hear what we have to say.

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OHS and CDMC

Site-based OHS committees and Collaborative Decision Making Committees are even more important than ever in this year. It's the front line for member concerns around on site practices for prevention and limitation of risk. Your site based plans are also available for review on the school district website under the Health and Safety department page. It is strongly encouraged that these committees be active and that these plans be known in site.

General Meetings

You will have noticed the first General Meeting this year was not interactive. This is something we are working to address for future meetings. We struggled with the organizational challenges of hosting a meeting with, potentially, thousands of participants, as our licensing agreements and the structures don't support capacity like that. We absolutely had to get some business done at this meeting and so that became the focus of the AGM, temporarily. We have had some success running Rep Assemblies virtually and are hoping to find a way to scale that up to the General Meeting. We definitely miss the face-to-face interaction with members.

In Solidarity,
Ken

HEALTH AND SAFETY RESOURCES

If you're a Health and Safety Rep or are looking for resources there are many informational items posted in our CTA portal.

Click on Member Resources, then General Information:

<https://www.coquitlamteachers.com/portal/portal-page/general-information/>

Many resources for Joint Occupational Health and Safety committees can be found by logging into SD43 and clicking on Departments

> Human Resources > Occupational Health and Safety. There's information on COVID 19 and safety legislation. Cleaning product information can be found by clicking on Access to Safety Data Sheets.

AGM RESULTS

Thank you very much to everyone who took the time to vote during our online AGM.

All motions were passed with at least 88.8% approval.

The CTA is working on technology so that the next General Meeting – November 18, 2020 can be held live via Zoom.

Stay tuned for more information!

Occupational Health and Safety Training Sessions

OHS Part 1 – training for brand new JHSC members, or members can take as a refresher
OHS Part 2 – prerequisite is OHS Part 1 Course

8am to 4pm at Winslow Gallery room, class size 16

October 20 OHS Part 1

October 28 OHS Part 2

October 29 OHS Part 1

November 19 OHS Part 1

Teachers can email JHSC@sd43.bc.ca to attend one of the sessions listed above.

Executive Committee Vacancies

There are currently two vacant Executive Committee positions

Indigenous Member At Large - 1
Member At Large - 1

If you are interested in running for one of these positions [please go to our website to get and submit a CV](#) to Pat Adolf padolf@cta43.org by November 9, 2020

PD POWER

Another week done brings us to a well-deserved long weekend!

Even though it doesn't look like it has in the past, I hope you find a way to connect with friends and family this weekend.

I know that there have been a lot of questions around the October 23rd PSA Day – if you have questions about your registration for a PSA conference you will need to contact the PSA directly. You can find the email addresses for each PSA on the [BCTF website](#) or through their conference website. For this provincial professional development day the employer has said that teachers may work remotely (from home) to attend their virtual conferences, but you still need to let your administrator know what you plan to do with the day and where you will be working from. If you have not yet registered for an event on this day but would like to, conference registration is still open for most of the PSAs. You can still register for these (or other) events, but you will not be approved for yellow form reimbursement, unless your form is in the office by 4:30pm today.

There are various other events running on the PSA day in addition to these conferences – if you haven't found something that works for you, consider a quick search for other options!

PSA Day – October 23, 2020

PSA day is just around the corner. Although it looks different this year, most of the PSAs are still hosting incredible conferences virtually. When you register for a PSA conference many will also allow you access to some BCTF workshops that are being run on that day. Check out the [PD Resource page](#) on the CTA website or the [BCTF PSA Day](#) website for many amazing opportunities.

Committee for Action on Social Justice (CASJ)

Next CASJ meeting date is Thur Oct 15th at 4pm via teams. CASJ will generally be meeting on the third Thursday of each month at 4pm. We've also started a CTA CASJ Facebook group. We're still building it up, please join us there to stay in touch and keep up with latest committee developments.

TTOC Committee

Next meeting Thursday Oct 15th 4pm

Thank you to those who joined us for the Townhall this week, congrats to Nina P. on winning a coveted gift card!

On Oct 15th, the committee will meet to discuss how to get BCTF issued face shields to TTOCs as well as doing work on developing protocols for dispensing grocery cards to TTOCs in financial need as per the motion that passed at the last CTA RA.. other exciting things on the agenda as well, please check in with us on FB at CTA TTOCs or email committee chair Morgan McKee chair.ttoc@gmail.com or Diether (dmalakoff@cta43.org).

Learning with Syeyutsus

Join us for an Indigenous learning series featuring Canadian authors and thought leaders.

This speaker series will cover a range of topics including true histories, pedagogies, self-determination, land resurgence, and stories to spark ideas for further exploration and deeper learning on your own, with your family and/or your work colleagues.

This is a FREE learning series proudly presented by Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools, in collaboration with UBC Press and their authors as part of TRC Call to Action

#57. Together, we are seeking to promote deeper conversation towards rebuilding our relationships with Indigenous peoples and the Land for a stronger Canada.

Please [click here to follow the link](#) to view powerful speakers on various topics. Held during lunch hour starting Oct 13th. Will be recorded. May be valuable for dialogue with / for students or for one's own professional development.

The Well Teacher and the Surrey Voice Clinic Present

THE TEACHER VOICE DURING COVID WEBINAR

The Surrey Voice Clinic and humanworks have partnered to present this webinar for BCTF members, at no cost.

Voice dysfunction is a growing concern for teachers at all stages of their career. Due to COVID-19 and its associated added demands, there are more questions than ever. For instance, many teachers have questions on how to use voice amplification systems and other accommodations while wearing masks. In this hour long webinar, occupational therapist, Wade Repta, and speech language pathologist, Sherri Zelazny, will cover a range of topics and answer questions via online chat. This session will also be recorded and made available for teachers who are unable to attend.

Tuesday, October 13 at 3:30pm

Registration is required please follow this link to the registration page.



We all know that taking the time to recharge our batteries is essential for our mental health, but it's too easy to focus all our time and energy on helping others.

The good news is that self-care can be quick. In just 5–10 minutes, it's possible to learn new skills to manage your stress and recharge your battery.

Please remember that the BCTF provides you and your family members a free mental therapy resource called Starling Minds™. Your answers and interactions are always anonymous. Learn and practice tools like emotional regulation, thought balancing, mood tracking, and goal setting.

To register, visit:

app.starlingminds.com/registration/bctf

If you already have an account, login at:

app.starlingminds.com

Provincial Election

Saturday, October 24, 2020

Vote in person on General Voting Day on October 24, in advance from Thursday, October 15 to Wednesday, October 21, or at a district electoral office from now until 4 p.m. on Saturday, October 24.

Additional advance voting opportunities have been added to reduce the number of voters in voting places.

Information on safety measures can be found here.

Vote by mail, you don't need a special reason. Voting by mail is a great option for voters who are not comfortable voting in person because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Request your mail in package here.

SD43 Advisory Committees

CTA Representatives Needed

French Immersion Advisory Committee

3 CTA Reps

This representative committee provides advice on District-wide matters related to operation of the French Immersion and French as a Second Language Programs in the District. Reports to the Superintendent and deals in an advisory capacity with Board policy or administrative procedures issues. Meetings have been scheduled for October 21, 2020, March 3 and May 29, 2021 6:30 - 8:00 pm more info will be provided to reps.

Student Achievement Advisory Committee

4 CTA Reps

Reporting to the Superintendent, this committee will review, advise and recommend priorities, plans and processes related to improving student achievement. This representative committee will monitor the effectiveness of the strategies School District No. 43 is using to improve student learning. This committee reports to the Superintendent in an advisory capacity. Meetings have been scheduled for October 7, 2020, February 17 and May 17, 2021 5:00-6:30 pm more info will be provided to reps.

Student Wellness and Safety Advisory

3 CTA Reps

Reporting to the Superintendent this committee will review, advise and recommend priorities, plans and processes related to student safety in School District No. 43. This committee reports to the Superintendent in an advisory capacity. Meeting dates TBA

To be part of one of these committees please submit a CV to [Pat Adolf padolf@cta43.org](mailto:Pat.Adolf@cta43.org) or call the office for more information.



How EFAP Can Help

Information to help with work and life

Confidential · Immediate Assistance · 24/7/365

Morneau Shepell · 1-844-880-9142

workhealthlife.com

CTA Website Login

Information is posted on our website as quickly as we have it. Please make sure you are able to access the site. If you have any questions about login please contact
Kelly Stewart kstewart@cta43.org

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

- 1 CTA rep

CTA PD Committee

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

CTA Teachers Teaching on Call Committee

- 6 members-at-large

CTA Committee of Action on Social Justice (CASJ)

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

New Westminster & District Labour Council

- 5 CTA reps

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:

Please see the list below for the officer or staff member best able to help you.

(Last names A-F) Ken Christensen, President
kchristensen@cta43.org

(Last names G-L) Kara Obojski, 1st Vice-President
kobojski@cta43.org

(Last names M-R) Diether Malakoff, 2nd Vice-President
dmalakoff@cta43.org

(Last names S-Z) Andy Gilligan, Labour Relations Officer
agilligan@cta43.org

PD related questions

Meggan Crawford, PD Chairperson - mcrawford@cta43.org

CTA Administration

(anything not covered by anyone in the list below)

Kelly Roberts, Executive Director - kroberts@cta43.org

Accounting/Finance

(reimbursements, scholarship payment) & CTA newsletter
Heidi Davis, Finance Administrator - hdavis@cta43.org

Scholarships, Committees, CTA PD Day

Pat Adolf, Administrative Associate - padolf@cta43.org

Membership info & website access

Kelly Stewart, Office Clerk - kstewart@cta43.org

If your situation is already being handled by an officer not matching your alpha assignment, then please continue to liaise with that officer.

www.coquitlamteachers.com

CTA Office: 604-936-9971

