

# COQUITLAM TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

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## President's Message

### Site Plan Review

As we listen to Dr. Henry and the reports of increasing counts and restrictions, it's time to have a look again at the site plan for your specific site. Emerging knowledge should lead to an inspection of these documents to see if we can do more, we're still doing things right, etc. Fatigue with these things sets in, sometimes things erode and a reinspection of these documents can reinforce positive compliance for all. Use your site-based OHS Committee to start the re-look at these plans.

### Presidents Meet with Fraser Health

All the local Presidents in Fraser Health Region are set to meet with Fraser Health Monday to discuss the realities of the situation in schools. We also intend to discuss improved communication and transparency, both ways, between the education system and Fraser Health and vice versa. We are actually very well positioned to make their contact tracing and investigations more robust and accurate. Clearly, we will also be discussing the restrictions being put in place or being contemplated for the rest of society and the lack of similar restrictions in school settings undermine confidence and morale amongst educators. We know schools are safer than general public spaces, largely because we have a hand in making them so but, we have 30,000 random elements that intersect with the general public spaces entering our buildings every day in SD43. We need stronger expectations set by the PHO and the Health Authorities, to ensure the safety of our membership.

In Solidarity,  
Ken

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## Mask Wearing

Let's create a culture without mandates

Since we just heard Dr. Henry clamp down on gatherings, certain businesses, travel, etc. and offer nothing of substance for schools, it is clear it is on us to make sure we are setting the best possible example for our colleagues and students.

This means wearing a mask in school as much as you can but, especially whenever social distancing isn't possible and in common areas. It's not for ourselves that we take on these burdens, it's for others that are compromised or vulnerable. Wearing a mask is not just virtue signaling; it's absolutely something that helps control the spread of COVID 19.

The employer will not stand in the way of anyone wearing PPE in schools or involve themselves in teachers trying to positively create a model of mask-wearing in their classrooms. You can't demand it or make education contingent upon it but, you can create the culture that encourages voluntary compliance.



## NO HEAT IN YOUR SCHOOL?

*Here is the protocol to follow*

This is the district protocol when the heat breaks down in schools.

1. The employee(s) advise(s) the principal of the temperature issue.
2. If the principal is unable to make appropriate temperature adjustments, he/she contacts the Manager of Maintenance for expedited assistance.
3. The principal shares information with the staff and the school site based Health and Safety Committee and will also contact the District Health & Safety Officer.
4. The principal contacts the Assistant Superintendent and, if necessary, discusses alternative arrangements, including relocation within the school or to an alternate site, or student dismissal.

This protocol has been in effect since 2005: District staff and school administration are well aware of the process. In the event that several schools simultaneously experience heating difficulties, the district prioritizes its responses depending on the severity of the various situations. For example, a whole building without heat is a higher priority than a wing of a building, etc. The district also gives higher priority to a room without heat versus one with too much heat.

Review AP132 Closure of Schools for Extreme Weather Conditions - Section 6 Deals with school closures due to lack of heat.

**Did you apply for PSA day PD assistance? Don't forget your receipts and conference reports are due by 4:30pm Monday November 23, 2020**

## Ready to Retire? Congratulations and Welcome!

BC Retired Teachers' Association (BCRTA) and local Coquitlam Branch (CRTA) invite you to test drive membership for a year, for free!

Although in-person activities and travel are restricted by COVID-19 at this time, we know that they will resume in the future when it is safe to get together. It's good to know that both during and after the pandemic, as a BCRTA/ CRTA member, you will have access to a range of extended health plan benefits, consumer and travel discounts, travel insurance 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 opportunities for personal and social connections and learning experiences. It only takes a few minutes to join.

Go to [www.BCRTA.ca](http://www.BCRTA.ca) for enrolment details and much more.

We welcome your questions. Contact CRTA Branch President Caroline Malm at [caroline.malm@bcrt.ca](mailto:caroline.malm@bcrt.ca).

# RETIREMENT





# PD POWER

Thank you to everyone who submitted their PSA Day conference report – I have taken all the suggested presenters from your reports and emails and am contacting them with info about our February PD Day! This year's event will look a little different as we move from meeting together at a secondary school to meeting together virtually, but there will still be incredible workshops for you to choose from! Our call for presenters remains open at <https://cvent.me/zRxlb2> and we will be accepting workshop proposals until December 11th, 2020.

Looking for great resources, tips and tricks, and lesson plans?

Check out the Teach BC website where BC teachers share their lesson plans at no cost. This BCTF site has thousands of searchable lesson plans contributed by colleagues around the province.

Visit <https://teachbc.bctf.ca/> now to find some lesson plans or contribute some of your own!

Follow @ctapd on Twitter and @cta\_pd on Instagram for the latest information on all things pd related!

## Committee for Action on Social Justice (CASJ)

**CASJ book club** continues to meet on the second and fourth Thursday of each month. Our next session, on Thur Nov 26, 2020 at 4pm via teams, will cover chapters 6 and 7 (So you want to talk about Race) relating to police brutality and affirmative action. New members welcome. We hold to a strict 1hr duration to respect peoples' time. Feel free to join us even if you haven't be part of earlier sessions. Please contact committee chair Karen Learmonth [klearmonth@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:klearmonth@sd43.bc.ca) for Teams invite or with any other questions.

The CASJ Bookclub members attended an online event organized through UBC with Ibram X. Kendi and Jesmyn Ward. Engaging conversations were had and a report on that event will be coming in a future newsletter

**CASJ meetings** will continue on Teams on the third Thursday of the month. We are in the process of exploring options for gathering racial justice oriented teaching resources with an eye on planning workshops for the CTA PD day in the new year.

If you have any interests in this regard, please join us at our next meeting which is currently scheduled for Thur Dec 17, 2020 at 3:45pm via teams. Please contact committee chair Karen Learmonth [klearmonth@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:klearmonth@sd43.bc.ca) or Diether Malakoff [dmalakoff@cta43.org](mailto:dmalakoff@cta43.org) with any questions.

# Resilience & Renewal

COQUITLAM TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY

FEATURING  
MONIQUE GRAY SMITH

FEBRUARY 26, 2021  
ONLINE



## TTOC COVID HARDSHIP FUND

A motion was passed through the September 30, 2020 CTA Representative Assembly : That the CTA Executive Committee establish a TTOC COVID Emergency Hardship Fund for the 2020-2021 school year to support TTOCs, prioritizing those who have not benefited from CERB or EI. This aid is to take the form of grocery store gift cards.

The grocery gift cards are \$50 President's Choice cards, the application form can be found on the [CTA website](#) member resources/covid page (at the bottom of the page) on a first-come first-serve basis.

Once you have filled out the application it should be emailed to Heidi at [hdavis@cta43.org](mailto:hdavis@cta43.org). Successful applicants will be contacted soon afterwards to arrange distribution.

## TTOC Committee

### TTOC Townhall

Tue Dec 1, 2020 at 3:45pm via zoom

### TTOC Committee meeting

Tue Dec 8, 2020 at 3:45pm via zoom

Townhalls will occur on the first Tuesday of each month followed by a committee meeting on the second Tuesday. All CTA members welcome.

If you were not able to connect with us, please contact the CTA office, The PPE is for all teachers who are currently available to TTOC at least one day a week. You are eligible if you have contract work for less than 5 days per week.



## ***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](mailto: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**

- 2 CTA reps

## **District Aboriginal Ed Advisory Committee**

- 1 CTA rep

## **District French Advisory Committee**

- Currently Full

## **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**

- 5 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](mailto: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](mailto:kchristensen@cta43.org)

**(Last names G-L)** Kara Obojski, 1st Vice-President  
[kobojski@cta43.org](mailto:kobojski@cta43.org)

**(Last names M-R)** Diether Malakoff, 2nd Vice-President  
[dmalakoff@cta43.org](mailto:dmalakoff@cta43.org)

**(Last names S-Z)** Andy Gilligan, Labour Relations Officer  
[agilligan@cta43.org](mailto:agilligan@cta43.org)

## **PD related questions**

Meggan Crawford, PD Chairperson - [mcrawford@cta43.org](mailto:mcrawford@cta43.org)

## **CTA Administration**

(anything not covered by anyone in the list below)

Kelly Roberts, Executive Director - [kroberts@cta43.org](mailto:kroberts@cta43.org)

## **Accounting/Finance**

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

## **Scholarships, Committees, CTA PD Day**

Pat Adolf, Administrative Associate - [padolf@cta43.org](mailto:padolf@cta43.org)

## **Membership info & website access**

Kelly Stewart, Office Clerk - [kstewart@cta43.org](mailto: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](http://www.coquitlamteachers.com)

CTA Office: 604-936-9971

