

COQUITLAM TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

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President's Message

Local Presidents meet with Fraser Health

The Local Presidents did finally get our meeting with Dr. Zbar, from Fraser Health. There is too much to communicate here, so, a Staff Rep Bulletin on the subject will be distributed shortly. In the main, it was a positive meeting, we covered a lot of concerns, got and delivered a lot of valuable clarity and future meetings are in the planning stages.

Health Check

Teachers have been doing a passive health check since the beginning here in schools, while other employers (including the CTA) have been required to do active checks daily. Worksafe and the PHO have concluded that schools need to do the same. It's not as big a reach as it sounds. Teachers will just need to confirm in some active way (for example an email, QR code, sign-in, etc.) that they have performed the health check and are symptom-free.

This will be kept and if Worksafe comes a-calling, they can show them that their employees are doing that. This is not an attempt to extract personal medical information from members.

Exposure Notifications

There have been some changes from Fraser Health regarding exposure notifications. This is, I believe, a response to the concerns raised by local Presidents, Admin, individual teachers and the general public about the lack of transparency around FH's practices and contact tracing. Previously it was, "If you don't hear from us, it's ok." Which didn't really comfort people much. Now, early exposure notices for contact and non-contact will go out and an early exposure general notice when there isn't an individual live case resident in the school. We have started to see these notifications emerge already.

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Exposure Protocol Review

I have been on a bit of a reminder jag the last couple newsletters and here's the latest. When you see the cleaning crew in a school, it doesn't mean the employer is hiding secret knowledge of exposures. From the beginning, we made an agreement with them on how they'd handle exposure protocol in schools. We had to balance not wanting to over-expose the school to chemical loading with effectively cleaning the school to prevent spread of this disease. What we came up with was as soon as the employer became aware by any means, (e.g. parent statement, student isolation, etc.) that there might be an exposure in a school, the cleaning crew is to be dispatched. Eventually, as Fraser Health completed their contact tracing after a positive confirmation, they would catch up and would notify the district of the exposure. At this point, the school would already be cleaned, so, the site is safe. We are made aware of every exposure as soon as it is confirmed by Fraser Health. We are tracking these in the office here. The next step is the District, site admin get a message to parents in the community. The content of the message would be driven by the individual circumstances of the exposure.

The next step is a staff meeting to explain the situation to staff in the building. These are held as soon as it is possible to do so by the site admin. Additional support in the form of extra TTOC time, plus admin support from Craig Mah and Susan Ross are deployed to assist the site. Fraser Health works at their own pace and then includes the school in their list of exposures. This is the plan and course of events in every single exposure instance. We have been in very regular communication with the employer on these matters and troubleshooting issues since the beginning of the year. We are doing pretty well, compared to some of our surrounding districts. That's a testament to how solid our plan is, to staff taking the situation seriously and vigorously participating in CDMC, OHS committees and keeping the site plans active and updated.

Executive Committee VACANCIES

**Two Executive Committee
positions are currently open**

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 January 11, 2021

CTA OFFICE Winter Break Closures

The CTA Office will **close at noon on Thursday, December 17th, 2020** for our annual office clean up. Please leave a message or email with any needs, we will respond as soon as we can.



The office will be closed for Winter Break from Saturday, December 18th, 2020 to Monday, January 4th, 2021.

Mentorship Survey

OPEN UNTIL JANUARY 8, 2021

In the last round of bargaining the BCTF was given a one-time 12 million dollar allotment for mentoring that was distributed to locals based on FTE. This infusion of funds has pushed us to ask - what can we do better, what can we do differently, what would make for a sustainable Mentoring Program?

Your feedback will be helpful in ensuring that the funds allocated to the CTA are used to the most benefit.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire: <https://bit.ly/3lzt2nX>

FSA TESTS COMING SOON

BCTF has, as of this Thursday, released the latest letters and pamphlets for the FSA campaign. The FSAs will run from January 18 – February 26, 2021.

What are teachers doing? What are we not doing?

Teachers are required to administer the test. That said, teachers do not mark FSA tests.

What about communicating with parents?

You are able to distribute information on FSA testing to parents but should do so following the BCTF/BCPSEA protocol.

Here is what you do:

- Inform your administrator that you plan to send/hand out the pamphlets.
- Use the two BCTF/CTA pamphlets.
- Distribute these pamphlets directly to parents, or If sending pamphlets home via students, all pamphlets must be in sealed envelopes clearly identifying that they are produced and distributed by the CTA.

Staff reps and teachers who wish to send information to parents should contact the CTA with the numbers of envelopes and pamphlets that your school requires for distribution. The CTA Office will supply these materials - please call or email Kelly S. @ kstewart@cta43.org .

CTA Representative Assembly/General Meeting Wednesday, January 20, 2021

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The link to register to attend, all documents, Zoom meeting ID and password are now posted on the Member Resources/General Information page of the CTA website.

CTA Representative Assembly 4:00 PM, Zoom

Agenda:

1. Call to order
2. Ratification of Committee Appointments
3. Adjournment

CTA General Meeting 4:10 PM, Zoom

Agenda:

1. Call to Order
2. Election
CTA delegates to the 2021 BCTF AGM
3. President's Report
4. Bargaining [In-Committee]
5. School Concerns
6. Prize Draw
7. Adjournment [5:45 pm]

BCTF AGM DELEGATES

We will elect delegates to the BCTF AGM at our General Meeting, January 20, 2021.

The 2021 AGM will be held March 20 - 23, 2021
it will be held in an online format

Please submit your CV form to
***padolf@cta43.org* before January 11, 2021**
no nominations will be able to be taken from the floor all CV's must be in before the deadline.
Forms can be found on our website by clicking [here](#).

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. Successful applicants will be contacted soon afterwards to arrange distribution.

Committee for Action on Social Justice (CASJ)

Congratulations to Coquitlam teacher and CASJ member Amrita Kauldher on the publication of her article in the recent edition of the BCTF Teacher magazine. [Amrita's article starts on pg12.](#)

CASJ committee meeting (3rd Thurs of each month):

Thur, Dec. 17th 3:45pm via Teams

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. We will also be discussing suggested content for a joint statement on anti-racism between the CTA and the district which will be going out sometime in the new year.

CASJ book club (2nd and 4th Thurs of each month):

Thur, Jan. 14th at 4pm via Teams

We'll be discussing Chapters 11 through 14 from "So you want to talk about Race".

Please contact committee chair Karen Learmonth klearmonth@sd43.bc.ca or Diether Malakoff dmalakoff@cta43.org with any questions.

TTOC Committee

TTOC Townhall

Tue, Jan 5, 2021 at 3:45pm via zoom

TTOC Committee meeting

Tue, Jan 13, 2021 at 3:45pm via zoom

The Jan13rd date was chosen due to a conflicting event. Townhalls will occur on the first Tuesday of each month followed by a committee meeting on the second Tuesday. All CTA members welcome, join us on Facebook at "CTA TTOCs".

All CTA members welcome.

If you were not able to connect with us to obtain PPE, please contact the CTA office. The PPE we have 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.



PD POWER

With only one week left before a well-deserved break there is definitely a lot to look back on as 2020 comes to a close. It has been an overwhelming year and amid all the unique situations we have encountered, it's easy to forget to take care of yourself. As we head into the last five early mornings, I hope that you find time for some self-care: take a walk, read a book, enjoy a virtual paint night, create a spa day at home, order take-out from your favourite local spot, or do whatever it is that helps you refuel and find the positives. Wishing everyone a positive and energizing final week – we can do this!

PD CHEQUES IN THE MAIL

Reimbursement cheques for the PSA Day went out in the mail over the last few weeks – the hope is that they will arrive at schools before the break. Please DO NOT email the office to ask where your cheque is – they are all making their way to schools.



*Please Wear
a Mask*



BC ESL Assessment Consortium Art Contest

BC students in Grades 9 to 12 are invited to participate in an art contest sponsored by the BC ESL Assessment Consortium. Students are challenged to exercise their creativity and submit an original piece of work based on specific criteria provided by the consortium.
Theme: At The Park

A digital image or scanned copy of your entry must be submitted by January 11, 2021 to artcontest@sd35.bc.ca. The winning artist will be notified via email by January 29, 2021. The winner will be required to release their original art piece to a representative of the BC ESL Assessment Consortium to receive their prize money.

- Original size of entry must be 26 cm x 43 cm
- Medium can be any 2-dimensional form ie. drawing, painting, digital
- Eligible entries must include all of the Criteria Specified by the Consortium
- All entries must be original works and of your own design
- Candidates must complete an official Registration Form (Email to artcontest@sd35.bc.ca)

A prize of \$500 will be awarded to the winning artist.

Resilience & Renewal

A JOINT PRO-D DAY WITH
BURNABY & COQUITLAM
SCHOOL DISTRICTS

FEATURING JO CHRONA &
MONIQUE GRAY SMITH

Thank you!!

to everyone who submitted a workshop proposal for our February 26th PD Day! The committee will review all proposals early next week and you will receive more information soon about whether your workshop can be included in our day this year.

BCTF NEW TEACHERS' CONFERENCE

This year, the BCTF New Teachers' Conference will be hosted online. Bringing together beginning career teachers who have been teaching for 5 years or less, as well as members who are new to the district, teaching new topics or grades, and teacher candidates from all over the province, offering unique networking and sharing opportunities.

There will be many excellent workshops on a wide range of topics, such as Health and Safety, Aboriginal Education, Social Justice, Collective Agreement, Inclusive Education, French and Francophone education, etc. In addition, we will have two renowned keynotes who will present and interact with participants on Indigenous topics. There will be prizes to win at the end of the day and some fun activities such as Zumba and Yoga sessions for all!

Registration is just \$25

<https://www.bctf.ca/NewTeachersConference2021/>



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 Student Wellness & Safety Committee

- 1 CTA reps

District Aboriginal Ed Advisory Committee

- Currently Full

District French Advisory Committee

- Currently Full

CTA PD Committee

- 1 Secondary Rep, 1 Middle 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). 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

