

# COQUITLAM TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

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## President's Message

### Season's Greetings

As 2020 grinds its inexorable way towards its conclusion, few will be happier to see the back of this year than teachers. The challenges we've had to overcome this year have made any other year in recent memory pale in comparison. I certainly don't want to remind people of all the difficulties we've had and the challenges that still lie ahead; you are all aware of those things. There is a glimmer of hope in the form of a vaccine and the CTA and the BCTF will continue to advocate for more safety in classroom situations in the new year.

I'd like to give a positive message in the last newsletter of 2020 and that positive is that we are still here, our kids are still learning, our parent community is, in the main, supporting us and our friends and family still love us, even if it is at a distance. It's not easy to be separated from our loved ones in the holiday season but teachers above all, know and understand that the more seriously we take our situation, the shorter our situation will be. I spoke with Diane Strandberg yesterday and I told her that we realize that we are in this pandemic together but we would sure like to be much more together in this pandemic. You all deserve thanks and congratulations for getting this far and for your continued efforts to help and support children when we return.

Best wishes of the season to all of you.

In Solidarity  
Ken

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# 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](#).

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

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]

## Free Books?

The CASJ Committee has one copy of each of these books to give away; Angie Thomas's "The Hate U Give" and Ijeoma Oluo's "So You Want To Talk About Race".

Send your name and book preference via email to Diether [dmalakoff@cta43.org](mailto:dmalakoff@cta43.org) before Friday Jan 8th at 4pm to enter the draw. Winners will be announced in the subsequent newsletter and will be contacted upon winning. Good Luck!!

## CTA OFFICE Winter Break Closure

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

## 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](mailto:padolf@cta43.org) by January 11, 2021

## 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](mailto:kstewart@cta43.org) .**



## Please Wear a Mask



# PD POWER

Winter break has arrived and with it comes time to unwind, relax, and catch up (though at a distance) with friends and family. While we need to stay home, there are still ways that we can explore the world from the comfort of our couches: check out some virtual tours of these famous sites around the world – the best part is there are no crowds! Visit the [Louvre](#) to wander the exhibits in the Petite Galerie or explore the Egyptian Antiquities. Explore the [British Museum](#) thanks to Google Street View – it's the largest indoor space that has been added to Google Street View so far. Marvel at the splendor of the [Vatican](#) through their 360° virtual tours.

If you want to stay more local, enjoy some time with the [Vancouver Aquarium's live cams](#).

Whatever you do this break, I hope that you all stay safe and find ways to enjoy the break and any holidays you celebrate! Wishing everyone the best in 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>

## 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/>

## 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.



## Committee for Action on Social Justice (CASJ)

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

Thur, Jan 21, 2021 3:45 pm 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](mailto:klearmonth@sd43.bc.ca) or Diether Malakoff [dmalakoff@cta43.org](mailto:dmalakoff@cta43.org) with any questions.

## TTOC Committee

### TTOC Townhall

Next meeting date will be announced soon

### TTOC Committee meeting

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

The Jan 13th date was chosen due to a conflicting event. Townhalls will normally 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".

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.





## ***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 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)**

- 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

