

COQUITLAM TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

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President's Message

Joint Statement against Racism

The employer and the CTA have been working on a joint statement opposing racism for a little while now. The statement will be presented to staff when policy is discussed in staff meetings shortly. The CTA takes a strong anti-racist stance and that is reflected in the active opposition to racism embedded in the statement. We decided together to try and see if all the employee groups representatives wanted to sign off on the joint statement and all of them will soon do so. This strengthens the statement when all agree with its position and actions. It is fortunately timed that we are all signing off today, which is Martin Luther King's birthday and the proposed Black Shirt Day.

More Meetings with Dr. Zbar

Metro Presidents will be meeting again with Dr. Zbar from Fraser Health today to discuss our ongoing concerns about the developments around Covid 19.

In addition to the ongoing concerns with classroom density, mask policy, hvac systems and information transmission, we have new questions about the new variants appearing and vaccine rollout (timeline, methods and priority). I think we can all see the course charted for this year is what we are stuck with for the duration of the year but, we are also turning our minds to preparing for next year and public health will certainly be a serious factor in how education rolls out. Thus, as soon as we can get answers or predictions, we can start to consider the alternatives. It's an honest appraisal that we have dark days ahead but, that won't prevent us from planning for better times.

In Solidarity
Ken

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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*
 - EC Committee Member at large*
 - EC Committee Indigenous Member*
3. President's Report
4. Bargaining [In-Committee]
5. School Concerns
6. Prize Draw
7. Adjournment [5:45 pm]

FSA TESTING DATES DELAYED

As you know despite the pandemic, the FSAs will proceed this year. Friday, the government confirmed online that they have been postponed again. **They will now run from February 15 to March 12, 2021.**

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 still require packages for parents need to contact the CTA with the number of packages (pamphlets, envelopes & labels) required for your school.

The CTA Office will supply the materials – please call or email Kelly S. @ kstewart@cta43.org.

NO HEAT IN YOUR SCHOOL?

HERE IS THE DISTRICT PROTOCOL TO FOLLOW

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

NEW TEACHERS' NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

This year the BCTF will offer various opportunities for new members to network and connect with each other, with their local union and with their provincial family. There will be a New Teachers' Zoom Gathering on January 27th from 3:30pm to 4:30pm, this is a new event to allow new members to gather informally and chat together as well as the New Teachers' Conference on February 26th!

New Teachers' Zoom Gathering (FREE)

<https://members.bctf.ca/Event.axd?e=2251>

New Teachers' Conference (registration fee \$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.

PD POWER

Heading into February there are a few PD days coming up! Some of you may have the February 1st Focus Day as one of your school's pd days – if so, you can find information about awesome workshops that will be available through the Learning Services site (click on the Focus Day button on the right).

The entire district also has February 26th as a PD day – our CTA day! With the Burnaby school district collaborating with us, here are a few more of the incredible speakers you can expect to work with:

Julian Deck and Rebecca Chen from Starling Minds will be joining us for a session on Managing Worry and Anxiety around Covid-19. Starling Minds is a mental health resource that is available to all BCTF members free of charge. In this workshop teachers will learn tools and strategies to better manage your own mental health and support yourself during times of uncertainty.

Andi McNair will also be joining us to share her expertise around Genius Hour and how you can bring this creative time to your classroom in a successful and meaningful way. Andi has developed the six P's of Genius Hour to help guide both teachers and learners in this very flexible classroom time. Andi will be offering both a keynote and a breakout session!

CTA CASJ BOOK DRAW

Congrats to winners of our book draw last week, Karen Elkan and Caroline Ross.

The Committee For Action on Social Justice (CASJ) is running another book draw for the coming week. If you're interested in a copy of Ijeoma Oluo's "So you want to talk about race" or Angie Thomas's "The Hate U Give", please send an email to Diether (dmalakoff@cta43.org). In your email indicate which book you're interested in. If no book is indicated, you'll be included in both draws. One winner will be selected for each book. Deadline for entering is Wed Jan20th 4pm. Winners will be notified via email and announced through the newsletter next week. If you have any favourite books on the topic of race, please let us know, we're always looking for recommendations. Your recommendation may show up in a future draw or book club event.

In Memoriam

With heavy hearts we acknowledge the passing of Gayle Chin on December 28, 2020. Gayle was a late French immersion teacher, loved by both students and staff. Gayle left her loving husband, father who she spent lots of time with, and many friends. She was active in her music and sang in a choir.

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.

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

Thur, Jan. 28th at 4pm via Teams

We'll be discussing the last part of "So you want to talk about Race" starting with chapter 15. New members are always welcome, for more info please contact committee chair Karen Learmonth klearmonth@sd43.bc.ca or Diether Malakoff dmalakoff@cta43.org with any questions.

TTOC Committee

TTOC Townhall (first Tuesday of each month)

Next Townhall will be Tue Feb 2 @3:45pm on zoom

TTOC Committee Meeting (second Tues. of the month)

Next meeting will be Tue Feb 9 @3:45pm on zoom

All meeting links and additional information will be posted in the CTA TTOC facebook group. If you're not on facebook and would like to attend, please contact committee chair Morgan McKee (chair.ttoc@gmail.com) or Diether Malakoff (dmalakoff@cta43.org).

Moments of Joy

Let's get back to celebrating the moments that make us smile, laugh, and enjoy our days - send Moments of Joy to mcrawford@cta43.org and they might be shared in our next newsletter!

The Mars Rover Curiosity celebrated its 3000th day on Mars! Take a look back at some of the incredible images it has sent back to Earth over the years.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-55562150>

Lenny the Lizard has his own cookbook! This bearded dragon loves food and embraced quarantine to make his cookbook dreams come true...with some help from his human.

<https://www.goodnewsnetwork.org/lenny-the-lizard-cookbook/>

For fans of The Mandalorian, enjoy a short behind the scenes view of Baby Yoda dancing to some guitar played by Robert Rodriguez. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xxZvQPeNBh0>

Hosts for Global News Calgary decided to share favorite family recipes...but things didn't go well...is artichoke dip supposed to burn? <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aQAuVu2sTg>

Quick Links



Community and
connections for early
career teachers

February 26, 2021

**REGISTRATION
IS NOW OPEN!**

bctf.ca/NewTeachersConference2021



BC Teachers' Federation hosts its first

New Teachers' ZOOM Gathering

- An informal, open discussion for teachers with less than 5 years of teaching experience.
- Share ideas, initiatives and resources with new teacher colleagues from across the province.
- Connect with new teachers from your local.

DATE: Wednesday January 27, 2021

TIME: 3:30pm to 4:30pm

ZOOM: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86921862246?pwd=WFVhVEZtdTYyQXRaZ2l4QUlSaWJ0Z0Z09#success>

I am surprised
by...

My favourite
teaching
moment is...



PROUDLY PRESENTED BY

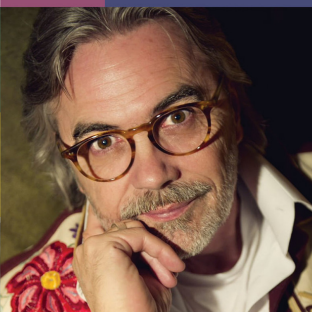


**ONLINE
CONFERENCE
FEBRUARY 12**

**OVER 60
WORKSHOPS
FOR K-12
EDUCATORS**

**EARLY BIRD PRICING
UNTIL JANUARY 24**

**KEYNOTE
DAVID BOUCHARD**
METIS AUTHOR & EDUCATOR
ENGLISH & FRENCH WORKSHOPS



EMMA JOE
FELT SALMON: IMAGINATIVE PLAY
AND INDIGENOUS TRADITIONAL
LIFE SKILLS IN EARLY YEARS



Resilience & Renewal

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

**FEATURING JO CHRONA &
MONIQUE GRAY SMITH**

FEBRUARY 26, 2021
ONLINE



**Exploring Modern
Ways of Teaching
and Learning**

February 1
FOCUS DAY



Dean Shareski
Keynote Presenter

Featured Speakers:

Katie White (Assessment)
Kim Barthel (Trauma Informed)
Miriam Miller (SEL)
Discovery Education (STEM)

Other Sessions:

ADST & Making
Technology Integration
...and more!

Registration will open after winter break.
Register early to secure your spot!



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, 2 Middle Reps,

1 Adult Ed Rep, 2 Elementary Reps

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). 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

