

COQUITLAM TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

#208 2502 St Johns Street, Port Moody, BC V3H 2B4 Ph: 604-936-9971 Fax: 604-936-7515



President's Message

Covid, Exposures and Fraser Health

The disturbing upward trend of exposures continues across SD43. It is tapering off somewhat right now but, it continues. Ongoing frustration remains with the slowness of Fraser Health contact tracing and delays in exposure notifications. Our agreement with the employer stands, in that as soon as they become aware of an exposure, by any means, the school receives additional cleaning, TTOC support and admin support. Teachers remain frustrated when they know there is an exposure in class, through the other means of communication that exist for a classroom teacher and yet their hands are tied, admin's hands are tied, until Fraser Health finishes its work. Days can sometimes go by before the notices go out. Teachers continue to create mask culture in their classrooms, follow the other protocols around gym, movement, music teaching, etc. and that's the thin line between safety and a bad outcome. The local Presidents in the Fraser Health region continue to try and educate Fraser Health on how a classroom works but, it's frustrating to hear people from Fraser Health tell a teacher that kids are wearing masks and socially-distanced, like Bonnie Henry's commercial a few months ago, when that's absolutely not the reality of pandemic teaching. The angle the local Presidents are trying right now is region-specific protocols. Clearly, the situation in Fraser Health is very different than Northern Health or, Island Health, for example. We need stricter protocols here because this is where the majority of cases happen. What would be good is if Fraser Health gave more latitude to school districts to adjust protocols and responses in classes affected by Covid and if they made it a first priority to contact the classroom teacher, regardless of whether they had close contact with the case or not. Those two changes would dramatically increase the effectiveness of contact tracing and safety in sites.

In Solidarity
Ken

CTA BCTF AGM STAFF OPINION POLL

The CTA delegates to the 2021 BCTF AGM have identified 7 motions from the BCTF Reports and Resolutions Booklet as important and they need your feedback.

Please access the [CTA Staff Opinion Poll](#) to provide your feedback.

We welcome feedback and help to identify any other motion(s) from the Reports and Resolutions booklet that you feel is/are significant. ([The complete booklet can be found on the BCTF Member Portal.](#))

Your response is needed! DEADLINE: Friday, March 5, 2021. Due to time constraints this deadline is firm.

We appreciate you taking the time to submit opinions and comments at this busy time of the year!

INTERESTED IN WORKING with the CTA?

Labour Relations Officer

The CTA Labour Relations Officer position is filled on an annual basis. The CTA is now seeking members interested in the position for 2021-22.

Release time for this position is currently 1.0 and the responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- dealing with member problems and issues
- researching, preparing and presenting grievances
- collaborating with Table Officers
- maintaining confidentiality

The successful candidate will have excellent presentation skills and the ability to deal effectively with confrontational and stressful situations.

Members interested in either of these positions should go to our website for a curriculum vitae form (Member Resources/Forms), which must be submitted to Pat padolf@cta43.org at the CTA by Wednesday, April 7, 2021 4:30 p.m.

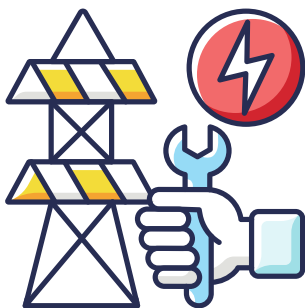
PD Chairperson

The CTA Professional Development Chair position is filled on an annual basis. The CTA is now seeking members interested in the position of Professional Development Chair for 2021-22.

Release time for this position is currently 0.4 and the responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- chairing the PD Committee, the CTA PD Day Committee and LSA Council
- planning, developing, organizing and implementing professional development activities for the CTA Professional Development Day
- processing applications for PD assistance and course fee assistance
- maintaining a liaison between the CTA and the BCTF in matters of Professional Development

The successful candidate will have a sound knowledge of and be highly committed to, professional development; will be well organized and will support a collaborative and collegial office atmosphere.



POWER OUTAGE

The CTA office will be affected by planned BC Hydro power outages over the weekend.

This may mean that emails sent to CTA addresses will be delayed, possibly until Monday morning when the office reopens.

Executive Committee VACANCY

**The CTA is currently seeking to fill
One (1) Member At Large position on the EC**

If you are interested in running for this position please go to our [website](#) to get and submit a CV (Member Resources/Forms) to Pat Adolf padolf@cta43.org by Wednesday, April 7, 2021

PD POWER

Another CTA PD Day is behind us!

I know that moving to a virtual event has its glitches, and I assure you that we will learn from them, but also thank you for your patience. There was a steep learning curve to move this event online and our main focus was on still providing our colleagues with a variety of workshops they could engage with and benefit from. A huge thank you goes out to the CTA PD Committee: Michelle Ciolfitto, Ron Morwick, Amanda Roberts, Terai Short, Holly Stibbs, and Greg Sutherland. Thanks go also to our incredible CTA office staff: Pat, Heidi, Kelly R., Kelly S., and Corbey. Their support and willingness to jump into the pd day planning were invaluable.

This year was special for many reasons, one of which was our collaboration with the Burnaby school district. It has been wonderful collaborating and seeing how another district organizes their pd and we send our thanks to their pd committees and especially to their pd chair Holly Lloyd and Lucky Saini, the SD41 District Vice-Principal of Education Technology. I hope today was meaningful for you and your work and reminded you of why this work is so important. - Meggan Crawford, CTA PD Chairperson

CASJ COMMITTEE FOR ACTION ON SOCIAL JUSTICE

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

Thur, Mar 18, 2021 3:45 pm via Teams

Following up on last meeting's discussion, we will be considering options regarding work on a CTA anti-racism policy. We also are looking to build on the success of our first book club series. New members welcome!

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

Thur, Mar 11, 4pm via Teams

Our second session with Tanaya Talaga's Seven Fallen Feathers will cover chapters 3 and 4. New members welcome!

CASJ CTA Anti-Racism Policy working group

Thurs, Mar 4, 4pm via Teams

CASJ will hold a meeting to focus on policy development please join us for the conversation.

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 Mar 2 @3:45pm on zoom

TTOC Committee Meeting (second Tues. of the month)

Next meeting will be Tue Mar 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).

The TTOC Hardship Fund \$50 grocery store gift cards are still available to qualified TTOCs. The application form can be found on our website, member resources/covid page. Please submit your completed application to Heidi hdavis@cta43.org

ROY KRUTOW AWARD WINNERS

Each year we are honoured to present two \$1250 awards to the dependent of a teacher employed by School District No. 43.

This year (2020) those awards went to **Mitchell Goddard**, son of Hannah Goddard and **Jasmine Lee**, daughter of Nina Lee. Congratulations to you both, we wish you success in your future endeavours.

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!

Moments of Joy: Thank you to Brenda Miyana from Leigh Elementary for sharing this story about some impressive Scrabble skills: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/windsor/chatham-scrabble-word-score-quizzers-1.5915155>.

Mary Poppins has arrived!...on a frozen lake in Revelstoke? <https://globalnews.ca/news/7615327/b-c-man-glides-mary-poppins-frozen-lake/>

A furniture store owner in Houston has opened his stores to anyone needing a warm meal or shelter from the winter storm affecting the area. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/2021/02/18/texas-storm-crisis-furniture-store/>





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

Currently Full

District Aboriginal Ed Advisory Committee

Currently Full

District French Advisory Committee

Currently Full

CTA PD Committee

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, 1 Elementary rep,

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

