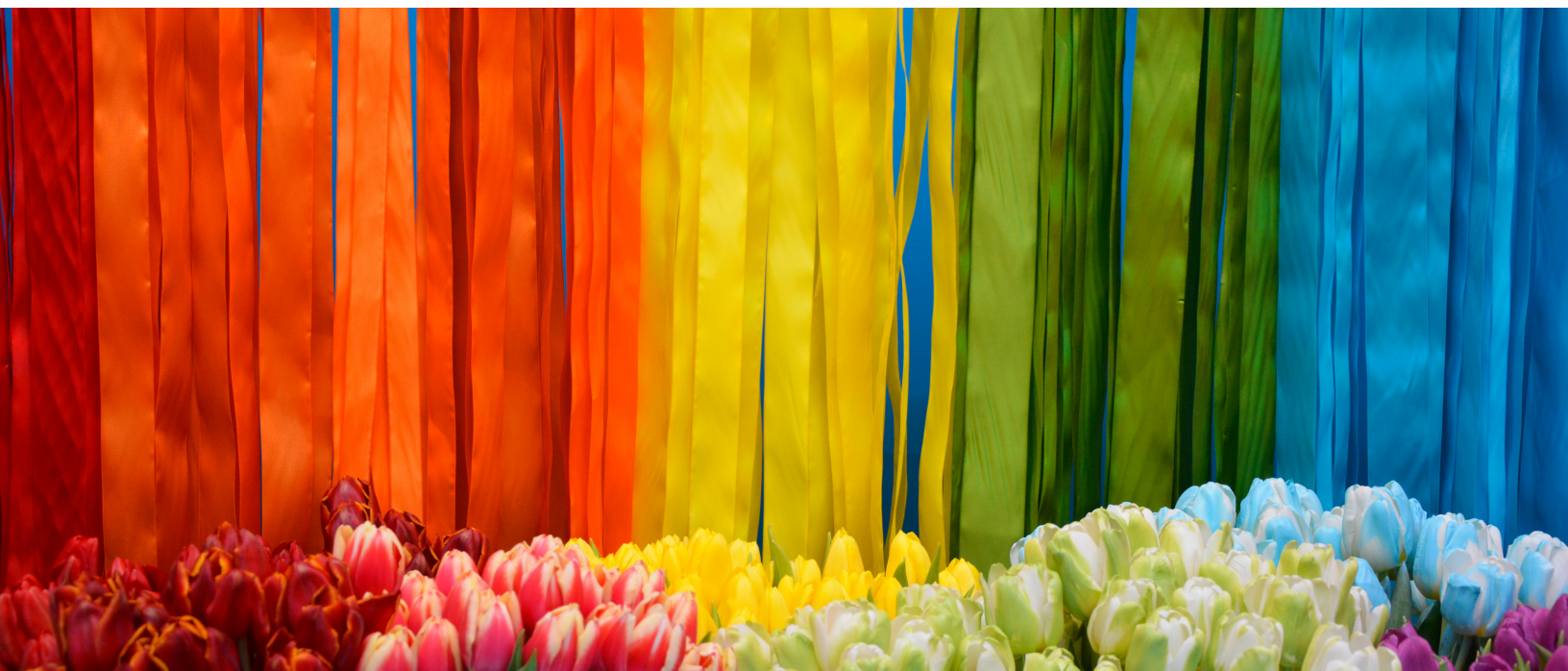


COQUITLAM TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

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



President's Message

Bargaining

Yes....it's getting to that time again, due to the retroactive nature of the current contract, to start our processes for bargaining. I know it probably seems like yesterday we were seeing the new contract signed off and we haven't even finished melding it yet. See further information below on a bargaining survey, where we canvass member opinion on what we should seek locally, so we can develop objectives that reflect their interests.

Fraser Health, Region-specific Protocols, and other News

Fraser Health Presidents continue to meet with Fraser Health and try to push our initiatives forward. We tackled differently in this meeting in some ways, pressing Dr. Zbar on region-specific protocols. Dr. Zbar repeated that those kind of measures would need to come from the provincial health authorities.

BCTF is working on this matter as well and our efforts are complemented by that. It's obvious that Fraser has some unique problems, both in volume and in precedence of new variants. We do believe that there needs to be region-specific responses to that. The health authority has created five rapid response teams which are intended to support districts and local health authorities in uniquely challenging situations, like clusters, outbreaks, heavy in-school transmission, etc. We have not seen these in action yet but they will likely first deploy to Surrey to deal with the crisis there.

The BCTF is working, through the Steering Committee, on developing needed changes to Stage One. The point being that there will still be a pandemic, even if we return to regular instruction in September and it's important to look at what needs to be kept from the response thus far, what needs to be added and what needs to be jettisoned. Examples on things to keep would be support for Gradual Entry/remote and increased Mental Health supports. The CTA has begun initial discussions on what "Stage One +" will look like, as there are budgetary implications that must be considered now. We also await direction on further actions from the health authorities.

In Solidarity
Ken

Negotiations Committee

Our Collective Agreement is up for re-negotiation in 2022, and a new Negotiations Committee is required. **Elections will be held at our CTA Rep Assembly, Wednesday, April 21, 2021 via Zoom.**

As per CTA Policy 7.a the committee shall consist of:

- President
- Appointed member of the Executive Committee
- 1st Vice-President
- Five (5) Members-At-Large
- Past Chief Negotiator

The CTA Past Chief Negotiator is currently our 1st Vice-President, so 6 members-at-large will be elected. Members-at-large shall be elected to serve until a new Collective Agreement has been ratified by both parties.

If you are interested in running for member-at-large please go to our website to get and **submit a CV to Pat Adolf padolf@cta43.org by April 12, 2021.**

If you have any questions please contact Kara Obojski, 1st Vice-President kobojski@cta43.org or 604.936.9971.

Local Bargaining Feedback



Your Opinion Matters!

Our Collective Agreement is up for re-negotiation in 2022, giving us a fresh opportunity to work together to solve our collective problems and secure better working conditions for educators in our district. A short feedback survey will be delivered to teachers' personal email through mail chimp today and will close Wednesday, March 10th at 11:45pm. The CTA will use this feedback to craft a further survey to develop our local bargaining objectives and all local members will have the opportunity to vote on them prior to the opening of local bargaining. The CTA will be randomly drawing names for prizes for members who complete the survey and include their name and school in the subject fields. If you need to update your personal email information, please contact Kelly Stewart at kstewart@cta43.org. If you do not receive this survey at your personal email address, please contact Kelly Roberts at kroberts@cta43.org.

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

BC TEACHERS' COUNCIL ELECTIONS ONLINE ONLY - MARCH 8 - 18, 2021

The BC Teachers' Council zone elections, conducted by the Ministry of Education-BCTC Elections Office, will soon be underway. Emails will be sent out to all BC Certificate Holders notifying them that the content is posted and that Simply Voting will be contacting them with voting instructions.

There is a short window of opportunity to vote:

- March 8, 2021—online voting opens
- March 18, 2021—online voting closes

The voting is based on where members live, not where they work. An electronic ballot will be emailed to the email you have on file with the BC Teachers Certification Branch. As certificate holders, all BCTF members are eligible to vote in their zones.

Nominated Candidates

Northern Zone

- Lisa Kishkan—BCTF-endorsed, candidate statement (PDF)
- Donald Fajemisin
- Lorn Kennedy.

Fraser Zone:

- Jatinder Bir—BCTF-endorsed, candidate statement (PDF)
- Farid Azar
- Tara Olchoway.

Vancouver Coastal Zone:

- Marjorie Dumont—BCTF-endorsed, candidate statement
- John O'Flynn.

Interior Zone:

- Shelley Balfour BCTF-endorsed, candidate statement
- Danielle Neer.

To ensure that you are able to participate in the election, please log in to Your Account to confirm that your contact information is up to date.

If you need help logging in to Your Account or linking your BCeID, please call the Service BC Help Desk using one of the following numbers: Vancouver at 604 660-2355 or toll-free at 1 888 356-2741.

INTERESTED IN WORKING with the CTA?

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.

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.

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.

Register now to be an observer at the BCTF's virtual 2021 Annual General Meeting

The 2021 BCTF Annual General Meeting will be held online from March 20 to 23. All of our local associations will have delegates Zooming into a new platform called Lumi that allows delegates to vote, debate, and see speakers all in one platform. As space in the platform is limited to 1,000 participants, there is room for up to 200 BCTF members who are not delegates to register as observers. This will allow you to pop into the meeting from time-to-time and witness the discussions and debate. You can register on the BCTF Portal under the events tab. The deadline to sign up as an observer is March 10, 2021. Once logged in to the portal, you can also go to <https://www.bctf.ca/myBCTF/agm.aspx> to read all of this year's AGM documents like the agenda, Reports and Resolutions book, and the guide to Lumi platform. Importantly, anyone who signs up as an observer needs to use a desktop or laptop computer. The platform does not work on mobile devices like smartphones or tablets. In addition, Chrome is the best browser and others like Safari do not support the technology.

TTOC Committee

TTOC Townhall (first Tuesday of each month)

Next Townhall date TBA

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



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!

PD POWER

The recordings from our Feb. 26th PD Day are still available on the CTA website for one more week! Some of our presenters who planned to record had technical difficulties that made them unable to do so – we apologize. We hope that you have been able to find some time to look through a workshop or two this week or that you have a plan to do so next week. The videos will be removed next Friday.

This week we have had several questions about pd reimbursement – yes, the dates for yellow forms remain the same even for online workshops and conferences. If you are attending an online event and want to be reimbursed for some of the costs, you still need to submit the yellow form in to the CTA office at least two weeks before the event. You then need to submit your conference report and receipt to pd@cta43.org within a month following the event. - *Meggan Crawford, CTA PD Chairperson*

BCRTA GOLDEN STAR AWARDS

The BC Retired Teachers' Association's (BCRTA) Golden Star Awards celebrate programs that promote the interaction of seniors and students. BCRTA invites teachers in public schools to apply for a Golden Star Award. Winning programs receive \$1500 and a trophy. We know that this school year is full of challenges. The in-person connections usually fostered in intergenerational programs are not possible due to COVID-19 restrictions. Programs that were in full swing before the pandemic have had to consider changed and unpredictable circumstances. It inspires us to know that some teachers are continuing to implement their intergenerational programs for seniors and students by virtual means and letter writing. We applaud those efforts and encourage teachers to apply.

The deadline for applications for Golden Star Awards is April 15th, 2021.
Golden Star Awards information and application forms are available on the BCRTA website: www.bcrta.ca



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!



Make five minutes of your next Zoom meeting a bit more fun with a special guest: you can hire a goat to attend for five minutes! Check out the goats' profiles at: <https://www.cronkshawfoldfarm.co.uk/goatsonzoom>

A herd of goats in Wales are enjoying the quiet during the UK lockdown – they're even going to hotels and department stores: <https://metro.co.uk/2021/03/04/goats-that-took-over-welsh-town-are-now-shopping-at-primark-14186274/>



A Bhangra dancer celebrated on a frozen lake after getting his first COVID-19 vaccine: <https://www.cbc.ca/radio/asithappens/as-it-happens-the-tuesday-edition-1.5933726/things-are-going-to-be-great-whitehorse-bhangra-dancer-celebrates-his-covid-19-vaccine-1.5933727>

PD DAY 2021 PRIZE WINNERS

We had so many great prizes to give away this year we have to split up our winners into two weeks!!!

All prizes will be sent via district mail – keep an eye out for your prize in the next few weeks if you're a winner!

The Coquitlam winners of our random PD Day prize draws are:

Publisher Scavenger Hunt:

Kelly Spencer – "Power of Joyful Reading" from Scholastic Canada

Gwen Cawsey - \$25 Starbucks Gift Card from Fortis BC
Jessica Rowe - \$50 SFU Bookstore Gift Card

Instagram Giveaway:

Michelle Lueck – "Eyes are Never Quiet" by Lori Desautels

First to register:

Alethea Smith – "Number Sense Routines"

2021st Registration:

Erin Reid – "A Meaningful Mess" by Andi McNair

Survey Completion Prize Draws:

Kristen Bortignon and Sharon Henderson
Each receive a \$20 Starbucks Card



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

