

COQUITLAM TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

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



President's Message

Vaccinations and K-12 Education Restart Plan Changes

We have returned from Spring Break to a stricter mask policy, something the CTA and BCTF have been advocating for these many months. If you are encountering resistance, admin is required to have conversations with students and families about this requirement. We also return to fearful situation of climbing case counts, ICU cases, new variants and a general public that seems to be moving more towards “had enough” than “done enough?”. The CTA remains concerned with all these developments but, the absolute focus of our energy will be getting first shots into teachers’ arms this month. The full weight of CTA advocacy will be bent towards this goal and we believe the BCTF will support us in this effort. We have already made clear to them that this is what needs to happen.

There have been vaccination delays due to the holdback of Astra Zenica because of the blood clot issues and the prioritization of Surrey teachers for vaccination. Given the circumstances, Surrey teachers were and are encountering, all the Fraser Health local Presidents agreed that prioritizing Surrey was a good choice by the PHO. That effort is wrapping up now and every effort will be expended, provincially and locally, to get first shot vaccinations into teachers’ arms in April. Getting this done means a fully two-shot vaccinated teaching force before the start of the next school year and much enhanced protection immediately.

Teachers aged 55-65 need to push, now. There is vaccine supply out there. Call pharmacies around your area and get yourself on wait lists. They are processing wait lists right now. We have significant tangible evidence of this happening.

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

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 4 PM, April 12, 2021.**

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

BARGAINING SURVEY

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. If everyone takes the time to complete a short bargaining survey, we will strengthen our local bargaining team. They can then go to the bargaining table knowing that they are bringing forward our goals and knowing that we are all committed to the changes and improvements we are seeking.

Our local Bargaining Committee will use the results of this survey when crafting local bargaining objectives and all local members will have the opportunity to vote on them prior to the opening of local bargaining.

The survey includes both local and provincial items. Survey links were sent to all personal emails through mail chimp. If you are having issues accessing the survey or have any other questions of concerns, please contact Kelly Roberts at kroberts@cta43.org

Responses will be collected from April 5 to April 19, 2021 only; after Monday, April 19th, the survey will be closed.

CTA Representative Assembly/General Meeting Wednesday, April 21, 2021

All documentation is now up on the Member Resources/General Information page of the [CTA website](#).

The link to register to attend & Zoom meeting ID and password are posted as well.

Meeting protocols will be posted soon.

Please have patience with us for this meeting as this is the first live meeting of this size we will be holding.

We hope to see you there.

CTA Representative Assembly

April 21, 2021

4:00 PM, Zoom

Agenda:

1. Call to order
2. Ratification of Committee Appointments
3. Election - Negotiations Committee
4. Adjournment

CTA General Meeting

April 21, 2021

4:10 PM, Zoom

Agenda:

1. Call to Order
2. Election - CTA Executive Committee Member-at-large position
3. President's Report
4. SD43 Budget 2021-2022
5. Bargaining [In Committee] [Kara Obojski]
6. BCTF AGM 2021 Metro West Zone Report Out
7. Committee Reports
8. School Concerns
9. Prize Draw
10. Adjournment [5:45 pm]

Local Returning Officer

Are you interested in being involved with the CTA and already attend Rep Assemblies and General Meetings?

This job does not involve extra meetings, just the ones you already attend. For the job it would be helpful to have someone who is already committed to the CTA, is interested and does attend meetings regularly. Some familiarity with Robert's Rules of Order and our CTA Policies and Procedures, but not essential, as you learn on the job.

Interested members should go on our website for a curriculum vitae form, and submit it to **Pat Adolf padolf@cta43.org by 4 PM, April 12, 2021.**

ELECTION OF THE 2021-2022 CTA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The following CTA Executive Committee positions will be filled at the
CTA Year End General Meeting Wednesday, May 12, 2021

- President
- Second Vice President
- First Vice President
- Local Reps to the BCTF (2)
- Members - at - Large (6)
- Member - at - Large who identifies as Indigenous (1)
- Member - at - Large who identifies as a person of colour (1)

Those interested in running for any of these positions should go to coquitlamteachers.com for a CV form.

Deadline for receipt of CV form to the CTA office is Monday, May 3, 2021.

Please submit forms to padolf@cta43.org.

CTA

connections



The BCTF has provided locals with a grant to provide supports that combat the isolation caused by COVID-19.

Thanks to this grant, the CTA is sponsoring a Health Challenge and several social events in the last three months of the school year. With spring in the air and the weather starting to brighten up (at least on some days!) we have the opportunity to go outside and be more active. If you are looking for some fun and support to be more physically active, join the **CTA Health Challenge** with a team of 1-5 teachers. The health challenge is focused around being active and building healthy habits, but will never be about weight, what you should/should not eat, or any medical advice. It is about finding what works for each individual. Sign up for the health challenge and/or groups for Pokémon Go!, Dungeons & Dragons, and Peloton at <https://forms.office.com/r/s8rnUCs4WY>.

We are also excited to be offering three **Zoom paint nights with Zealous Art at 7pm on April 22nd, May 10th, and June 11th**. The cost of the instructor will be covered by the CTA, but attendees will need to provide their own supplies – a list will be provided in advance. The CTA will also be hosting three team **Quiz nights on April 27th, May 19th, and June 24th**. In teams of no more than 5 your challenge is to answer a series of questions on various general knowledge topics. **Registration for each paint night and quiz night will open two weeks before the date of the event.** For quiz nights, make sure each of your team members register so they receive the link to the Zoom. As of today, registration is only open for our first paint night – a butterfly!

Registration for all events will be through

<https://outlook.office365.com/owa/calendar/CoquitlamTeachersAssociation@sd43bcc.onmicrosoft.com/bookings/>

Capacity for all events is limited so links CANNOT be shared.

Nafi Toure is Retiring!!

If you are interested in speaking on our Zoom event or would like to be part of our collection of "well-wishes" video for Nafi, please contact: Video: rmorris@sd43.bc.ca
Speaking: lmanton@sd43.bc.ca
(please put Nafi Retirement in the subject line)

Nafi's Retirement Event will be held online
Wednesday, May 12, 4:00pm, [Attend Retirement Here](#)

We are also collecting money (\$10) towards her retirement gift and would love if you would contribute towards this. Money can be given online [HERE](#).

For full details, please see the information posted on the my43 Community Relations site.

2021 ACE Conference

Our 5th (Take 2!) Annual
Adult Centered Education Conference
Friday, May 21st - 8:45 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

On Microsoft Teams

*All registrants will be provided a free Office 365 account

We are happy to announce our keynote will be
Danny Ramadan, Syrian-Canadian author
and LGBTQ-refugees advocate.

For more information please visit our website
<http://www.aceconference.net/index.html>

PD POWER

I hope Spring Break was rejuvenating and that you are all staying well. As per our agreements with presenters, the recordings from our February PD day have now been removed. I hope that those of you wanting to view them were able to do so. Remember that you are still able to submit yellow forms for reimbursement of other PD events you may be attending during the rest of this school year. There are many online conferences and workshops still going on, including the Labour Climate Forum on April 10 (a free event - <https://www.labourclimatenetwork.ca/>), and the April 19th Sooke Teachers' Association including a few pre-recorded workshops that are available from April 16-19 (<https://sooketeachers.org/pro-d-registration-april-19-2021/>).

Reminder – Indigenous Education is hosting our April 23rd Focus Day! To register click [here](#).

- Meggan Crawford, CTA PD Chairperson

TTOC Committee

TTOC Committee Meeting (second Tues. of the month)

The TTOC committee has decided to add a townhall component to our committee meetings and not have a separate town hall event.

Please join us at our next committee meeting on Tue April 13, 2021 at 3:45pm. The link has been posted on Facebook.

All meeting links and additional information will be posted in the CTA TTOC facebook group. Please contact committee chair Morgan McKee (chair.ttoc@gmail.com) or Diether Malakoff (dmalakoff@cta43.org) for more information.

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 Heidihdavis@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!

A Banksy painting honoring the work of healthcare workers sold for \$23 million, all of which will go to charity. <https://healthyhappynews.com/banksy-painting-honoring-uk-health-workers-raises-23-million/>

Max is a cockatoo...who sounds like a chicken...?

<https://www.goodnewsnetwork.org/cockatoo-has-flawless-chicken-impression/>

Why did the bear cross the road (repeatedly)? Because its cubs weren't behaving!

<https://www.goodnewsnetwork.org/mama-bear-tries-to-get-4-babies-across-road/o>



**COMMITTEE FOR
ACTION ON
SOCIAL JUSTICE**

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

Thur, April 14, 2021 3:45 pm via Teams

Ongoing work to be done, come on out to add your thoughts! You can check the records of recent meetings on our Teams channel. New members welcome!

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

Thur, April 22, 2021 4pm via Teams

We will be continuing with 'Seven Fallen Feathers' looking at chapters 8 and onwards.

Please contact Committee Chair Karen Learmonth (klearmonth@sd43.bc.ca) or CTA liaison Diether Malakoff (dmalakoff@cta43.org) with any questions.

FREE BOOKS!!!!

FREE BOOKS – CTA CASJ is giving away books!! We are giving away two books to two people: Angie Thomas's "The Hate U Give" and Ijeoma Oluo's "So You Want To Talk About Race". People have until Wed Apr14th at 4pm to enter the draw, winners will be announced in the subsequent newsletter and will be contacted upon winning. When entering, please indicate which of the two books is your preference. A draw will occur to randomly select two entrants, one for each book. Please email Diether (dmalakoff@cta43.org) to enter. If you have any titles that you'd like to see as part of this prize draw, please let us know... happy reading!



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.bcrt.ca



EQUITY Every Child, Every Day



Kevin Lamoureux

KEYNOTE PRESENTER



Jennifer Katz

KEYNOTE PRESENTER



Collaboratively create the school your students deserve.

To register, scan QR code or click on link below:

[Indigenous Focus Day Registration](#)

Coquitlam School District 43
Indigenous Education Department



INDIGENOUS FOCUS DAY

APRIL 23, 2021

KEEPING EQUITY FIRST

Our goal for 2021 is to reawaken your spirit as to 'why' you chose the field of education. Please join us as 'school-based' participants and have in-depth discussions to highlight how schools can support marginalized learners through the equity lens.

BCTF Member Opportunities

LGBTQ2S+ Issues Session

The BCTF is seeking members to virtually attend a two-day Issues Session for members who identify as LGBTQ2S+ on May 17 and 18, 2021. Participation in all meetings is required for those appointed. The issues session will provide opportunities to strengthen connections and community for BCTF members who identify as LGBTQ2S+, examine current issues for LGBTQ2S+ teachers, and provide recommendations regarding future advocacy, supports, policy and/or programs that could further support LGBTQ2S+ members. For more information and application instructions, visit the [Opportunities for Members](#) page online. The deadline to apply is 4:30 p.m. on April 6, 2021.

Earth Day webinar

The Environmental Justice Action Group invites classes to attend an Earth Day Webinar on April 22 from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. The webinar is for Grades 4 to 12. We will hear from youth activists, and classes will have a chance to take part in discussions. The webinar focuses on Earth Day through an Indigenous lens. Optional pre- and post-webinar activities will be provided. To register, click on the Events tab in the Member's Portal.

Employment Opportunity: Director, Field Service Division

The Director of the Field Service Division has overall responsibility for the effective operation of the division, including the design and implementation of programs and the administration of budgets. The director supervises and provides direction to divisional staff. The role includes co-ordinating aspects of work of the division related to support to locals in political action, contract enforcement, and a range of professional, social justice, Aboriginal education, health and safety, and other issues. For more information and application instructions, [view the posting online](#). **Applications are due by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, April 16, 2021.**

Advisory Committee openings

The BCTF has several openings on a variety of advisory committees. Advisory committee positions are volunteer positions with two- or three-year terms. Please visit the [Opportunities for Members](#) page online for descriptions of each committee, and details about committee members' roles. **The deadline to apply is 5:00 p.m. on June 4, 2021.**



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

