

# COQUITLAM TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

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



## President's Message

### Honouring the Forgotten

It has been a hard week in the wake of the announcement about the discovery on the site of the Kamloops Indian Residential School. I am very grateful to members who gave me the opportunity to engage with Indigenous Education on responses to this terrible tragedy that would help them. Subsequent to my discussions and permission-seeking, many teachers took individual action to address this with their students. People have been sharing some of their activities and thoughts with me and that is very much appreciated. You will see the efforts of one teacher elsewhere in this newsletter. Indigenous Education produced a short video for teachers in schools, entitled "Honouring the Forgotten" which you will have likely seen by now. If not, your Principal has access to it.

The thing that has awed me is that I have spoken to many Indigenous educators, locally and provincially, over the last few days and all spoke of remembrance but, also, forgiveness, healing and reconciliation. I don't know how you forgive such things and I am awed, as I said, by those words, thoughts and actions.

### What's a Walk In?

I have received this question several times this week. A walk-in is a solemn gathering outside a building, with an acknowledgement of why we gather, by speech, attire or some other means and, then a walk together into work. It is a strong, visible gesture of support for a cause. The BCTF has been asking members to plan walk-ins at their site in support of Indigenous peoples and their struggle. I do think these things have value but, we must add to them by changing our hearts and minds and the hearts and minds of others, in aid of this cause. The CTA intends to make a donation to the Indian Residential School Survivors Society. The document referred to in the top article identifies a number of Indigenous-led charities anyone can donate to. Resources are flowing from Indigenous Education locally and from the BCTF to help with addressing this issue in classes. It really does feel like we have turned a corner from the long wait since the 94 calls to action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, in 2015.

In Solidarity,  
Ken

## Information to Support Indigenous Causes



Teachers right now are at a bit of a loss as to what to do to support Indigenous causes that would be useful and impactful. Teacher Ana Linares of Port Moody Secondary has created a Google doc with a list of Indigenous-led charitable organizations people can donate to. We invite teachers to look at this list and see what organizations interest them. Indigenous Ed has been consulted on sharing this document with you and they have approved it.  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/12o3jhY9lX YqtUtTwwyReWmu2lpqrzje4MH\\_uuvEGvCw/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/12o3jhY9lX YqtUtTwwyReWmu2lpqrzje4MH_uuvEGvCw/edit?usp=sharing)

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

## — HAPPY — Retirement

The following names are just a few of our current retirees, for more information please check the Community Relations page on the School District website.

The CTA sends Retirement congratulations to all of our 2021 retirees. It's time to follow dreams long set aside and enjoy the rewards of work done well.

**Christiane Bertrand** - Panorama Heights

**Jo-Anne Pearce** - Learning Services

**Rhea Rose** - CABE

**Coleen Bohlen** - Learning Services

**Hannah Goddard** - Panorama Heights

**Peter Spira** - Panorama Heights

**Diane Silzer** - Dr. Charles Best



# CTA connections



## Paint Night

**with Zealous Art 7pm, 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.

To register email Meggan Crawford.

## Quiz night

**7 pm via Zoom, June 25th.**

In teams of no more than 5 your challenge is to answer a series of questions on various general knowledge topics. For quiz nights, make sure each of your team members register so they receive the link to the Zoom.

To register email Meggan Crawford.

## CADS Login Change

With a recent update to the CADS portal staff only need to use their username and not their full email address to log in.

Example Username would be jsmith

If you use your email address jsmith@sd43.bc.ca you will see a log in error

For full details, please see the information posted on the my43 Information Services site.

## District School District Naming Committee (1 CTA Member)

The district is seeking one CTA rep to help with naming the future elementary school on Burke Mountain. The committee will undergo a shortlisting process of suggested school names and then the shortlisted names for the new school will be forward to the SBO for the official name selection. The committee work will likely take place in mid to late September 2021. There will be approximately 1-2 meetings in total and they will be held weekdays from 3:30-5:30 p.m.

**Please submit a CV form, to the CTA office before 4 pm, Wednesday, June 30th, 2021.**

# PD POWER

As a settler, this week has been a heartbreaking but important reminder of the work I still have to do in moving towards reconciliation. My heart goes out to all those members of our Indigenous community and beyond, whose communities are directly impacted by this horrific discovery. I hope that in some way this can be the catalyst to prompt others to engage in learning about the truth of our country's past and present and commit to doing better and supporting healing in our communities. If you are looking for resources, [please visit the Indigenous Education department site](#) or check out some of the options I've listed below.

National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation: <http://education.nctr.ca>

BCTF Orange Shirt Day Activities:

[https://www.orangeshirtday.org/uploads/7/9/8/7/79871818/bctf\\_orangeshirtdayactivities.pdf](https://www.orangeshirtday.org/uploads/7/9/8/7/79871818/bctf_orangeshirtdayactivities.pdf)

FNESC Grade 5, 10, and 11/12 <http://www.fnesc.ca/irsr>

Witness Blanket: <https://witnessblanket.ca>

Gladys We Never Knew: <https://bctf.ca/gladysweneverknew/>

Project of Heart: <https://projectofheart.ca>

Colouring Pages: <https://www.urbaniskwew.com/coloring-pages>

When they buried the children  
What they didn't know  
They were lovingly embraced  
By the land  
Held and cradled in a mother's heart  
The trees wept for them, with the wind  
they sang mourning songs their mother's  
didn't know to sing  
bending branches to touch the earth  
around them. The Creator cried for them  
the tears falling like rain.

Mother Earth held them  
until they could be found.  
Now our voices sing the mourning songs.  
with the trees. the wind. light sacred fire  
ensure they are never forgotten as we sing  
JUSTICE

-abigail echo-hawk



## FACING HISTORY & OURSELVES

### Stolen Lives: The Indigenous Peoples of Canada and the Residential Schools

In this online course, we will explore the history of Canada's Residential Schools through primary source texts and survivors' personal testimonies to better understand the devastating history and long-lasting impact on former students, their families, and entire Indigenous communities. We will also look at their historical roots and the legacies that followed while examining the apologies given by government and churches, the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, and the charge of genocide. We will use all these elements to help students connect this history to their own lives and the choices they make.

**July 8th - August 9th, 2021**

**Online - \$150**

**[Click here to register or more information](#)**

## Keeping Kids Safe Online With Jillian Harris and Children of the Street

Kids today are spending more time online than ever before. Sexual exploiters know this and are taking advantage of this.

On June 17th at 10:30am – 11:30am (PST), we're inviting parents and caregivers to join us at our live webinar on how to keep kids safe online.

Jillian Harris will be hosting this event with our very own Courtney Liem for a one-hour presentation that will provide tools to help you navigate apps and social media, and to recognize the warning signs of online sexual exploitation.

This webinar will also include opportunities for Q&A, a live discussion, and fabulous door-prizes!

Tickets are \$15 per person. [Register now.](#)

All proceeds raised will go to support Children of the Street in its work to keep kids safe from sexual exploitation.

# Interested in being a Mentor?

Do you often find yourself offering support to colleagues?  
Do you reach out to TTOCs or new teachers on staff?  
Do you want to feel connected to a community of learners?

The mentoring network might be for you!

[Click here to register](#) or [contact Tamara Sengotta](#) for more information.

Some of the benefits of mentoring include;

- Opportunity to have lasting impact and give back
- Learning with and from your mentee
- Teacher Leadership
- Learning opportunities to develop effective mentoring skills that are transferrable to teaching and leadership.
- Release time for Mentor Learning and for meeting with your mentee

Mentoring is a two (2) year commitment involving monthly Mentoring Network meetings, Mentoring Monday events, retreat opportunities and release time through the year to co-plan, co-teach or observe your mentee. The Mentor Learning opportunities will include how to attend fully, paraphrase, question, pause, offer support, create challenge, and facilitate professional vision.

## Looking for a good read?



The CTA Lending Library is a collection of books meant to help teachers with their PD. Starting with the published works of speakers from our February PD days, this collection is available for teachers to borrow for six week periods to dig deeper into many current educational topics.

Email [mcrawford@cta43.org](mailto:mcrawford@cta43.org) to get your account set up.

## 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](mailto:mcrawford@cta43.org) and they might be shared in our next newsletter!

Mark Rober is back to defend his birdfeeder from the squirrels with Maze 2.0: The Walnut Heist: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DTvS9lvRxZ8>

A teacher came to the rescue with a dress-code conforming pair of shoes...that were two sizes too big for this grad: <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-9648249/High-school-teacher-gives-student-shoes-banned-graduation-wearing-sneakers.html>

A couple in California went to a few Target stores and slipped some cash into diaper boxes, under formula lids (above the tamper seal), and more newborn supplies to surprise new parents who might be struggling: <https://www.mother.ly/news/couple-hides-cash-surprises-parents>



COMMITTEE FOR  
ACTION ON SOCIAL  
JUSTICE

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

[Thur June 10 4pm via Teams](#)

We moved the first session with Robyn Maynard's Policing Black Lives to Jun10th, join us on teams to get what you need to be ready for discussion. NEW MEMBERS WELCOME!!

[Watch a presentation at UBC with Robyn Maynard from March 2021 here.](#)

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

[Thur, Jun 17, 2021 3:45 pm via Teams](#)

This will be our final meeting of the year. We'll be reflecting on the progress we've made this year and putting our minds to confirming goals for next year. If PHO orders and weather permit, we have the intention to have this be an outdoor gathering, this decision will be made closer to the date. New members welcome!

**CTA Anti-Racism Policy working group**

(first Thurs of each month)

Done for the year, see you next fall!

We had our last meeting of the year this year and will be passing the work done so far to the Policy and Procedures committee for review in their next meeting in Sept. Our last look at the policy will occur at the CASJ meeting in June.

**Please contact Committee Chair [Karen Learmonth](#) or CTA liaison [Diether Malakoff](#) with any questions.**

## TTOC Committee

**TTOC Committee Meeting (2nd Tues of the month)**

**[The June 8th TTOC Committee Meeting has been cancelled.](#)**

See you all next year!!

Please contact committee chair [Morgan McKee](#) (chair.ttoc@gmail.com) or [Diether Malakoff](#) (dmalakoff@cta43.org) for more information or with any questions you might have.



# COMMITTEE VACANCIES

## 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

## New Westminster & District Labour Council

5 CTA reps

## 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

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

Kelly Roberts, Executive Director - [kroberts@cta43.org](mailto:kroberts@cta43.org)

### Accounting/Finance

Reimbursements, scholarship payments & 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 Database & Website Access

Kelly Stewart, Office Clerk - [kstewart@cta43.org](mailto:kstewart@cta43.org)

### Office Clerk

Corbey Heyes-Jones, Office Clerk

If your situation is already being handled by an officer not matching your alpha assignment, then please continue to liaise with that officer.



### *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](http://workhealthlife.com)

### **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>

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

[www.coquitlamteachers.com](http://www.coquitlamteachers.com)

CTA Office: 604-936-9971

