

COQUITLAM TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

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President's Message

Vaccine Mandates Part 2

I realized it's been a while since I spoke on this issue with the general membership. At the most recent public Board meeting, the employer made a statement of intention around a vaccine mandate. They stated that, at this time, they will not be pursuing a mandate. The rationale was that they believe we have very high vaccine participation amongst staff and that the current vectors for disease entry are not coming from staff but, from unvaccinated students. As such, the conclusion they reached is that a staff mandate would not materially improve the situation. The Board reserved the right to reconsider, if circumstances warrant it, of course.

Honestly, I felt that the instant this got turned over to Boards that it was a dead duck at that point. Thus, it's not a surprise to see School Boards across the province, in the main, refusing to undertake these things. There are a lot of complexities on the information-gathering side and on what to do with people who can't or refuse to be vaccinated. Some Districts have gone as far as to attempt to gather information but, none have, thus far, gone further than that. Most have just decided not to do anything, with a variety of rationale's presented.

So, again, we all should try to take the precautions we can to be safe: Get vaccinated/boosted, wear a mask, wash your hands, keep your distance. That is probably going to be our operation modus operandi for a while here, as new variants continue to emerge and our physical situation doesn't materially change.

In Solidarity,
Ken

CTA Rep Assembly

Wednesday, January 19, 2022 4PM via Zoom

Zoom links will be sent closer to the meeting

Agenda

First Nations Acknowledgement

1. Call to Order
 - Adoption of the agenda
 - Adoption of the minutes of the the Rep Assembly held November 17, 2021.
2. Ratification of Committee Appointments
3. Adjournment

CTA General Meeting

Wednesday, January 19, 2022 4:10 PM via Zoom

Zoom links will be sent closer to the meeting

Agenda

1. Call to Order
 - Adoption of the agenda
 - Adoption of the minutes of the the General Meeting held November 17, 2021.
2. Election
 - CTA Delegates to the 2022 BCTF AGM
 - CTA Executive Committee positions [if CV's recieved]
3. President's Report
4. Bargaining [In-Committee]
5. Proposed CTA Bylaw and Policy changes
6. School Concerns
7. Prize Draw
8. Adjournment [5:45]

CTA Sweatshirt Delivery

The CTA hoodies have arrived and are prepared for delivery to schools. However, considering the current situation and the request from the government to limit fuel consumption and travel, delivery will be delayed. It is our goal to get them out before winter break.



If you happen to be driving by the CTA Office you are welcome to stop in and pick up for your school. Please don't make a special trip.

BCTF AGM Delegates

The 2021 BCTF AGM will be held March 19 - 22, 2022
Location and format still to be determined.

The CTA will elect 26 delegates to the BCTF AGM at our General Meeting, January 19, 2022.

Please submit your CV form to
padolf@cta43.org before January 12, 2022

Forms can be found on our website
<https://www.coquitlamteachers.com/portal/portal-page/cta-forms/>

Support for BC Flood Victims

Grade 6/7 students from Minnekhada Middle are challenging the entire school community to work together to support the B.C. Flood Victims. The recent extreme weather has had catastrophic impacts on families, communities, and farmers. They are asking students to take part in Toonie Tuesdays and Thursdays for the next two weeks, and are encouraging adults to donate online via the school's Red Cross Portal.

- Please donate online on the link provided.
- Please share this link with families, friends, co-workers, and neighbors.

Students, staff, families, businesses, and the Tri-Cities Community can come together to make a huge difference!

<https://www.redcross.ca/bcfloods/minnekhadamiddleschool>

Executive Committee Openings

There are currently two vacant

Member at Large

positions open on the CTA Executive Committee.

If you are interested in running for one of these positions please go to our [website to get and submit a CV](#) to Pat Adolf padolf@cta43.org by Nov. 30, 2021.

PD POWER

The BCTF provides several resources for teachers to access free of charge. TeachBC (Classroom Resources (bctf.ca)) is a space for teachers to share lesson plans and resources with other educators. The database is searchable by grade, type of resource, and curriculum area and includes thousands of options. Included are several BCTF created resources with entire units ready for use in your classroom. The BCTF is continually updating and improving their resources to ensure they remain timely and relevant to today's classroom. The site's collection is generated by teachers who have shared their resources to the site – when you upload your first teaching resource you will receive a complimentary membership in a Provincial Specialist Association of your choice as a thank you! TeachBC is a wonderful option for teacher created resources for any grade or subject. Take a look and see what new ideas or lesson plans you might find!

- **Meggan Crawford PD Chair**

CTA Anti Racism Working Group

The CTA is seeking 3 more BIPOC CTA members to form a working group to inform the Committee for Action on Social Justice's (CASJ) ongoing anti-racism policy work. This working group shall continue until a CTA standing committee on anti-racism is established. Meeting dates/times will be established once the working group is formed. If you have any questions about the working group please contact Diether Malakoff, 2nd Vice President at dmalakoff@cta43.org.

Please submit a CV form to the CTA office (padolf@cta43.org) before 4 pm, Wednesday, November 30, 2021.

Pension Seminars & Information

BC Pension Corporation offers the following virtual workshops;

Getting to know your pension is a 15-minute online introduction of the Teachers' Pension Plan.

Making the most of your pension is a presentation for the mid-career member and will answer all their pension questions. It can be experienced either as a 45-minute online interactive video or as an instructor-led webinar.

Approaching retirement is a presentation for those within five years of retirement to discuss pension options, the retirement application process, and returning to work after a member has started collecting a pension. It can also be experienced either as a 45-minute online course or as an instructor-led webinar.

Congrats and Thank You!

The following member(s) have been appointed to positions and committees from the CTA;

Tiffany Kearns (Vanier Centre/LINC)
Adult Education Committee
Highschool Completion Rep

Ronak Pahlevanlu (Riverside), **Ryan Cho** (Terry Fox), **Melissa Illing** (Centennial)
CTA Anti-Racism Working Group

TTOC COVID SUPPORT FUND

The CTA is committed to continuing support for our TTOC's during these unprecedented times. A fund was established last school year and grocery store gift cards are still available to our TTOC Community.

For an application or if you have any questions please contact Diether Malakoff dmalakoff@cta43.org or Heidi Davis hdavis@cta43.org

The BCRTA's pre-retirement workshop is available via Zoom.

The BCRTA may be contacted [here](#) to register for a workshop.

Workshop dates for 2021–22 include:

January 19, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.
February 16, 2022, at 4:00 p.m.
March 2, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.
April 6, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.
April 20, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.
May 11, 2022, at 4:00 p.m.
May 19, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.
May 25, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.
June 1, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.





COMMITTEE FOR ACTION ON SOCIAL JUSTICE

CASJ Bookclub will be meeting on the first Thursday of each month this year.

On **Thurs Dec 2 (at 4pm on Teams)** we will be discussing Part II and III of Mariame Kaba's "We Do This 'Til We Free Us".

Meetings will run online via Teams while also having the option to meet in-person at a site that has yet to be determined.

Next committee meeting will be Thursday December 12 at 4pm on Teams.

We are moving forward with hosting a virtual/hybrid movie night, finishing touches on details to be done at this meeting. The committee will have received feedback from CTA regarding ongoing work on the Anti-Racism Advisory Committee by this time and work will continue there as well. **NEW MEMBERS WELCOME!!** Come on out and bring a friend!!

You can connect with us on Facebook at 'CTA CASJ' group as well as joining our group on Teams.

Please contact Committee Chair Karen Learmonth or CTA liaison Diether Malakoff with any questions.

TTOC COMMITTEE

Next committee meeting will be Tues January 11, 2022 at 4pm via zoom.

Connect with us on Facebook to join our community at 'CTA TTOCs'.

We need more members to get involved.

If you or anyone you know would like to get involved, please do reach out.

Anyone working as a TTOC, even a part-time contract, are eligible for membership in the TTOC committee.

Please contact committee chair Morgan McKee (chair.ttoc@gmail.com) or Diether Malakoff (dmalakoff@cta43.org) with any inquiries.

Coquitlam Teachers' Association



Lending Library
<https://ctalibrary.libib.com>
Email lendinglibrary@cta43.org to create an account.

Personal Email Addresses

Please remember to supply the CTA with a personal email address - there are times we are unable to send information via your SD43 email.

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 Governor General's Awards were handed out last week and the tribute to Ryan Reynolds is sure to bring a smile (and a laugh): I'm Not Crying - YouTube

Adele showed the power of a teacher as she reminisced and was then surprised by her former teacher: Adele Bursts Into Tears When Teacher Who Changed Her Life Is Revealed In The Audience Of British TV Special (msn.com)

Two dogs have a grand time playing "Catch the Carrot": The Personalities Of These 2 Dogs Shine In Game Of Catch The Carrot (sunnyskyz.com)



CASJ Early Matinee

Sat December, 11, 2021 11am - Free!

Hollywood 3 Theatre in Pitt Meadows

Elle-Máijá Tailfeathers's 2021 film

MKímmapiiyipitssini: The Meaning of Empathy

This film has had public screenings in Vancouver but will not be released by the NFB until the new year. We have special approval for a private screening for a group of CTA members.

Participants will not be charged but **prior registration is required** for us to reserve you a seat.

All current COVID protocols will be followed, **proof of vaccination will be required** as per the Provincial Health Orders on Gatherings and Events.

An interview with the film maker is available here ([spoiler alert!](#)).

Please forward any questions regarding this event including ticket reservations to Diether Malakoff (dmalakoff@cta43.org).

COMMITTEE VACANCIES

CTA PD Committee

2 Middle Reps, 1 Secondary Rep, 1 LSA Rep
2 Elementary Reps, 1 Adult Ed Rep, 1 TTOC Rep

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

CTA Adult Educators

1 Learning Centre Rep, 1 High School Completion Rep

District Student Services Advisory Committee

2 CTA reps

District Student Achievement Advisory Committee

1 CTA rep

District Student Wellness & Safety Committee

1 CTA Rep

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). 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

Kelly Roberts, Executive Director - kroberts@cta43.org

Accounting/Finance

Reimbursements, scholarship payments & CTA newsletter
Heidi Davis, Finance Administrator - hdavis@cta43.org

Scholarships, Committees, CTA PD Day

Pat Adolf, Administrative Associate - padolf@cta43.org

Membership Database & Website Access

Kelly Stewart, Office Clerk - 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

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](#)

www.coquitlamteachers.com

CTA Office: 604-936-9971

