

COQUITLAM TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

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President's Message

Functional Closure

The word "functional closure" has been lately introduced to our vocabulary and, similarly, introduced to the employer's lexicon as well. Functional closures can happen for a variety of reasons and the employer is currently discussing the circumstances under which they'd happen and also what that looks like for staff. It could mean remote work, from home or site, it could mean redeployment of staff to neighbouring schools to support them, it could mean a skeleton staff at work to support Essential Service Worker kids. It's up in the air and we hope to acquire greater clarity closer to week's end. I want to reiterate that I think the likelihood of a functional closure situation is still quite low. We got through all of last year, with all the shortages and never even got close to a situation where a functional closure was even contemplated. We all know Omicron is more transmissible and thus, it's a bit of a different circumstance but, if we are as careful as we've proved we can be, I still think an functional closure is pretty unlikely.

N95 Masks

Frustratingly, especially given the statements made by Dr. Bonnie Henry and Minister Whiteside at last week's presser, no additional resources or supplies of masks have been provided to the school district. They have blown through all their resources allocated to this and all donations received last year. Heading into an already tough budget season with obvious consequences if they go over budget too much, there is concern about costs of supplying these masks. Schools are having to use their own budget for this and most are doing that. It looks like we can't rely on help from the government here, so, stay tuned for any announcements about this subject.

In Solidarity,
Ken

BCTF AGM Delegates

Thank you to the following teachers that have volunteered their time to attend the BCTF AGM March 19 - 22, 2022. (Location and format to be determined)

- Ken Christensen (CTA)
- Melissa Illing (Centennial)
- Diether Malakoff (CTA)
- Ronak Pahlevanlu (Riverside)
- Kate Marie Russell (Summit Middle)

We are eligible to send 27 delegates plus our Local Reps to the BCTF; Sandra Cowan (Seaview), Meggan Crawford (CTA), Andy Gilligan (CTA) and Amanda Roberts (Port Moody Sec.)

There are still lots of spaces to fill. CV deadline has passed, however, if you are interested, **please run from the floor at the Wednesday, January 19, 2022 General Meeting**

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

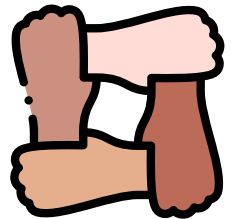
Wednesday, January 19, 2022 4:10 PM via Zoom

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
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 Anti Racism Working Group



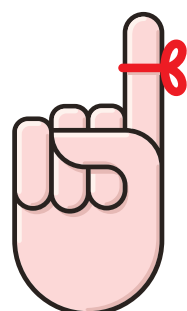
The CTA is seeking 3 more BIPOC CTA members to form a working group to inform the Committee for Action on Social Justice's (CASJ) ongoing anti-racism policy work. This working group shall continue until a CTA standing committee on anti-racism is established. Meeting dates/times will be established once 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 Pat at the CTA office padolf@cta43.org before 4 pm, Monday, January 24, 2022.



Joint Health and Safety Committees



As a reminder, if you experience a situation that is unsafe please report to the site administrator and a health and safety rep as soon as possible. Steps will be taken to resolve the issue at the site. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to reach out to the CTA.

PD POWER

Did you know that there is financial support available for credit-granting coursework that you complete? Although the yellow form cannot be used to reimburse anything that gives credit (or certifications), course fee assistance is available through the board office. To be eligible for course fee assistance a teacher must have been on a continuing contract for a minimum of two years and you must submit the application form at least two weeks in advance of the course beginning. Once you've completed the course you submit your proof of completion along with proof tuition payment and can be reimbursed up to half of your tuition only costs to a maximum of \$1000 per year! Course fee assistance is managed by the School Board Office – the form is available at **Course Fee Assistance Application (Fillable).pdf** (sd43.bc.ca) and you can contact Joy Marsh (jmarsh@sd43.bc.ca) with any questions! - **Meggan Crawford PD Chair**



Transforming Perspectives
February 25th, 2022
Keynote Speakers including: Tanya Talaga, Dr. Shauneen Pete, Cicely Belle Blain, Kevin Lamoureux, & Dustin Louie

A COLLABORATIVE
VIRTUAL PD DAY

Logos: BOARD OF EDUCATION BURNABY SCHOOL DISTRICT 41, SCHOOL DISTRICT 43 Coquitlam, CTA Coquitlam Teachers' Association, BURNABY TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

alternate

CHALLENGE AND CHANGE 2022

February 16, 17 & 18, 2022

Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre
1088 Burrard Street, Vancouver, BC

The 33rd Annual BCAEA Challenge & Change Conference is back after a COVID hiatus last year! We are planning to hold an in-person conference in 2022, but can pivot to a virtual format if necessary. We are delighted to feature Patrick Thomas as our keynote speaker, along with many other sessions of interest to those who work with at-risk youth. We look forward to welcoming you back in 2022!

Click here for more information

<http://www.bcaea.com/>

Coquitlam Teachers' Association



Lending Library

<https://ctalibrary.libib.com>

Email lendinglibrary@cta43.org to create an account.

Pension Seminars & Information

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.



BCTF 2050:

ENGAGING NEW BIPOC MEMBERS PROJECT

The BCTF is looking for early-career BIPOC teachers to collaborate on how to invite, engage and support new BIPOC union members.

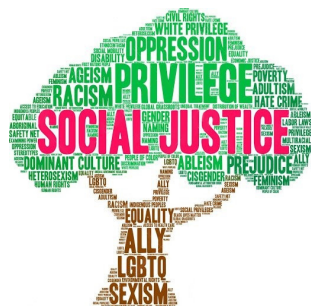
Previous union experience is **not** required

Applications are due Monday Jan 17th 4:30 pm

Click here for more information

COMMITTEE FOR ACTION ON SOCIAL JUSTICE

CASJ



CASJ BOOKCLUB

Meets the first Thursday of every month.

Thursday Feb 3rd, 2022 (4pm on teams) we will be

discussing Parts VI and VII of *We Do This 'Till We Free Us* by Mariame Kaba. This will be the last session with Kaba's book.

We will also be discussing what book to move to next.

Preliminary discussions are showing interest in discussing a work of fiction that touches on the themes we've encountered in earlier books we've been reading.

CASJ COMMITTEE

Meets the 3rd Thursday of every Month

Thurs Jan 20, 2022 at 4pm on Teams.

We're in the process of lining up our next projects for the new year. If you have ideas or want to get involved in the next sequence of projects, now is a good time!

Come on out, bring a friend!

No experience necessary, new members welcome!!

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.

TTOCs & New Teachers

TTOC COMMITTEE

Meets the second Tuesday of every month

Tues February 8th, 2022 at 4pm via zoom.

Further details on the meeting including link to access the meeting is available in the TTOC FB Group under 'events'. Although TTOC committee meetings do have some structure and business, there is also plenty of time to chat and discuss concerns, ask questions, and otherwise connect with folks. All CTA members welcome, no experience necessary 😊 Come on out and bring a friend!

TTOC BOOKCLUB

The TTOC Committee is looking to start a book club for TTOCs and other early career teachers.

As an introduction to union oriented work and opportunities, we are considering Jane McAlevey's *No Shortcuts: Organizing for Power In The New Guilded Age*. McAlevey is a union organizer from the US that has international renown in her work. She has worked extensively with nurses' unions as well as other groups. If you're interested in participating in this discussion, please contact TTOC committee chair Morgan McKee (chair.ttoc@gmail.com) or Diether Malakoff (dmalakoff@cta43.org). We are checking on interest at this point and are considering holding the first session sometime in February.

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

Moments of Joy

16 month old panda Xiao Qi Ji had a great time playing in the snow: **Adorable panda cub enjoys snow day at Smithsonian's National Zoo** ([msn.com](https://www.msn.com))

When 86 year old Marion Forrest won \$300 on a lottery ticket her first thought was to split the winnings with the store clerk who encouraged her to buy a ticket! Watch video: **Grandma splits lottery prize of \$300 with cashier who sold her ticket** ([freepressjournal.in](https://www.freepressjournal.in))

When this Uber Driver found himself and his teenage passenger stranded on the highway for almost six hours (and still not at their destination) he went above and beyond to make sure she was safe – even paying for a hotel room for her until her family could reach her! **Uber Driver Stranded On I-95 Buys Teen Passenger Hotel Room** ([sunnyskyz.com](https://www.sunnyskyz.com))

It's no secret that cats love a good box, but these three cats in Victoria have claimed a box that still has its contents, and they won't let their owners have their new blender! **Victoria cat standoff over blender box leads to fanciful feline fun on internet** ([msn.com](https://www.msn.com))

COMMITTEE VACANCIES

CTA PD Committee

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

District Technology Advisory Committee

2 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

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

