

# COQUITLAM TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

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



## President's Message

### N95 Masks

We were all no doubt relieved to hear the BCTF had secured a donation of 100,000 N95 masks for teachers. Absolutely giving credit where it is due, they have been advocating for the provision of N95s to teachers for a while and this is a tangible result from that. We should receive them shortly and will distribute them equitably. Stay tuned for further announcements regarding masks.

### Absences/Shortages

The CTA made agreements with the employer to help mitigate the shortages and high absences we could all see as a significant possibility, near-term. That meant cancelling discretionary leave for the month of January and allowing those off on Personal Leaves of Absence to volunteer to TTOC on their PLOA days. We will be reviewing the Discretionary leave exclusion at month's end, as well as the PLOA volunteerism. It is hoped by that point we are through the worst of this shortage situation. We are trying to mitigate the worst of this but, the last few days have been very high for absences, close to record setting. As of this day, though, it is trending back down again.

Definitely, TTOCs are to be congratulated on going above and beyond to help with this situation. They seem to be sticking with Coquitlam and responding very well to the rapidly changing situation. Similarly, folks that have been redeployed from Learning Services, Indigenous Ed and others have really helped to cover classes, as well. The CTA is very grateful for these members' efforts to make the best of these tough circumstances.

### Worksafe and Covid

Teachers are reminded that, if they get sick from Covid, they should be filing a Worksafe claim. Covid is an Industrial Disease and has been for over a year. Sick days or other compensation may come from this and the vast majority of these claims have been approved. The basic premise for adjudication thus far is it is known that there is Covid in schools and it's difficult to rule out contracting Covid from work and so, the claims have been approved on that basis.

In Solidarity,  
Ken

# CTA Rep Assembly & General Meeting

**TONIGHT** - Wednesday, January 19, 2022 4PM via Zoom



Zoom Links can be found on our website [www.coquitlamteachers.com](http://www.coquitlamteachers.com)

Member Resources tab on the left side - General Information



- **You must log in to the member portal.**
- Please ensure your Zoom display name is your first & last name. If we cannot identify you as a member you will not be allowed to enter the meeting.

## Rep Assembly 4:00 PM

### 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

## General Meeting 4:10 PM

### 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]



*Real Acts of Caring Week*

**February 13 - 19, 2022**

This year the focus of RAC Week is Climate Change and Covid Caring and we are encouraging as many students as possible all over BC to get involved in supporting this goal in a safe Covid way. Please see our RAC website for more information about RAC at:

<http://www.realactsofcaring.org>

Check out the RAC Educator's Manual which has 25 Covid friendly RAC lesson plans and ideas which also support the New BC Curriculum (contact Harriette Chang at [hchang@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:hchang@sd43.bc.ca) for information).

RAC is a fantastic student initiative which has been around for 16 years and is listed as a resource on the provincial ERASE website which advocates that we erase bullying by embracing kindness.

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/erase/bullying>

RAC was created by grade 4 and 5 students in SD43 in 2005 and is doing something caring and kind and not expecting anything back. Coquitlam leadership students have just been successful in convincing the provincial government to have a proclamation passed again which recognizes RAC Week, our seventh one!

## Join the team

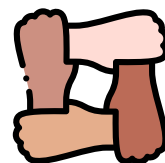
at the

**BCTF AGM March 19 - 22, 2022**

The AGM will be held online details will be provided

We are eligible to send 27 delegates plus our Local Reps to the BCTF AGM - delegate spaces still available. **Run from the floor at tonight's Wednesday, January 19, 2022 General Meeting**

## CTA Anti Racism Working Group



The CTA is seeking 2 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.

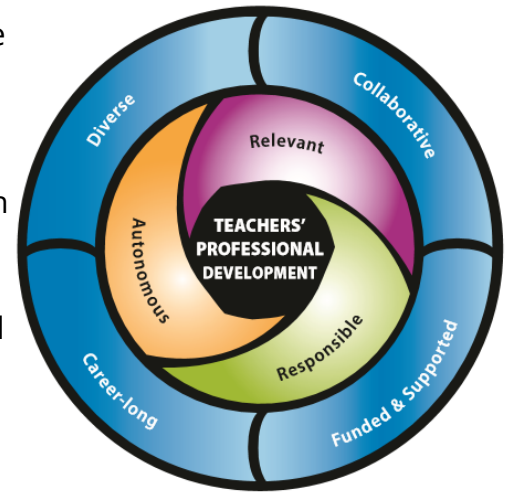
If you have any questions about the working group please contact Diether Malakoff, 2nd Vice President at [dmalakoff@cta43.org](mailto:dmalakoff@cta43.org)

Please submit a CV form to Pat at the CTA office [padolf@cta43.org](mailto:padolf@cta43.org) before 4 pm, Monday, January 24, 2022.



# PD POWER

There is often some confusion around what qualifies as PD and what does not. The BCTF PD Lens is a good guide when you are trying to decide if something fits under the PD umbrella, should be considered in-service, or isn't PD. All PD should be relevant, autonomous, and responsible. For that PD to be successful and meaningful it needs to be diverse, career-long, funded (supported), and collaborative. With that in mind, working on coursework for a certificate or degree does not fall under PD. However, if you've learned something from that coursework that you then choose to share with colleagues in order to do some collaborative planning, that will be PD. The online structure of our current PD landscape makes some of these elements more challenging, but not impossible. With breakout rooms, the ability to connect with colleagues at your site, and chat features we hope that you will still find ways to connect with your colleagues at your next PD event! - **Meggan Crawford PD Chair**



## SD43 Course Fee Assistance Update on Available Funds

The Course Fee Assistance Fund exists to help teachers cover registration costs for credit and non-credit courses of value in their teaching duties in SD43 and will be approved on that basis.

Funds are available from **July 1 to June 30** of each year. Applications must be at the School Board Office **no more than two months and no less than two weeks** prior to the start of the course.

Teachers accessing the fund must have been teaching on a **continuing contract for two years** by the time the course begins.

Funds will be approved on a **first-come, first-served** basis. The criteria and eligibility requirements are outlined in Article F.21.2.c of the collective agreement. **As of January 17, 2022, we have utilized 75% of the available funds for course fee assistance.** To avoid disappointment and ensure that financial assistance is available to you, please plan accordingly. At this current usage rate, we anticipate that all funds for the 2021/22 school year will be utilized in the next few months.

**For more information contact Joy Marsh at SD43.**

## Transforming Perspectives

February 25th, 2022

Keynote Speakers including: Cicely Belle Blain, Kevin Lamoureux, Dustin Louie, & Tanya Talaga

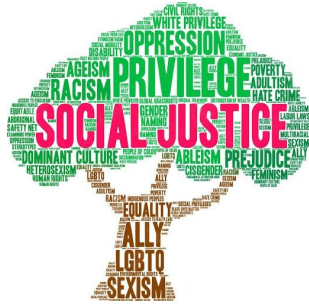
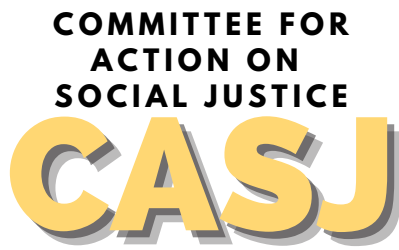


## Moments of Joy

A motel in New Jersey has opened its doors to anyone who has been unhoused – and others are sending donations to help even more people: [Working at His Father's NYC Motel, Actor Now Gives Free Rooms to Those in Need – And Has Fun Along the Way](#) ([goodnewsnetwork.org](http://goodnewsnetwork.org)).

In December Australia's Top 50 music chart had an unexpected #3 ahead of Taylor Swift, Michael Buble, and Mariah Carey – a 24 minute composition of sounds from endangered bird species. [Bird Call Album Flies Over Taylor Swift on Australian Pop Charts](#) | [Smart News](#) | [Smithsonian Magazine](#)

A pair of young men are sharing their dancing skills on streets and at landmarks across Vancouver Island and a few million people are enjoying them on social media: [B.C. dancing duo Funkanometry racks up millions of views on TikTok](#) ([msn.com](http://msn.com)).



## 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.**

## Black History Month 2022

### Facing Facts and Finding Feelings

Through the presentations and resources, we hope to encourage you to look for the truths, find the facts and face the feelings. We have the opportunity to recognize history and work towards a more diverse and inclusive society.

**Part 1 – February 9, 2022 – 7:00PM**

Join moderator Alicia Fahrner and speakers Candace Knoll (Racism is a Virus), and Parker Johnson (Anti-Racism, Respect and Inclusion at Work) for an insightful discussion as we honour Black History Month.

**REGISTER HERE**

**Part 2 – February 16, 2022**

Join moderator Alicia Fahrner and speakers Parker Johnson (Systemic Racism and Intersectionality) and Candace Knoll (Dismantling and Challenging Racism) for an insightful discussion as we honour Black History Month.

**REGISTER HERE**



VANCOUVER & DISTRICT  
LABOUR COUNCIL



# 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](mailto:chair.ttoc@gmail.com)) or Diether Malakoff ([dmalakoff@cta43.org](mailto: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](mailto:dmalakoff@cta43.org) or Heidi Davis [hdavis@cta43.org](mailto:hdavis@cta43.org)

Coquitlam Teachers'  
Association



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



Teachers'  
Pension Plan

# 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**

7 members-at-large

## **CTA Committee of Action on Social Justice (CASJ)**

2 Middle reps, 2 elementary reps, 1 member at large

## **New Westminster & District Labour Council**

5 CTA reps

## **CTA Adult Educators**

1 Learning Centre 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**

1 CTA Rep

## **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](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

