

COQUITLAM TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

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President's Message

Rapid Tests

All of the first round of rapid tests are now reported to be in schools now. To give credit where it is due, the employer did work hard to divide these up and get them in school mail as quickly as possible. Hopefully, no one actually has to use these and we are getting to a place where fewer people are getting sick.

Discretionary Leaves Prescription

The restriction on discretionary leave applications has now come to an end. The employer, as always, still has the right to adjudicate leave applications but, the numbers of absences are down and, there has been no need for functional closures. Thus, we were able to confirm with the employer this week that leave applications will be considered on a close-to-normal footing. We are still in a pandemic but, people should take heart that the applications will not just be summarily denied any longer.

HEPA Units

A tiny bit of money was allocated to portable HEPA units by the government. The total number procured locally was about 200. These have now been distributed to worst-case scenario situations; old portables, rooms with no ventilation, Skill Dev rooms where more students cannot wear masks, etc. It's far from an ideal or total solution but, it is a small bit of good news and we will take whatever we can get and continue to ask for more.

District Calendar Consultation

The District calendar consultation process has begun! Please see the article below for more information on the calendars for the next three years and a link to a survey to voice your opinion. The CTA recommends all members participate in this.

**In Solidarity,
Ken**

MASK PICK UP

Thank you to those Staff Reps that have so quickly picked up masks for their schools.

The BCTF/VITACORE masks are ready for pickup by Staff Reps and TTOCs (CTA Office, 8:45 am – 4:30 pm).

Once the CTA masks are received we will send further information to Staff Reps and TTOCs.

Executive Committee

There is currently one
Member at Large position open

If you are interested in running for this position please go to the website to get and submit a CV to Kelly Stewart kstewart@cta43.org

REGISTER TODAY!!

CTA/BTA PD Day - February 25, 2022

There are no wait lists, once a session is full it is closed, don't miss out, register now!!

TRANSFORMING

Perspectives

FEBRUARY 25, 2022 VIRTUAL PD DAY

REGISTRATION IS OPEN:
[HTTPS://CVENT.ME/EZENQG](https://cvent.me/EZENQG)



DISTRICT CALENDAR CONSULTATION 2023 – 2026

SD43 is beginning to prepare district calendars for the 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26 school years.

The school board has created a survey for parents and teachers to give feedback, this survey is open from Wednesday, February 9 to Friday, February 18, 2022.

We encourage ALL members to participate in this process. We get many complaints about calendar issues annually, please take advantage of the opportunities to inform yourself and give feedback.

Proposed Calendar:

<http://www.sd43.bc.ca/NewsEvents/AMyCalendar/Pages/default.aspx>

Link to the survey:

<https://forms.office.com/r/10wquW5ft3>



*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 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!

PD POWER

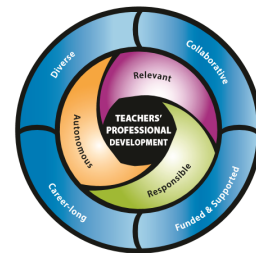
Are you one of the over 2,000 people who have already registered for the February 25th, 2022 PD Day? If so, thank you for registering early! If you haven't had a chance to register yet, visit the PD Day page of the CTA website for all the information you need. There is still space in breakout sessions offered by a few of our keynote speakers, including Cicely Belle Blain, author, CEO, and Founder of Black Lives Matter, who is offering a session on Inclusive Language (B) and another on Disrupting Unconscious Bias (C). These sessions are ideal for those who are seeking to be more aware of their own language choices and behaviours, all with a focus on being more inclusive. Dr. Dustin Louie, director of NITEP and an Assistant Professor at UBC, is offering a session B titled Identifying Key Differences Between Colonial Practices and Western Practices. This session will focus on the distinction between the two and how decolonizing does not mean eliminating Western knowledge, but rather creating space for Indigenous ways of knowing and being. Register soon for these and other sessions – there are no wait lists, so once something fills it is closed! - **Meggan Crawford PD Chair**

Moments of Joy

If you like a puns and dogs then this one is for you – a list of dog jokes to share with your colleagues at lunch tomorrow: 25 Funny Dog Jokes That'll Have You Howling With Laughter (msn.com)

Anthony Harris, a football player for the Eagles, stepped in to take an 11 year old to a Daddy-Daughter dance after she lost both her father and her grandfather in the past year: Philadelphia Eagles safety Anthony Harris takes 11-year-old Texas girl to 'Daddy-Daughter Dance' - ABC13 Houston

An 8 year old in Idaho decided to share his self-authored and illustrated book...by sneaking it onto a library shelf. The waiting list to borrow it is now over a year long: The 8-year-old self-published author who snuck his book into the library : NPR



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



VANCOUVER & DISTRICT
LABOUR COUNCIL



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

[illegible]

Thurs March 3rd (4pm on Teams) will be the first session discussing a new book that we are still in the process of choosing. We are in the process of selection a work of fiction that touches on themes we have been exploring in the other books we've cover so far. If you'd like to participate in choosing the book, please reach out and join us on Teams, that conversation is underway.

Work is ongoing including planning activities for the spring. We're looking for ideas, new folks welcome!

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.

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

TTOCs & New Teachers

TTOC COMMITTEE

Meets the second Tuesday of every month

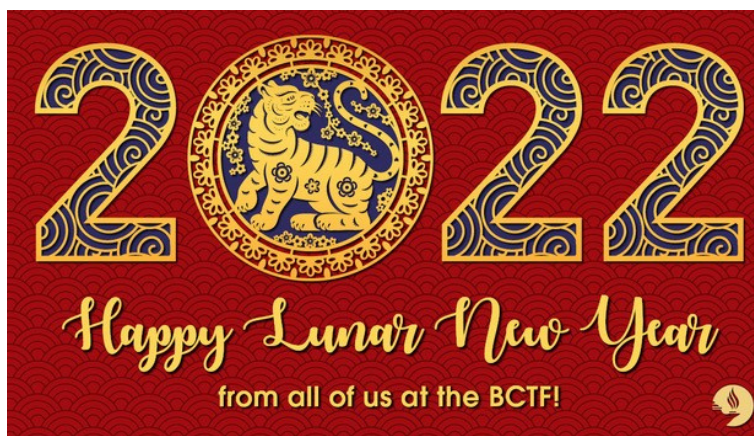
Tues March 8th, 2022 at 4pm via zoom.

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

We'll be reading Jane McAlevey's *No Shortcuts: Organising for Power in the New Gilded Age*. If you're interested in being part of that conversation, we'll be discussing the first two chapters at the next TTOC committee meeting on Tue March 8th. Join us on Facebook at CTA TTOCs for further details including getting access to the book.

Contact TTOC committee chair Morgan McKee (chair.ttoc@gmail.com) or Diether Malakoff (dmalakoff@cta43.org) if you have any questions about the committee or the bookclub.



In Crisis? Need Help?

1-800-SUICIDE (1-800-784-2433) to speak with crisis line workers anytime of the day or night.

Call 310-6789 You will receive emotional support, and information on appropriate referral options and a wide range of support relating to mental health concerns province wide.



heretohelp

Mental health and substance use
information you can trust



KUU-US Crisis Line Society

First Nations and Aboriginal specific 24/7
crisis line serving the entire province.

Toll-free: 1-800-588-8717

Youth Line: 250-723-2040

Adult Line: 250-723-4050.



Trans Lifeline – 1-877-330-6366

www.translifeline.org

Trans Lifeline is a non-profit dedicated to the well being of transgender people.

COMMITTEE VACANCIES

CTA PD Committee

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

CTA Teachers Teaching on Call Committee

7 members-at-large

CTA Committee of Action on Social Justice (CASJ)

2 Middle Reps, 1 member at large rep, 1 Elementary Rep

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 (kstewart@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

Membership Database, Website Access, Committees, Scholarships

Kelly Stewart, Office Clerk - kstewart@cta43.org

Office Clerk, CTA PD Day

Corbey Heyes-Jones, Office Clerk corbeyhj@cta43.org

If your situation is already being handled by an officer not matching your alpha assignment, 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



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:kelly.stewart@cta43.org)

www.coquitlamteachers.com

CTA Office: 604-936-9971

