

COQUITLAM TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

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President's Message

District Budget

The CTA has had an opportunity to provide input on the District budget before it is formulated. The EC has met with District personnel and articulated where the shortfalls in the current budget are. Examples include our request for more counsellors, more below-the-line teachers in schools including student services and teacher-librarians. We also asked for more itinerant support personnel like school psychologists, audiology, SLPs, IST etc. We requested the employer continue their support for the Mentorship program here, as it has helped hundreds of teachers with practice since its inception. We also asked the employer to consider devoting resources to significantly upgrade heating and ventilation systems in schools beyond their current inadequate capacity. Lastly, we asked them to reconsider deploying future surplus funds to partly make up for a government shortfall of \$25 million in funding for the proposed Burke Mountain Middle/Secondary. Surpluses are operating monies and thus, that's primarily the monies that go to fund staffing in the district. Schools and renovations come from a separate pot of money called capital funding. Transferring operating resources to fund a capital project poses a problem for us, since 94% of the operating budget is spent on staffing and, the government typically doesn't even fully fund contractual increases and the like. This redirection means this surplus resource isn't there to fund additional staffing in schools or to act as a buffer to diminish future layoffs, due to budget shortfalls.

The budget process begins with public meetings throughout April and we will again be presenting there, once the preliminary budget is formulated.

Rapid Tests

The recent announcement that students will receive 5 rapid tests has provoked some consternation for members. Contract teachers have only received two and TTOCs have yet to receive any from the provincial government. The BCTF is trying to secure a commitment for more of these tests, at least to address the sadly as-usual appalling gap in treatment for our TTOCs but, also to secure more for contract members as well. No word yet on how that discussion is progressing.

**In Solidarity,
Ken**

INTERESTED IN WORKING with the CTA?

Labour Relations Officer

The CTA Labour Relations Officer position is filled on an annual basis. The CTA is now seeking members interested in the position for 2022-23.

Release time for this position is currently 1.0 and the responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- dealing with member problems and issues
- researching, preparing and presenting grievances
- collaborating with Table Officers
- maintaining confidentiality

The successful candidate will have excellent presentation skills and the ability to deal effectively with confrontational and stressful situations.

Members interested in either of these positions should go to our website for a curriculum vitae form (Member Resources/Forms), which must be submitted to Kelly Stewart kstewart@cta43.org by Wednesday, April 6, 2022 4:30 p.m.

PD Chairperson

The CTA Professional Development Chair position is filled on an annual basis. The CTA is now seeking members interested in the position of Professional Development Chair for 2022-23.

Release time for this position is currently 0.4 and the responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- chairing the PD Committee, the CTA PD Day Committee and LSA Council
- planning, developing, organizing and implementing professional development activities for the CTA Professional Development Day
- processing applications for PD assistance and course fee assistance
- maintaining a liaison between the CTA and the BCTF in matters of Professional Development

The successful candidate will have a sound knowledge of and be highly committed to, professional development; be well organized and support a collaborative and collegial office atmosphere.

CTA MASK PICK UP



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

- These are ear loop masks vs head strap masks.
- Every teacher will receive two additional masks of this type.

There are a number of schools that have yet to pick up the first batch of masks, if you are a teacher at one of these schools please arrange someone to pick up

LOCAL REP TO THE BCTF ONE (1) POSITION OPEN

Local Reps to the BCTF are members of the CTA Executive Committee and represent CTA members at 3 BCTF Representative Assemblies (Fri/Sat) throughout the year as well as the BCTF Annual General Meeting. Some of the duties include scrutinizing minutes of the BCTF executive meetings and reporting back at CTA Executive Committee meetings and supporting the Executive Committee with getting information out to the broader membership. They will also attend CTA Executive Committee meetings, Representative Assemblies and General Meetings held Wednesdays throughout the year and be an active voice at the local level.

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 by March 7, 2022

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 by March 7, 2022

PD POWER

This Friday is our CTA Collaborative PD Day with the Burnaby School District! Links were sent out last Friday and will be shared again this Friday morning. If you do not see the email in your inbox, please check your junk folder and the "Other" tab of your inbox. The CTA PD Committee has been busy all year putting this day together, and we hope that it is a day of meaningful learning for each of you. We do ask, however, that if technological challenges arise you remain kind and calm in your communications with the CTA office. We will do our best to support you and troubleshoot any issues as they arise, but please be patient! **Meggan Crawford PD Chair**

PD Day Hints and Tips

Links to your sessions have been sent, check your email to be sure that you have the links you need, don't forget to check your **Junk/Spam folder and Other folder**

Do you need any supplies for your session?

Yoga mat or if you are in one of the needle felting sessions, did you pick up your kit at the CTA office?

If supplies were needed, messages were sent on Saturday and will be sent again Thursday as a reminder.

Were there any documents needed for your session?

Messages were sent on Saturday in the form of a link to a shared folder and will be sent again Thursday as a reminder. **Please check to make sure this link works before your session starts.**

Did you want to take notes?

Grab that pen and notebook now.

Log in early, make sure your links and technology are working and you are able to log in so you don't get stuck in a rush for help

Set yourself up to enjoy your session, grab a snack, coffee, tea etc.. get in a comfortable spot you where you feel relaxed and enjoy what the day of learning brings.

New Teacher's Conference



The New Teacher's Conference is a professional development opportunity designed specifically for early career teachers with less than five year of teaching experience and teacher candidates.

This year's virtual conference will take place on the evening of May 13, 2022 and all day on May 14, 2022.

To learn more about the wide variety of workshop topics, keynote speakers, and guest presenters joining the New Teachers' Conference, visit the [conference webpage](#).

Register now while \$25 tickets are still available, and tell your early career colleagues about this great opportunity.

Moments of Joy

In 2016 A street performer was pleasantly surprised when a woman joined his performance of a song from The Phantom of the Opera...only to discover she was playing the lead part in a performance just down the road...and now the video is going viral! [Celine Schoenmaker duets with busker Stephen Barry in Covent Garden London 10 Nov 2016 - YouTube](#)

To enjoy the Olympics, Nadia Barey decided to take part herself...from her dock and other locations around her home, much to the delight of viewers. [Nadz \(@nadia.barey\) TikTok | Watch Nadz's Newest TikTok Videos](#)

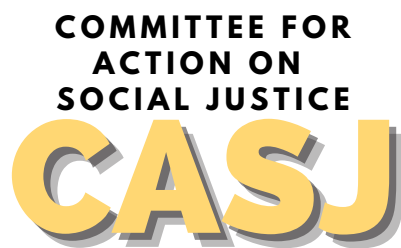
This cat manages its stress by holding socks in its mouth while watching birds...not something I've tried, but it's adorable! [This Cat Loves Socks In Her Mouth While Watching Birds \(sunnyskyz.com\)](#)

This restaurant in Japan was struggling (as many were/are) during the pandemic until they adopted a family of stray cats who liked to lounge on their miniature railway models...and Instagram can't get enough of the cuteness! [How A Stray Kitten Saved A Struggling Restaurant From Closing \(sunnyskyz.com\)](#)

PD Day: Publishers Scavenger Hunt

*5 Publisher Sites
5 Questions
9 Amazing Prizes*

**CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE THE
SCAVENGER HUNT FOR YOUR
CHANCE TO WIN!**



CASJ BOOKCLUB

Meets the first Thursday of every month.

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.

CASJ COMMITTEE

Meets the 3rd Thursday of every Month

Thursday March 10, 2022 (4pm on Teams)

This month's meeting is being held earlier than usual due to Spring Break.

We are looking to host another film matinee event possibly on Saturday, April 2nd, we will be discussing what film to screen. Under consideration are films from indigenous film maker Alanis Obomsawin that are available to all via the NFB.

Please join us if you'd like to be part of that conversation. The goal is to have a date/time set and a film selected prior to heading of for spring break.

Other ongoing business will also be discussed.

CTA CASJ is now on Instagram! Find us at socialjusticecta.

We're also on FB at CTA CASJ.

No experience necessary, new members welcome!!

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

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

TTOCs & New Teachers

TTOC COMMITTEE

Meets the second Tuesday of every month

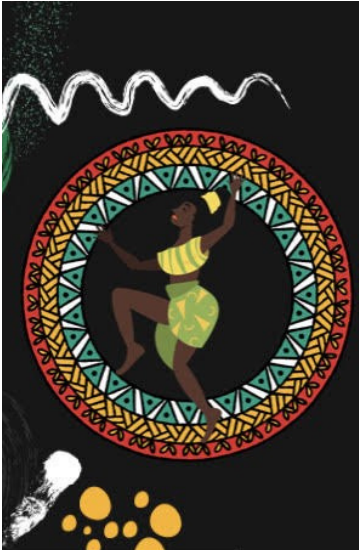
Tues March 8th, 2022 at 4pm via zoom.

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.



The STA Members of Colour Committee presents
Celebrating Black Power and Joy

February 26, 2022 at 10:00 am

We are hosting a virtual celebration of Black power, joy and beauty. Community members will be invited to share a piece of art that celebrates and honours Blackness. Get ready to dance, listen and reflect on the ways in which Black excellence shapes our society and lifts us all up.

[REGISTER NOW >](#)

Coquitlam Teachers' Association



Lending Library

<https://ctalibrary.libib.com>

Email lendinglibrary@cta43.org to create an account.

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

