

COQUITLAM TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

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



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

President's Message

TTOC Rapid Access Tests

The employer is still awaiting delivery of Rapid Access Test kits for TTOCs. This despite promises made in a recent Deputy Minister's Bulletin and, the submission of the request for these tests weeks ago. They still have not arrived, despite the tests for kids going out to schools last week. This is very frustrating for us as we feel TTOCs are the most vulnerable population in the community and again, they are left without help to determine their state of health. Anyone wishing to give their tests to the CTA, we will find a way to get them to a TTOC. It's also frustrating we have to consider doing things like that because the government can't fulfill its promises.

Calendar Consultation Survey

Participation in the District calendar survey was pretty decent from employees. Around 700 employees weighed in on the District Calendar and that definitely had an impact on decision-making. The calendars for the next cycle retain the minimum-workload 180 day work year, two-week Spring Break, alignment of Spring Break as well as can be predicted at this time and maintains all the PD days contractually expected. Taking part in calendar consultation contributes to the best calendar setting possible and avoids future distress or misunderstandings with the calendar. Many thanks to all who contributed their thoughts on the survey.

In Solidarity,
Ken

Change to EFAP Provider

Effective March 1, 2022 under the Homewood EFAP, employees and their eligible dependents will have access to a full range of health and wellness services. **If you or a member of your family is currently seeing a counsellor through Morneau Shepell (Lifeworks) you may continue to see that counsellor until resolution.**

Confidential and no cost

EFAP is completely confidential within the limits of the law. No one, including your employer, will know that you have used the service unless you choose to tell them. You and your eligible dependents have access to the EFAP at no cost.

Counselling Services:

Counselling services are typically available in person, by phone or video, or via on-line e-counselling (message exchanges or real-time chat) – and currently available by phone or virtually, due to COVID 19. The model of counselling is short-term in focus, with clearly defined goals and outcomes. It is meant to help you understand your concerns, and develop a plan of action to address them.

Life Smart Coaching Services:

Life Smart Coaching includes caregiving, life planning, health management, and career management services. Each of the services has been developed to allow you to take a proactive approach to managing everyday challenges and life transitions, and to receive information and support, suited to your unique situation. For the most part, these services are delivered by phone or online, and often include an assessment, a personalized package of information, and useful tools with your best interests in mind.

Online Resources:

In addition, the program offers a variety of online resources to help you take charge of your health and well-being. These include E-Courses, practical learning for improving personal wellness, life skills, and workplace effectiveness, i-Volve, a self-paced treatment program for depression and anxiety, the Health and Wellness Library, a collection of articles and tools, alongside information on drugs, diseases, natural products, tests and procedures, and general health; the Health Risk Assessment, an interactive tool for evaluating health history and lifestyle habits; and more!

Click here to view the Homewood Health brochure for details about these services.

For access to all online resources and (e-Counselling) simply log into Homeweb, Homewood Health's Member Services website, at www.homeweb.ca. (A mobile app is also available! For more information, visit www.homeweb.ca/app)



1-800-663-1142

TTY: 1-888-384-1152

International (Call collect):
604-689-1717

HomeWeb.ca

Employee and Family Assistance Program

Coaching | Counselling | Support

Confidential | Available anytime

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

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.

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



Congrats!

Congratulations to the following teachers, prize winners at our PD Day February 25, your prizes will be in next week's mailbag, delivered after Spring Break.

\$50 Indigo Gift Card (from SFU Preservice Professional Studies) – Carole Paquette, Moody Middle

Scholastic Door Prize (from Scholastic) – Kiren Chand, Minnekhada Middle

1-year NFB CAMPUS Subscription & NFB T-shirt (from the NFB) – Patricia Vance, Heritage Woods Secondary

\$25 Starbucks e-gift card (from Fortis BC) – Marna MacMillan, Learning Services

Book Pack (from ULS) – Joanna Hourihane, Leigh Elementary

All Our Relations by Tanya Talaga – Niki Best, Rochester Elementary

All Our Relations by Tanya Talaga – Rob Heinrichs, Learning Services

Burning Sugar by Cicely Belle Blain – Cheyenne Leighs, Smiling Creek Elementary

Seven Fallen Feathers by Tanya Talaga – David Gilbar, Gleneagle Secondary

Potlatch as Pedagogy by Sara Florence Davidson & Robert Davidson – Angie Chisholm, Meadowbrook Elementary

Braiding Sweetgrass by Robin Wall Kimmerer – Trisha Hubbard, Riverside Secondary

Unsettling Canada by Arthur Manuel, Grand Chief Ronald M. Derrickson – Tracey Zajac, Pinetree Way Elementary

We Do This 'Til We Free Us by Mariame Kaba – Jennifer Coghlan, Leigh Elementary

How To Be An Antiracist by Ibram X. Kendi – Karen Leeden, Heritage Woods Secondary

One Story, One Song by Richard Wagamese – Melissa Yee, Kwayhqitlum

Check back next week for more winners!!

PD POWER

A huge thank you goes out to everyone on the Coquitlam and Burnaby PD Teams for helping to organize a PD day with over a hundred keynote speakers, presenters, and facilitators for over 3,300 teachers! Thank you to everyone who attended and engaged in their sessions: I hope they were meaningful and impactful in some way. Personally, I want to extend a massive thank you to the CTA office staff: Pat Adolf, Heidi Davis, Corbey Heyes-Jones, Kelly Roberts, and Kelly Stewart, without whom the PD Day would NOT have happened. They are the team behind the scenes and it was their willingness to jump in and support any and everything (and everyone) that helped to make this event a success. This week we are collecting the recordings from presenters and will be sharing those as soon as they are available. As with last year, the links will be posted on the PD Day page of CTA website as we receive them and you will need to sign in with your SD43 credentials to view them. The recordings will be available until the end of March and, once again, we remind you that these are for teacher use and are not to be shared with your classes or outside of our district teachers. **Meggan Crawford PD Chair**

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.



Want to try out Brain Ahead's program to activate your brain through exercises and activities? Visit: brainahead.net/trials for a free trial!



At Baad Anna's we want to encourage the hands-on experience of fibre arts in all ages, so we are happy to provide local teachers and schools with a variety of resources to do so.

Not sure where to start? Read our Teaching Fibre Arts recommendations and considerations here.

Follow [this link](#) to some of the classes and options we can offer.



HOPE'N'ACTION IN COLLABORATION

WITH
**KEYNOTE SPEAKER:
DR. JODY CARRINGTON**
APRIL 8TH, 2022

[CLICK HERE
TO REGISTER](#)



CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS:



RICHARD VAN CAMP
CREATIVE WRITING FOR STUDENTS WITH BEST SELLING AUTHOR RICHARD VAN CAMP
VIRTUAL - 1:30-2:30PM



SHELDON FRANKEN
THE BEAUTY OF COPING & SERIOUS PLAY (BUILDING YOUR SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING TOOLBOX)
IN-PERSON - SESSION 1 & 2



TAN HUYNH
ELL - NURTURING NEWCOMERS
VIRTUAL - SESSION 2

ABOUT DR. JODY CARRINGTON

As we step back into the unfamiliar world post-pandemic, many organizations are understandably witnessing what burnout looks like. Emotional exhaustion, a lack of compassion, and an experience of futility have become common experiences for many teams. Dr. Jody has begun walking hundreds of organizations through the process of reconnection to combat burnout and build mental resilience. She has created specific strategies to shift culture, bringing hilarity and truth while reigniting purpose and productivity with this game-changing talk.

Every conference attendee will get automatic access to our Keynote which includes a Territorial Acknowledgement and welcome.

11:00AM - 12:15PM

FREE for SD62 Employees **\$50** for Out of District Attendees

Moments of Joy

An artist in Toronto, Ontario creates art with the snow on an outdoor ice rink: What will it be? **Watch as artist reveals snowy image on backyard rink (msn.com)**

This golden retriever helps his human every day by carrying her backpack from the bus to home: **Golden Retriever carries girl's backpack home (msn.com)**

They may have only joined the band the day before the performance, but this percussionist stole the show when they performed "Sleigh Ride" at their high school holiday showcase: **Sleigh Ride Brass Quintet - YouTube**

Anyone with a cat knows that Zoom meetings from home can be an experience, as this woman and her cat demonstrate: Cat **Hilariously Stares Down Camera During Zoom Calls (sunnyskyz.com)**

COMMITTEE FOR
ACTION ON
SOCIAL JUSTICE
CASJ



CASJ BOOKCLUB

Meets the first Thursday of every month.

Thurs March 3rd (4pm on Teams) will be the first session discussing "No Gods, No Monsters" by Cadwell Turnbull. Join us on teams if you'd like to be part of the conversation. New members welcome!

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 off for spring break.

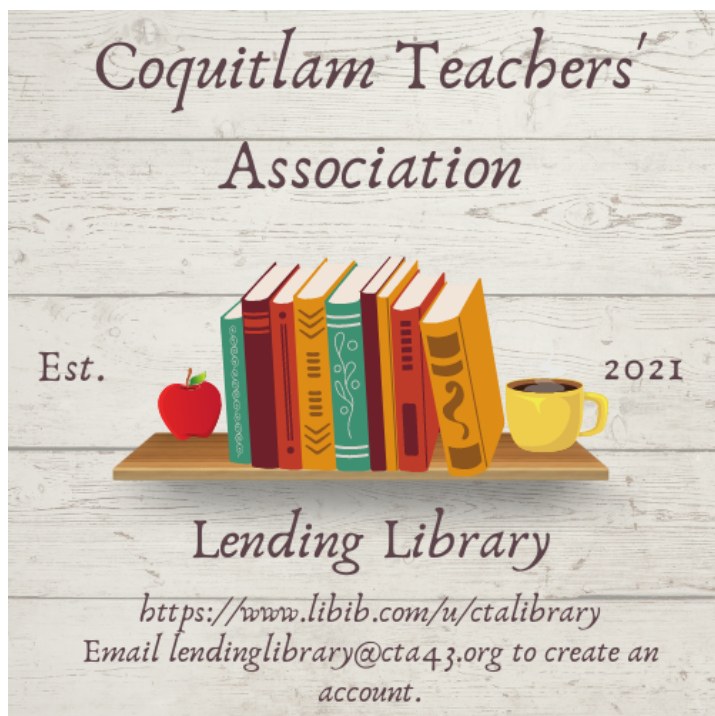
Other ongoing business will also be discussed.

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.



International WOMEN'S DAY

March 8th is International Women's Day, a global day used as a call to action for accelerating women's equality around the world, and a day to celebrate the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women everywhere.

Here are some links to events and resources celebrating women around the world;

<https://www.internationalwomensday.com/EventList>

<https://women-gender-equality.canada.ca/en/commemorations-celebrations/international-womens-day.html>

<https://events.ubc.ca/international-womens-day/>

<https://dailyhive.com/vancouver/international-womens-day-events-vancouver-2022>

<https://www.boardoftrade.com/events/individual-events/2152-6847>

<https://vdlc.ca/events/iwd2022/>

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.

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.



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HomeWeb.ca

Employee and Family Assistance Program

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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

