

# COQUITLAM TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

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## President's Message

### Last Day to Vote

The Local Matters Agreement that came from local bargaining has to be ratified by the membership. It is up on our website ([coquitlamteachers.com](http://coquitlamteachers.com)): follow Member Resources/Bargaining and you'll see it there. The polls remain open until 7 pm today. Please view the LMA, see the clauses being created or adjusted, and vote. A link should have been sent to your personal emails by this point. The BCTF has been helping us with the vote for the last few days.

### Upcoming Events

The BCTF Rep Assembly is happening May 27-28. It's back to a live meeting for the first time after two years of remote. Your Local Reps and President will be there and it is hoped we will hear a full description of where the BCTF is at in terms of Provincial Bargaining, as well as other elements they oversee in terms of finances, policy, and dealing with leftover business from the AGM.

In Solidarity,  
Ken

# 2022-2023 CTA Executive and Committee Chairpersons

The CTA held its Year End General Meeting on May 11, 2022.  
The following members have been elected to serve you within the CTA for the upcoming year.

**Congratulations to all, we look forward to working with you!!**

**President:** Ken Christensen

**1st Vice President:** Kara Obojski

**2nd Vice President:** Diether Malakoff

**Local Reps to the BCTF:**

Ronak Pahlevanlu (Riverside Secondary) **BIPOC**

Kayleigh Macmillan (Mary Hill Elementary)

**Members At Large (2 vacancies):**

Rob Dalmann (James Park Elementary)

Melissa Illing (Centennial Secondary)

Karen Learmonth (Centennial Secondary)

Ben Whipps (Meadow Elementary)

**Member At Large - Indigenous:**

Terri Mae Galligos (Indigenous Education)

**Member At Large - Person of Colour:**

Vacant

**Professional Development Chair:**

Meggan Crawford (Suwa'ikh and CTA Office)

**Labour Relations Officer:**

Andy Gilligan (CTA Office)

**Nominating and Balloting Committee Chairperson:**

Angie Lundin (Roy Stibbs Elementary)

**Local Specialist Association Chairperson:**

Nicole Roberge (Riverside Secondary)

**Teachers Teaching On Call Chairperson:**

Vacant

**Committee for Action on Social Justice Chairperson:**

Karen Learmonth (Centennial Secondary)

**Adult Education Committee Co-Chairpersons:**

Karen Jogha and Christine Wong (Continuing Education)

The following outgoing Executive Committee Members are recognized for their contributions to the Association, thank you for your service and we wish you continued success in all you do.

**Sandra Cowan**

After 17 years of service to the Association on the Executive as Member-at-large and as Local Rep to the BCTF, Sandra Cowan has decided to focus on her chairing role at BCTF meetings. We wish her well in her ongoing focus as Chair at large BCTF Meetings like the AGM and the Rep Assembly.

**Andy Gilligan**

After 6 years of service on the Executive as a Local Rep to the BCTF, Andy decided to step down from the Executive Committee. Andy's well-informed, calm and positive voice on the EC was very valuable to the EC. Andy continues to serve the Association in his role as Labour Relations Officer and we welcome continuing to work with him.

**Angie Lundin**

After 3 years on the Executive as Member-at-large, Angie chose not to stand for re-election in this round. However, Angie will continue on as our Nominating and Balloting Chairperson. Angie's positive presence, kindness and broad knowledge of elementary practice will be missed on the EC.

**Haymen Leong**

After 2 years on the Executive as Member-at-large-POC, Haymen Leong chose not to stand for re-election for the upcoming year. Haymen's calm and thoughtful presence was an asset on the EC and will be missed.

**John Ragone**

John served as Member-at-large on the Executive Committee. His voice as a TTOC on the Executive was valuable as this group continues to be our least-advantaged membership, in many ways. We wish John well in his new endeavours.



# CTA Support Position

The CTA is seeking members interested in joining our team in office.

This position will be seconded to the CTA Office.

Release time will be **one (1) day a week** running for the 2022/2023 school year.

Office hours are **8:30 am – 4:30 pm (please note, your day may need to extend beyond that occasionally).**

**The requirements of the Support Position include:**

- Local union involvement
- Familiarity with CTA Bylaws & Policies and Collective Agreement

**The responsibilities of the Support Position include:**

- Maintaining confidentiality
- Assisting the Released Officers & Executive Director

The successful candidate will have a high degree of interpersonal skills and the ability to deal effectively with confrontational and stressful situations.

Interested members should **submit a CV to [kstewart@cta43.org](mailto:kstewart@cta43.org) at the CTA Office by Wednesday, June 1, 2022 at 4:00 p.m.**



## CTA Scholarship, Awards and Bursary Committee

This committee provides an opportunity for members to get involved in helping to approve or select recipients of CTA scholarships – Roy Krutow, Cam McKenzie, CTA Student Assistance Bursary, Barbara Vengshoel, Trades & Arts, and Equity scholarships. The committee will meet in the Fall and again in June, at minimum, but may meet at other times throughout the year. This policy has recently been revised to change the composition of the committee and the scholarships were updated and will be in effect for the 2022-2023 school year.

**There are several positions available on the committee if you or someone you know is interested in becoming involved:**

- Alternate Education representative
- Continuing Education representative
- Member who identifies as Indigenous
- Member who identifies as Black or a person of colour
- Three (3) additional CTA members

The CTA President and our TFEU Finance Administrator also sit on this committee.

If you have any questions, please contact Kara Obojski, 1st Vice-President ([kobojski@cta43.org](mailto:kobojski@cta43.org)).

**If you are interested in the committee please submit a CV to Kelly S. at [kstewart@cta43.org](mailto:kstewart@cta43.org).**

# Don't forget to vote!!



## Local Ratification Vote

**Voting will close at 7pm tonight**

The ratification vote for the local agreement-in-committee will be by secret ballot using the Simply Voting online platform.

You should have received an email from the British Columbia Teachers' Federation (Local 43 – Coquitlam Teachers' Association) using the address [vote@simplyvoting.com](mailto:vote@simplyvoting.com).

That email included a link specific to you as an eligible voter. You just need to click that link and vote. You don't need any other information. The link is already personalized for you.

If you have general questions about the vote, your eligibility, or the process as a whole, you can call Kelly Roberts at 604-936-9971.

## BCTF Pension Seminars

The BCTF will be presenting virtual pension seminars on **Wednesdays in May** available to all members via Zoom. The content of the seminars will be valuable for all members, especially for those considering retirement in the near future.

The seminars are intended to help members learn about: how their pension plan works, factors to consider and pension options when planning for retirement, who to contact for information and advice.

**The Zoom link to attend the session on May 4, 11, 18, or 25 can be found [here](#).**

This event is also listed under the BCTF events tab at: <https://www.bctf.ca/whats-happening/event-calendar>.

If members are not able to attend these sessions, they may contact Sarbrinder Singh Lalli directly at [slalli@bctf.ca](mailto:slalli@bctf.ca).

## Moments of Joy

Thanks to Kelly Stewart for sharing this moving story of a Grandfather who, with the help of some inventive students, was finally able to hug his grandchildren again. <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/invention-allows-grandfather-hug-grandchildren/>

A small town in New Brunswick had a lot of fun when a mysterious benefactor started posting clues to the location of hidden hundred dollar bills – and the money was real! [\*One Man's Treasure Hunt Thrilled a Canadian Town, Turning Strangers into Friends\* \(goodnewsnetwork.org\)](#).

The 250th Norfolk and Norwich Festival started off with a bang...and more than 7,000 concrete dominos toppling throughout the city: [\*Norfolk and Norwich Festival launched with giant dominoes topple\* - BBC News](#)

# PD POWER

When you don't have much time left in your day it's difficult to imagine how or when you might fit PD in, let alone develop your own personal learning network. Podcasts (and audiobooks) and Twitter are great options! Listening to a podcast during your commute, a workout, or at the end of a long day might give you ideas to use in your classroom or inspire you to try something new. Joining an #edchat on Twitter, either as an observer or an active participant, could lead you to discovering a new method of teaching something, or spark a new passion. Check out a few of these podcast recommendations and Twitter accounts/hashtags to follow to get you started. When you find incredible options, please share them with me (mc Crawford@cta43.org) or @ctapd on Twitter!

Podcasts:

- Teachers on Fire with Tim Cavey – a BC based podcast that focuses on the ups and downs of teaching and the work that is happening now in classrooms.
- Teacher Toolkit – if you're looking for theme specific episodes on various topics in education, this is where you want to start!
- Leading Equity with Sheldon, L. Eakins, Ph.D. – an incredible resource for tools and resources to bring equity to your school.

Twitter:

- @bcdedchat hosts a chat every Sunday at 7pm – questions are posted on their account and responses use the #bcdedchat to continue the conversation
- @TanyaTalaga; @cicelybelle\_xo; - Two of the keynote speakers from our February 2022 PD day!
- @aoec\_bc; @bcecta; @CUEBC; @THESAOrg – most PSA's have a twitter account! Follow your PSAs for the latest info on your specialty area, updates on conferences, and more!



May 19 & 20, 2022  
Executive Plaza Hotel Metro Vancouver

Thursday, May 19, 9:15 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Keynote - Jowi Taylor Speaker Sessions Panel Discussion  
Dinner & Entertainment (Comedian & Casino Night)

Friday, May 20, 8:55 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.

Keynote - Susan Aglukark

<http://www.aceconference.net/index.html>

## EVERGREEN CULTURAL CENTRE

*School Programs May 7, 2022 to June 17, 2022*

Inspired by our exhibition Semá:th Xo:tsa:Sts'ólemeqwelh Sxó:tsa / Great Gramma's Lake. Learn, explore, and create through art! Led by our artist Educators, your visit includes a tour of our Art Gallery exhibition for inspiration and conversation, followed by hands-on art making in the studio.

### SCHOOL PROGRAM OPTIONS

**Sketch-in (sketching and colouring) Grades K-12**

**Available Mondays and Tuesdays from May 7th to June 17th, 2022 Cost: \$120**

Following a gallery tour of the new exhibition, Semá:th Xo:tsa:Sts'ólemeqwelh Sxó:tsa / Great Gramma's Lake, students will have a chance to sketch in the gallery, inspired by the masks of Stó:lō master carver E'yies'lek Rocky LaRock or the large-scale puppets on display. Students will then head to our studio to add colour to their composition and create a finished artwork.

#### BOOKING DETAILS

**SD43 teachers contact the box office to inquire about free workshops!**

K-2 max class size: 24 students + 3 adult chaperons

Grades 3+ max class size: 30 students + 3 adult chaperons

Mornings: 9-11 a.m. | Afternoons: 12:30-2:30 p.m. Contact the box office for booking: 604-927-6552

**Make a Face (Clay Masks) Grades K-12**

**Available Wednesdays - Fridays from May 7th to June 3rd, 2022 Cost: \$135**

Tour the new exhibition, Semá:th Xo:tsa:Sts'ólemeqwelh Sxó:tsa / Great Gramma's Lake and find inspiration from the forms and expressions of the masks created by Stó:lō master carver E'yies'lek Rocky LaRock. In the studio, students will use slab hand-building techniques to create a mini clay mask character of their own. Masks will be glazed and fired. Clay processing takes four weeks and teachers will receive an email when it is time to pick up the art.

# CASJ



## CASJ BOOKCLUB

Meets the first Thursday of every month.

**Thurs June 2, 2022 (4pm on Teams)**

We will be continuing our “No Gods, No Monsters” discussion. We are working towards finishing the book by June. New members welcome!

## CASJ COMMITTEE

Meets the 3rd Thursday of every Month

We will be holding our committee meeting on

Thursday, May 19, 2022 at 4:00 pm

We will be discussing feedback on the April film event, and plans for next year, as well as other matters.

Join us on Teams to be part of the conversation.

If you're interested in attending and want to get the latest update, please email Diether Malakoff (dmalakoff@cta43.org).

**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 CTA liaison Diether Malakoff with any questions.**

# TTOCs & New Teachers

## TTOC COMMITTEE

Meets the second Tuesday of every month

**Tues June 14, 2022 at 4pm via zoom.**

Further details, including a link to access the meeting, are available in the [TTOC FB](#) Group under 'events'. TTOC committee meetings do have some structure and business, there is also plenty of time to chat, 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:*

*Organizing for Power in the New Gilded Age.* If you're interested in being part of that conversation, we'll be discussing at the next TTOC committee meeting. 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](mailto:chair.ttoc@gmail.com)) or Diether Malakoff ([dmalakoff@cta43.org](mailto:dmalakoff@cta43.org)) if you have any questions about the committee or the bookclub.**

# Happy Retirement



**After 37 years of teaching, Barbara Stephens has decided to retire!**

The entire school benefited from her genuine care and thoughtfulness.

Besides being an outstanding teacher, she also taught how to be a kind and respectful human being. She made a profound impact in her students' lives. We will all miss her.

After June 2022, Barb will spend her days in the garden, learning Italian, or planning trips to Niagara Falls, Ireland, and Japan.

**We would like to invite everyone in the district who worked with Barb, to join us in celebrating with her: Thursday, June 23rd.**

**Please email [tweissig@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:tweissig@sd43.bc.ca) for more details.**

**After 35 years of teaching, Frances is ready to embark on an exciting new adventure -**

# Retirement

**Come and celebrate with Fran**

Thursday June 16, 2022,  
4:30 pm at the John B Pub

Please RSVP to Lisa at [llclay@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:llclay@sd43.bc.ca)

You can send your congratulations to Frances at [ffriend@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:ffriend@sd43.bc.ca)





# 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

## CTA Policy and Procedure Committee

Currently Full

## 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 ([kstewart@cta43.org](mailto: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](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)

### Membership Database, Website Access, Committees, Scholarships

Kelly Stewart, Office Clerk - [kstewart@cta43.org](mailto:kstewart@cta43.org)

### Office Clerk, CTA PD Day

Corbey Heyes-Jones, Office Clerk [corbeyhj@cta43.org](mailto: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.



**1-800-663-1142**

TTY: 1-888-384-1152

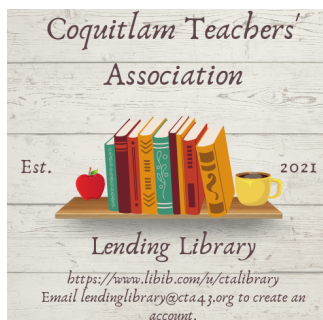
International (Call collect):  
604-689-1717

[HomeWeb.ca](http://HomeWeb.ca)

### Employee and Family Assistance Program

Coaching | Counselling | Support

Confidential | Available anytime



### 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:kstewart@cta43.org)

[www.coquitlamteachers.com](http://www.coquitlamteachers.com)

CTA Office: 604-936-9971

