

COQUITLAM TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

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Happy
EARTH DAY

2023-2024 CTA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

The following CTA Executive Committee positions will be filled at the
**CTA Year End General Meeting
Wednesday, May 10, 2023**

- President
- Second Vice President
- First Vice President
- Local Reps to the BCTF (2)
- Members - at - Large (6)
- Member-at-Large who identifies as Indigenous (1)
- Member-at-Large who identifies as a person of colour (1)

Those interested in running for any of these positions should go to coquitlamteachers.com for a CV form.

Deadline for receipt of CV form to the CTA office is **Wednesday, April 26, 2023.**

Please submit forms to kstewart@cta43.org.

Cultural Leave for Aboriginal Employees

Article G.11 in the Collective Agreement allows for cultural leave for aboriginal employees, using the definition of aboriginal in the Constitution of Canada.

We bring this to the attention of the membership as some other locals have reported difficulties in their members accessing this leave. The leave states it shall not be unreasonably denied. We are clear on the definition of unreasonable.

We are asking members contemplating accessing this leave to copy us into the communication with the employer so we can more easily assist members in their application. If you have questions please contact the office.

TFEU OFFICE STAFF PD Day

Friday, April 21, 2023

The TFEU Office Staff will be attending their annual PD day on Friday. Phones will not be answered but messages will be picked up and relayed throughout the day. If you need email contact please check the back page of this newsletter for information.

President's Message

The School District Preliminary Budget has been presented and feedback heard. There is much to like in it, as there are no cuts (a specific CTA request), the employer listened to the input from its stakeholders and altered its approach to budget setting. The employer, for the first time, balanced the tangible costs/risks and the intangible but very real impacts of cost-cutting decisions on our membership. The CTA has been advocating for that with similar arguments for some time now. Leading the news of importance to teachers is the elimination of layoff for the upcoming year and a sustainable plan to continue that into the future. This was the centerpiece of our advocacy around budget this year and it has been accomplished. This connects well with other aspects of additional staffing in the budget, like targeted FTE staffing and blocks at secondary for Indigenous students and students with diverse needs, a minor Dept Head at every Elementary to address Student Services support, the elimination of Principal teaching time across the board, which means more teachers and more ability for Principals to support education in the building. The total added teacher staffing is 25.2 FTE. This meshes well with our requests for additional teaching staff. CUPE also has had one EA at each Middle School raised to a 35 hour position, as well as having 10 EAs added overall. The latter was jointly advocated for by both the CTA and CUPE. The District committed to hiring a District Principal for Diversity and Anti-Racism, which is something needed, as it will allow that to be someone's specific job, not just done off the corner of everyone's desk, as currently occurs.

There is more to read and look at and the budget information can be found on the District website, here: <https://www.sd43.bc.ca/budget/Pages/Budget-2023-2024.aspx#/=>

The School District Budget has been one of the primary responsibilities of the President for many years and, as such, the CTA is focused intensely on budget setting every year. It consumes a great deal of time in advocacy and it's great when that works.

In Solidarity
Ken



National Day of Mourning

April 28th is the Day of Mourning for workers killed or injured on the job.

Young people are particularly at risk for workplace injuries, as they often occupy lower-skill occupations in workplaces that are more often unsafe.

Hospitality, construction and retail are the top three job classifications for injuries to young workers.

There were five work related deaths of young people in 2022. Our role as educators allows us to help and support young workers in knowing their rights and supporting improved working conditions for them. All workers should come home safe and sound every day.

Every year, on April 28, workers, families, employers, and others come together at events held around the province to remember those who have lost their lives on the job, and to renew our commitment to creating safer workplaces. To find an event near you please follow this link <https://dayofmourning.bc.ca/>



May 1 is International Workers' Day and is celebrated as a day of solidarity for labour movements around the world.

This is the last newsletter before May Day so, I'd like to express my solidarity with all union members, particularly those engaging in job action currently (or about to), particularly CUPE 561 in the Fraser Valley (First Transit), The Public Service Alliance of Canada (Federal workers), Unite Here Local 40 (Pacific Gateway Hotel). If you can make it to a picket line and express support for these workers, it will really help. May Day allows all union workers to stand as one in support of the labour movement and to show that we want union representation for all workers in every sector. The labour movement has had many outstanding accomplishments and many bitter defeats in history but we are always stronger when we stand together.

You can find information here about this year's rally <https://vdlc.ca/events/may-day-rally/>

Solidarity Forever!

PD Power

Have you always felt like you had something to contribute to the realm of PD presentations, but found the length of sessions intimidating? If so, IGNITE43 is the perfect opportunity for you to give presenting a try! IGNITE is a special type of presentation that is only five minutes long. Your Power Point slides are set to advance automatically every fifteen seconds and when you run out of slides you are done your presentation. There is great food, wonderful colleagues to discuss with, and a positive, welcoming environment that highlights and celebrates ideas and ways to spark imagination. The CTA is hosting an IGNITE on Thursday, May 18 at the Old Mill Boathouse and we are currently seeking presenters to join our program. With a theme of Reconnection we would like to hear how you build trust, relationships, mentorship, and more – the sky is the limit! If you have any questions about presenting or would like to add your name to the list, please email me at mcrawford@cta43.org. The invitation to attend the IGNITE will follow soon, along with information about cost, venue, parking, and more.



Learning Opportunity Around Indigenous Education

Do you have questions about what Indigenous Allyship looks like?

Are you wondering about the fine line between Cultural Appropriation and Cultural Appreciation?

If so, check out Len Pierre Consulting's growing collection of recorded Lunch and Learn sessions

<https://www.youtube.com/@lenpierreconsulting>.

With topics including "Professional Anti-Racism Tools", "Respecting Indigenous Youth", "Indigenous Allyship", and more, there is a wealth of learning here and each workshop is only around an hour in length.



ADULT CENTRED EDUCATION CONFERENCE

May 18 & 19, 2023 Coquitlam, B.C.

www.aceconference.net

Executive Plaza Hotel Vancouver,
Coquitlam 405 North Road, Coquitlam, B.C.

Full Conference: \$399 EARLY BIRD RATE until April 4, 2023 \$449 as of April 5, 2023.
Groups of more than 5 - \$389 each

Thursday or Friday Only: \$259 EARLY BIRD RATE until April 4, 2023, \$292 as of April 5, 2023. Groups of more than 5 - \$249 each

STUDENT TEACHERS WELCOME!!! 40% off registration.
**Valid Student ID is required in advance of conference

To register or for more information visit
www.aceconference.net or call 604.936.4261

ALL meals, snacks, refreshments and parking are included in the registration fee!

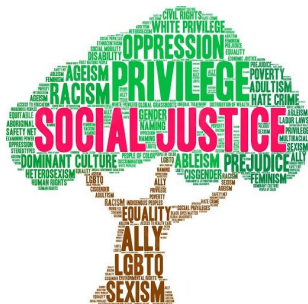


**CTA Limited Edition
50th Anniversary
Hoodie**

**\$28 Each as shown
50/50 Cotton Poly Blend**

To order or for more information please email Heidi at the CTA office.

COMMITTEE FOR
ACTION ON
SOCIAL JUSTICE
CASJ



CASJ Meeting

Thursday May 4, 2023 at 4:00pm

The meeting will be held in both the CTA office conference room and via Teams.

The agenda for the meeting is coming together. Stay in the loop by joining us on Teams.

CASJ Bookclub

We are looking forward to discussing Alice Wong's 'Year of the Tiger'. We still have books available for those wanting to join in the conversation. Feel free to reach out if you're interested. The next book club meeting will follow the next CASJ meeting.

No experience necessary, NEW MEMBERS WELCOME!! Please contact Diether Malakoff with any questions.

TTOCs & New Teachers

TTOC Meeting

Next meeting Thursday, April 20, 2023 starting at 7pm via zoom.

Join us on Facebook at 'CTA TTOCs'. We're considering transitioning to another platform, possibly Microsoft Teams, as not all of our members are on Facebook. If you have any thoughts in this, please let us know. (dmalakoff@cta43.org)

Contact Diether Malakoff dmalakoff@cta43.org if you have any questions.

BCTF Pension seminars

Every Wednesday via Zoom

Starting April 5 to the end of June 2023, the BCTF will be presenting online pension seminars every Wednesday to help members learn about their pension plan, their pension options, and the factors to consider when planning for retirement.

All seminars will take place via Zoom from 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87344950598?pwd=YWVqNkVvN25mRDBJTTA4aUJSZ1h3QT09>

Members who cannot attend the live online sessions may watch the recorded pension seminars at their convenience on the BCTF YouTube channel in the Playlists section.

Please call the BCTF at 604-871-1949 if you have any questions related to the Teachers' Pension Plan, Canada Pension Plan, and/or Old Age Security Benefits.

Retirement Workshops Presented by the BCRTA

The BCRTA will be holding workshops in the new year to help you plan for retirement and answers questions about your pension options.

[Click here to register for a workshop now.](#)

Workshop dates for 2023:

Wednesday, April 19, 2023 @ 7 PM

Wednesday, May 24, 2023 @ 7 PM

Wednesday, May 31, 2023 @ 4 PM



CTA

TTOC APPRECIATION

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

When

MAY 2, 2023

4:00 PM

| \$10 Gift Card |
| Fresh Ingredients |
Locally Made | Playground

Where

ROCKY POINT ICE CREAM
Rocky Point Park, Port Moody

JOIN US!

Failure to Fill

Please follow the link below to the CTA website where you will find our fillable form. We are asking teachers to complete the brief form each time prep or service time is lost or recovered. When having our ongoing discussions with the Board regarding TTOC shortages our biggest tool is data.

Failure to Fill Tracking Form

If you have any questions on filling out the form please contact Diether Malakoff, 2nd Vice President dmalakoff@cta43.org or 604-936-9971



INTERNATIONAL WORKERS' DAY

MAY DAY RALLY

Speeches!
Music!
Demand living wages, renters rights, and an affordable, inclusive city for all!

Gather in solidarity to send a powerful message that will not accept our coworkers, neighbors, and communities being left behind.

THE STATUS QUO HAS GOT TO GO!

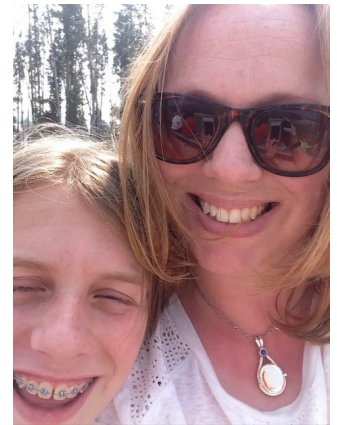
May 1, 2023
5:00pm - 6:30pm PST

Vancouver City Hall
453 West 12th Avenue
Unceded x̓məlx̓'əyám (Musqueam),
səl̓ilwəta74 (T'sleil-Waututh), and
Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) territory.

QR code

Get to know your CTA Team

Corbey Heyes-Jones is an Office Clerk at the CTA. She excels at helping to keep us organized here at the office. She is the person behind the registration website and countless other details for the February PD Day. She seems like the quiet one until her British humour



kicks in then look out! Outside of the office, Corbey is highly creative – she is a master of paper crafting and it is always an honour to receive one of her amazingly detailed greeting cards. Her home with her husband and son is often filled with the 'joyful' sound of their dog, Nero, barking to ensure they are well defended from any invading squirrels.

FREE Copy paper

The CTA Office has many packages of coloured copy paper (letter and legal) that we would like to donate to schools.

We have pre-packaged boxes of various colours and sizes that are available for pick up at the CTA Office or upcoming Rep Assembly (May 3rd).

We could also arrange drop off if need be.

Please contact Kelly S. at kstewart@cta43.org if you are interested.



OPEN HOUSE RANCH PARK 60TH ANNIVERSARY

MAY 4, 2023
4:00 - 8:00 PM

Ranch Park turns 60 this year! Former staff, students and parents are invited to come tour the school and revisit their memories of the awesome community that is Ranch Park. Come take a trip down memory lane!

60TH ANNIVERSARY T-SHIRTS ARE AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE.
PLEASE CLICK THE LINK BELOW TO ORDER ONLINE.
ORDERING DEADLINE IS APRIL 11TH



Does your school have something to share?

Is your school having an event or doing something you'd like to share? Let us know!!

Send your articles, posters, photos etc. to Heidi hdavis@cta43.org and we will try to include it in a future newsletter.

Contact Us: www.coquitlamteachers.com

CTA Office: 604-936-9971



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) Meggan Crawford, PD Chairperson,
Member Support mcrawford@cta43.org

CTA Administration

Kelly Roberts, Executive Director - kroberts@cta43.org

**Accounting/Finance - PD Reimbursements,
Scholarships & CTA newsletter**

Heidi Davis, Finance Administrator - hdavis@cta43.org

Membership, Website Access, Committees

Kelly Stewart, Office Clerk - kstewart@cta43.org

CTA PD Day, Website Updates, CTA Lending Library

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.

COMMITTEE OPPORTUNITIES

CTA Standing Committees

CTA PD Committee

- 1 Middle Rep, 1 TTOC Rep, 1 CASJ
- 1 Learning Services Rep,
- 1 Member who identifies as Indigenous
- 1 Member who identifies as Black or a Person of Colour

CTA Teachers Teaching on Call Committee

- 8 Members-at-Large,
- 1 Member who identifies as Indigenous
- 1 Member who identifies as Black or a Person of Colour

CTA Committee of Action on Social Justice (CASJ)

- 1 Secondary, 2 Middle Reps, 1 Member-at-Large rep ,
- 1 Elementary Rep, 1 Member who identifies as Indigenous, 1 Member who identifies as Black or a Person of Colour

School District Advisory Committees

- Student Services Advisory** - 2 CTA Reps
- Student Achievement Advisory** - 1 CTA Rep
- District Student Wellness & Safety** - Currently Full
- District Indigenous Ed Advisory** - Currently Full
- District French Advisory** - Currently Full
- District Technology Advisory** - 1 CTA Rep

CTA Adult Educators

Currently Full

CTA Policy and Procedure Committee

- 1 CTA Member-at-Large
- 1 Member who identifies as Indigenous
- 1 Member who identifies as Black or a Person of Colour

CTA Scholarship, Awards and Bursary Committee

- 1 Cont. Ed. Rep, 1 Alt Ed Rep, 2 Additional CTA Members
- 1 Member who identifies as Indigenous
- 1 Member who identifies as Black or a Person of Colour

CTA BIPOC Educators' Committee

For more information, please email Ryan Cho.

New Westminster and District Labour Council

5 CTA reps

Teachers interested in any of these committees should go to 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.

CTA Website Access

Information is posted on our website as quickly as we have it.

Please make sure you are able to access the site. SD43 email security settings may not allow a password reset online.

If you need to reset your password, please contact [Kelly Stewart](mailto:kstewart@cta43.org)

CTA LENDING LIBRARY



For information about the CTA Lending Library, email lendinglibrary@cta43.org



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