

COQUITLAM TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

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



Representative Assembly

Wednesday, September 24, 2025

Winslow Centre Gym - 4 PM

Get your School Union Reps elected soon, our first Representative Assembly will have many important issues to be discussed including the CTA 2025/2026 Budget.

More information will be posted and sent out soon. Please bookmark the date in order to participate!



Opening
Minds

MENTAL HEALTH
COMMISSION
OF CANADA

The CTA is excited to offer Mental Health First Aid to teachers free of charge on October 4, 2025.

This workshop provides you with knowledge and skills to support others who are struggling with their mental health until you can connect them to a professional. Much like physical first aid, this course is about gaining the ability to support someone in the short term and is a practical and useful tool.

We hope to offer more dates for this course throughout the school year, depending on interest.

A light breakfast and lunch will be provided to participants.

To attend, you must complete the first module (approximately 2 hours of work) independently before September 30. **If you do not complete Module 1, you will not be able to attend the workshop.**

An access code will be provided to registrants once they complete registration.

The workshop will be held at the CTA Office (#208-2502 St. Johns Street) and will begin at **8:30AM on October 4. Participants must be present for the entire workshop in order to complete the program.**

Space is limited! Register now: <https://cvent.me/zq3R1M>



CTA & CPVPA Retirement Reception

Thursday, September 18, 2025

4:00 - 6:00 pm,

Poco Inn & Suites, Poco Room

1545 Lougheed Highway, Port Coquitlam, BC

Please RSVP to Kelly Stewart before September 11, 2025

kstewart@cta43.org

President's Message

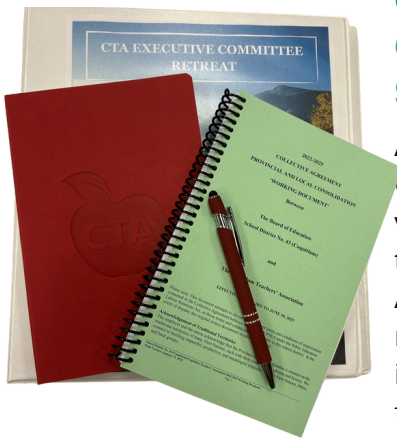
Welcome Back!

It's our first newsletter of the new school year and that means it's welcome back and hopes of a restful break and energy for the new school year. It is starting strong this year for us, as we do work in the summer to manage issues and prepare for the upcoming year. Your Executive Committee met at the end of August to determine and evaluate our Principles and Priorities for the coming year and prepare for the business that any bargaining year brings. Best wishes to you and your new classes of kids!

In Solidarity - Ken

Summer PD Deadlines

Receipts and Conference Reports for summer PD must be received before 4:30 pm on **Friday October 3, 2025**. They can be dropped at the office or emailed to pd@cta43.org. Only PDFs will be accepted **NO images, links or forms in body of email will be accepted.**



CTA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SUMMER WORK

A dozen members of the CTA Executive Committee volunteered two days of their time at the end of August to meet and review important information and prepare for the year ahead.

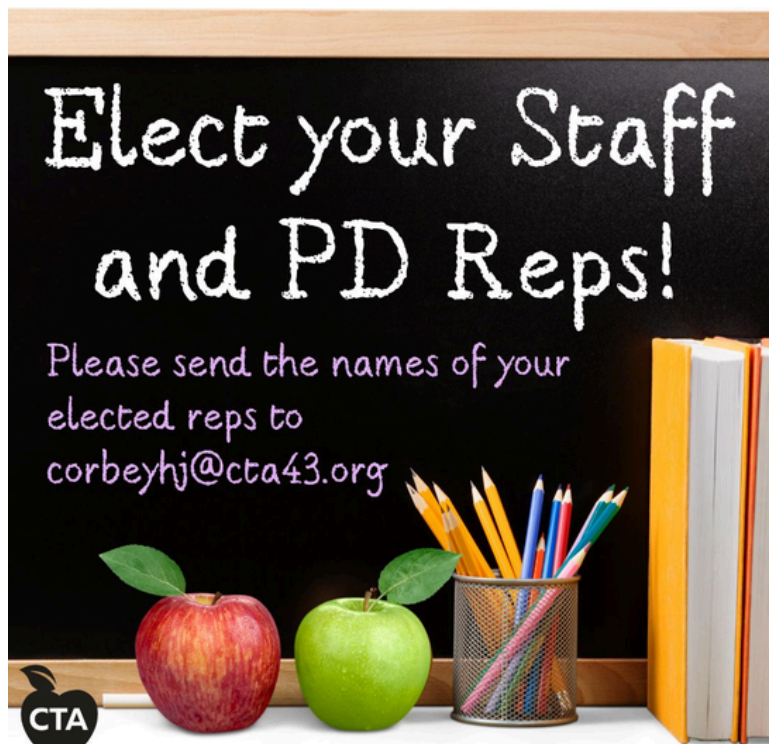
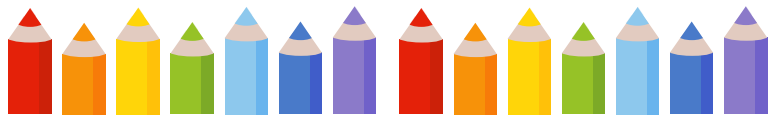
Over the two days of work they reviewed the Association finances, set the budget, established principles and priorities for the 2025/26 school year, gained skills in chairing a meeting, and did a deep dive into provincial bargaining and possible next steps. Thank you to all the members of the Executive Committee who gave up the last few days of their summer to do this work!

Use the QR code to download the Union Strong app today!



BCTF SUMMER CONFERENCE

Several CTA members attended the BCTF Summer Leadership Conference from August 19-22 at UBC. Teachers gathered with colleagues from around the province to engage in professional development workshops and compare notes on what it's like to work in the different areas of the province. Through an opening and closing plenary session and two days of workshops, attendees were invited to build skills and learn more about how different collective agreement structures work, the role of social justice in education, and what the BCTF does at the provincial level. A big thank you to all the teachers who volunteered part of their summer at this meaningful event!



District Student Wellness and Safety Advisory Committee

This committee is actively seeking **2 CTA members** who are interested in discussing priorities, plans and processes related to student wellness and safety in school district 43. The committee reports to the superintendent in an advisory capacity, **meeting three times a year in the evenings from 4-6pm**. Committee terms are 2 years, ending in December the year after you join. If you are interested in joining, please fill out a CV form then send it in to corbeyhj@cta43.org. We look forward to hearing from you!



Welcome to September!

A big thank-you to everyone stepping into the role of PD Representative at your schools—your leadership is a vital part of our professional learning community. With the first school-based PD Day set for September 19th, many PD Committees are now turning their focus to key start-up plans and goals for the year ahead.

Professional Development plays a key role in supporting our growth and shaping our professional practice. If you're interested in contributing to this meaningful work, consider joining your school's PD Committee—it's a great way to collaborate with colleagues and help guide your school's learning direction.

Please remember:

- PD Representatives should be elected and school committees formed by September 30th.
- This timing is important, as PD Rep training will be held on September 23, 24, and 25.
- Be sure to send your school's PD Rep names to the CTA Office as soon as they're confirmed.



Changes to PD Funding



Provincial bargaining brought changes to the PD funding model, which means higher reimbursement for PD applications.

Members will now receive:

- 100% of the first \$160, 50% of the next \$590, and up to 50% of any amount over \$750, subject to PD Committee review.

A newly certified teacher (defined as having received their teaching certificate within the last five years) would receive:

- 100% of the first \$230, 50% of the next \$430, and up to 50% of any amount over \$750, subject to a PD Committee review.

Changes were also made to accommodation and transportation reimbursement and group applications.

You can visit the [CTA website](#) to view all the changes that are now an official part of CTA policy.

Encourage your colleagues to submit their yellow forms to get more of their costs back!



PSA Day October 24

PSA Day is a province-wide event that brings educators together to learn, connect, and grow through a variety of excellent conferences hosted by the Provincial Specialist Associations (PSAs).

Explore your options and register early on www.psaday.ca—many PSAs still offer early bird pricing!

Important:

If you're applying for funding to attend a PSA event, make sure your Yellow Forms are submitted to the **CTA Office by 4:30 pm on Friday, October 10th.**

Digital submissions are not accepted.

For help, refer to the www.coquitlamteachers.com/professional-development/cta-pro-d-assistance/ for step-by-step instructions and details on eligible expenses.

BCTF

Provincial PSA Day

Friday, October 24, 2025

www.psaday.ca

Professional Development
organized and delivered
by teachers, for teachers.

There's something
for everyone!



COMMITTEE FOR ACTION ON SOCIAL JUSTICE

CASJ



The CTA Committee for Action on Social Justice is a group of teachers who meet monthly to discuss social justice topics like poverty, disability justice, diversity, anti-racism, SOGI, and more. This year CASJ is hoping to host workshops and events and to also start creating a bank of lesson plans for teachers to access throughout the year. We are, however, seeking at least one more member to make these things a reality! If you would like to be part of this work please consider filling in a CV and joining your colleagues for these important discussions. It's okay if you can't attend every meeting – we would be thrilled for you to join us when you're able!

Questions? Contact Meggan (mccrawford@cta43.org).

TTOC'S & New Teachers'

Are you teaching on call for part or all of your time this year?

If so, you are invited to join the CTA Teachers Teaching on Call committee. This group meets monthly to discuss current issues and goals for TTOCs in our district and the province. With that information we then advocate for changes and improvements both locally and provincially. This year the committee is hoping to host a few workshops to support TTOCs in better knowing their rights and we always look forward to the annual TTOC appreciation week event(s) in May. If you'd like to share your experience and be part of making things better, please submit a CV and join the committee! If you'd rather check out a meeting before joining, please feel free to join us on Zoom on Monday, September 22 at 4:00 (Join Zoom

Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85957423795?pwd=ZXlPnXUfG8T6STNvWGGHyb7TbG2VDr.1> Meeting ID: 859 5742 3795 Passcode: 516302) If you have any questions, please connect with Meggan (mccrawford@cta43.org).

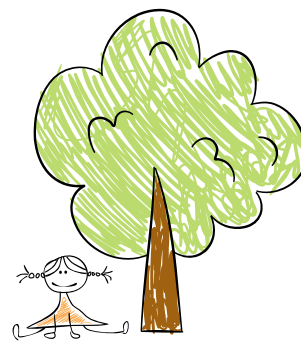
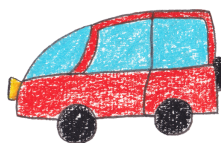
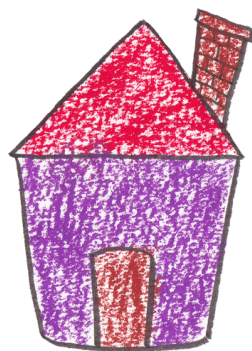
Please complete this brief Failure to Fill Tracking Form each time prep or service time is lost or recovered.

If you have any questions please contact Diether Malakoff, 1st Vice President dmalakoff@cta43.org or 604-936-9971.



The CTA has Teacher resources, Educational theory texts, as well as publications covering personal growth, labour history, and social justice topics to loan to interested members.

For information about the CTA Lending Library, or to check out materials email lendinglibrary@cta43.org



Red Dress Gathering

IN BEAR CREEK PARK



Sunday, Sept. 21, 2025

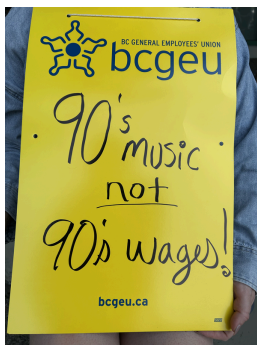
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Bear Creek Park

13750 - 88th Avenue, Surrey, B.C.



(140th Street, east side entrance)



CTA officers attended BCGEU and PEA's picket line last week in Surrey. In speaking with workers there, we heard similar concerns from our members, neighbours, and family members since the election last fall. Housing costs, groceries, and inflation, are putting pressure on all of us.

The nature of work done by BCGEU and PEA members is considerably more diverse than for BCTF/CTA members.

We spoke with Kyle and a colleague of his who work remotely, maintaining websites for the provincial government. They expressed concern that their collective agreement doesn't protect their ability to work remotely. Their employer could require them to return to in person work and this move would amplify their cost of living.

We spoke with a group of racialized women who work in the court system in Vancouver and surrounding area. They do work to manage documents and other logistics that keep the legal system operating smoothly. They spoke to rent and other increasing costs and not being able to save enough money to pull themselves into a more secure living situation.

We encourage CTA members to support other unions in their pickets. If you have time on your personal time to check-in and talk with workers, they will appreciate your support. Solidarity between unions is key to a strong labour movement.

If you're interested in attending a picket line outside of work hours and would like to coordinate a visit with other CTA members, please contact the CTA office for support. Also feel free to attend picket lines on your own. BCGEU and PEA picket lines continue to shift locations.. [keep up with the latest news here.](#)



Climate Crisis: Draw the Line Saturday, September 20th, we're Drawing The Line — For People. For Peace. For the Planet.

From rallies to strikes, marches to gatherings, this September 20th, communities will mobilize across the country and demand that Prime Minister Carney and the Canadian government pick a side: injustice, violence, and climate destruction— or a just and safe future for all of us. Learn more about the national actions and principles here: <https://drawtheline.world/>

We're joining forces across movements to fight for a better future. Exciting plans are now coming together for a Vancouver Sept 20 event, and a new cross-movement planning committee is taking shape. Our goal is to come together as a new Vancouver Coalition. If your group is interested in getting actively involved, please join by filling out this form. At the moment, the Vancouver planning meetings (virtually and sometimes in person) are happening on Monday evenings from 6:30-8:00, until Sept 20.

If you just want to stay informed, or if you live outside the Lower Mainland and want to get involved in another community, sign up on the [national form here.](#)



Buy Union Directory

The Canadian Labour Congress has recently launched a "buy union" directory. The directory is helpful for those wishing to "buy Canadian" and also identifies the broad services and industries provided by unionized Canadian companies (e.g., grocery, manufacturing, hotels, retail, transportation, and more). [Check back regularly – the directory is being updated as they get new information.](#)

35 Accords: Re-imagining British Columbia's Public Sector Labour Relations



Written by former Yukon Premier Tony Penikett and retired SFU professor and labour scholar John Calvert. Join us for a discussion with the book authors and keynote speaker Glen Clark.
When: Thursday, September 11 at 7:30pm
Where: Room 1400 at the SFU Downtown Harbour Centre at 555 W Hastings Street in Vancouver

COMMITTEE OPPORTUNITIES



School District Advisory Committees

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



New Westminister and District Labour Council

4 CTA Representatives

SANCTUARY SCHOOLS WORKING GROUP

The CTA is seeking 6 CTA members to form a working group to inform the CTA Executive Committee's work on engaging the district on the matter of adopting a Sanctuary Schools Policy.

If you have any questions about the working group, please contact Diether Malakoff, 1st Vice President. Please submit a CV form to the CTA office.



Standing Committees

CTA Negotiations Committee

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

CTA Adult Educators

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

CTA Policy and Procedure Committee

- 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, 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 [Anna Razzell](#).

CTA PD Committee

- 1 Elementary Rep, 1 TTOC Rep, 1 CASJ Rep, 1 LSA Rep
- 1 Member who identifies as Indigenous
- 1 Member who identifies as Black or a Person of Colour

CTA Teachers Teaching on Call Committee

- 6 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)

- 3 Secondary Reps, 1 Middle Reps, 3 Elementary Reps,
- 1 Member-at-Large
- 1 Member who identifies as Indigenous
- 1 Member who identifies as Black or a Person of Colour

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 (corbeyhj@cta43.org). If you have questions, call the CTA Office at 604-936-9971.

Contact Us:

www.coquitlamteachers.com

CTA Office: 604-936-9971



Please use the links to contact the officer or staff member best able to help you.

Ken Christensen, President

kchristensen@cta43.org

Diether Malakoff, 1st Vice-President

dmalakoff@cta43.org

Meggan Crawford, 2nd Vice-President

mcrawford@cta43.org

Ronak Pahlevanlu, Labour Relations

rpahlevanlu@cta43.org

Sherina Chandra, PD Chair

pdchair@cta43.org



1-800-663-1142

TTY: 1-888-384-1152

International (Call collect):

604-689-1717

HomeWeb.ca

CTA Website Access

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



Kelly Roberts, Executive Director

CTA Administration

kroberts@cta43.org

Heidi Davis, Finance Administrator

Accounting, PD, Scholarships & Newsletter

hdavis@cta43.org

Kelly Stewart, Admin. Assistant

Membership, Website Access, Staff Reps

kstewart@cta43.org

Corbey Heyes-Jones, Admin. Assistant

CTA PD Day, Committees, CTA Lending Library

corbeyhj@cta43.org