

COQUITLAM TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

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DOING VIRTUAL PD?

REMEMBER, YOU
MUST BE AT
YOUR SITE IF
YOU ARE
ATTENDING
VIRTUAL
PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT

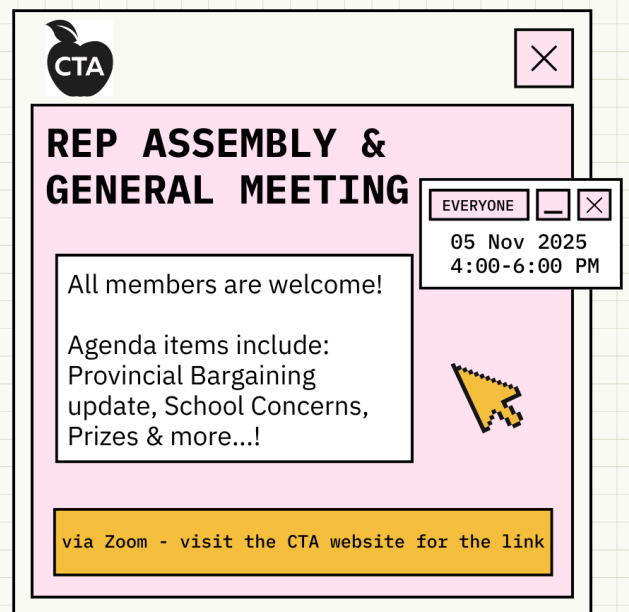


President's Message

It is very disappointing to continue to watch BCGEU, PEA out for a now 7th week. It is amazing to me that a government so many of us helped get elected is willing to sit by and let this continue. I expect the Federal Liberals or the Alberta Conservatives to write up legislation or make orders but, I don't really expect this aggressive passivity from the NDP. Service disruptions are massive and impacting many people, essential government work is not getting done and people are struggling because of this ongoing dispute. We need those services and it is a principal role of government to provide services to the community. There is a little hope now that both sides are in mediation with Vince Ready but, that is a difficult process with no guaranteed solution. Obviously, I am thinking about the implications for our own bargaining but, I still hope for a successful conclusion for both BCGEU, PEA and the BCTF.

If you can find a local picket line for BCGEU, PEA, please drop by and visit; they need our support.

In Solidarity - Ken



BCTF Fall Zone Meeting

Ten members of the CTA attended the BCTF Fall Zone Meeting on October 17-18. At zone meetings, representatives meet with groups in areas including Health & Safety, Bargaining, TTOCs, Aboriginal Education, Social Justice, French, and Professional Development. Read below to see what was discussed in some of the sessions:

Local Presidents

Presidents talked extensively about many things, including K screeners and their impact, increasing classroom complexity and lack of support. They also talked about the Ministry's latest childcare announcement and, of course, the status of bargaining.

Social Justice

The Social Justice discreet session focused on sharing various ways districts have done SJ work and communications and shared helpful resources. The facilitator stressed the importance of applying for grants to fund SJ work and to ask for assistance from the local if people are unsure of how to complete an application.

TTOC

As the TTOC Rep for the CTA, my first-ever BCTF Zone Conference this past weekend was a fascinating and rewarding experience, where I learned a lot from meeting and collaborating with many TTOC Reps from other locals. In our discrete TTOC Reps group, we discussed a wide range of issues, from health and safety for TTOCs, to the pros and cons of the Atrieve call-out system, to the importance of trying to standardize the expectations for all TTOCs as they arrive at each workplace, to finding ways to heighten the profile and recognition of the work that TTOCs do.

Professional Development

An informative couple of days. Locals sharing ideas and Pro-D resources, workshops, and events. In-depth discussions on pragmatic ways to support one another and strengthen our collective practice. Some discussions included teacher autonomy for PD, AI, and Indigenous ways of knowing.

Aboriginal Education

-The Truth in Truth and Reconciliation board game (code mrjames):

<https://shop.medicinewheelpublishing.com/products/the-truth-in-truth-and-reconciliation-tool-kit>

-Food is Medicine free recipe book:

<https://isparc.ca/healthy-living-activities/food-systems-program/food-is-medicine/>

-Aboriginal Coaching Certificate:

<https://isparc.ca/performance-sport/coaching-certification-leadership-training/>

Bargaining

A lot of discussion was had around the current state of provincial bargaining and what each local is doing to support members and keep people informed. We also reviewed the history of bargaining, and considered the ways that AI is becoming a larger part of the discussions around education, and looked at what went well (or not) in local bargaining.

Health & Safety

On day one we talked a lot about the BCTF and BC Fed's workshops on health and safety training. Also, we once again spoke about the mandatory training for new and returning health and safety officers.



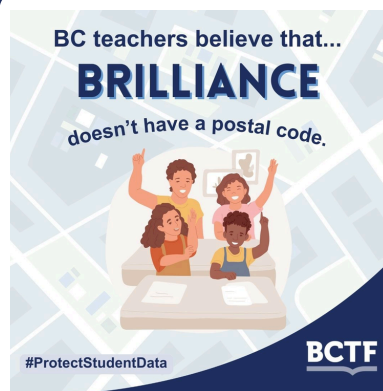
Get the latest CTA info directly to your phone!

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



The CTA has Teacher resources, technology 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



FSAs October 1 - November 10

It is that time of year again where we are asked to administer FSAs.

How do we communicate with parents?

You can distribute information on FSAs to parents but need to follow the BCTF/BCPSEA protocol.

Here is what you do:

- Use the two CTA supplied BCTF pamphlets. (Pamphlets to be shared with parents are the English only version.)
- Distribute these pamphlets directly to parents, or
- If sending pamphlets home via students, all materials/pamphlets must be in sealed envelopes clearly identifying that they are produced and distributed by the CTA and addressed to the parent/guardian.
- Inform your administrator with at least 4 hours notice that you will be sending pamphlets home.

Staff reps and teachers who wish to send information to parents should contact the CTA with the numbers of envelopes and pamphlets that your school requires for distribution.

The CTA Office will supply these materials – please call or email Kelly S. (kstewart@cta43.org)

Bargaining 101

for Early Career Teachers

It is a bargaining year for BC Teachers. Along with that comes a lot of new terminology and processes that can quickly feel overwhelming.

Join us on **Tuesday, November 4 at 4:00 pm via Zoom** to better understand what happens during bargaining, where you can get information, and how to prepare for potential next steps.

To register, **email Corbey (corbeyhj@cta43.org) from your non-SD43 email address** with your name, your employee number, and what site you are working at (or if you're working as a TTOC).

This workshop is intended for teachers who are early in their career and have perhaps not experienced bargaining and/or job action.

BCTF Pension Workshop

We have a virtual BCTF Pension Seminar coming up on Tuesday, November 4, from 4:00–5:15 p.m. Pacific Time via Zoom.

This seminar is intended to help members learn about how their pension plan works, factors to consider when planning for retirement, and their pension options.

The seminar will cover topics such as:

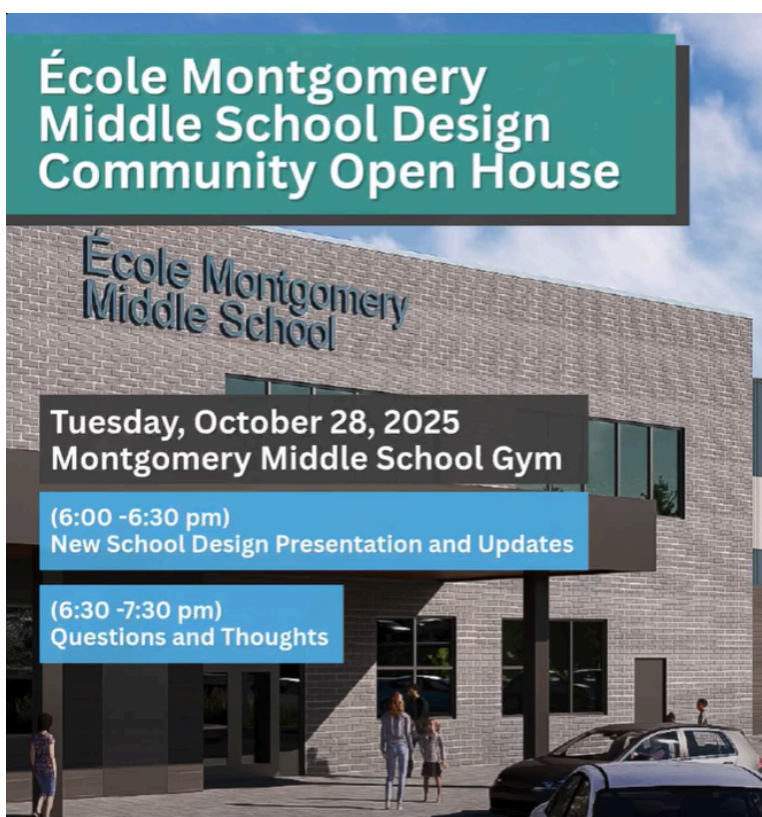
- how pension is calculated
- eligibility for unreduced pension
- pension options
- the retirement application process
- post-retirement considerations.



If you are planning to attend, please register here:

<https://www.bctf.ca/topics/services-information/events-and-meetings/pension-seminar-registration>

After registering, you will receive an automatic confirmation email with the Zoom link and details. If you have any additional questions, please contact jmawhinney@bctf.ca.



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.

TTOC'S & New Teachers'

The TTOC Committee is hosting a workshop on how to read and understand your pay stub and what conversion is this afternoon at 4:00pm via Zoom! We are looking forward to talking with you about these important pieces of information. In two weeks, on November 4 at 4:00pm we are hosting a Bargaining 101 workshop that will help you understand the steps that are a part of the bargaining process, what information is bargained where, what the terminology is, and what role each of us has. The facilitators will also give an update on what is happening at the provincial bargaining table. To register to attend, please email Corbey: Corbeyhj@cta43.org.

BCTF Women's Institute

We are excited to announce that the 2026 BCTF Women's Institute will take place on February 19–21, 2026, at the Coast Coal Harbour Hotel in Vancouver. This event is open to members with equity-deserving gender identities, including cis and trans women, and non-binary and gender non-conforming people who are comfortable in a space that centres the experiences of women. In addition, delegates must meet the following criteria:

- has not attended a Women's Institute in the past five years
- is available and committed to attending in February 2026.

Additionally, members can apply directly to the BCTF to attend as an additional delegate. Preference will be given to members of equity-seeking groups, and teachers in their first five years of teaching.

Please ensure that interested delegates understand that leaves, travel, accommodation, and additional childcare expenses will be covered by the BCTF for this event.

Waiting for your TQS?

Whether you're a new hire or are changing your category, you must submit your TQS card by November 30 to receive retroactive pay from September 1. If your TQS application or card is delayed due to the postal strike, you must email HR-Teaching@sd43.bc.ca to let them know you're experiencing a delay.

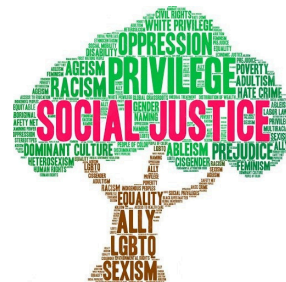
In cases where the TQS has received an application and completed processing, they are emailing applicants with their updated category. If you've received that email, please forward it to HR-Teaching@sd43.bc.ca while you wait for the physical card. Payroll can process your category update or change, and you can upload your card at a later date. If you have any questions, please contact Ronak rpahlevanlu@cta43.org for more information.



Thank you for coming to our first CTA BIPOC Educators' Committee meeting at Centennial on October 7, 2025. Stay tuned for details about our next meeting.

The CTA BIPOC Educators' Committee meeting at Como Lake on November 19. Any BIPOC CTA member is welcome to join. The CTA BIPOC Educators' Committee is for any Coquitlam teacher who identifies as Black, Indigenous, or a Person of Colour. Find more information about what we do [here](#). BIPOC teachers can join our email list without regularly attending meeting or joining the committee. To join us or ask any questions you might have, contact Anna Razzell at bipoceducators@cta43.org

COMMITTEE FOR ACTION ON SOCIAL JUSTICE



CASJ is rescheduling its first meeting so we can make some plans for this year focused on how we can support colleagues who are doing this important work. We are hoping to put together some options, as well as some suggestions for the CTA PD Day in February, so stay tuned to see what we've come up with! As always, we are optimistic that another member (or several) will join us officially so that we have enough members to officially have meeting notes, etc. (We only need one more person to make everything official). If you're interested in social justice, please consider joining us. We try to meet once a month, but it's okay if you can't make it to every meeting!





There's a lot of energy building for this Friday's Provincial Specialist Association (PSA) Professional Development Day. From the number and variety of events, it's clear that many of our members will be taking part in PSA conferences both in person across the province and online. If you're travelling, please stay safe and enjoy the experience. If you're participating virtually, remember that you must do so from your usual work site.

Just a reminder: PD Days are considered regular paid workdays. So, if you're not going to a PSA event or an alternate PD opportunity at another location, you're expected to be at your home site.

Wishing everyone a meaningful and engaging Friday! Also, we'll soon be looking for presenters for our District PD Day coming up in February—this could be a great way to share what you've learned.

If you've applied for PD Assistance (the yellow form), don't forget to submit your completed conference report and receipts within a month of the event—by Monday, November 24. These documents should be emailed as PDFs to pd@cta43.org. Please don't send photos, and avoid emailing directly from the photocopier, since those messages often get caught in our spam filters. It's helpful if you use a subject line like: "Last name, First – Conference Report." We receive a high volume of submissions and use the District mailbag system to send out cheques, so thanks in advance for your patience!



CUE43 connects educators who are excited about technology and innovation in the classroom. Explore the [CTA Lending Library](#) to discover resources and offerings available to support your teaching.

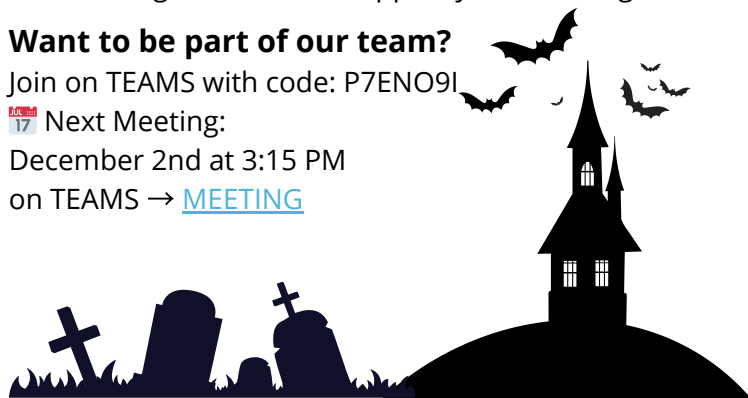
Want to be part of our team?

Join on TEAMS with code: P7ENO9I

 Next Meeting:

December 2nd at 3:15 PM

on TEAMS → [MEETING](#)



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!

PD Reimbursement Final Steps

- ✓ Complete the conference report
- ✓ Submit your conference report AND receipt to pd@cta43.org
- ✓ Include your name in the email subject line
- ✓ Must be submitted one month after the PD event (Nov. 22 for PSA Day reimbursement)

We Stand in Solidarity

Please take a moment to stop by in solidarity and support these workers.

Workers represented by the **BCGEU/PEA** have been on strike for seven weeks, issues are wages. The union is engaging in non-binding mediation, and pickets remain up. [Click here](#) to send a letter to your MLA, Finance Minister Brenda Bailey, and Premier David Eby. [Click here](#) and [here](#) to find picket lines and additional information.



In response to the Federal Government's attack on our postal service and workers, CUPW members at Canada Post are pivoting from a nation-wide strike to a rotating strike. [Click here](#) to tell your MP that you want the government to stop the cuts, expand services to generate revenue, and that you support CUPW in negotiations with Canada Post. [Click here](#) to find a picket location.

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