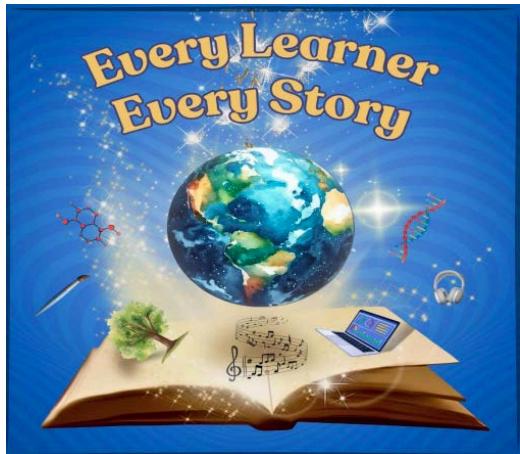


# COQUITLAM TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

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



## Every Learner, Every Story Professional Development Day

Friday, February 27, 2026  
Riverside Secondary School

## Registration is now open!

Please go to the CTA website's, **Professional Development page** for the **Workshop Booklet** and **Instructions to Register**.

## Interested in working at the CTA Office?

The CTA Professional Development Chair and Labour Relations Officer positions are filled on an annual basis. The CTA is now seeking members interested in these positions for 2026-2027.

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CHAIRPERSON

**Release time for this position is currently 0.4 FTE.**

Responsibilities include, but are not limited to: chairing the PD Committee and the CTA PD Day Committee, developing, organizing and implementing professional development activities for the CTA Professional Development Day, processing applications for PD assistance and course fee assistance, and maintaining a liaison between the CTA and the BCTF in matters of Professional Development.

The successful candidate will be well organized, have a sound knowledge of, and be highly committed to, professional development.



### LABOUR RELATIONS OFFICER

**Release time for this position is currently 1.0 FTE.**

Responsibilities include but are not limited to: dealing with member concerns and issues, researching, preparing and presenting grievances, collaborating with Table Officers, maintaining confidentiality, and working with members through the investigatory/discipline process.

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 an application package (Forms & Scholarships).**



**APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED VIA EMAIL TO [KROBERTS@CTA43.ORG](mailto:KROBERTS@CTA43.ORG) BEFORE 4:00 PM, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2026**

## RAC (Real Acts of Caring) Week

RAC is from February 8-14, 2026 and it means doing something caring and kind for others without expecting anything in return.

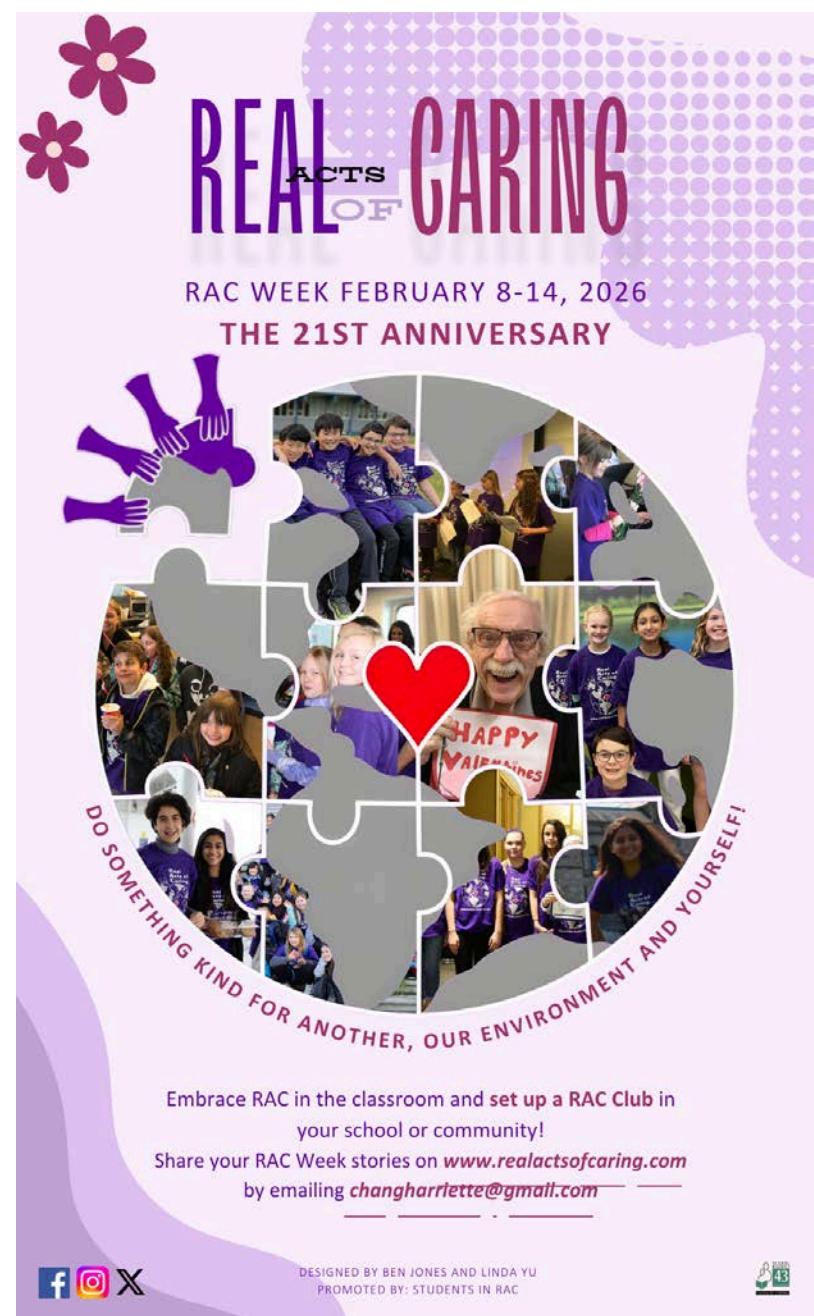
Please check out [www.realactsofcaring.org](http://www.realactsofcaring.org) for RAC Ideas and to learn how to get involved in RAC which was begun by students in SD43 in 2005.

**Next week wear purple, be caring and kind and have fun!**

## President's Message

Wow! It's an exciting time. We had an incredible Rally for Public Education last week! Thanks to everyone that attended, brought loved ones and took a stand for Public Education! We are in a critical time in provincial negotiations and rallies, events like that really do make a difference at the table. We also have the CTA PD Day coming at the end of the month. We get to show our commitment to self-directed, authentic professional development we've held to for generations here. We look forward to seeing everyone there! Definitely a lot going on for me as a local President this month, as well. Just came from the BCTF Representative Assembly where myself, the Local Reps and some observers got to see and make decisions; I have a local President's meeting this month and some BCTF training at the end of it as well. Whew!

In Solidarity - Ken



## BCTF Winter Representative Assembly

On the 30th and the 31st of January, the CTA's Local Representatives attended the BCTF Representative Assembly.

BCTF President Carole Gordon reported that the pressure teachers applied by wearing red for ed, staging walk-ins and social media posts of same, and the letter writing campaign was a large part of the reason that the bargaining team was back at the bargaining table after having reached an impasse. Please login to the BCTF website to see the most recent bargaining update.

The assembly elected delegates to the Canadian Teachers' Federation Annual General Meeting and the Finance Report was a positive one, with a status quo recommendation to the AGM for the fee. We did complete all Executive Committee Recommendations and Local Resolutions and there was active debate and many motions carried. Some of the motions passed include a motion asking the Federation to reaffirm its commitment to acquiring gender-affirming care for all members and to investigate how to address inequalities in health care coverage for trans members in all districts. The representatives also referred a motion to the BCTF Executive Committee asking them to strike a committee to provide advice about artificial intelligence. The next BCTF Representative Assembly will be held in May.

# #REDforBCED

## COQUITLAM RALLIES IN SUPPORT OF PUBLIC EDUCATION

On Thursday, January 29, Coquitlam teachers were joined by colleagues from nearby locals, members of partner groups, public sector union members, and members of the community at the Amphitheatre at Lafarge Lake to rally in support of public education.

The rain held off and the turnout was great – seeing so many people in their #RedForBCEd was an inspiring and memorable statement. BCTF President Carole Gordon and Local President Ken Christensen spoke to the crowd and gave interviews to multiple media outlets who attended following the CTA's press release. The positive energy of the event carried through the walk around the lake with attendees chatting, waving their "I Support BC Public Education" signs, and considering all that a fully funded system could mean for themselves and their students.

Thank you to everyone who made the time to come out to this event or engaged with the social media posts afterwards to help spread the red! Let's keep this pressure up so the government knows teachers care about the conditions in our schools and want a deal at the table.

**Remember to wear red every Wednesday and share your photos with us  
([mcrawford@cta43.org](mailto:mcrawford@cta43.org)).**





# PD Power

The workshop booklet highlighting nearly 100 sessions for the CTA PD Day, Every Learner, Every Story on February 27, was emailed to you last week via your district email. This gave you time to review the offerings ahead of registration, which opened today. Please note that several workshops and activities have strict capacity limits and are expected to fill quickly.

This year's host site is Riverside Secondary School (2215 Reeve Street, Port Coquitlam). Parking will be limited, so we encourage carpooling or taking transit where possible. Coffee, tea, and light snacks will be provided; however, please remember to bring your own lunch.



## Check out the latest edition of Teacher Magazine.

- [An ethical curriculum in the context of GenAI](#)
- [From personal growth to classroom transformation: Bringing the study of self to life](#)

### [President's message](#)

## 2021 to 2025 Course Fee Assistance Eligibility for historical application

Members who were previously eligible for Course Fee Assistance between 2021 and 2025 for courses that began from May 1 to August 30 of each year, but who did not receive course fee assistance are reminded that they are now eligible to submit an application and receive reimbursement.

**The deadline for these historical applications is April 30, 2026.**

At the start date of the course you needed to have been working on a continuing contract for a minimum of two years in order to be eligible.

Questions can be directed to

[coursefeeassistance@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:coursefeeassistance@sd43.bc.ca)



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

**For info about the CTA Lending Library, or to check out materials email [lendinglibrary@cta43.org](mailto:lendinglibrary@cta43.org).**

## REMINDER: Rick Hansen Foundation Educator E-Learning Opportunity

The Rick Hansen Foundation has generously provided 25 licenses for their Educator E-Learning Course, an online professional learning experience that includes a certificate of completion.

The course consists of four self-paced modules, each taking less than one hour to complete. Topics include inclusive language, interactions related to disability, and accessibility. The deadline to complete the modules is March 31, 2026.

Registration has been extended to the end of February.

## ACHIEVE YOUR HEALTH AND WELLNESS GOALS WITH EFAP

Did you know that in addition to counselling, your EFAP provider offers comprehensive services to help you achieve your health and wellness goals?

These include services related to: Elder and Family Care, Grief and Loss, Stress Solutions, Relationships, Nutrition, Lifestyle Changes, Career Planning and Financial and Legal help.

For more information or to access, contact **Homewood Health 24 hours a day, 7 days a week 1-800-663-1142 [HomeWeb.ca](http://HomeWeb.ca)**

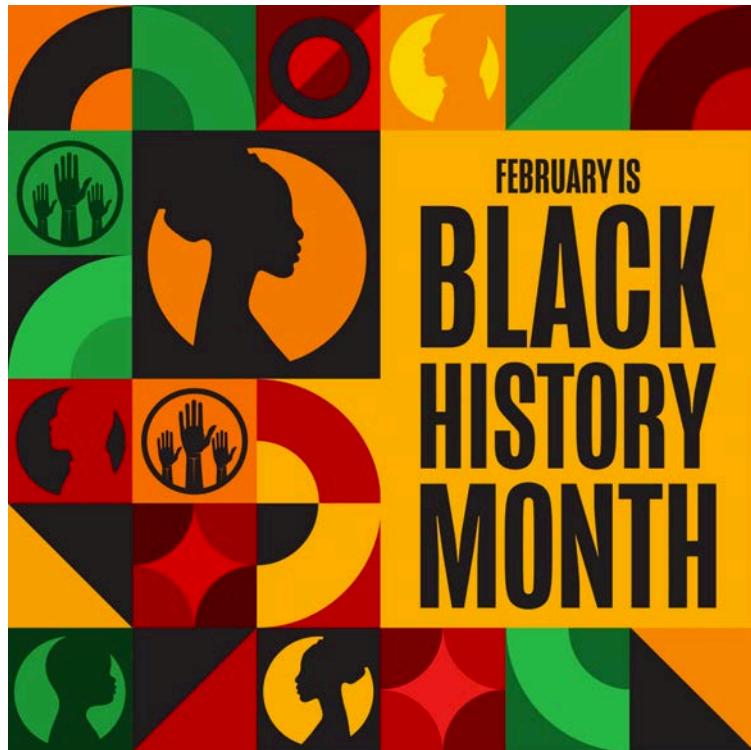
Get set up online: [Homeweb Pathfinder](http://Homeweb.Pathfinder)

## BCRTA Pre-Retirement Online Workshops

You get planning materials along with answers to questions you have about your retirement.

The agenda includes: TPP, CPP, OAS and voluntary group benefits. We show some of the differences between the plans and help equip you to select the plan that best suits your needs.

To register for a [free online workshop click here](#) or go to the [BCRTA website](#) for more information.



**Black Strathcona** - Access an interactive map of Vancouver's Black community, featuring stories and videos that celebrate its people and places.

**VPL Guide to Hogan's Alley** - Discover the vibrant history of Hogan's Alley located in Vancouver's historic Strathcona neighbourhood.

**African Descent Society of British Columbia** Explore online exhibits and resources including Vancouver Pioneers, Vancouver 1900-1976, and BC Heroes.

#### **BC Black History Awareness Society**

Learn about the achievements of Black pioneers in British Columbia through digital exhibits, stories and more.

**Black People's History of Canada** - Explore historical topics and individuals through digital resources created by scholars and students at Dalhousie University in Nova Scotia.

FRI, 6 FEBRUARY, 2026  DOORS OPEN AT 6:15PM

# BOOTS TO BROADWAY

BLACK HISTORY MONTH FUNDRAISING CONCERT

STARRING THE AWARD WINNING RECORDING ARTIST **LOVENA FOX**

TICKETS OUT NOW Available at [www.thecultch.com](http://www.thecultch.com)

LOCATION: HISTORIC THEATRE, THE CULTCH, 1895 VENABLES ST | SHOW STARTS AT 7PM SHARP



Coquitlam Heritage is hosting Lunar New Year celebrations on Saturday, Feb. 7. **This event is free, RSVP's are appreciated.**

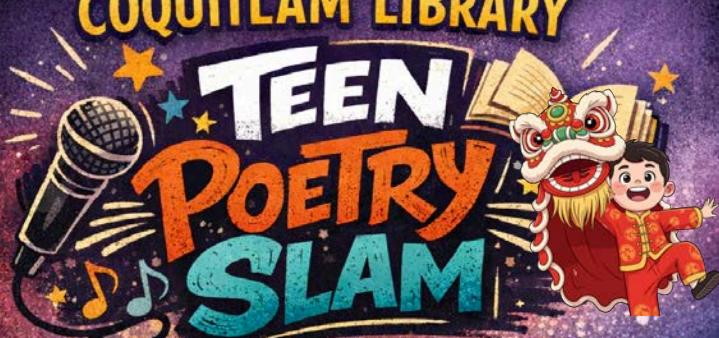
The **Museum of Surrey**, in partnership with the Chinese Village Club, hosts a free **Lunar New Year event on Feb. 21**. This free event offers an excellent opportunity to learn more about Lunar New Year as well as the Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese cultures.

Visit **chinesenewyear.net** for information on traditions, the zodiac, celebrations and timeline.

Visit **active vancouver** for information on events and things to do to celebrate the Year of the Fire Horse.

**COQUITLAM LIBRARY**

## TEEN POETRY SLAM



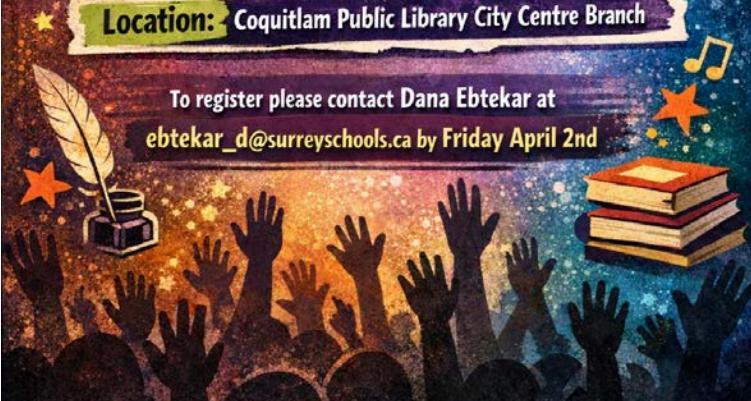
Students from Coquitlam and Surrey School Districts come showcase your poems in a fun, celebratory environment at the Coquitlam Library for poetry month

**Date:** Friday April 17th, 2026

**Time:** 12:00pm - 2:00pm

**Location:** Coquitlam Public Library City Centre Branch

To register please contact Dana Ebtekar at [ebtekar\\_d@surreyschools.ca](mailto:ebtekar_d@surreyschools.ca) by Friday April 2nd



# TTOC'S & New Teachers'

The Teachers on Call committee continues to work on planning events and workshops to help CTA members who work on call or in temporary contracts. There are plans for a June EI workshop to help everyone understand the ins and outs of accessing EI over the summer. We would like to host additional workshops that are of use specifically to the TTOC population and encourage you to take a look at the BCTF workshop offerings ([Book Professional and Social Issues Workshops](#)) and let us know which of those topics are most interesting to you (email Meggan: [mcrawford@cta43.org](mailto:mcrawford@cta43.org)).



## Local Specialist Associations

An LSA is a local chapter of a PSA (Provincial Specialist Association).

If you are interested in joining an existing LSA or starting a new one, contact the LSA or Council Chair [Nicole Roberge](#) for more information.

[Coquitlam Music Teachers Association \(CMTA\)](#)

[Tech Ed \(Technology Education\)](#)

[CUE43 \(SD43 Education Technology\)](#)

[Coquitlam Drama Teachers' Association](#)

[Inclusive Teachers: FASD and ND](#)

[Environment Educators of Coquitlam](#)

[Coquitlam Teacher Librarians Association \(CTLA\)](#)

[School Counsellors](#)

[Film & Media](#)

[Visual Arts](#)



Thank you to those who came to our New Year social! Stayed tuned for information about our next CTA BIPOC

### Educators' Committee Meeting!

The [CTA BIPOC Educators' Committee](#) is for any Coquitlam teacher who identifies as Black, Indigenous, or a Person of Colour. BIPOC teachers can join our email list without regularly attending meetings or joining the committee. No CV needed. Contact Anna Razzell at [bipoceducators@cta43.org](mailto:bipoceducators@cta43.org) for more information.

## COMMITTEE FOR ACTION ON SOCIAL JUSTICE **CASJ**



The Coquitlam Committee for Action on Social Justice will be having its second meeting of 2026 on **Monday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 4pm** at JJ Bean Coffee Roasters, Suter Brook, Port Moody.

All CTA members are welcome. This is the perfect opportunity to share your ideas for social justice activities, projects or events.

### Social Justice Resource Spotlight:

In honour of Black History Month, we wanted to highlight the website [Black Strathcona](#). The website chronicles the history of "Vancouver's first and only black community" located in the East side neighbourhood of Strathcona. This is done through ten videos that focus on some of the people and places that were central to the history of the neighbourhood. Additionally, the website offers lesson plans (the BlackStrathcona project <http://blackstrathcona.com/education/>) for English grades 7 to 10 and Social Studies 7 to 10. These lessons can be used as a separate Black History Month unit, or they can be integrated into bigger units on anti-racism.

**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](mailto:dmalakoff@cta43.org) or 604-936-9971.

# COMMITTEE OPPORTUNITIES



## 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, 1 Member who identifies as Indigenous
- 1 CTA Rep.

### 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 Middle 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)

- 2 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.**



## 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](#).



**New Westminster  
and District  
Labour Council**

4 CTA Representatives

# Contact Us:

[www.coquitlamteachers.com](http://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](mailto:kchristensen@cta43.org)

**Diether Malakoff, 1st Vice-President**

[dmalakoff@cta43.org](mailto:dmalakoff@cta43.org)

**Meggan Crawford, 2nd Vice-President**

[mcrawford@cta43.org](mailto:mcrawford@cta43.org)

**Ronak Pahlevanlu, Labour Relations**

[rphahlevanlu@cta43.org](mailto:rphahlevanlu@cta43.org)

**Sherina Chandra, PD Chair**

[pdchair@cta43.org](mailto:pdchair@cta43.org)



**1-800-663-1142**

TTY: 1-888-384-1152

International (Call collect):  
604-689-1717

[HomeWeb.ca](http://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](mailto:kroberts@cta43.org)

**Heidi Davis, Finance Administrator**

Accounting, PD, Scholarships & Newsletter  
[hdavis@cta43.org](mailto:hdavis@cta43.org)

**Kelly Stewart, Admin. Associate**

Membership, Website Access, Staff Reps  
[kstewart@cta43.org](mailto:kstewart@cta43.org)

**Corbey Heyes-Jones, Admin. Associate**

CTA PD Day, Committees, CTA Lending Library  
[corbeyhj@cta43.org](mailto:corbeyhj@cta43.org)

