OCTOBER 21, 2026

VOL.4

COQUITLAM TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

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PD Reimbursement

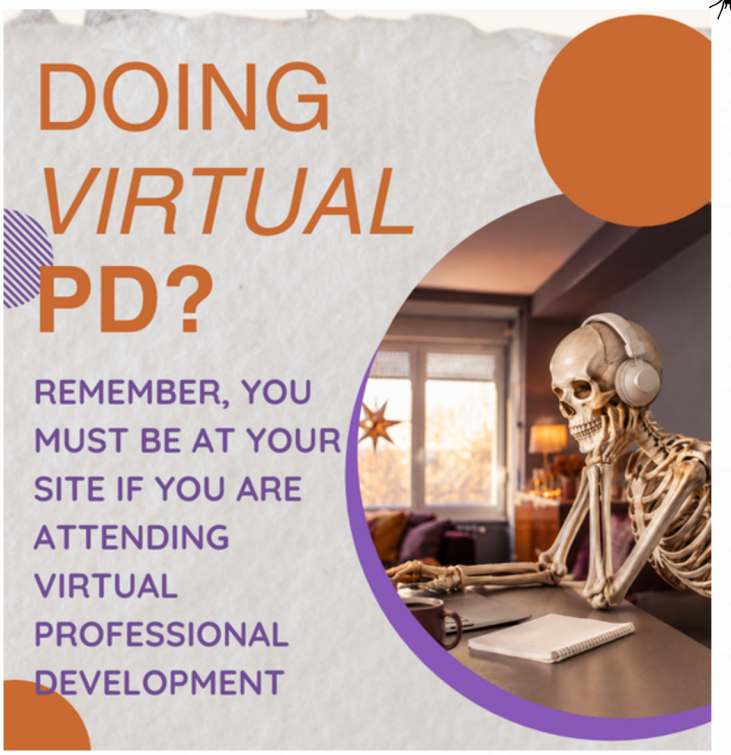
If you applied to the CTA for reimbursement, there are **3 easy steps to getting your money**:

1. Fill in the conference report linked here
2. Find your receipt
3. Scan both documents, save as PDF, and email both with your name in the subject line to pd@cta43.org

Documents must come as attachments;
NO links, NO sharing, NOT in the body of the email.
Do not send it straight from the photocopier.

Documents will ONLY be accepted at pd@cta43.org.
Do not send them to any other CTA email, **they will not be forwarded.**

YES! You do need to send your receipt in again.
NO! You don't need a copy of your yellow form.









President's Message

Halloween next week... already! A recurring theme this year with the late start in September.

As I write this, we are on the eve of municipal election day. Official results should be known by 4pm on the day this newsletter is published. We thank all of you who took the time not only to vote but to support candidates in so many ways. From having a sign on your lawn or in your window, to attending events and speaking with candidates, to talking about the issues facing education with friends and family. All of these actions contribute to a more robust democracy and a civil public discourse.

I have appreciated conversations with friends and neighbours as well as folks I came to meet for the first time over the election period. I am reminded that real connection and conversations with people who are present together can not be reproduced in social media commentary. The goal of engagement and discussion is not always to change someone's mind, it also serves to understand other perspectives, allows one to feel heard, to develop skills in active listening, and provides insight on how to approach our next steps in moving our society to a more just and equitable place.Teachers are so skilled at this and we can use our skills to affect change in the world in venues beyond our classroom. That has been visible to me through both elections that are underway now. The CTA looks forward to working with the new school board. I'll reiterate BCTF 1st Vice President Robyn Tozaak's words at our recent CTA Retirement/New Teacher Reception. We are always working for you and there are times when we will be calling on you to stand with us. Our advocacy work with the board is strengthened by voices coming from classrooms.There are many issues that need addressing, to have you as part of our work in rallying trustees to our cause will help to convince them to share our priorities.

Wishing you all a happy and safe spooky season.

In solidarity - Diether



Executive Committee VACANCY

One (1) Member-at-Large

Members interested in running for this position should submit a CV form located on the CTA website and submit it to Corbey at the CTA Office **before 4:30 pm on Monday, October 26, 2026.**

Elections will be held at the General Meeting on November 4, 2026

New Language in Your Collective Agreement

The last round of provincial bargaining included the creation of a committee to discuss the ways in which the working conditions for adult educators differ from those of secondary teachers. The committee will be looking at where changes can be made to improve things for adult educators and as of July 1, 2028, they will have a small pool of money to implement any agreed upon changes to the collective agreement. We are hopeful that this committee will lead to improvements for adult educators around the province.

Chalk Talk Thursday

The CTA is hosting quick, 30 minute virtual sessions on a variety of topics around teacher rights and responsibilities throughout this school year!

Each month there is a new topic and everyone is welcome to attend this virtual chat to learn more about intricacies of our job, how our collective agreement works, and the ways in which you can get support, get involved, or get your questions answered!

Add the first few dates to your calendar – links will be shared in the CTA newsletter.

Thursday, November 5 @ 3:30pm

What is Conversion, How Do I Get There, & What Happens When I Do?

To Attend, follow the Zoom link below:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81180510282?pwd=f1jQmoxKqLIKl2sjavmdTq1g8kxQM6.1
Meeting ID: 811 8051 0282 Passcode: 781747

Thursday, December 3 @ 3:30pm

Supports For Teacher Wellbeing

Zoom link will be in next newsletter.

BCTF Pension Info

Starting to plan for retirement? Check out the BCTF Pensions and Retirement page for recorded webinars, FAQs, and links to important information. The CTA will share pension workshops as we become aware of them.



NEW COMMITTEE: FRENCH AS A FIRST OR WORKING LANGUAGE

The CTA is excited to share that a new Standing Committee has been created to support the important work happening in French in our district. If you are a French Immersion or Core French teacher, you are invited to submit a CV for this new committee. Discussions will focus on issues affecting these communities and aim to focus advocacy to strengthen our policies, collective agreement, and support overall. The committee may also decide to organize events or offer PD opportunities specific to this area of education. We hope you'll join us (CV linked on the last page of the newsletter)!



ENTERING AN ABSENCE

Teachers, when entering an absence into CADS, please take a moment to enter the grade level and subject area(s) into the notes so that TTOCs can see what role they are taking on if they accept the dispatch. It only takes a moment to enter, but will make a huge difference for TTOC colleagues deciding which dispatches they are comfortable accepting.



Request for Representation on the Indigenous Education Council (IEC) 2026-27

In the spirit of friendship and reconciliation, School District 43 Coquitlam (SD43) Board of Education is committed to walking respectfully alongside the Kwikwetlem First Nation (KFN), Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) and Urban Indigenous families to ensure the success and well-being of all Indigenous students.

As you are aware, each Board of Education is required to establish and maintain an Indigenous Education Council (IEC) to support the delivery of comprehensive and equitable education and services for Indigenous students. These councils play a crucial role in decision-making and ensuring that Indigenous students receive meaningful representation. Based on student data, each Board is to consider the diversity within the Indigenous student population and invite additional voices to the IEC that reflect the perspectives and needs of those students. We look forward to strengthening our partnerships to best support the Indigenous students of SD43 children through our IECs.

We are inviting one representative from the Coquitlam Teachers' Association (CTA) to be a non-voting member of the IEC. This representative will be an SD43 teacher of Indigenous ancestry working at a secondary school site for the 2026-27 school year. The person selected will be expected to attend four formal meetings per year either during the day or in the evening. Honorariums will be provided for participation in meetings scheduled outside of the standard work day.

If you are interested in consideration for selection by the IEC, please send a short rationale explaining why you want to be involved and your connection to Indigenous education.

Please send your contact information (email and phone) and rationale by Friday, October 30, 2026, to District Principal of Indigenous Education Stephanie Maki smaki@sd43.bc.ca.

CTA Retirement and Induction Reception



The CTA held our annual retirement and induction reception on October 15th at the Cactus Club at Coquitlam Centre. This was an opportunity to celebrate the years of service of our recently retired members as well as welcome new educators to the profession. It served as a meaningful reminder that while careers may begin and end, the dedication to supporting student learning and each other stays the same.



Thank you to everyone who joined us for this wonderful event, including members of the CTA executive committee, SD43 district leadership team, Coquitlam retired teachers' association (CRTA), Coquitlam Principals' & Vice-Principals' Association (CPVPA), BCTF leadership, and school trustees. A special shout out goes to our fabulous TFEU staff, particularly Kelly Stewart, for organizing this successful event!





GenNEXT Leadership Lab

The BCTF is piloting Generation Next Leadership Lab: a leadership development program empowering members of equity-deserving groups to advance into school, local, and Federation leadership roles through structured cohort learning.

The pilot program will have up to 12 spots for members with no previous union experience.

Please see here for further information and application details.



FIRST NATION TEACHER MENTORSHIP PATHWAY

The Provincial Teacher Mentorship Program, in collaboration with UBC and the SD43 Indigenous Education Department, invites First Nations teachers to join the First Nation Teacher Mentorship Pathway.

The pathway honors First Nation ways of knowing and learning through non-hierarchical mentorship grounded in community, connection, and reciprocity. It creates space for First Nation educators to learn from and support one another, while strengthening professional practice and fostering personal and cultural well-being.

Participants can expect:

Culturally grounded mentorship. Learning rooted in First Nation ways of knowing, values, teachings, and lived experiences. **Connection across Nations and regions.** Opportunities to build relationships, share knowledge, and grow alongside colleagues. **Community and land-connected learning.** Gatherings may be virtual or in person and are guided by community knowledge, relationships, and place. **Reciprocity and shared growth.** Mentorship centers relationships, respect, reciprocity, intergenerational learning, wellness, and cultural strength.

Visit ptmp.educ.ubc.ca/first-nation-teacher-mentorship/ to learn more. Email irene.isaac@ubc.ca if you're interested in being a part of the Pathway!



SFU Faculty Associate Opportunity

The SFU Faculty of Education is currently seeking experienced and passionate educators to serve as Faculty Associates (FAs).

General Responsibilities

Faculty Associates (FAs) work closely with faculty members to develop module programs for individual and group instruction, as well as nurturing collaborative relationships between SFU's Faculty of Education and public schools.

Working in pairs, faculty associates (FA) have two primary responsibilities:
The development of their module's program in partnership with a faculty member; and
The supervision of student teachers during the placement and practicum assignments.

FAs also provide individual and group instruction in theory and practice with their module (up to 36 student teachers) and nurture collaborative relationships between SFU's Faculty of Education and public schools.

Please note that FAs will be required to drive considerable distances as the program makes use of placements throughout the lower mainland.

Apply Now Interested applicants can apply and learn more at the following link https://www.sfu.ca/education/work-with-us/faculty-associates.html.

If you have any questions about the Faculty Associate role or application process, please email edppsfa@sfu.ca.

PD Power

For all things PD Assistance please see our website for FAQ's, policy and post-conference forms and submission requirements.
https://www.coquitlamteachers.com/professional-development/cta-pro-d-assistance/

ATTENTION SECONDARY TEACHERS: Please fill out this survey if you are interested in participating as a presenter or facilitator for the November 30th Secondary Focus Day. Secondary Focus Day Nov 30th - FACILITATOR or PRESENTER Form DUE OCT 28 – Fill out form

SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, November 14th - Mental Health First Aid. Stay turned for registration information

PSA DAY!! Have fun this Friday!! Reminder that if you are participating in a virtual Conference you need to be onsite.



PSA Day doesn't have to be the end of the conversation.

An LSA is a local chapter of a Provincial Specialist Association and provides teachers with opportunities to exchange ideas, and organize locally relevant professional learning.
If there is an area you would like to see represented and an LSA is not currently active, reach out to the CTA Office to find out how to get started.
Visit the CTA LSA Info section for more information.







COMMITTEE FOR ACTION ON SOCIAL JUSTICE

CASJ



National Coming Out Day is observed each year on October 11. It is a time to celebrate 2SLGBTQIA+ people, recognize the courage that sharing one's identity can require, and reaffirm our commitment to safe, inclusive schools. As educators, our role is to encourage disclosure, but to ensure all students feel supported, respected, and valued, whether they are out, questioning, private about their identity, or still exploring it. This work carries on each and every day, not just on October 11

What affirming support can look like

·Use each student's affirmed name and pronouns and model inclusive language without singling anyone out.

·Protect confidentiality. Do not share a student's identity with colleagues, classmates, or family members without the student's permission.

·Respond promptly to homophobic, biphobic, transphobic, and anti-Two-Spirit language. Name the harm, reinforce expectations, and follow school and district procedures.

·Include 2SLGBTQIA+ people, families, histories, and perspectives throughout the year, not only on commemorative dates.

·Make support visible through inclusive classroom materials, clear anti-discrimination expectations, and information about trusted adults and student groups.

·If a student comes out to you, listen, thank them for trusting you, ask what support they need, and avoid assumptions about next steps.

If you're passionate about social justice, please join us for our next meeting on Tuesday, November 3 at 4:00 on Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86509456968?pwd=ArfpGaU6qvqY7amkUHjrQ98oLfcal1.1
Meeting ID: 865 0945 6968 Passcode: 141620

















The BIPOC Educators' Committee is excited for another start of the school year!

The BIPOC Educators' Committee is hosting a book club where we will be reading PET by Akwaeke Emezi. Stay tuned for information about how to join us! 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 for more information.

TTOC'S & New Teachers'

The TTOC Committee is meeting on November 9 at 4:00 over Zoom and everyone is welcome to join us to chat about current topics and trends in on-call work. If you'd like to be an official part of the committee, we encourage you to fill in a CV (linked on the last page of the newsletter). Official committee members are able to vote on motions, decide on how the committee budget is used, and attend BCTF Zone meetings as the Coquitlam TTOC rep. It's a great way to meet more colleagues and participate in your local! We hope you'll consider joining the committee and that we'll see you on November 9:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89925558159?pwd=X3DbIGoq1JbmNJSafQrPjHdoxQMVR0.1
Meeting ID: 899 2555 8159 Passcode: 927777

Social Justice In the Classroom Resources

Trevor Project: Coming Out Handbook
Explore what coming out means to you with tools and guiding questions.

Glisten Educator Resources
Tools for professional development, information about your rights, teaching resources, and a community of like-minded K-12 educators.

Glisten Classroom Resources PDF
Developing LGBTQ+ Inclusive Classroom Resources.

COMMITTEE OPPORTUNITIES



School District Advisory Committees

District Student Services - Currently Full
District Student Achievement - 2 Elem. Reps
District Student Wellness & Safety - Currently Full
District French Committee - 1 CTA Rep
District Education Technology - 1 CTA Rep
District Accessibility Committee - Currently Full
District Anti-Racism Committee – Currently Full

New Westminster and District Labour Council

4 CTA Representatives

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.

Standing Committees

CTA Negotiations Committee
2 Members at Large
1 Member who identifies as Indigenous
1 Member who identifies as Black
1 Member who identifies as a Person of Colour

CTA Adult Education Committee
1 Member who identifies as Indigenous
1 Member who identifies as Black or a Person of Colour

CTA Policy and Procedure Committee
2 Members 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, 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 Secondary Rep
1 Member who 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)
1 Secondary Reps, 3 Elementary Reps
1 Member who identifies as Indigenous
1 Member who identifies as Black or a Person of Colour

CTA Committee French as First of Working Language
2 Secondary Reps - French Immersion
2 Secondary Reps- Core French
2 Middle Reps - French Immersion
2 Middle Reps - Core French
2 Elementary Reps - French Immersion
2 Elementary Reps - Core French
1 Member who identifies as Indigenous
1 Member who identifies as Black or a Person of Colour

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.

Diether Malakoff, President
dmalakoff@cta43.org

Ronak Pahlevanlu, 1st Vice President
rpahlevanlu@cta43.org

Meggan Crawford, 2nd Vice-President
mcrawford@cta43.org

Kate Russell, Labour Relations
krussell@cta43.org

Terai Short, PD Chair
pdchair@cta43.org

Homewood Health | Santé

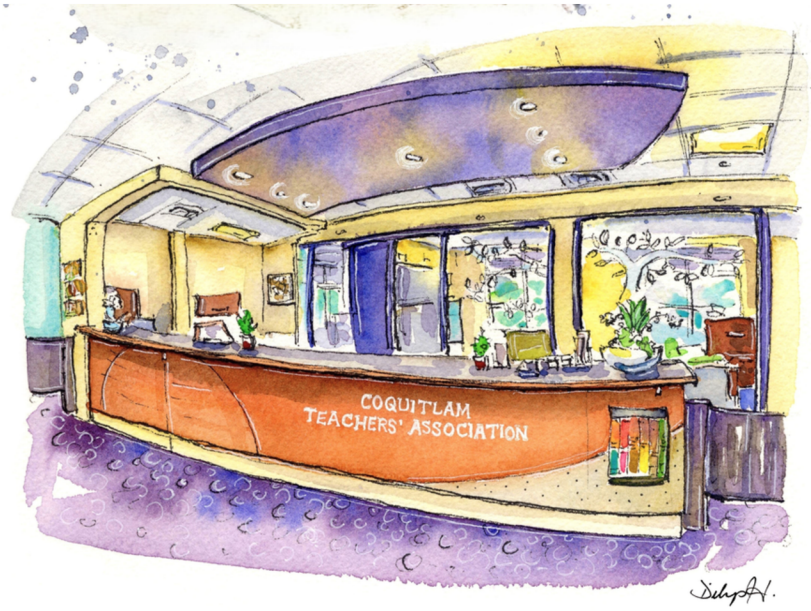
1-800-663-1142
TTY: 1-888-384-1152
International (Call collect): 604-689-1717

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. Associate
Membership, Website Access, Staff Reps
kstewart@cta43.org

Corbey Heyes-Jones, Admin. Associate
CTA PD Day, Committees, CTA Lending Library
corbeyhj@cta43.org