NOVEMBER 18, 2026 VOL.6

COQUITLAM TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

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CTA General Meeting

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2026
4 PM - Montgomery Centre

Territorial Acknowledgement

1. Call to Order
   - Adoption of the agenda
   - Adoption of the minutes of the General Meeting held November 4, 2026
2. Elections – 2026-2027 CTA Executive Committee:
   - Member-at-Large (1)
3. School Concerns
4. Leadership Report
5. BCTF
   - BCTF 2027 AGM
     Resolutions
     CV reminder
   - BCTF Representative Assembly (Nov 13 & 14, 2026) report out – Local Reps
6. Prize Draw
7. Adjournment



PD Deadline

Monday, November 23, 2026 by 4:30pm for events held on PSA Day (October 23)

Receipts and Conference Reports will ONLY BE ACCEPTED at pd@cta43.org

- Fill in the Conference Report **(click for direct link)**, attach your receipts (include proof of exchange if required)
- **Attach** the PDF and email to pd@cta43.org
- **Include** your name in the subject line.

Only send these documents once.
DO NOT use school mail, they will be late.

None of the following will be accepted and will significantly slow down the process for you:

- **NO jpg or png files**
- **NO links** to receipts or attachments
- **DO NOT** share receipts or attachments

YES! You do need to send your receipt in again!

TTOCs – Dispatch System



Make sure you read the important message sent last week from Pam Becker!

Included within it is a reminder to District TTOCs that you are required to book your unavailability if you are unable to work. This ensures that the district dispatch team, and the automated call-out system, can focus efforts on contacting those TTOC's able to work and can ensure that TTOC's available to work are contacted as quickly as possible.

In addition, logging yourself as unavailable, or entering an absence code, will not remove you from a dispatch you accepted if you suddenly find yourself unable to fulfil that dispatch due to extenuating reasons.
It is important to note that you also need to remove yourself from that dispatch.

If you have any questions, please reach out to HR-TeacherTTOCDesk@sd43.bc.ca. Thank you for your assistance

President's Message

The district message warning of icy conditions has been issued; winter break must be on the horizon! Too soon?

It's also report card season and we're getting calls around changing expectations this year. We'll have more to share on the outcome of that work at our next governance meetings (we hope to see you there!).

Workload continues to be a contributing factor, if not a primary element, of much of the member support work CTA officers do.Whether it's frayed relations with a colleague, struggling to deliver a lesson with the fulness you have in the past, or the many other manifestations of the challenges in our work. We need to periodically take time to pause to acknowledge that we are all doing the best given the current circumstances. Add any personal matters into the mix and we all understand that people, often including ourselves, are carrying a lot.

This is the "long road to winter break". While the break will provide some time away from the intensity of work, we need to ensure we're managing while at work. If you're able, find ways to connect with colleagues. Some folks get together at lunch or other breaks just to have a quick coffee and camaraderie. Some folks prefer to have quiet time to themselves. Check in with each other and give some grace to those who may be carrying things that we don't see. And, ultimately, use sick days to manage your health. If you're not sleeping well for an extended period such that you are not in a condition to perform your duties, take a day to rest and recover. We encounter teachers who say that preparing to be away is more work than getting through the day. There's some truth to that, depending on where you're at.Sometimes taking a day is worth more than you realise until you do it.

Take care out there, of yourself and each other.

In solidarity – Diether



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!

Thursday, December 3 @ 3:30pm
Supports For Teacher Wellbeing

To attend: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84493935058?pwd=Fdx88fhvaZh2NMcW8vx3GnHwamEx63.1

Meeting ID: 844 9393 5058 Passcode: 620514

New to the District?
TQS Information Requirement

If you are new to the District this year, don't forget that you must provide all necessary documentation about salary placement to the Board within three months of hire. That means that you need to provide a copy of your TQS card to the district. If you don't have your documents within that time period you must communicate the delay to the Board to request an extension.

BCTF 2027 AGM Delegates

The BCTF AGM will be held March 20-23, 2027 at the Victoria Conference Centre, Victoria. The CTA will elect 26 delegates to the BCTF AGM at our General Meeting, January 20, 2027.

Please submit your CV form to corbeyhj@cta43.org before **January 13, 2027.**

Teacher Pension Plan Child Care Credit

If you take time away from work to raise your child under age seven, you can have your child-rearing time recognized as contributory service in BC's Teachers' Pension Plan.

You can apply for a maximum of five years of contributory service for child-rearing over the course of your career. Increasing your contributory service could help you become eligible for an unreduced pension earlier.

For more info, please see TPP website here: https://tpp.pensionsbc.ca/receive-credit-for-child-rearing

BCRTA Pension Seminars

Understanding Pensions and Benefits: An Essential Retirement Workshop from B C Retired Teachers' Association (BCRTA)
The important decisions that will determine your retirement lifestyle should not be made at the last minute as you fill out your forms.

All teachers age 50+ should plan to attend one of BCRTA's Pre-Retirement online (Zoom) workshops. The workshops are free. You get great planning materials along with answers to questions you have about your retirement.

Please pre-register at https://bcrta.ca/workshops/

The agenda includes: Teachers' Pension Plan, Canada Pension Plan, Old Age Security, and voluntary group benefits. Information about choosing your group benefits (dental, extended health and travel).
We show some of the differences between the plans and help equip you to select the plan that best suits your needs.

November 26, 2026	**7 PM**
January 19, 2027	**7 PM**
February 18, 2027	**7 PM**
March 31, 2027	**7 PM**
April 22, 2027	**7 PM**
May 4, 2027	**7 PM**
May 27, 2027	**7 PM**



Ensuring your TRB certification is up to date

To help avoid interruptions in certification status, we encourage members to take the following steps:

Verify Your Contact Information

- Use your BCeID account to login and ensure that your email address and mailing address are current.

Confirm Your Certificate Remains in Good Standing

- If you were on leave from your school district in May, verify that your annual practice fee was paid on your behalf by checking your April 30 end of month pay statement.
- If you were on an unpaid leave, you are responsible for paying for your certification.
- Each summer, particularly if you were on any form of leave during the spring, check the TRB online registry to confirm that your teaching certificate remains valid and in good standing.

Check Your Criminal Record Check Status

- Review your account information to confirm when your next five-year criminal record check is due.
- Beginning in January of the year your criminal record check is scheduled, periodically check your BCeID account for updates and follow up with the TRB if necessary.
- Regularly review your junk or spam folders, as important notifications may be filtered by email providers. (Gmail appears to be particularly problematic for this).
- For majority of members, your criminal record check happens automatically with no follow up needed, but reviewing your junk or spam ensures that you don't miss important steps in case there's an issue.

Members are ultimately responsible for maintaining their certification and ensuring that all requirements associated with criminal record checks and annual fees are completed. Taking a few minutes to review your status can help avoid unexpected suspensions or cancellations.

PD Power

With another successful Provincial Specialist Association Day behind us, we are now turning our attention to



the **CTA Professional Development Day on February 26, 2027**, at Gleneagle Secondary.

We are excited to announce that our keynote speaker will be Dr. Paula MacDowell, Associate Dean and Assistant Professor in Educational Technology and Design at the University of Saskatchewan. A recognized leader in educational technology, digital literacy, and innovative pedagogy, Paula's work explores how educators can thoughtfully respond to emerging technologies while fostering creativity, student agency, and meaningful learning experiences. Her research examines how teaching and learning continue to evolve in an increasingly complex and connected world.

This year's theme, **Teaching for the Future**, invites educators to consider the opportunities and challenges shaping education today and, in the years ahead. We welcome workshop and seminar proposals that support effective teaching and learning in a rapidly changing world. Topics may include innovative instructional practices, assessment, student well-being, inclusion and accessibility, digital literacy, emerging technologies, student engagement, career readiness, or any other area that helps educators prepare students for the future while strengthening practice in the present.

As we begin planning the day, we invite anyone interested in presenting, or anyone who knows a potential presenter, to complete the application at https://activitymessenger.com/p/V3kcVc3. You may also email pdchair@cta43.org with presenter suggestions or questions about the event.

Please remember that the submission deadline is December 1, 2026. According to CTA Policy 9.e.2, CTA members are eligible for a $50 honorarium for each 90-minute session. The CTA PD Committee will review workshop proposals at our December meeting.

We look forward to learning from the expertise, experiences, and ideas of our CTA colleagues.



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 directly, emails linked below.

Coquitlam Music Teachers Association (CMTA)

Tech Ed (Technology Education)

Visual Arts

Coquitlam Drama Teachers' Association

Environment Educators of Coquitlam

Coquitlam Teacher Librarians Association (CTLA)

School Counsellors

Film & Media

COMMITTEE FOR ACTION ON SOCIAL JUSTICE

CASJ



November 20th is National Child Day in Canada. It commemorates two major United Nations milestones: the 1959 adoption of the Declaration of the Rights of the Child and the 1989 adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC).

Children in British Columbia have legal rights that protect their safety, well-being, and development. These rights include protection from abuse and neglect, access to food, shelter, healthcare, and education, and the right to be treated fairly and without discrimination. Children also have the right to express their views on matters that affect them, with their opinions considered according to their age and maturity. BC law places the best interests of the child at the center of decisions involving their care, safety, and future.

National Child Day - Child Rights Activity Guide: Activities to teach your students all about their rights on National Child Day. https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/national-child-day/children-s-rights-activity-guide.html#a2

Children's Rights Poster: https://nationalchildday.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/UN-Convention-on-Rights-Poster_CFC-25x19_rev.pdf

Child's Right to Play Video: https://ipaworld.org/ipa-video-this-is-me-the-childs-right-to-play/

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)!

TTOC'S & New Teachers'

The TTOC Committee is extending an invitation to all current teachers teaching on call (or teachers in temporary contracts who have not yet converted to continuing status) to join us for a coffee on Wednesday, December 16 from 3:30-5:00 at Creekside Coffee Factory (Beside the Superstore - 3000 Lougheed Hwy #103, Coquitlam). A couple of the CTA's officers will be there and would be happy to chat with you, buy you a coffee, and answer any questions you may have. Please RSVP to Corbey if you plan to join us: corbeyhj@cta43.org.

BIPOC Educators' COMMITTEE

The next BIPOC Committee meeting is Tuesday November 24th at 4:00 PM Nemesis Coffee (2968 Christmas Way).

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.

Join the BIPOC Educators' Committee Book Club

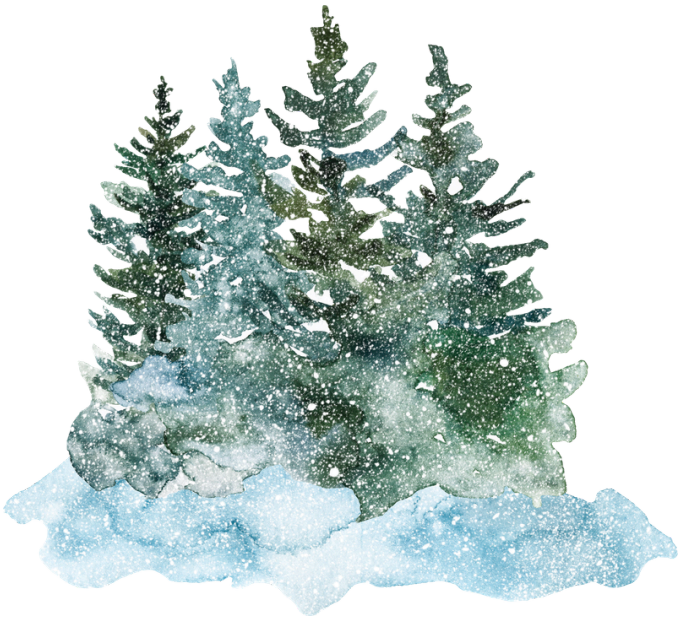


Join in reading Akwaeke Emezi's Pet, to explore themes of social justice and identity. **We will meet on Tuesday, January 19th to discuss the novel, location TBD.** Please RSVP to bipoceducators@cta43.org to indicate interest and whether you have access to a copy of the book.

A limited number of books will be available for loan.



COMMITTEE OPPORTUNITIES



School District Advisory Committees

District Student Services - Currently Full
District Student Achievement - 2 Elem. 1 Middle
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

3 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 Middle Rep,
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