

COQUITLAM TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

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



At the January 22, 2025 CTA General Meeting, **Andrea Klockenbrink (Continuing Education)** was elected as a Member-at-Large to the Executive Committee for the remainder of the 2024-25 school year.

The following members were also elected as BCTF AGM Delegates and will be volunteering their time to represent Coquitlam teachers at the BCTF Annual General Meeting, March 15 - 18, 2025.

Arseneault, Justin (Dr. Charles Best)
Christensen, Ken (CTA Office)
Collier, Ashley (Maillard/TTOC)
Crawford, Meggan (CTA Office)
DeReus, Katie (Birchland Elementary)
Henderson, James (Mountain View Elementary)
Ip, Chung (Port Moody Secondary)
Klockenbrink, Andrea (Continuing Education)
Malakoff, Diether (CTA Office)
McCristall, Dave (Terry Fox Secondary)
Pahlevanlu, Ronak (CTA Office)
Pitman, Cathy (Citadel Middle)
Preshaw, Jens (Lord Baden Powell Elementary)
Roberts, Amanda (Pinetree Secondary)
Russell, Kate (Summit Middle)
Yee, Candice (TTOC)

CTA Local Reps to the BCTF
Hodges, Catherine (Leigh Elementary)
Illing, Melissa (Centennial Secondary)
MacMillan, Kayleigh (Citadel Middle)
Whipps, Ben (Lord Baden Powell Elementary)
Thank you for your service and commitment to representing and being the voice of Coquitlam Teachers.

SD#43 School Trustee By-Election February 22, 2025

With the upcoming by-election approaching, the CTA has surveyed the 5 candidates on education issues to help voters make informed decisions. **The survey results are available on the CTA website [here](#).** Responses from candidates have been compiled to provide an easy-to-compare overview for votes. The CTA strongly encourages all members living in Coquitlam to make their voices heard by casting their vote.

Voting locations and dates are included at the end of the survey.

There's an App for that!



The CTA is excited to now have our Union Strong app up and running for our members!

Turn notifications on to stay up to date with the most current information - bargaining, meetings and so much more!

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



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

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

President's Message

Wild World

It sure an odd time to be alive right now. Crazy stories, crazy actions, mistrust, debate and anger all around the world. It feels a bit like being on tenterhooks right now as we sit and await what disastrous decision comes next. The implications of trade and political actions down south are making governments up here, Federal, Provincial and Local slow up and take stock. This is a concern for things that affect us, like education funding. If the Feds are forced into a protectionist place and costs balloon due to inflation and tariffs, that rolls down hill onto Provincial governments who might find their coffers less full and the value of the money that's in there reduced. I certainly don't see any reason to panic but, I do see that we might have to ramp up our activism to ensure our kids get the support they need.

In Solidarity - Ken



Local Matters Agreement

The CTA and the Employer have signed off on a Local Matters Agreement (LMA) and are now seeking ratification of this local bargaining agreement. The LMA is posted on the CTA website behind the secure portal – **you must log in** and then visit the Bargaining page to read the details.

We encourage all members to attend one of these sessions to fully understand the impact of these proposed changes, ask questions, and inform themselves before the local ratification vote, planned for late April.

FEB
4

INFO SESSION

Terry Fox Secondary
Library
4:00–6:00 pm

FEB
10

INFO SESSION

Inlet Theatre
(100 Newport Drive, Port Moody)
4:00–6:00 pm

Real Acts of Caring

Real Acts of Caring (RAC) Week is February 9-15, 2025, this year!

It is our 20th RAC Week Anniversary with the focus being on Mental Health and the Environment.

This year a live RAC video is being launched from Penticton by RAC leadership students (Okanagan Skaha SD67) which educators and their students from all over BC can tune into to learn more about RAC.

RAC is doing something caring and kind for others without expecting anything in return and was created by grade 4/5 students at Central Community School in Port Coquitlam in 2005. Each year, RAC leadership students promote 'RAC Week' with the goal of spreading RAC awareness throughout the year. Since 2006, students have lobbied with both municipal and the BC provincial governments, successfully having over 70 proclamations passed which recognize RAC Week.

This year, RAC celebrates 20 years of spreading caring and kindness across the province, to other parts of Canada, and beyond. We invite you to consider joining us this year, with your students, in planning intentional acts of caring that will ripple across your community and impact lives in positive ways. RAC offers fantastic opportunities for students to experience how good it feels to be caring and kind. Our hope is that RAC will become a regular part of our students' lives, resulting in positive mental health boosts through empathy and compassion.

Please connect with Melissa Burdock, a former sd43 teacher, for more information about the live RAC video at: mburdock@sd67.bc.ca OR see the RAC website at www.realactsofcaring.org for information and RAC ideas.



Build
Resilient
Minds.

We are delighted to announce the return of Starling Minds' most popular initiative, the Mental Fitness program—Deeper Connections: How to Cultivate Happier, Authentic Relationships, presented by Tara Achkar, Starling Minds Mental Fitness Coach.

Join us on February 18 and 25 from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. to explore how emotional intelligence can transform your relationships.

The webinar series will cover strategies to:

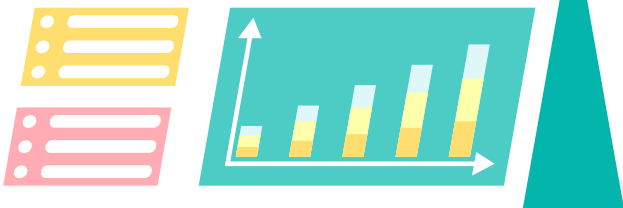
- learn to recognize and manage emotions more effectively.
- enhance empathy to better understand and connect with others.
- improve communication and conflict-resolution skills.
- strengthen and nurture relationships with emotional resilience.

These interactive sessions allow participants to engage in dedicated Q&A segments after each session and connect with the presenter for personalized insights. All sessions are recorded and accessible on the Starling Minds platform if you are unable to attend a session.

How do I sign up?

If you have already registered for Starling Minds, register for Deeper Connections: How to Cultivate Happier, Authentic Relationships. If you are not currently a Starling Minds user, use your BCTF Member ID and the access code BCTFMEMBER or BCTFFAMILY to register for the Starling Mental Fitness program. You will be able to register for the workshop once you have entered the program.

RETIREMENT PLANNING



BCTF Retirement Planning Workshop



January 30, 2025, from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. 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 help members learn more about:

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

If you are planning to attend, please email jmawhinney@bctf.ca with your full name and your school district.

Understanding Your Pensions and Benefits:

An Essential Retirement Workshop from BCRTA

The important decisions that will determine your retirement lifestyle should not be made at the last minute as you fill out your forms.

This seminar will prepare you to confidently make choices that are right for you. All teachers age 50+ should plan to attend one of BCRTA's Pre-Retirement online (Zoom) workshops.



The workshops are free.

Please pre-register at <https://bcrta.ca/register>.

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.

February 19, 2025 @ 7.p.m.

March 5, 2025 @ 7 p.m.

April 3, 2025 @ 4 p.m.

April 23, 2025 @ 7 p.m.

May 14, 2025 @ 7 p.m.

June 5, 2025 @ 7.p.m.

PD Power

It's happening!

The booklet highlighting the 100+ workshops that will be available for the **CTA PD Day, Empowered Educators: Compassion, Care & Curiosity**, on February 28th can be expected to be published this week.

We will be emailing the link to the workshop booklet through district email, so keep your eyes open for it. You will have time to browse through it and get a sense to what is available before Registration for the PD Day, which will not be occurring until next week. There are several workshops and activities that have a very strict limit and are bound to fill up quickly.

By way of reminder, Riverside Secondary School (2215 Reeve Street, Port Coquitlam) is our host site this year. As always, parking will be at a premium, so begin plans now to carpool or transit. Also note that coffee, tea, and some light snacks will be provided, but you will need to pack your own lunch.

mypita PROVINCIAL
INTERMEDIATE AND
MIDDLE YEARS TEACHERS'
ASSOCIATION
FALL CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 24, 2025 ONLINE & IN-PERSON IN MISSION



For information about the CTA
Lending Library, email
lendinglibrary@cta43.org



KEYNOTE

Lisa Baylis

Instructor Counsellor
Author

**SELF-COMPASSION
FOR EDUCATORS**

**February 28, 2025
Riverside Secondary**

CTA

SCHOOL DISTRICT 43
Learning for a Lifetime

Group Ticket Discount

The CTA is purchasing a group of tickets and you and your family are invited to attend! **Save up to 50%!**

Join us for on Pride Night, Saturday March 1, 2025 at 7pm when the Coquitlam Express take on the Cowichan Valley Capitals on home ice!

Email to Kelly (kstewart@sd43.bc.ca) from a non-SD43 email address with how many Adult, Youth, and Child tickets you'd like to purchase. The CTA will send you a Square invoice to submit your payment (we need a personal email address to send this to!).

PRIDE NIGHT

**MARCH 1, 2025
7:00 PM** Poirier Sport and Leisure Complex

vs  **COW**

Group Ticket Pricing

- \$10 for an adult
- \$5 for a Youth 5 -18
- Children from age 0 to 4 are free!

Email kstewart@cta43.org to order your tickets today!

COMMITTEE FOR ACTION ON SOCIAL JUSTICE **CASJ**



Apologies to those who tried to join us on January 16 at Caffe Divano – Ken learned upon arrival that the coffee shop is closed for renovations! We will schedule a new date and location soon and will share that information here. In the meantime, if the idea of having social justice conversations about things is of interest to you, please consider submitting a CV and joining the committee! There is no minimum experience or knowledge level for someone to join – all you need is an interest in learning more about social justice topics and a willingness to potentially be a part of an event or two. All CTA members are welcome to apply!

TTOCs & New Teachers

The TTOC Committee had a good conversation over Zoom on January 21 – thanks to everyone who was able to join us.

The current trial of changes to the workboard will, of course, not be perfect for every situation, but we continue to welcome conversations about what else might be considered in the future.

New applicants to the committee are always welcome and encouraged! Our next meeting will be in April – stay tuned for details!



To join us or ask any questions you might have, contact Ryan Cho

bipoceducators@cta43.org

Details for the next BIPOC educators' committee meeting date are coming soon!

You don't have to be a committee member to attend. We hope to see you there!

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.

BCRTA Golden Star Awards

The Golden Star Awards celebrate programs that Feature the Interaction of Seniors and Students.

All the information, application forms, criteria for evaluation and examples of previous winners can be found at <https://bcrt.ca/about-us/golden-star-awards/>



All ages from K-12 have an equal opportunity. If you qualify for and receive a partial year award you are encouraged to continue the program and apply the following year for a full year award.



Experience the magic of a live performance!

RIVER'S EDGE THEATRE 2025

INTO the WOODS

MUSIC BY
STEPHEN SONDHEIM

BOOK BY
JAMES LAPINE

Jan. 30, 31 + Feb. 1, 5, 6, 7
7pm Showtime + Saturday Matinee 1pm

*Where wishes come true, but
not without a cost...*

www.onstagedirect.com/riverside
+ Rush Seating at Door

RIVERSIDE SECONDARY
@RIVERSEDGETHEATRE




Have you ever gone Into The Woods?

Join our cast and crew on their journey in the woods at River's Edge Theatre! Tickets on sale now OnStage Direct: Riverside Secondary School

"It doesn't matter if you win or lose, it's what you do with your dancin' shoes."

Centennial Secondary School presents Grease, the Musical February 6, 7, 8 (matinee), 13, 14, 15. centmusical.brownpapertickets.com for tickets.

2025
CENTENNIAL MUSICAL THEATRE
PRESENTS



FEB. 6, 7, 13, 14, 15 at 7pm
FEB. 8 at 1pm

DIRECTED BY SIRYN COWIE AND PHOENIX COWIE
CHOREOGRAPHED BY MAKENNA JUNG AND TESSA JUNG

STUDENT/SENIOR/STAFF \$15
ADULT \$19

BOOK, MUSIC AND LYRICS BY JIM JACOBS AND WARREN CASEY
CENTMUSICAL.BROWNPAPERTICKETS.COM

WEST SIDE STORY

Pinetree Secondary School presents
West Side Story - School Edition
January 29-31 & February 5-7

To purchase tickets, click on the date

[Wednesday, January 29th](#)

[Thursday, January 30th](#)

[Friday, January 31st](#)

[Wednesday, February 5th](#)

[Thursday, February 6th](#)

[Friday, February 7th](#)

COMMITTEE OPPORTUNITIES



**New Westminster
and District
Labour Council**

4 CTA Representatives



School District Advisory Committees

Student Services Advisory - 1 CTA Reps

Student Achievement Advisory - Currently Full

District Student Wellness & Safety - 2 CTA Reps

District Indigenous Ed Advisory - 1 CTA Rep

District French Advisory - 1 CTA Rep

District Technology Advisory - 1 CTA Rep

District Accessibility Advisory - Currently Full

District Anti-Racism Committee – Currently Full

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

CTA Adult Educators

1 Member who identifies as Indigenous

1 Member who identifies as Black or a Person of Colour

1 Learning Services Rep.

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 Ryan Cho.

CTA PD Committee

1 Middle Rep, 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, 3 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

Ryan McMahon, PD Chair

rmcmahon@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