

COQUITLAM TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

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Local Bargaining Info Sessions

The CTA has now hosted two local bargaining information sessions – one on February 4 and the other on February 10. Attendance at both of them was extremely disappointing. It's important that members understand that the four employer estoppels, twelve proposed changes to collective agreement language, and other items will have an impact on everyone. These information sessions are your opportunity to inform yourself before the April ratification vote. The next information session is February 20 at Pinetree Secondary (Cafeteria/Multi-Purpose Room), followed by a **session after the PD day on February 28** and a virtual session on March 4. Please make plans to attend one of these sessions so you fully understand the proposed changes the CTA Executive Committee is recommending.



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.

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

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!



President's Message

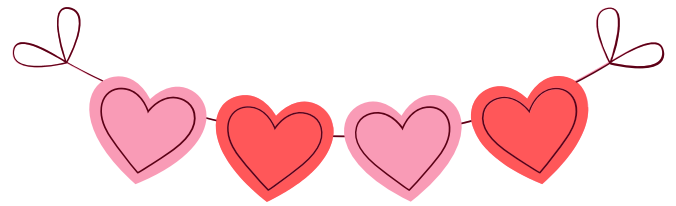
School District Budget

The CTA has had the opportunity to present our members' interests in the upcoming budget season. Next week on the 18th, at 6:30, we will have the public opportunity to present a highlighted version of what we spoke about in our prior meeting. We will only be able to touch a couple points that we raised in the meeting, due to time, but, a submission of all our members' asks will be provided to the Board, accompanying the presentation. See this link for information about the budget process:

<https://www.sd43.bc.ca/budget/Pages/Budget-2025-2026.aspx#/=>

We take our participation in budget setting very seriously. An example of the effectiveness of that approach was the elimination of layoff recently. We are always seeking to advance our members' interests and concerns to the Board. Please join us at any of the budget meetings scheduled. Know you are always welcome to attend a school board meeting with us, regardless whether it's budget-themed or not.

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
20

INFO SESSION

Pinetree Secondary
Cafeteria/Multi-Purpose Room
4:00-6:00 pm

MARCH
4

INFO SESSION

ZOOM LINK INFO
4:00-6:00 pm



Visit

<https://tinyurl.com/blackhistoryevents>
for a listing of amazing local events!



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.



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

Registration for February 28th's CTA PD Day, Empowered Educators: Compassion, Care & Curiosity, opened last Thursday! The response has been overwhelming, with many workshops filling up quickly and waitlists forming. If you registered for a co-pay workshop, make sure that you pay your invoice as soon as possible. Unfortunately, workshops with low or no enrollment will have to be cancelled, so if you have not registered, do so soon to ensure that you get the workshop you want. Our keynote speaker and most sessions will be at Riverside Secondary, parking will be at a premium so carpooling and transit are (always) good options.

While we encourage all CTA members to take advantage of our PD Day workshop offerings and keynote, we also acknowledge the professional autonomy of our teachers in regard to PD choices. If you are not registered for sessions at Riverside or an off-site workshop that we are offering, remember that you must be attending an event at another physical location, as teachers cannot do remote work or work from home. Also note that, as per CTA policy, no PD events or workshops outside of the CTA day will be reimbursed for February 28, 2025.

CUE43 Lunch Meeting – Feb 28 @ CTA Pro-D

Want better access to technology in your classroom? Join CUE43 for a lunch meeting at CTA Focus Day on February 28! We advocate for equitable tech access for CTA members and support educators by adding the CTA library. Connect with colleagues, share your needs, and help shape how technology is used in SD43 schools. Room TBD. Bring your lunch and be part of the conversation!

✉ Contact: Kekeli@sd43.bc.ca or cng@sd43.bc.ca

💻 Join our Teams: Code: p7eno9i

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



Local Rep to the BCTF Report

The Winter Representative Assembly was held on January 31st-February 1st at the River Rock Casino in Richmond. Representatives from all over the province gathered together to discuss and vote on important motions for our union.

One of the major issues discussed was the recent move by the Minister of Education & Childcare to dismiss all of the Greater Victoria School Board Trustees and replace them with an unelected manager over a policy disagreement about discontinuing the use of Police Liaison Officers in Victoria schools. We voted to denounce the move and a statement has already been issued which can be found on the BCTF website.

The Provincial Bargaining Team has assembled and they have begun preparing for their meetings with the employer. There will be more updates as bargaining sessions commence, so check back and make sure the CTA has your personal email address.

On a local note, delegates to the upcoming Canadian Teachers Federation AGM were elected and Sandra Cowan, a Coquitlam teacher, was among the delegates chosen. - Ben Whipps

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@cta43.org) from a non-SD43 email address by February 20 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**



Coquitlam's social justice committee is seeking at least two more members so we can be a more active advocacy group! If you're interested in exploring what is happening locally (and further away) around equity, racism, human rights, poverty, climate change, and more, then this friendly group is a great place to get started. **We are planning to schedule another coffee shop drop in chat in March before Spring Break.** If you'd like to come and have a coffee shop suggestion, send Meggan an email (mcrawford@cta43.org).

TTOCs & New Teachers

We are seeking a third member to join the CTA TTOC Committee! If you're interested in advocating for yourself and your colleagues to pursue improvements for TTOCs and those in temporary contracts, this might be the place for you. We discuss current issues, consider ways to make improvements, and hold events to support and celebrate those working as TTOCs in our local. The schedule and location of meetings is very flexible, so don't hesitate to put your name forward and join this important work!

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

The BIPOC educators' committee is holding an event in April! Stay tuned for details.

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.

mypita PROVINCIAL
INTERMEDIATE AND
MIDDLE YEARS TEACHERS'
ASSOCIATION
FALL CONFERENCE
OCTOBER 24, 2025 ONLINE & IN-PERSON IN MISSION



Experience the magic of a live performance!



We would like to invite you to our student production of Spelling Bee at Minnekhada Middle School

We will have Evening shows at 7:00pm Wednesday to Friday, and a 2pm Matinee on Saturday

Show times:

Wednesday February 19th: 7:00pm Show
Thursday February 20th: 7:00pm Show
Friday February 21st: 7:00pm Show
Saturday February 22nd: 2:00pm Matinee

Tickets are available at:

<https://sd43.schoolcashonline.com/Fee/Details/142686/108/False/True>



"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

The poster features a red convertible car with a couple in the back seat, silhouetted against a large yellow moon. The word "GREASE" is written in large, stylized white letters with a black outline, with a comb integrated into the letter 'G'. The background is dark red with yellow starbursts.

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

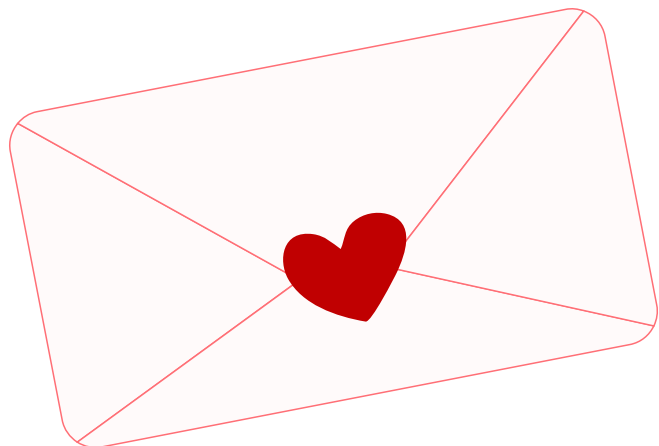
DIRECTED BY SIRYN COWIE AND PHOENIX COWIE
CHOREOGRAPHED BY MAKENNA JUNG AND TESSA JUNG

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

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



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 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