JUNE 4, 2025 VOL. 18

# COQUITLAM TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

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

## **CTA Special General Meeting**

Tuesday, June 17, 2025 - 4:00 pm via Zoom

The only agenda item is Policy & Procedure: proposed changes to PD Policy 9 due to an increase in our PD funding. The zoom link can be found on the CTA website/member resources/general info page.



## SUMMER RD Deadlines

If you are planning to sign up for summer PD conferences or workshops over the summer, there a few important dates to keep in mind.

Workshops taking place up to July 25th, 2025, must be into the office to be stamped before 4:00 pm July 11th.

Workshops from happening July 26th through August 22nd need to be submitted before 4:30 pm September 5th.

All receipts and conference reports are due before 4:30 pm October 3, 2025.

If you have any questions regarding these dates and submitting your form for PD reimbursement, please contact the CTA office.





## It's getting HOT in here !!

If your site hasn't yet met to discuss a heat plan for warm weather we strongly encourage your site's Health and Safety Committee or Collaborative Decision Making Committee to meet soon to set something up.

Things to consider include cooler indoor spaces and how they might be shared, who has a fan and who still needs one, how outdoor spaces will be shared, or other creative things that can be done to support each other if higher temperatures arrive.

The WorkSafe guidelines don't give a specific number range for acceptable temperatures, rather it is a complex calculation based on a number of factors. If your space becomes too warm it's important that you let your administrator know right away.



June is National Indigenous History Month in Canada, a time to recognize the rich history, heritage, resilience and diversity of First Nations, Inuit and Métis.

### A short list of resources for teaching and learning:

**National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation** 

**PATHS to Reconciliation - Canadian Geographic** 

First Nations Indigenous Peoples Atlas of Canada

**Indigenous Podcasts - CBC Listen** 

**Indigenous Stories - CBC Documentaries** 

Upcoming Events in the area;

New West Craft Indigenous Market - June 7, 2025

Vancouver Farmers Market - Celebrates Indigenous History Month - June 4 to 25, 2025

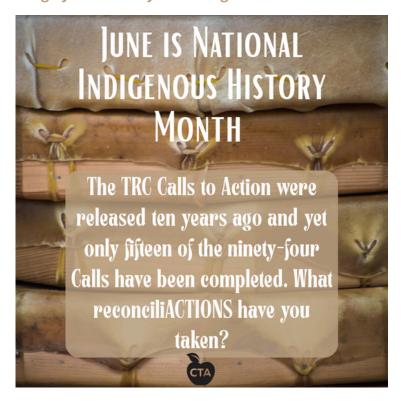
XUUYA: Raven Brings the Light - June 19, 2025 Bill Reid Gallery

**Indigenous Peoples Day Celebrations;** 

**Grandview Park** 

**Block Party - Carnegie Community Centre** 

**Langley Community Gathering** 



### BCTF Spring Rep Assembly

On the 30th and the 31st of May, the CTA's Local Representatives, Catherine Hodges, Mellisa Illing, Kayleigh MacMillan, and Ben Whipps, two alternative Local Representatives, Amanda Roberts and Halen Schoenhals and President Ken Christensen attended the Spring BCTF Representative Assembly (RA).

During the assembly, representatives passed the 2025-2026 Budget.

The representatives elected the following;

- 2 Judicial Council Chairpersons
- 7 members to the Judicial Council
- 4 RA Ombudspersons
- 2 RA Health and Safety Officers
- 4 RA Chairpersons (including Coquitlam teacher, Sandra Cowan)
- 5 members to the RA Agenda Committee
- 1 members to the Finance Committee
- 1 Nominating Chairperson
- 1 Alternate Chairperson
- 1 member to the BCFED (BC Federation of Labour) Executive Council

The RA bid farewell to outgoing BCTF President Clint Johnson and wished him well in his new position as the President of the Canadian Federation of Teachers.

The BCTF Executive recommended to the RA that the BCTF stand in solidarity with workers across Canada and the United States and that the Federation call on the Ministry of Education and Child Care to continue to support SOGI 123. These two recommendations were carried by the RA.

Some notable resolutions that were presented by locals and carried by the RA are the incorporation of anti-Palestinian racism (APR) into the BCTF's anti-racism policies, practices, and procedures, the lobby of the provincial government for the funding of capital projects to enrolment that is at least 35% larger than current enrolment levels, and the advocacy for the elimination of dress codes for both staff and students.

Unfortunately, there was not enough time for a resolution brought forward by Coquitlam to hit the floor. Additionally, there was not enough time to deal with the unfinished business from the AGM.

## 43 UE CUE43 Year End Meeting

CUE43 is having our year end meeting June 4, 2025 at 4:00 pm at Coast Salish Elementary School.

Click here to join CUE43 Teams, the code is: p7eno9i.

### President's Message

#### **Spring Representative Assembly**

The CTA Local Reps and myself have just returned from the Spring Representative Assembly held over Friday and Saturday this last weekend. Not wanting to pre-empt any report out but, I wanted to tell you that the Bargaining Q&A in the wake of the report from The Bargaining Team was very much at the forefront of the attendees' minds. That isn't too surprising, as we are all watching for what occurs with somewhat baited breath at the Provincial table. We are still early days and there are 8 days scheduled in June so, we are cautiously optimistic, despite some worrying elements from the employer's side. I do recommend you have a look at the proposals and stay on top of updates on the BCTF website's Bargaining page. Local Resolutions also took a fair amount of time and we didn't get to all of them and, also, we did not get to the AGM referrals as well, due to time. We will try to address the AGM referrals at the Fall RA now. Your Local Reps were engaged, present, spoke and discussed your interests well at the meeting.

In Solidarity - Ken



















### **BCTF Online**

## PENSION SEMINAR

We have a virtual BCTF Pension Seminar coming up on Thursday, June 5, from 4:00-5:15 p.m. Pacific Time 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 cover topics such as:

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

If you are planning to attend, please register using the following link: https://www.bctf.ca/topics/servicesinformation/events-and-meetings/pension-seminarregistration

After registering, you will receive an automatic confirmation email with the Zoom link and details.

If you have any additional questions, please contact <u>imawhinney@bctf.ca</u>.

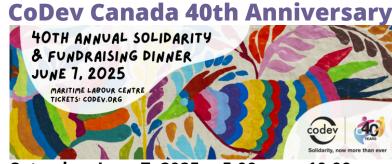
## BC Ombudsperson's Investigation into Exclusion

The BCTF is bringing to your attention an opportunity to participate in an investigation by the BC Ombudsperson's office into exclusion of students with diverse needs. They are recommending participation if you have something to say about exclusion of students from your own experience. It is a advisable to be very careful about maintaining the privacy and dignity of all involved. Do also be mindful of your duty of fidelity to the employer. In other words, while it is completely legitimate to speak about structural or organizational matters that left needs of students unmet, it is not appropriate to make accusations about your direct employer's competence, or similar.

An example of what I am referring to above might be something like this: "Due to the ongoing teacher shortage, the Learning Support Team at my school struggles to meet the needs of students on our case load because of the redeployment problem.". That is fine, compared to: "SD43 sucks at hiring TTOCs and we frequently lose service time because of their inability to attract and retain TTOCs.". Same circumstances, different framing.

We have some outstanding questions about the information being gathered and how it will be stored and shared so, participation in the survey is optional and at the member's discretion. In summary, the BCTF is advising members to consider participating in the survey with the caveats, considerations mentioned above. The survey can be found, here: bcombudsperson.ca/fairness-public-schools-educators





Saturday, June 7, 2025 5:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Maritime Labour Centre, 1880 Triumph Street, Vancouver

### **PD Power**

Last Thursday saw Ignite43 held at Samz Pub in Port Coquitlam. By all accounts it was a resounding success! We had 10 speakers that evening, appetizers, entrées, and wonderful conversations. The enthusiasm of the audience was palpable, as they were rapt with attention during each of the five-minute presentations and excitedly chatting and sharing ideas in between.

A HUGE thank you to everyone who attended and presented their ideas around Empowerment that evening!

### **Election of PD Reps**

PD Reps should be freely elected by the site CTA members and this role must be independent of any administrative or department/team leadership roles.

Best practice is to have elections the first week of September when most staff for 2024/2025 will be confirmed and able to participate. Those members overseeing the vote are asked to consider accessibility for part-time colleagues in their voting timeline. It is a tight turnaround at the busy start of the year, so please make sure that PD & Staff Rep voting is on the agenda for the first week back!

#### **Policy 51. PD Representatives**

- a. 2. Be elected for a one year term.\*
- 1.Two CTA members who are not running for election will oversee the elections.
- 2. Elections must occur by secret paper ballot.
- 3. Results shall be communicated to the CTA Office, by September 15, 2024



THE UNION PROTEIN PROJECT

### **AGM & Salmon BBQ**

We are excited to invite all affiliates, supporters, and friends to the Union Protein Project's Annual General Meeting and Salmon Barbecue! Join us for our 2025 AGM at the United Steelworkers Union Local 2009 in Langley. It's easily accessible right off the highway with ample free parking available on-site!

When: Wednesday, June 11th

AGM: 11:30-12:00pm BBQ: 12:00-2:00pm

Where: USW Local 2009 at 9292 200 St, Langley Twp

RSVP to <a href="mailto:admin@proteinproject.ca">admin@proteinproject.ca</a>

WISHING A

## HAPPY PRIDE MONTH

TO THE LBGTQIA COMMUNITY AND THEIR ALLIES





## **Buy Union Directory**

The Canadian Labour Congress has recently launched a "buy union" directory. The directory is helpful for those wishing to "buy Canadian" and also identifies the broad services and industries provided by unionized Canadian companies (e.g., grocery, manufacturing, hotels, retail, transportation, and more). Check back regularly – the directory is being updated as they get new information.



## COMMITTEE FOR ACTION ON SOCIAL JUSTICE





Several members of the CTA Committee for Action on Social Justice are attending the CoDev Canada  $40^{th}$  Anniversary Solidarity & Fundraising Dinner this Saturday. CoDev is a labour organization who support women-led social movements, teachers and other labour activists, and human rights defenders in Latin America. Through their work, CoDev seeks to connect labour in Canada with similar organizations in Latin America so they can build a partnership, learn together, and reaffirm their solidarity. To learn more about CoDev and their work visit CoDevelopment Canada.



The BIPOC Educators' Committee is having its year end celebration on June 18, 2025. Stayed 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 <a href="here">here</a>. BIPOC teachers can join our email list without regularly attending meeting or joining the committee. To join us or ask any questions you might have, contact Ryan Cho at <a href="mailto:bipoceducators@cta43.org">bipoceducators@cta43.org</a>

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

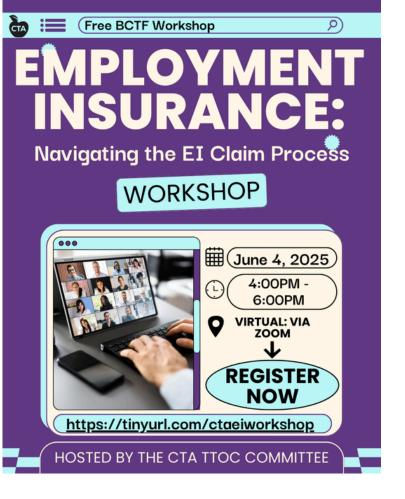
If you have any questions please contact Diether Malakoff, 1st Vice President <a href="mailto:dmalakoff@cta43.org">dmalakoff@cta43.org</a> or 604-936-9971.

# TTOC'S & New Teachers'

The TTOC Committee is excited to be hosting the BCTF Workshop: Employment Insurance:
Navigating the El Claim Process this afternoon via Zoom. With around fifty registrants we hope that the learning and discussion will be helpful to all of those who are accessing El over the coming break. What other workshop topics would the Coquitlam TTOC community like to see next year? The Committee is looking for suggestions for workshops and events and would be thrilled to hear from more of you as to what you would like or need.

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





## **COMMITTEE OPPORTUNITIES**





## 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



### New Westminster and District Labour Council

4 CTA Representatives

## 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 <u>Diether Malakoff</u>, 1st Vice President.

Please submit a CV form to the <u>CTA office</u>.



#### **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, 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 Secondary 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, 2 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



1-800-663-1142

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

HomeWeb.ca

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

Ronak Pahlevanlu, Labour Relations rpahlevanlu@cta43.org

Ryan McMahon, PD Chair rmcmahon@cta43.org

### 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