

Newsletter of the Delta Teachers' Association



TODAY

President's Column

Date: February 9, 2017

Issue: #4

Twenty-seven full-time equivalent teaching positions posted in Delta

Twenty seven new teaching positions have been created in Delta as a first step in the process to implement the BCTF's landmark court win here.

Emerging from the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) agreed to between the British Columbia Teachers' Federation and the British Columbia Public School Employers' Association on January 4, these interim postings are intended to address priority measures toward the full restoration of struck 2002 contract language.

Important: this is only a first step.

As a matter of priority, the BCTF and DTA's two key goals are as follows:

- Get more enrolling classroom teachers and non-enrolling teachers into classrooms as soon as possible;
- Ensure that local process language, (e.g. school-based teams) is implemented as soon as possible

In Delta, the process now underway involved five representatives of the DTA meeting with five representatives of the Board. On January 20, the parties met and over the course of a morning reviewed and agreed on which requests received from schools would be posted.

These positions have now been posted and are being filled according to our Collective Agreement's Posting and Filling Vacant Positions language, Articles E.26 and E.27.

BCTF -Summer School Focus Group

Increasingly, teachers in Delta are voicing concerns about issues arising from Summer School work in Delta. They are not alone. Teachers in many BCTF locals are raising all kinds of concerns as they work in what are increasingly adverse circumstances, without many of the supports and services available to teachers during the regular school year.

On Wednesday, January 26, BCTF Local Presidents from a dozen or so Metro locals met to share and talk about Summer school issues in BC. It was an enlightening experience.

Topics covered included the History of Summer School in BC, Provincial Funding, BCTF Summer School Policy, Grievances and arbitrations and Contract Language.



In response to the previously expressed concerns of some Delta Teachers, I will be asking the DTA Executive Committee to set a frame of reference and mandate for a DTA ad hoc committee on Summer School, to identify DTA members' concerns arising from Summer School work, with recommendations for action before Summer School Positions are posted for the Summer of 2017.

If you are a Delta teacher with knowledge, experience, and concerns about Summer School in Delta, or if you are a teacher wanting to work during July and August, I want to hear from you. Please contact me or Susan at the DTA and be part of our Union's effort to identify and prioritize our concerns and to decide what our next efforts should be.

Delta teachers' have concerns arising from the District's placement of International Students

International students are welcome. "I am ready to welcome International students into my classroom, but they come with no additional support. That bothers me."

"I have to do a lot of extra work to help International Students. This means I have less time for my regular students."

These are just two of the many comments made by teachers during our visits to schools. If you are a teacher with knowledge, experience, or concerns arising from the placement and programming and support for International students, you are not alone. Contact me or Susan Yao at the DTA and help plan our Union's response to what is becoming a burning issue for teachers in Delta.



Give to the United Way

Later this month you will be asked to consider making a donation to the United Way charitable campaign. Please consider doing so. Your small donation will make a real difference.

2017 BCTF AGM DELEGATES

Kush Brown	Richardson
Sandra Cadez	Hawthorne
Michele Caplan	Richardson
Malcolm Chrystal	TTOC
Linda Crockett	Gibson
Jeff Hacker	NDSS
Mahima Lamba	Beach Grove
Kelsey Leung	NDSS
Kathleen Macfarlane	NDSS
Tanis Maxfield	SDSS
Elen Nikas	Sands
Stephen Platzer	TTOC
Alison Roche	Pinewood
Viji Shanmugha	Inclusive Learning
Janice Wilson	Sunshine Hills
Susan Yao	DTA

Alternate:

Trish McCullough McCloskey

Local Representatives:

Paul Steer DTA
Simon Isbister NDSS
Jessica Le Brun Delview

CELEBRATE DIVERSITY

Pink Shirt Day - February 22, 2017



Bullying is a major problem in our schools, workplaces, homes, and over the Internet. Each year, on Pink T-Shirt Day, people are encouraged to wear something pink to symbolize that we as a society will not tolerate bullying anywhere.



The International Day of Pink
April 12th, 2017.
It's Time to Talk About
Bullying - Homophobia - Transphobia

PAID EDUCATIONAL LEAVE

Teachers interested in making application for Paid Education Leave (60%) for the 2017-2018 school year must submit an application to the Human Resources Division by **MARCH 31, 2017**. The application form will be posted on First Class.

One of the main criteria for this leave is that the candidate shall have been employed continuously by the Board for five (5) years prior to being granted Educational Leave.

Please review Article G.29 of the current Collective Agreement to ensure eligibility.

STAFF REP TRAINING

Thursday, February 23, 2017

8:30 - 3:00

Delta Manor Education Centre

WORKSHOPS:

Effective School Staff Committees (9:00 - 12:00)

To maintain teacher influence and control over their professional lives, teachers require their own independent and democratic structure and processes in the worksite. This workshop offers practical advice on how to establish and maintain a school staff committee.

Violence in the Workplace (1:00 - 3:00)

This workshop explores the definition of violence, types of violence, and what is required to assess and plan to reduce and eliminate risks. The workshop discusses risk assessment, safety plans, privacy issues, and the right to know, all with a focus on keeping workers safe.

Call the DTA office at 604-946-0391 or email marilyn@deltateachers.org to confirm your attendance and obtain your release code.

JOB SHARE INFORMATION MEETING

Wednesday, March 29, 2017

4:00 pm - DTA Office

#110 - 4977 Trenant Street, Ladner

Call the DTA office at 604-946-0391 or email marilyn@deltateachers.org if you are interested in attending.

MAKING SENSE OF PENSIONS & GROUP BENEFITS

Fill in the Gaps in your Retirement Planning

This Workshop Covers:

- Government Pension Benefits: Canada Pension, Old Age Security, Guaranteed Income Supplement
- Government Health Benefits: BC Medical, Fair Pharmacare
- Non-Government Group Benefits: life insurance, dental plans, extended health benefits, travel insurance
- Key Online Planning Tools

Wednesday, April 19, 2017

4:00 - 6:00 pm

DMEC - Action Room

Register by Wednesday, April 12, 2017

Contact Debbie at debbie@deltateachers.org or 604-946-0391 to register