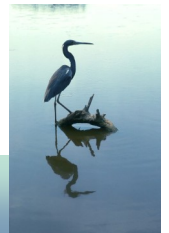




Professional Development News

Volume 9, Issue 2

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2013 -2014 PD Committee

Fiona Higgs, Chair

Delta Adult Educators

Arabella Bowman—

DTA 1st Vice President

Dan Burgess—*South Delta Secondary*

Margaret Chambers—*Gray*

Sherman Chan—*North Delta Secondary*

Janice Choy—*Brooke*

Heather Johnson—*Special Programs*

Paul Leroy— *Special Programs*

Favian Yee - *North Delta Secondary*

Welcome to our **Spring** Edition

Message from PD Chair

HOLD THE PRESS!

Late last week, at the request of the DTA, there was a meeting between the Superintendent, the DTA President, senior District administrators, and the DTA PD Chairperson. Our purpose was to share DTA views of the changes in school level support for teachers' professional development over the past five years. As a result of this meeting, the Superintendent has invited the DTA to share what we have learned at a future meeting of school administrators. Read a future PD bulletin for a report on the, hopefully, positive outcome of this meeting.

As I step down from the Chair of the DTA PD Committee, I must say that I have enjoyed my time as PD Chairperson. It has been an enlightening experience. I have had the privilege of meeting and talking with many of our colleagues within the District. Best advice I can offer to each of you, continue to grow professionally. The PD committee welcomes Fiona Higgs as our Chairperson for 2013-14.

Paul Leroy, Chair

Flip Side

ABEABC Conference *p. 2*

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PD Opportunities

Please visit the DTA website www.deltateachers.org—Main page—PD Tab—PD Events & Opportunities

BCTF website www.bctf.ca—PD Calendar

The Ease of Applying For Interest Based Group PD Funding

Let me start by saying....IT'S SO EASY!

A few years ago, the DTA PD-Committee made available professional development funding for groups interested in some sort of self guided endeavour to better their teaching practice.

The form, which can be downloaded from the DTA Website, asks the lead coordinator of the group to itemized anticipated cost for the group interest study. It also asked for a short write-up on what the purpose of the funding was for. In all, it took me about 15 minutes to complete the form and email it off to the DTA. The PD Committee approved the funding and made those funds available to our group.

Applying for Interest Based Group PD Funding is so simple. However, as a member of our PD Committee, I have seen that this option is so under-utilized by Delta teachers. If you have a topic that a few teachers share a passion for or would like to look deeper into a topic, you might consider accessing the Interest Based Group PD Funding from the DTA.

Favian Yee,, NDSS

ABEABC Conference May 2, 3 2013: Delta Adult Educators Pro-D



Delta's Adult Educators are a small but dedicated group of teachers, teaching primarily at Delview Adult Learning Centre. We provide instruction in the ELSA program for new immigrants, the Literacy Foundations program for adults with literacy and numeracy needs from beginner to Grade 10 equivalent levels, and High School Completion courses for both adults and day school students. We also have advisors who provide assessment, placement and graduation counselling to our diverse adult student population here in Delta.

Recently most of our staff attended the Adult Basic Education Association of BC conference at Harrison Hot Springs. Four members of our staff are on the Board of ABE and contributed hugely to the organization of the conference. It was a great opportunity to collaborate and network with other passionate Adult Educators from all

over BC; learning through workshops and sharing ideas and experiences through work-alike sessions.

The keynote speaker was neurophysiologist Dr. Justin Davis from Nognz Brain Fitness. He presented an engaging and inspiring overview of the major influences on brain function, including learning: physical fitness, nutrition, stress management, socialization and mental stimulation. The brain is in a constant state of change; lifelong learning and a healthy lifestyle support optimal brain function no matter what your age.

Workshops ranged from practical teaching ideas ("Interactive ESL Activities"); evaluation ("Formative Assessment in the Low Level ESL Classroom"), rural and aboriginal issues, and learning styles. Work-alike sessions included English language education, computer literacy, math, and advising. In the advising session we compared tools used for intake and assessment and dis-

cussed Ministry changes to Adult Graduation funding and procedures.

Of course, the conference did have some fun involved! An evening dinner gave us a chance, and even to dance to the tunes of our own Delview teachers' live music: Karen Bates rockin' with her band 3 Bags Full, and Angie Lof singing her own composition.

The ABEABC conference also had the added benefit of bringing our staff together to share experiences and get to know each other better. Many thanks are due to both the DTA PD Committee and Delta Continuing Education Administration for supporting our attendance at this conference, and to the DALC staff who gave their time to attend.

Fiona Higgs
Delta Adult Educator

REMINDERS

Have you attended a course or conference and not received your reimbursement?
Please send in your receipts to the DTA Office, **deadline is June 30, 2013**

Receipts are not required when submitting an application for approval, if you have one please hang onto it. Once you have attended or completed your conference/workshop you can then submit your receipt for reimbursement.

Are you planning on attending a conference during the summer months?
All applications need to be in 14 days in advance, please have your application to the DTA Office by June 14th

Other things to note:

- PD funding is based on the school calendar year July 1—June 30
- You are allowed up to \$650.00 per year to a maximum of \$1000.00 over three years
- All applications need to be received by the DTA office **14 days in advance**
- Course information—including costs, date and location **must** accompany your application
- **You will receive your reimbursement once you have sent in your proof of completion and proof of payment**