



TODAY

President's Column ~ Susan Yao

Date: June 16, 2022

Issue: #7



Until September:

While September is a way off, start thinking about who might put their name forward for Staff Reps and other Union Reps at your site. We will need lists as soon as possible in September for training of "Rookie" Staff Reps and PD Chairs.

Municipal elections are **October 15** and the DTA's Political Action Committee will be doing work to engage with school trustee candidates. I was troubled by a recent Op-Ed piece in the Delta Optimist floating the idea that running for school trustee requires little prep or thought. Brad Sherwin, former trustee candidate in the May 13 edition: "School board is almost a last-minute decision. I think I dropped off my paperwork the day before the deadline, if not on deadline day."

I think we need better commitment than that. If you know someone who cares about public education and wants better for our community, encourage them to run for office. Better funding for BC's education system—currently among the lowest per student funding in Canada—is needed and we need trustees who are prepared to fight for quality public education. Our students, educators and community deserve nothing less.

Retirement:

On Monday, June 13 the Delta Teachers' Association held its first in-person Retirement Social and Dinner after a two-year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Of the 27 Delta teachers who identified themselves as retiring from the Delta School District, 11 of these retirees and their guests attended the DTA Social and Dinner held at the Tsawwassen Springs Golf Course. This was a happy event and stories were shared about most memorable moments in teaching, advice for the rest of us and plans for retirement. Check our website (www.deltateachers.org) for photos. The dinner was attended by various DTA EC members, Staff Reps and Committee members, as well as senior district staff and Trustee Chair Val Windsor.

The DTA Social and Dinner is a highlight for the DTA as we get to meet in person with people we may have communicated with via phone or email in our union role or maybe as past colleagues. We strongly encourage DTA members to come to next year's event even if you don't know all of the retirees. That's the social part! And if you do know a retiree, it's a lovely way to connect and join in the celebration.

(Continued on page 2)

DTA Honours Retirees

On Monday, June 13, the DTA was pleased to hold an in-person celebration honouring teachers who retired this school year. Retirees shared their retirement plans and most memorable teaching moments.



From Left to Right: Arlene Yargeau, Michael Boyle, Jill Sparrow-Ng, John Powell, Joanne Peterson, Denise Daviduk, Sally Hickling, Jane Ratzlaff, Heather Colls, Diane Cadieux, Doug Bamford

The DTA wishes the following colleagues a happy, healthy retirement:

Theresa Andreou	Linda Enders	John Powell
Dana Ardanaz	Stephen Filmer	Jane Ratzlaff
Nick Ardanaz	Laura Hebbard	Leah Shaw
Doug Bamford	Colleen Henderson	David Smith
Michael Boyle	Sally Hickling	Jill Sparrow-Ng
Diane Cadieux	Doreen Hintz	Connie Stasiuk
Heather Colls	Cheryl Kondo	Moiria Tobin
Denise Daviduk	Jeannetta Murray	Dawn Van Skiver
Wendy Diomis	Joanne Peterson	Arlene Yargeau



From the staff at the DTA office
we hope you have a restful and
enjoyable summer vacation!

Susan

Alison Delvin

Jeannie Brianna

Joanne



The DTA office closes on June 30 for the summer. The office will reopen on August 29.

The dinner was also attended by Lois Wilkinson, representative for Delta's chapter of the BC Retired Teachers Association (BCRTA); their mission is maintenance and enhancement of quality of life for members and for seniors generally. If you gave retirement notice to the District late this school year and missed an invite to the fun, let us know so we can add you to next year's party. The food at Tsawwassen Springs is excellent and the views are spectacular!

We wish our colleagues who are retiring this year all the best in this new chapter in their lives. This time of year is bittersweet — I look forward to the sweetness of summer but find the changes hard, especially saying goodbye...

Goodbye to Debbie Omand!

This year we say goodbye to long-serving DTA Office Manager, Debbie Omand, who has worked for DTA members the last 22 years and 15 years at the BCTF before that. We will definitely miss her years of institutional memory, her dedication and professionalism. And Debbie for the wonderful person that she is! We wish her much happiness in her retirement. Please join us at the DTA office on June 21 at 3pm-5pm to celebrate!! We welcome Jane Randazzo as the new Office Manager. Jane will be working alongside Brianna Redwood, Administrative Assistant, who took over from Marilyn Kelly last year.

Communication:

We notice DTA members often send concerns via the DTA office staff. Our office staff *can and do* forward concerns, but this added layer means that there may be avoidable delays responding to emails. Email Susan (syao@deltateachers.org) and Alison (aroche@deltateachers.org). **The Union's practice is to NOT use the district's communication platform so use our deltateachers.org addresses.**

Bargaining:

Even though things on the bargaining front seem pretty quiet right now, this is a bargaining year making communication ever critical! It's time to refresh non-District email lists so bargaining updates can go to staff reps as needed. While DTA members ratified our Local Matters Agreement earlier this year, the Provincial Bargaining team is still negotiating with BCPSEA on provincial matters (\$money\$) until the end of June when our current contract ends. It is incumbent on members to keep informed so be sure to log in the BCTF Member Portal as updates are there for MEMBERS ONLY.

Summer!

Our office closes June 30 and re-opens August 29. I'll be available by email and will check emails until July 14. If unable to contact the DTA, members should contact the BCTF Field Service Division.

On behalf of the DTA office, I wish you a restorative summer break. Whether you are working this summer, travelling, taking courses or other, be sure to take care of yourself. Don't forget that there are supports for you so reach out to the DTA or the BCTF. Programs like the BCTF's Health and Wellness are there to help and can provide supports to enhance your work-life balance.

Happy Summer!



Executive Committee Vacancies

- Aboriginal Ed Chair
- Adult Ed, Itinerant, Non-enrolling Rep
- French as First or Working Language Contact
- Teacher on Call Contact

There are also vacancies on the following committees:

- Aboriginal Education
- French as First or Working Language
- Health & Safety
- Professional Development
- Political Action Committee
- Social Justice
- Teacher-on-Call Advisory

An election will be held to fill the positions at the Staff Rep Meeting in September. Please call the DTA if you would like to let your name stand for any of these positions.

"Tad" Boyes Scholarship



Applicants must be the son or daughter of a Delta teacher and graduating from a public school in BC. The scholarship is \$1,000.00 and the criteria is based on academic excellence.

Application forms for the "Tad" Boyes Scholarship are available from the DTA office or can be printed from the DTA website at www.deltateachers.org, under Resources/Forms. **Deadline is June 30, 2022**

Will you be changing your name or address over the summer?

Please email Brianna at brianna@deltateachers.org or visit the DTA website under [Contact Us/Update Member Contact](#). Please also contact Human Resources at the Board office (604-946-4101) and the BCTF Member Records Department (604-871-2192).



In Memoriam



Lynette Baldock passed away on April 24, 2022. She taught for over 40 years and retired in 2012.

