

Monday Memo

Upcoming Dates

MARCH

- 5 Bargaining Committee Meeting
- 6 Executive Committee Meeting
Pro-D Committee Meeting
- 7 Surrey School Board Meeting
[Workshop Presenter Workshop](#)
- 8 [BCTF AGM Prep Meeting](#)
[International Women's Day](#)
Peer Support Training
- 9-11 Semiahmoo + Earl Marriott
Spring Pow Wow
- 13 Convention Committee Meeting
Executive Committee and Chairs
Liaison Meeting
- 19-23 Spring Break
- 21 [International Day for the Elimination
of Racial Discrimination](#)
- 26-29 School Closure Days
- 31 Transgender Day of Visibility

Monday Memo: How To

Did you know that any [BLUE TEXT](#) is an active hyper-link?

Simply click on the blue writing to get more information and details!

Do you have something to share?

Is there an upcoming event or professional learning opportunity that your colleagues might be interested in? Let us know!

Did you read a really powerful article or book? Tell us about it!

Do you have feedback, comments or questions? We're all ears!

Please send your contributions to [KELLY](#).

International Women's Day: March 8, 2018



Women have been making waves in the media recently. Events such as the Women's Marches brought people together in support of feminism all over North America. The #MeToo movement is a heartbreaking reality check of just how many women experience sexual harassment and assault. The pay gap is real. [MACLEAN'S MAGAZINE](#), in an effort to bring the issue to the forefront, recently released an edition where they charged male readers 26% more than female readers!

Surrey teacher, Sonja van der Putten, recently published an excellent article in the [BCTF'S TEACHER MAGAZINE](#) addressing gender equality with students. It's on [PAGE 6](#) and you should definitely check it out.

If you choose to acknowledge [INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY](#) with your classes on March 8, there are many resources available to help:

- The Status of Women Canada Organization has put together the "[EDUCATOR'S TOOL KIT](#)" with materials designed to engage students, spark conversations, or lead activities in your classroom.
- The [BCTF'S STATUS OF WOMEN](#) Committee also has a compilation of lesson plans, workshops, and resources, including this [BEAUTIFUL POSTER](#) (available in English and French) that highlights 100 years of women's rights milestones.
- If you're looking for lesson plans, made for teachers by teachers, [TEACHBC](#) has you covered.

"Best Efforts" Conversations

Secondary Staff Reps! We still need your help!

As we continue to pressure the District to fully restore our stripped language, we rely on the information only you are able to provide. We will be sending Secondary Staff Reps information about Semester 2 classes in their school, and asking them to help us determine whether "best efforts" were made at the school to ensure classes are in compliance with the restored class size and composition language. Sometimes, it is not always possible despite "best efforts", and the remedy agreement would apply. But it is essential to have those important conversations to ensure that "best efforts" were made.

In addition, examining the data (which includes the number of students and designations in each class) will help flag classes that should generate remedy, but were missed by HR.

The STA Executive Committee passed the following motion:

THAT secondary staff representatives be released up to 1.5 days to gather necessary data to verify best efforts at school level to comply with restored class size and composition provisions with funds to come from PEAP.

If more time is required to complete this important work, or you have any questions, please contact [GIOIA](#) directly.

WORKSHOP FOR WORKSHOP PRESENTERS



Have your co-workers been urging you to share the great work you do? Have you been thinking about sharing that great work with your colleagues at the STA Convention on May 4, 2018? Are you unsure about sharing because you would like some pointers about how to give an effective presentation to your peers?

We can help! Our "Workshop for Workshop Presenters" is just what you need! Join us at the STA office on March 7, 2018 from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM. Bring along your workshop ideas and we will help you plan a great workshop. Tips, tricks, pointers, suggestions and (most importantly) snacks will be provided. **REGISTER NOW!**

Local Specialist Associations



Do you belong to one of Surrey's LSAs? Do you meet regularly, or have a meeting coming up? The next time your LSA gets together we encourage you to discuss bargaining priorities. If there is a particular issue or concern that you'd like to bring up with the STA Bargaining Committee, they want to hear from you. You're invited to submit a written report or make a presentation at a future meeting (date TBD). For now, start the conversation and bounce around ideas. Bargaining is still a ways away, but the time to brainstorm is now! Reports can be submitted via email to the **STA** office.

A Message from Murwarid Ziayee, Canadian Women for Women in Afghanistan Senior Director



According to a new study conducted by the Women, Peace and Security Index, Afghanistan is ranked as the second worst country for women. Afghan women fall at or near the bottom in almost every measure: life expectancy, maternal mortality, access to education, access to health care, security, job, and domestic violence. Simply, all their constitutional freedoms.

What that study does not say is that Afghan women stop at nothing. They not only fight for their rights every day, but also for a peaceful country. They strive to defeat any extremism or injustice that holds them back. They risk their lives to go to schools and universities and to work outside their homes in positions as diverse as they are. Like you and me, the women of Afghanistan take pride in their achievements in education, sports, music, and much more. Whether formally educated or not, they are well-informed of their rights and believe that the only way to fight violence, injustice and other setbacks is to strengthen their position in their home, community and workplace.

They are brave—actually among the most courageous women of this era. Even when they know their lives are at risk they are not discouraged. They continue to struggle to achieve. Not even the lack of governmental or legal support can stop them. Shamsia, a teacher trained in the CW4WAfghan Fanoos Program, is one of those thousands of brave women. Shamsia survived a serious attack for going to school in 2005, but she could not be stopped from following her dream to become a teacher and educate women—even while the government failed to prosecute or punish the perpetrators.

How far have women like Shamsia come? For the first time, women are establishing movements like #WhereIsMyName, a campaign to end a history of only being referred to as the mother, daughter or sister of the eldest male in the family, and living without their names recorded on their children's birth certificates. The only female television channel, ZAN, has been established, along with the Yoga Center in Kabul run for women by a woman, and the first women's fashion magazine, Gellara, has been published. These are only a few of the hundreds of unique initiatives and achievements happening today and giving rise to awareness in big cities and remote villages alike.

Join us on March 8th as we celebrate and commemorate International Women's Day as a wheel that keeps this momentum going. Stand with Afghan women to urge community leaders to move from slogans to actions—actions that give women equal opportunity to practice and enjoy their full human rights!

Murwarid Ziayee
Senior Director
Canadian Women for Women in Afghanistan

The STA's Status of Women Committee has supported the Canadian Women for Women in Afghanistan organization for many years, including fundraising initiatives to supply much needed educational materials to their local schools.

Canadian Women for Women in Afghanistan (CW4WAfghan) is a member-based, Canadian federally registered not-for-profit organization founded in 1998 to advance education and educational opportunities for Afghan women and their families, and to educate Canadians about human rights in Afghanistan.

Visit www.CW4WAfghan.ca to learn more.

BCTF Publications



SEEDS OF SOCIAL JUSTICE

A monthly newsletter outlining the focus topic (this month is antiracism) as well as important social justice dates/events for the upcoming month.

DISPATCH

Specifically for TTOCs, this newsletter provides answers to common questions as well as offering resources and opportunities for teachers teaching on call.

TEACHER MAGAZINE

This is the BCTF's special interest magazine, published multiple times per year. It features articles written by teachers as well as BCTF staff and generally speaks to a theme that is wide-reaching. For example, this month's issue includes pieces on feminism and women's rights, as well as tackling issues, such as gender identity, and advocating for disadvantaged students.

DENIAL: Department Head Release Days

We have received reports that the District has been denying department head release days as a result of the TTOC shortage. The collective agreement says:

B.29.7 LEADERSHIP AND ORGANIZATIONAL TIME

a. Each school year, leadership and organizational time shall be provided to each department or program according to the following formula:

- 10-20 Teaching Blocks = 7 days
- 21-34 Teaching Blocks = 11 days
- 35 or more Teaching Blocks = 15 days

b. The use of this time shall be jointly determined by the Principal / Vice Principal and the Department Head.

c. This time may be assigned, for specific purposes, to other members of the department.

If you are a department head, and will be unable to use some or all of the DH release days this year, please get in touch with [MATT](#).

ATTENTION: Career Development Facilitators!

Surrey's AGM Delegates are working on a resolution to improve your working conditions, but they need your help.

This is the wording of resolution they are developing:

That the BCTF, as part of its preparation for bargaining, establish non-enrolling staffing ratios for Career Development Facilitators (CDF) or similar positions.

Can you provide some details that can be used to support this resolution at the AGM in March?

A few words outlining the following would be extremely helpful:

- How has your job changed over the years, especially now that career education is an important component of the new curriculum?
- What is your current caseload?
- What are your responsibilities?

Please reply to [LIZANNE FOSTER](#). All personal information will be kept strictly confidential and your name or other identifiers will not be used.

Thank you, in advance, for sharing your experiences.



KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Naomi Klein



Seth Klein

Reclaiming Common Ground

A CROSS BORDER SOCIAL JUSTICE CONFERENCE FOR BC, WA, AND OR TEACHERS

APRIL 7, 2018 • 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM • SULLIVAN HEIGHTS SECONDARY

Only \$35 -
Lunch included

Excellent Selection
of Social Justice
Workshops

Amazing Keynote
Speakers

We invite teachers and activists to examine and re-imagine the public school as common ground for the nurturing of the progressive democratic ideals of equity, inclusion and justice. We encourage participants to reflect on their students' development as citizens capable of understanding the issues of poverty, racism, homophobia, disabilities and culture. Teachers are in a position to respond to these themes in the classroom in a way that upholds basic democratic ideals and principles.

crossborderconference.weebly.com

Registration
open now



Semiahmoo First Nation & Earl Marriott (SD 36)



Spring Pow Wow

"Showcasing Youth & Talent"

March 9th, 10th and 11th, 2018

Earl Marriott Secondary

15751-16th Avenue, Surrey, British Columbia

Emcee

Francis James

Whipman

Lawrence Trottier

Head Lady

Anahi Palomec McKenna

Head Man

Joseph Paul

Jr Head Lady

Mackenzie Paul

Jr Head Man

Zactzevul McKenna

Grand Entry Schedule

Friday –

Seeking Dressed Dancers for
Educational Sessions
(9am & 1pm)
Monetary gifts provided.

7pm Grand Entry

Saturday - 1pm & 7pm

Sunday - 1pm



Featured Specials

Teen & Adult Combined unless
Otherwise noted

- Various AD & MC special
- Pow Wow Committee
Spotlight Dance-Saturday
- Women's Jingle
Spotlight
- Men's Chicken
Spotlight
- Outgoing Royalty Specials
- Possible Head Dancer Specials

Pow Wow Committee

- Not responsible for any lost
or stolen items
- Zero Tolerance for Drugs or
Alcohol
- No Outside Raffles or 50/50's

Host Drum: Black Fish

Public Event

Everyone Welcome



Hotel Sponsor (Pow Wow Rate)

Pacific Inn Resort &
Conference Centre
1160 King George Blvd.,
Surrey BC V4A 4Z1
Reservations: 844-233-7922

Main Contact:

Michael MacKay-Dunn

Vendor, Dancers, Drummers

Michael MacKay-Dunn

mackaydunn_m@surreyschools.ca

cell: 604-836-3720

Scent Awareness

A message from Health & Safety:

Did you know that all Surrey Schools and District buildings, as well as the STA office and STA events, are designated as “Scent Aware” spaces? This means that all employees, staff, teachers, and students should refrain from wearing scented products when at school or work. Many people have issues with scented products, ranging from mild irritations and sneezing to headaches or full blown allergy attacks. Please be mindful of the scents in your life and do what you can to minimize the negative effects these products have on others. Keep in mind that scent sensitivity goes beyond the obvious perfumes and colognes. Many products like lotions, laundry detergents, cleaning supplies, hand sanitizers, and essential oils can be harmful to others.

Lately there has been a surge in the popularity of essential oils and, while there may be benefits to personal use, an essential oil diffuser should not be used on School District property. It might make your classroom smell nice but there’s a myriad of risks involved. Essential oils affect the human body quickly especially when inhaled. Severe allergies to citrus are common; even if the person with said allergy wasn’t in your classroom, they could be affected just by walking down the hall. You can’t be sure that a student, colleague, CUPE member, or TTOC won’t have an adverse reaction to the essential oil you chose to diffuse.

Please be considerate of others and keep scented products at home for personal use. Should you have any questions or concerns, please don’t hesitate to reach out to [KRISTINE](#).

Convention is Coming!



The STA Convention Committee is actively seeking workshop proposals!

Did you know that this is one of the largest Pro-D events organized by teachers for teachers? None of it would be possible without your help.

Please consider sharing the awesome work you do with your colleagues. We are our own greatest resource. There are SO MANY incredible teachers doing all sorts of wonderful things in their classroom. Share and inspire others! If you know a colleague does great work, consider encouraging them to facilitate a session. You don’t have to go it alone - present as a team.

If you’re ready to submit a proposal, please do so online. If you’ve got some questions, please email [JUNE](#). If you want help planning a workshop [SIGN UP FOR OUR “WORKSHOP FOR WORKSHOP PRESENTERS”](#) this Wednesday.



Looking for
information
about Job
Sharing?

[CLICK HERE](#)



Looking for information
about Remedy
and Compliance?

[CLICK HERE](#)

Joke of the Week

One hydrogen atom said to the other,
“Hey, I think I’ve lost my electron!”

The other replied, “Are you sure?!”

“Yes,” said the first. “I’m positive!”

Thanks to TTOC Chelsea P.
for this week’s joke!

If you have a short, clean, (but not necessarily education-related) joke, please email it to [KELLY](#).

If your joke is drawn for publication, you will be entered into the monthly prize draw for a **\$25 Indigo gift certificate**.

Congratulations to Jezreel R. who won the February draw!

CONTACT US!

Reach us by phone at **604-594-5353** or via [EMAIL](#).

Please do not hesitate to call the STA office whenever you have a question or concern. We cannot emphasize enough the importance of getting advice from your Union on any employment related issue, even if it’s only to confirm information you’ve received from another source.