

Monday Memo

Upcoming Dates

APRIL

- 3 Schools Reopen
Deadline - Job Share Application
Executive Committee Meeting

- 5 Post AGM Meeting

- 7 Cross Border Conference

- 10-12 SURT - Staff Rep Training

- 17 Executive Committee Meeting

- 18 STARA Meeting

- 18-19 SURT - Staff Rep Training

- 23-24 SURT - Staff Rep Training

- 24 Executive and Committee
Chairs Liaison Meeting

- 28 National Day of Mourning

BCTF Annual General Meeting



(Photo Credit: BCTF)

The BCTF held its AGM from March 17-20 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Vancouver. Sixty-six STA delegates and local representatives gave up part of their Spring Break to represent their colleagues, meet teachers from across the province, and debate issues of importance to the Federation.

We are proud to announce that Surrey's **Lizanne Foster** (pictured), who teaches at Queen Elizabeth Secondary School, was elected to a two-year term as Member-at-Large on the BCTF Executive Committee. In addition, **Marjorie Dumont**, who taught in Surrey for many years and served on the STA's Aboriginal Education Committee before moving to Vancouver this year, was also elected a Member-at-Large. Congratulations to Lizanne and Marjorie!

Hoping for Helpful Homestay Hosts



Do you have a cozy yurt in your backyard? No? How about an extra bedroom?

The organizers of the **CROSS BORDER CONFERENCE** are hoping to facilitate homestays for the weekend of April 7, 2018. An exciting aspect of this conference is that it provides the opportunity to connect with colleagues from other parts of BC as well as from across the border.

If you're willing to offer up a spare bed, and help facilitate this awesome experience, please [CLICK HERE](#).



KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Naomi Klein



Seth Klein

This Saturday! 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.

*STA members can apply for Pro-D funds to cover the cost of the conference.

crossborderconference.weebly.com

Register
now!

STA Staff Rep Training April 2018

Staff Reps should pick one of the following dates to attend: **April 10, 11, 12, 18, 19, 23, 24**

STA OFFICE

Upstairs, 9030 King George Boulevard, Surrey

8:30 am – 2:45 pm

(Full Hot Lunch provided)

- Space is limited to 23 at each session
- Choose one of the two workshops that appeals to you or the needs of your school
- We recommend 1 rep per school but more are allowed as long as we have room

April 10, 11, 12

Education Change: The Big Picture

This workshop provides reps with the “big picture” issues in education change including the importance of:

- the school community and the values that are fundamental to public education.
- the teacher’s professional voice, autonomy, and collective agreement rights related to education change.
- resources, support, and working conditions necessary for the successful implementation of education change.
- a thorough understanding of the many elements of the government’s education change plans, including revised curriculum.
- member, local, and BCTF involvement, through appropriate processes, in any education change initiatives.

April 18, 19, 23, 24

Creating Inclusive Spaces: Applying an Equity and Inclusion Lens to Your Local, Schools and Classrooms

This workshop will provide teachers with strategies to help contribute to more inclusive environments. Participants will be introduced to a number of barriers to inclusion based on race, gender identity, sexual orientation, class and physical ability. They will then explore strategies and resources available on the BCTF Equity and Inclusion webpages to address these barriers. Through an inquiry model, participants will begin thinking about specific actions they can take in their classrooms, schools, locals, and communities.

STEP 1: REGISTER VIA OUR WEBSITE

<http://www.surreyteachers.org/staff-rep-training-april2018>

Due to limited parking at the sta office, please try to come early, take transit or be willing to park elsewhere in the neighbourhood.

STEP 2: BOOK YOUR TTOC/LOA

(Once you receive registration confirmation)

Leave type: STA Business

Article G.21.7.h

Details: School Union Rep Training

Leave: with pay

Cost of TTOC: to be borne by STA

Attention: Julia MacRae



Sharing is Caring! Workshops needed for STA Convention

Do you have a really great lesson plan? Maybe you recently discovered a resource that you just love! Would you consider facilitating a sharing session during the STA Convention?

You don't need to be nervous about putting on a workshop, just bring something to share, and encourage others to do the same. Your session could have a theme, or target a specific grade level/subject area. This is an excellent opportunity to get together with colleagues and celebrate successes.

Please continue to encourage your colleagues to share their great ideas by presenting at Convention.

If you have any questions at all, you can email [JUNE JAMES](#), Professional Development Officer. If you're ready to [SUBMIT A PROPOSAL](#), please do so online.

"Justice-To-Go" DVD Library

Did you know that the STA's Social Justice Committee has curated a large collection of social justice themed documentaries on DVD which are available for loan to Surrey Teachers? There are films for a wide range of grade levels and theme areas, from war and peace issues to water privatization, immigration, globalization and many, many more.

Borrowing is so easy! Simply browse the [LIST OF TITLES ONLINE](#), email your choices to [JULIA MACRAE](#), 2nd Vice-President, and they'll arrive via courier. After a few weeks, you can return the DVDs to the STA office the same way!

Grievance: Department Head and Program Release Days

We have filed a grievance regarding the District's refusal to grant department head and other program release days under Article B.29.7 of the collective agreement, and the restrictions it has placed on when they can be booked. If you have been unable to use some or all of your DH days, and have not already informed the STA office about it, please email [MATT WESTPHAL](#) with details about your situation.

Seeking Volunteers!

The [UNION PROTEIN PROJECT](#) (formerly the Protein for People organization) is looking for volunteers to help with food distribution at Lena Shaw Elementary on **Saturday, April 21, 2018**. If you could give a couple of hours of your time to help out, it would be great! We are pleased to participate in this multi union project to supplement the protein available at food banks. There is so much poverty and hunger in our district, it is wonderful to work together to alleviate it. Please email [JULIA MACRAE](#) to let her know about your availability.



Parlez-Vous Français?

French teachers, this one's for you! If you're interested in furthering your language skills, the Institut de Français, UBC à Quebec might be just what you're looking for. This 2-week immersion experience takes place from July 2-20, 2018 and participants are eligible to apply for a bursary which covers up to 50% of the cost.

Apply before April 27, 2018 to secure your spot. [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

Joke of the Week



Hey! Do you want to hear a joke about a piece of paper?

Never mind. It's tearable.

Thanks to Kendra W. 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**.

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.