

# Monday Memo

## Recognition of Aboriginal Territory

The STA acknowledges that we work on the traditional and unceded territories of the Kwantlen, Katzie, Semiahmoo, and Qayqayt First Nations. We thank them for allowing us to work on this territory.

## Upcoming Dates

### JANUARY

23-24 Staff Rep Training:  
Preparation for Bargaining (full)

23 Special General Meeting  
at Bombay Banquet Hall

### FEBRUARY

5 New Teachers' Conference (full)

6 [Workshop for Workshop Presenters](#)

7 [Job Share Meeting](#)

12 [New Teachers' Conference](#)  
(1 spot left)

## Cross Border Conference: Teaching for Joy and Justice



Would you like to present at our [cross-border conference](#) taking place Saturday, March 2nd in Surrey?

The shape of the day will be keynote, workshop, workshop, dinner, playnote. We hope to have between 500 and 1000 participants, and may be able to repeat some workshops.

You are invited to submit a [proposal](#) for a 90-minute workshop.

[Registration](#) now open, too!

## Special General Meeting

Our next STA Special General Meeting is tomorrow, January 23 at the Bombay Banquet Hall. At this meeting, you will be deciding what our local bargaining objectives will be. We will also be voting on who will get to represent Surrey as a delegate to the BCTF AGM, which is taking place in Victoria this year! There will be a vote for positions on the Judicial Council of the BCTF, as well as a couple of proposed By-Law amendments. Of course, let's not forget the free butter chicken and other delicious dishes that will be available throughout the whole meeting - you do not want to miss it!

## Sock it to me!

The STA Anti-Poverty Committee is collecting new socks to be donated to local shelters. We will be collecting at the STA Special General Meeting on Wednesday, January 23 at the Bombay Banquet Hall. You can also courier #000 the socks to the STA office.

## Zone Model of Representation

STARA Steering is investigating how to better serve members through STARA. One suggestion is to host meetings by zone for Staff Reps and members to come and share school concerns. Another is to coordinate zonal groupings and interaction at current STARA meetings.

This model could be expressly for Staff Reps or could intentionally include other members. (All members are always welcome to attend STARA already.) The BCTF hosts 2 zone meetings annually in 6 zones where representatives from Professional Development, Social Justice, Bargaining, Health and Safety and other committees meet both individually and as full zone memberships.

Please submit your thoughts about a this zone model of representation to [sta@surreyteachers.org](mailto:sta@surreyteachers.org).

## CONTEST: Rename the Monday Memo!

While we do our best to get our weekly memo out to you on Monday, sometimes this does not happen. Even when we do, many members may not receive it or read it until later in the week depending on when the staff reps are able to forward the memo to our members and when our members find time to read their work emails. Thus, we would like to change the name of our weekly memo. If you have an idea for a name, please send them to [communications@surreyteachers.org](mailto:communications@surreyteachers.org). The deadline for submissions is on February 5th. The prize will be a gift card!

## Job Sharing: All the information you need



Join your colleagues on Thursday, February 7 at Eaglequest from 3:30 pm to 6:00 pm to connect with potential job share partners and learn about your rights when it comes to job shares. The STA will facilitate this information session and answer any questions you may have. In addition to taking you through the application process, you will learn about possible denials and what options you have available to you. Bring your questions! Snacks and beverages will be provided. Babies welcome!

Register at [jobshare2019.eventbrite.ca](https://jobshare2019.eventbrite.ca)

February 7, 2019 • 3:30 pm - 6:00 pm • Eaglequest Golf Centre

## Opportunity for Members: BCTF Women's Institute

Do you identify as a woman? Are you new to union leadership? (Psst... that includes you, staff reps!) Would you like to connect with other like-minded women from all over the province?

The BCTF will be holding its 2nd annual Women's Institute: Bread and Roses; Gathering Strength, Gaining Ground from 7:00 pm on Thursday, March 7 to 1:00 pm on Saturday, March 9, 2019, at the Pacific Gateway Hotel in Richmond.

The purpose of this event is to:

1. Create an opportunity for members who identify as women to share their experiences, build community, and learn new leadership skills and strategies together.
2. Support and inspire women's leadership in the workplace, union, and broader community.
3. Deepen understanding of women's issues, feminist analyses, intersectionality, and effective collective organizing.
4. Celebrate the contributions of women in the union, profession, and community.
5. Gather feedback from the participants' lived experiences as to the opportunities for, and challenges to, participation at the school, local, and community levels.

This event has been described as "life-changing". Our Surrey delegate from last year ended up successfully pursuing leadership on our Executive Committee, and she credits her sparked interest in leadership to what she learned at the Women's Institute.

Each local has been asked to select one delegate to attend again this year. The BCTF will also be appointing an additional 20 delegates selected from the membership at large, with preference given to those who, in addition to identifying as women, are members of other equity-seeking groups and who did not attend the 2017–18 Women's Institute.

To apply as a Surrey delegate: Please submit your name and a brief statement to [sta@surreyteachers.org](mailto:sta@surreyteachers.org) by **Friday, January 25, 2019**.

To apply as a BCTF at-large candidate: Please submit your completed CV form electronically by Monday, **January 28, 2019**, at 5:00 pm. A CV application form can be found on the BCTF website at <https://bctf.ca/forms/CV/>

## Help Us Get To Know You!

At the Surrey Teachers' Association, we strive to keep you informed of current issues in education and of your rights as a Surrey teacher. One of the objectives of the Surrey Teachers' Association to represent its members and to regulate relations with their employer through collective bargaining of terms and conditions of employment. The Surrey Teachers' Association recognizes that all members need to be involved in pursuing local bargaining objectives in order to seek needed improvements to the working and learning conditions in our school communities. To assist in meeting the needs of our members, we want to know more about the unique characteristics that blend to create our association. Please consider assisting in furthering the goal of promoting member welfare, equity and inclusion in our local by volunteering the anonymous information requested in this [survey](#). Thank you in advance for your participation.



## Have your coworkers been urging you to share the great work that you do?

Have you been thinking about sharing that great work with your colleagues at the STA Convention on May 3, 2019? Are you not sure about sharing because you would like some pointers about how to give an effective presentation to your peers? Our Workshop for Workshop Presenters on February 6 from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm at the STA Office is just for you! Bring along your workshop ideas and we will give you some valuable pointers and some time to plan your presentation. Snacks will be provided. Register at <https://wfwf-feb2019.eventbrite.ca>.

## STA CONVENTION 2019

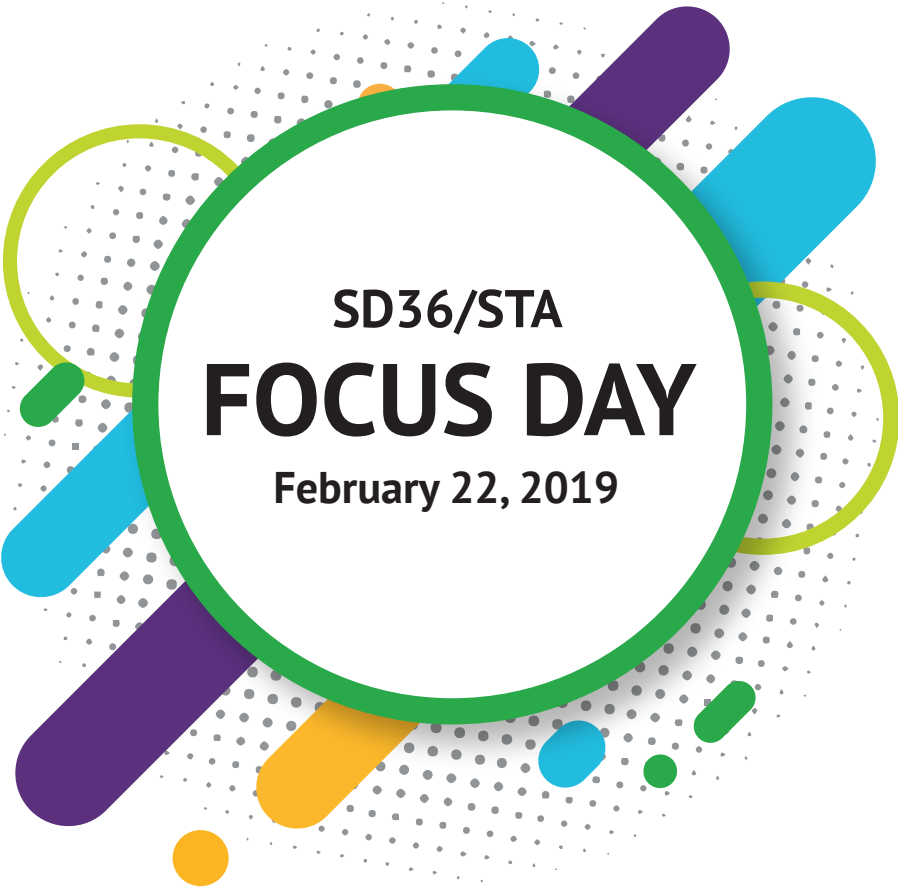


## Can You Help with Primary, Intermediate Sites or Excursions?

The STA Convention is the largest convention in the province that is put on by teachers for teachers, and we need you! There are currently vacancies for two members each on the Primary and Intermediate sub-committees and one member on the Excursions sub-committee. If you are interested in helping to organize a great convention, please complete the [STA Committee Curriculum Vitae Form](#) and return it to June James, STA Pro-D Officer.

## Do You Do Great Things in Your Classroom?

The STA Convention on May 3, 2019 is the largest convention put on by teachers for teachers in British Columbia. We know Surrey teachers are doing great work with their students and the website is now open for workshop proposals. If you have a great idea you would like to share with your colleagues, please [submit your proposal](#).



## SD36/STA FOCUS DAY February 22, 2019

**NORTH SURREY SECONDARY**  
**15945 – 96TH AVENUE**  
**8:30 AM – 1:30 PM**

**REGISTER: [WWW.SURREYFOCUSDAY.CA](http://WWW.SURREYFOCUSDAY.CA)**

### WORKSHOPS

**Raising Socially Responsible and Caring Students**  
Colleen Drobot, Neufeld Institute

**Exploration of Sound, Music and Movement**  
Dr. Annabella Cant

**Meaningfully Integrating Virtual and Augmented Reality in Social Studies**  
Corrine Penner and Jonathan Nilson

**What the Heck is Rekenrek?**  
Stephanie Turner

**Marking Up the Wrong Tree: Conversations about teaching, assessment, and reporting**  
Kelli O'Malley

**Nurturing Language With Non-Fiction Picture Books**  
Courtney Jones and Ginny Tambre

**Science & Literacy – A Mixture that Works!**  
Karen Coumont and Celine Feazel

**Sixties Scoop**  
Davita Marsden

### SURREY ENGLISH TEACHERS ASSOCIATION SUMMIT

**Reading & Making Surrey Literature**  
Kyle McKillop

**A Gradeless Classroom**  
Amrita Kalsi

**Making Sense of the Proficiency Scale**  
Angela Kailie and Shenny Nanji

## THEME: “IGNITING MINDS”

### KEYNOTE

#### IGNITING MINDS

How is information turned into knowledge? Under what conditions do people learn? What is the role of education in the development of societies? What kind of teaching fosters critical thinking and problem solving? This presentation is about the relationship between agency and education. It considers the power of education to transform individuals, their communities, and ultimately, whole societies. From the magic inherent in the moment when a child learns to read to the power of literature to bring hope during the darkest moments in our history, Lauryn delivers an enthusiastic ode to learning, and in particular, to the pivotal role of teachers in igniting young minds.

#### DR. LAURYN OATES



Lauryn is a fierce proponent of the universalism of human rights, and frequently speaks out for global citizenship in the Canadian and international media. She is the recipient of several awards and distinctions, including a Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal awarded by the province of BC.

In 2008, The Globe & Mail named Lauryn as the first of Ten Canadians to Watch in 2009. She holds a BA in international development (McGill University), an MA in human security (Royal Roads University) and a PhD in language and literacy education (University of British Columbia). She has taught graduate students at the School of Humanitarian Studies at Royal Roads University since 2014.

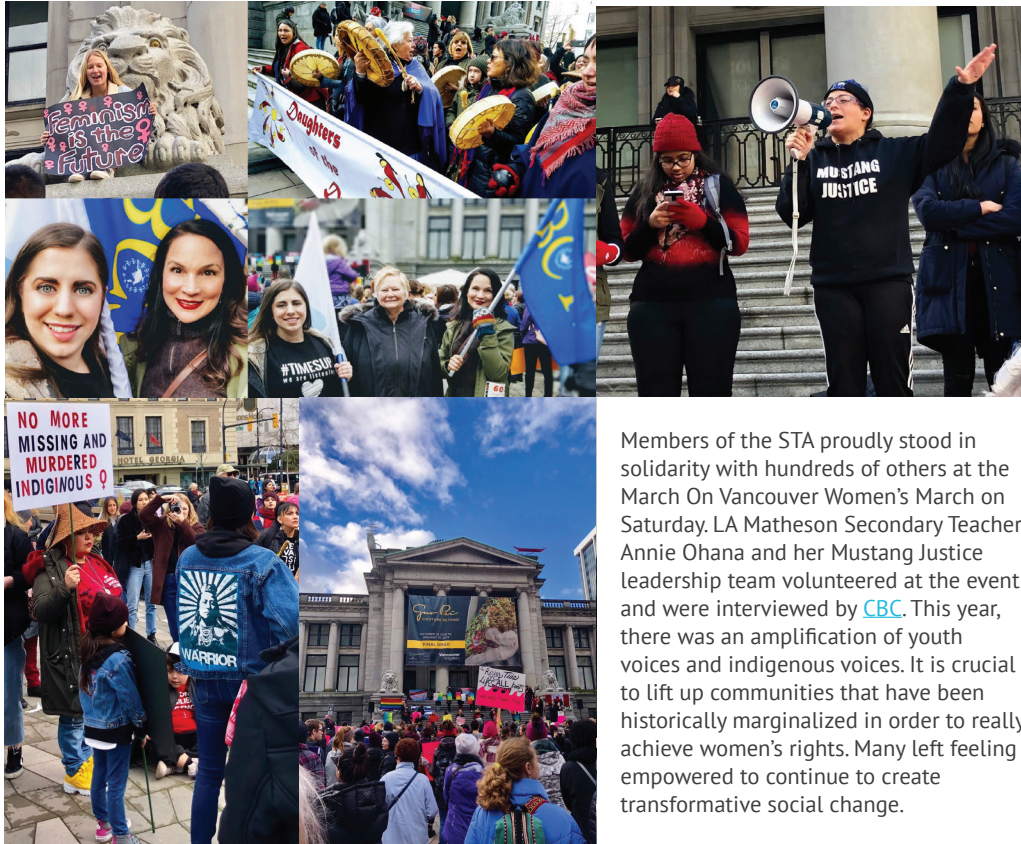


## Nominations Open for Prestigious BCTF Awards

Nominations are now open for the BCTF's provincial awards. The winners are invited to the Annual General Meeting to be honoured by colleagues from across the province.

- [The Bob Rosen Social Justice Award](#) is granted to a member or honorary associate member who has made an outstanding and sustained contribution in working for systemic change on issues of social justice. Applications are due by January 31, 2019.
- [The Stewart Schon Award](#) is granted to a member or honorary associate member who has made an outstanding and sustained contribution to the health and safety of BCTF members. Applications are due by January 31, 2019.
- [The G.A. Fergusson Award](#) is granted annually to a BCTF member (or former member) who has made an outstanding contribution to public education. Applications are due by February 10, 2019.
- Nominations are also open for [Honorary Life Memberships](#). Applications are due by February 10, 2019.

## March On Vancouver Women's March #donewaiting



Members of the STA proudly stood in solidarity with hundreds of others at the March On Vancouver Women's March on Saturday. LA Matheson Secondary Teacher Annie Ohana and her Mustang Justice leadership team volunteered at the event, and were interviewed by [CBC](#). This year, there was an amplification of youth voices and indigenous voices. It is crucial to lift up communities that have been historically marginalized in order to really achieve women's rights. Many left feeling empowered to continue to create transformative social change.

## Opportunity for Members: Grade 7 Girls Leadership Conference

The STA Status of Women Committee is once again planning our annual Grade 7 Girls' Conference. We believe an event for Grade 7 girls can improve their self-confidence at a crucial developmental stage just before high school. We need teachers able to work with us to give the girls a fun and inspiring day. The conference will be taking place on the Pro-D day, Monday, May 27, 2019 at Princess Margaret Secondary. The day will begin at 8:30 am and end by 2:30 pm. Presenters will present for 3 sessions, about 1 hour and 15 minutes each. **Feminist teachers! We need your input!**

Please send a proposal to [communications@surreyteachers.org](mailto:communications@surreyteachers.org) ASAP if you are able to offer your time and talents to this event.

## SURREY PRIMARY TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

### STORY WORKSHOP

Tuesday, January 29th, 2019 • 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM • Mary Jane Shannon Elementary

Presenters: [Kerri Hutchinson](#) & [Kim DeSchutter](#)

Stories live inside ourselves, the children we teach, and the materials we use. Imagining, creating and sharing our stories help us learn about ourselves and connect us to one another. Through a strength based lens, story workshop provides the foundation for playful and joyful storytelling and writing for every learner. Explore and engage in conversations where we will look at ways to set up story workshop, structure focus lessons, engage in formative assessment, and help connect many of the core competencies, big ideas, curricular competencies and content in the Language Arts curriculum through the joy of storytelling in your classroom!

Register: [www.spta36.weebly.com](http://www.spta36.weebly.com)

This workshop will focus on how to set up story workshop, structure focus lessons, and make connections to many core competencies, big ideas, and curricular competencies.

Snacks, refreshments, and door prizes included

SPTA Members: Free  
Non-members and out-of-district: \$10  
Please make cheques payable to: SPTA  
Send to Sylvie Afilal @ Courier #117



## Big Ideas Dance Show



The Big Ideas Dance Show, taking place on January 24, 2019, is a cross-curricular dance show where students use their knowledge in all other subject areas (such as science, math, social justice and English) as inspiration to create a dance! In the past, we have had dances inspired by graphing formulas in pre-calc, a dance that was inspired by the novels and short stories read in English, dances created to illustrate the idea of assimilation that they learned from social studies and dances that speak to social justice topics like gender roles, homelessness, bullying etc.

This year the show includes dances from the following Surrey Secondary School dance programs: Fleetwood Park, North Surrey, Sullivan Heights, Frank Hurt and Salish Secondary! The show will vary in dance genres from hip-hop to contemporary to break dancing. There will be live dance performances as well as dance videos created using their skills from digital media 11/12.

As of right now, the dances in this show are exclusively from secondary schools. Is there any interest from elementary schools in Surrey to participate in the Big Ideas Show next year? We know there are many teachers out there who are already using embodiment in the classroom. Do you have a dance or would you be interested in creating a dance with your students that shows the stages of water for science? A dance that helps students embody math concepts? We just want to know if this appeals at all to elementary school teachers.

For more information, check out our website [www.msvalencia.ca/bigideasdance](http://www.msvalencia.ca/bigideasdance)

## Qualifications Deadline for Positions Requiring Special Training/Experience: Get into the Qualified Book!

We are expecting that there will be a large number of postings for positions that require special training or specific experience, especially LST and IST teachers for the next school year. In order to be shortlisted in Rounds 1 and 2, teachers need to be listed in the District Qualification Book. Teachers who are interested in changing their assignments to such positions need to apply to the Human Resources Department by **January 31st** to have their qualifications evaluated. The evaluation will be completed by March 31. (CA, Article E.28.1)

Job descriptions and evaluation forms for specific jobs can be found on the District website at <https://www.surreyschools.ca/careers/jobdescriptionhandbook/Pages/default.aspx>

## Shout Out!

We are so proud to be Surrey Teachers and we know there are amazing things happening around the district that we would love to hear about. In the spirit of acts of kindness, we would love for our members to send us a "shout out" about a colleague who inspires you and who you think deserves recognition, whether it is for their kindness, a great resource they shared recently, or an awesome lesson they teach.

### This week's shout out is from Christina Sandhu to Kim Martinez:

*"I wanted to give Kim Martinez at Frank Hurt Secondary a shout out. She is a teacher that inspires me as she is always trying to find ways to make her class engaging and fun! She is very creative in her activities and even stays for hours after school to collaborate with newer teachers in her department. She coaches volleyball, is one of the teacher supervisors for Student Council, and member of the social committee. I wish I was a student in her class! The other day she didn't get to eat her lunch and she was hungry. But, she saw a student who had very low energy and didn't eat anything either so she gave the student her only granola bar... She ALWAYS puts her students first!"*

Thank you Christina, you and Kim are now entered into our monthly draw for a \$25 Indigo! gift certificate. Please submit your "shout outs" to Angela via [communications@surreyteachers.org](mailto:communications@surreyteachers.org) to spread the kindness around our local and for your chance to win a gift card too!

## School Visits – We Want to Visit All our Members!



As you probably know, we do regular lunch visits throughout the school year to give all STA members a chance to meet their union officers, ask questions, and feel connected to their union. We have already visited 54 schools in the fall, and have 10 more already booked in January and February. If your school would like a visit, please contact Julia at [1vp@surreyteachers.org](mailto:1vp@surreyteachers.org) to suggest a date, and we will book a table officer to visit you. Teachers have questions about bargaining, strategy, the transfer rounds, remedy, supervision, lost prep time, professional development, professional rights, and many other topics, and we want to answer them.

## REACH OUT!

Reach us by phone at 604-594-5353 or via email at [sta@surreyteachers.org](mailto:sta@surreyteachers.org).

Please do not hesitate to contact 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.