

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

March

16-22: Spring Break

23-31: School Closure Days

16-19: BCTF AGM

April

9-11: Staff Rep Training

10: BCTF AGM Delegates
DeBriefing Meeting 4:00-6:00
@ The STA

16-18: Staff Rep Training

17: STARA @ EagleQuest Golf
Center

Scott Harris

We are very sad to report that recently retired Surrey teacher Scott Harris suddenly passed away February 28 after retiring from Woodland Park Elementary in December, where he'd taught for more than two years. He was also a teacher at Royal Heights for more than 20 years. No public service is planned. He is fondly remembered by colleagues and former students.



New Bargaining Updates

Since bargaining between the BCTF and BCPSEA officially opened on February 19, 2019, the two sides have met several times. There have been multiple meetings each week and there are many dates set until June 30, 2019. There are now three bargaining updates for members to review on the [MyBCTF portal](#). Talks are still in early stages.

All members have access to the portal and need to log in using their member ID number. For members who have never accessed the member portal before, click the "Sign up now" button when you first arrive at [MyBCTF.ca](#). If you don't know your BCTF Member ID, you can register for the first time with your employee number. Please check your contact information is up to date while you are there.

Long Term Leave Applications Due

Long Term Leave of Absence applications (under article G.21.8) for the 2019/20 school year are due to Human Resources **by March 31, 2019**.

The LOA forms are available at your school office and can be sent in via Courier #481

STAFF REP TRAINING

APRIL 2019

STA Office (#201, 9030 King George Blvd)
8:30 am - 3:00 pm • Lunch & snacks provided

EACH REP MAY ATTEND
ONE TRAINING DAY



APRIL 9, 10, 11, 2019 [INSERT WORKSHOP]

[REPLACE THIS TEXT BOX WITH WORKSHOP
INFO]

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur
adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor
incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua.
Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud
exercitation ullamco laboris nisi ut aliquip
ex ea commodo consequat. Duis aute irure
dolor in reprehenderit in voluptate velit
esse cillum dolore eu fugiat nulla pariatur.
Excepteur sint occaecat cupidatat non
proident, sunt in culpa qui officia deserunt
mollit anim id est laborum.

APRIL 16, 17, 18, 2019 CONTRACT AWARENESS

This workshop is designed to increase
awareness of the restored and implemented
class size, class composition, non-enrolling
language, school-based team collective
agreement language and remedies in their
collective agreement.

- increase the problem-solving skills.
- increase confidence in their ability to
effectively function in their important role
at the school/worksite level.
- get familiarized with the restored and
implemented collective agreement
language and agreed to processes, such as
remedies, dispute resolution process and
joint committee on class composition.

STEP 1: REGISTER VIA EVENTBRITE

[INSERT NEW TOPIC]

<https://surt2019-mentorship.eventbrite.ca>

Contract Awareness

<https://surt2019-contract.eventbrite.ca>

STEP 2: BOOK YOUR TTOC/LOA

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: Jatinder Bir

UPDATE on Job Shares

[Job Share Proposals](#) for the 2019/20 school year need to be submitted to your administrator by April 1, 2019. However, the STA has just signed an agreement with the District to extend the job share deadline for some teachers as follows:

For the 2018/19 school year, the deadline of April 1, 2019 will be extended as follows. The deadline will be extended by one calendar week from the date that entitlements for a teacher's specific position were sent to principals (example: If Core Music entitlements are sent out to principals on April 5, Core Music teachers interested in a job share would have until April 12 to provide the job share proposal to the principal). Upon submission, principals shall have one week to provide the applicants with a written approval or rejection.

Job sharing must be arranged between two teachers who are under contract to the school district, and at least one teacher must have a 1.0 contract and a continuing assignment at a school. A teacher may not job share at a greater percentage than their contract percentage with the district (e.g. a teacher with a 40% contract may not assume a 50% job share). TTOCS and teachers on layoff are not eligible to job share.

You Are Invited! BBF Gala: Celebrating Bright Futures

The [Bright Beginnings Foundation \(BBF\)](#), in partnership with the STA Anti-Poverty Committee, is organizing their second annual fundraising gala, [Celebrating Bright Futures](#). BBF believes that everyone deserves to live a poverty-free life, and so in order to break the cycle of poverty they provide Surrey students with post-secondary tuition, living expenses, mentorship and an opportunity to dream. Enjoy a delicious dinner while being entertained by [The Maestro of MAGIC](#) and listening to the beautiful voice Surrey student/singer [Ashley Pater](#). There will also be a silent auction of wonderful donated items that range from spa treatments to holiday packages to photographic studio sessions, as well as door prizes and raffles. Why not organize some people at your school, dress up and attend this gala as a staff social?



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 83 schools this year. If your school would like a visit, please contact Julia at 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, and let members get to know us better.

Register your personally owned materials

Teachers who incur damage or loss to personally owned professional materials, including electronic devices brought to workplace as teaching aides, will be compensated to a maximum of \$750. However, in order to receive compensation, each teaching aid has to be registered in the school office at the beginning of the period of time it is kept in the school, a realistic estimate of the value of the aid needs to be recorded with registration, the loss or damage has to be more than five dollars and it cannot be the result of negligence. (Collective Agreement, Article B.7.3)

Health & Safety: WorkSafeBC

Have you been injured at work? Have you initiated a **WorkSafeBC** claim? Are you having difficulties with **WorkSafeBC**? Has **WorkSafeBC** denied or closed your claim?

Contact Sue Heuman via email hs@surreyteachers.org or phone (604) 592-8319 for advice and assistance. Sue can start the process and provide some advice on the next steps and may be able to refer you to the BCTF. You may not be aware that the BCTF has a WSBC advocate on staff who may be able to assist you in dealing with WSBC. We have had some success in getting claims reopened and opened upon appeal.

Day of Mourning School Project

Did you know that if a worker is injured or killed in BC the likelihood is that worker is young? It may be a former student or a current student in your class. On April 26, 2019, we remember the injured and killed workers, both young and not so young, in our schools. We want to impress upon the students that workers have the right to go to work and come home safe at the end of the day.

All secondary schools, learning centres and adult and continuing education centres, please register to receive a box of teaching and learning materials from the Day of Mourning School Program. Sign up your school or class to be entered to win one of ten \$200 Apple gift cards. Participation prizes and certificates will be also be awarded. Winners must complete a short post-project survey. The Principals, Vice Principals and all upper management support this commemoration too, and we hope all secondary schools make this a meaningful observation this year.



Petition for Pension Security

The Canadian Association of Retired Teachers has created a [petition](#) to encourage the federal government to increase the security of retirement income. This petition asks government to affirm the principle that pension promises cannot be broken for any service that has already been earned. It also asks government to protect the pensions of retirees by providing an insurance plan, paid for by pension plans, that would guarantee the benefits of retirees if their plan closes. It's easy to participate: visit www.pensionsecurity.ca and add your voice to this important call to action.



Children of God

See Urban Ink's critically-acclaimed show which transforms residential school trauma into a healing musical. [Children of God](#) is about an Oji-Cree family whose children were taken away to a residential school in Northern Ontario. This musical celebration of resilience and the power of the Indigenous cultural spirit will be at the [Surrey Arts Centre](#) on March 22 and 23.

STA CONVENTION 2019

Convention Sub-Committee Vacancies

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 attached STA Committee Curriculum Vitae Form and return it to June James, STA Pro-D Officer.

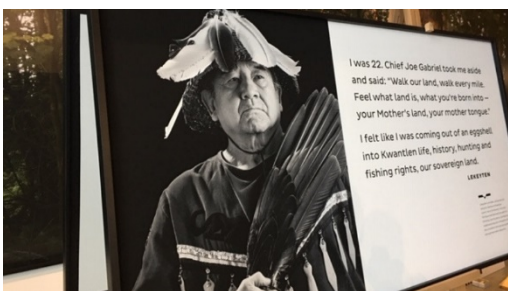
Do You Do Great Things in Your Classroom?

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 to www.staconvention.ca

Indigenous Art & Stories

An art and writing competition for self-identified Indigenous youth ages 6-29 in Canada, Indigenous Art & Stories aims to provide an opportunity towards cultural revitalization among Indigenous youth, as well as a national platform for expression. Youth are encouraged to submit pieces exploring Indigenous heritage, culture, or identity. Prizes include up to \$2000 in cash and a trip to Ottawa to be honoured at the Governor General's History Awards. The contest deadline is on March 31.

If you are looking for ideas to help students make a writing or art assignment that can be entered into the contest, check out these useful [learning tools](#).



We Are Kwantlen

Discover ancient artifacts connecting home, belonging, and place and enhance your Indigenous curriculum with a field trip to Museum of Surrey's [Indigenous Hall](#). The hall is currently showcasing 'We Are Kwantlen,' profiling Kwantlen members of today as they reflect on their ties to the past. Some of the ancient artifacts date back more than 12,000 years. Activity sheets available upon request.

Indigenous Educational Resources

SFU has created kindergarten to grade 12 [resources](#), with activities focusing on First Nations groups within British Columbia and more specifically the groups along the Northwest Coast. If you wish to learn more, please download this [Additional Resources PDF](#).

CBC has a [lesson plan](#) where students will examine the effects of relocation on the Innu of Davis Inlet. The Innu, whose name means "human being," and their ancestors have lived in the eastern portion of the Quebec-Labrador peninsula for over 2000 years. More than 16,000 Innu live in 11 communities in Quebec and in the communities of Sheshatshiu and Natuashish in Labrador. The Natuashish Innu were relocated from Davis Inlet in 2002.

2019 Digital Learning Symposium

On April 7-9, check out the annual Digital Learning Symposium at the Delta Burnaby Hotel. Discover innovative learning models supporting new curriculum in digital learning environments. This event is brought to you by the BC Partners in Online Learning, BlendEd BC, Educators for Distributed Learning, and the Canadian eLearning Network. Your Pro-D funds (school-based and consolidated) can be used to attend. [Registration](#) is open for groups and members!

Not a member of the Educators for Distributed Learning PSA? Click [here](#) to sign up (BCTF members only).

BCTF New Teachers Conferences

[Registration](#) is now open for the BCTF New Teachers Conferences "Gaining Ground: New Teachers Together Leading the Way!" The conferences are in Vernon on April 5, 2019, and in Nanaimo on May 10, 2019. The programs include keynote speakers, panels on Aboriginal education, and more than 30 workshops covering a wide variety of educational topics. Both events will have a welcoming reception on the night before as well as a resource fair.

If you have been teaching for 5 years or less, or if you changed districts, or if you are teaching a new subject matter, or if you are a teacher candidate at a Faculty of Education, or even if you just simply would like to attend... you are all welcome to the New Teachers' Conferences!



The banner features a green background with a stylized torch icon on the left. The text "Registration is open" is prominently displayed in red, underlined. To the right is the "2019 NTC" logo, where the year is in a green box and "NTC" is in large blue and purple letters. Below this, "BCTF New Teachers' Conference 2019" is written in purple. A purple diagonal band separates the top from the bottom, which contains the dates and locations: "April 5 Vernon" and "May 10 Nanaimo" in white. The bottom of the banner is decorated with a colorful pattern of overlapping circles.

 **Registration is open** 

BCTF New Teachers' Conference 2019

**April 5
Vernon** **May 10
Nanaimo**

Investigating Our Practices

On Saturday, May 4, 2019, UBC hosts the 22nd Annual [Investigating Our Practices Conference](http://iop.educ.ubc.ca). Education professionals and students will come together to share their questions, investigations, and understandings about their practice. The conference theme, Being in the World as an Educator, will allow participants to learn from each other on current issues in education like assessment, new curriculum, inclusive education, mentoring, and mental health. Registration and agenda information will be available at iop.educ.ubc.ca.



Quebec Institute 2019 Conference

Institut de Français, UBC à Québec - French language immersion in the heart of Quebec City!

Apply By: May 3, 2019

Dates: July 1–19, 2019

Location: Québec City

Don't miss this three-week immersion program for French language teachers!

Bursary for BC Teachers:

BC teachers are eligible for a Canadian Heritage bursary that covers up to half of the program cost if they speak French as an additional language and are, or will be, involved in the teaching or supervision of French programs at public or independent school in BC.

BC Teachers' Institute on Parliamentary Democracy

The annual British Columbia Teachers' Institute on Parliamentary Democracy is an intensive 4 day professional development opportunity for teachers of social studies and related subjects in elementary, middle and secondary school. Participating teachers return to their schools with an enhanced understanding of parliamentary democracy and political process in BC.



The next session will be held from October 22–26, 2019 in Victoria. Applications are being accepted until June 28, 2019. Both new and experienced teachers are invited to apply; however, all applicants must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Applicant has not previously participated in a session of the BC Teachers' Institute.
- Applicant is a certified teacher and is currently working in BC's K-12 education system.
- Applicant will continue working in BC's education system in the next school year.

To apply: Visit their website and fill out the online application form.

2019 Premier's Awards for Excellence in Education

Nominations are now open for teachers and other educators in BC for the 2019 [Premier's Awards for Excellence in Education](#). This is an excellent opportunity to recognize the profession as a whole and celebrate the excellent work BCTF members do every single day in our schools and classrooms. [Nominate](#) a colleague today!



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 Katerina Bardouniotis to Ann-Marie Jacques:

"I would like to give a shout out to Ann-Marie Jacques from Ecole Riverdale Elementary. Recently, she said she wanted to show me something amazing that happened in her classroom. She showed me a video of one of her students teaching a Math lesson to the class. She was so proud of the way this student conducted that lesson and walked around the room to see if students understood or needed help. It was so nice to see this student's success and I'm so glad she shared it with me!"

Thank you Katerina, you and Ann-Marie are now entered into our monthly draw for a \$25 Indigo! gift certificate. Please submit your "shout outs" to Angela via communications@surreyteachers.org to spread the kindness around our local and for your chance to win a gift card too!

Reach Out!

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. Send us an email via sta@surreyteachers.org or give us a call at (604) 594-5353.