

STA CONNECTION

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

JUNE

- 11 Executive Committee Meeting
- 11 [Labour Affairs Film Night](#)
4:00 pm - 6:00 pm (Queen Elizabeth Sec)
- 12 [New TTOCs Conference](#)
8:30 am - 2:45 pm (STA)
- 12 Queer Night Out
5:00 pm - 8:00 pm (Hook and Ladder Pub)
- 12 Surrey School Board Meeting
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
- 13 [Anti-Violence Training](#)
12:00 pm - 3:00 pm (Camp Alex)
- 13 [STA Wellness Event](#)
4:00 pm - 6:00 (Camp Alex)
- 13 [TTOC EI Workshop](#) 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm (STA)
- 14 Cross Border Committee Meeting
- 17 Local Bargaining (STA)
- 18 Local Bargaining (STA)
- 18 LGBTQ Committee Meeting
- 19 STARA/SGM Meeting
4:00 pm (EagleQuest Golf)
- 20 [STA National Indigenous Peoples Day](#)
3:45 pm - 7:45 pm (REC)
- 21 National Indigenous Peoples Day
- 25 Executive Committee Meeting
- 28 Admin Day

All STA members (that's you!) are invited to sit in any of our committees' meetings, whether you are a member of that committee or not. Please feel invited to come to a meeting, participate in discussions, and see the great work our members are doing! Meetings begin at 4 pm at the STA office on 9030 King George Blvd, unless otherwise stated.

TIME FOR A

BARGAINING UPDATE!

Please join us this week for a bargaining update at Lord Tweedsmuir gym after school, 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm, Wednesday, June 12.

As we go into summer break, we need members to be aware of what is going on at the bargaining tables, and what potentially could be coming for the fall. Come with your questions and your ideas!

We are working on organizing a further update at a different site before the end of the school year. If you are unable to attend, you can find provincial bargaining information on the BCTF Member Portal at mybctf.ca.

MANY Opportunities for Members at our next Special General Meeting!

At our AGM meeting in May, we unanimously passed to change the bylaws to include a new Member at Large seat on our Executive Committee designated for a Person of Colour. If you are interested in putting your name forward for this position, please email a candidate statement (max. 600 words) to sta@surreyteachers.org by **Wednesday, June 12** in order to make the printing deadline. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor.

We will also be holding elections for all of our committees next year. Committees are a fun way to get involved at the union level with motivated and inspired people. Please check the attachment, which has a description of all the current local committees.

Many of our amazing STA events would not run without these committees, such as:

- Convention (Convention committee)
- Cross Border Conference (International Solidarity committee)
- Indigenous professional development and celebrations (Indigenous Education committee)
- Grade 7 Girls Conference and Wellness Events (Status of Women committee)
- Election campaigning and creating advertising (Political Action / Public Relations committee)
- Queer Night Out and Pride Prom (LGBTQ committee)
- Film & Dinner Nights (Labour Affairs committee)
- Bright Beginnings Foundation Gala (Anti-Poverty committee)
- Selecting scholarship and bursary recipients (Awards committee)

If you were ever interested in getting involved with these events and processes, please feel free to put your name forward for the corresponding committee by sending your name to sta@surreyteachers.org and then coming to the meeting on June 19 at EagleQuest Golf, where committee elections will be happening.

Labour Affairs Film Night: “The Rise of Disaster Capitalism”

Please join the Labour Affairs Committee of the STA on **Tuesday, June 11** for another of our enjoyable Film/Dinner Nights!

We will start with refreshments at **4:00 pm** followed by our featured film:
The Rise of Disaster Capitalism (77 minutes)

“The Rise of Disaster Capitalism features Naomi Klein explaining the ideas and research behind her bestselling book, The Shock Doctrine: The Rise of Disaster Capitalism. In this riveting lecture and interview, Klein challenges and exposes the popular myth of the free market economy’s peaceful global victory.

Around the world there are people with power who are cashing in on chaos, exploiting bloodshed and catastrophe to brutally implement their policies. They are the shock doctors. From Chile in 1973 to Iraq today, this is the chilling tale of how a few are making a killing while more are getting killed.”

Free for STA members, non-members, \$10. Pizza and Juice will be served.

Register at [lacfilmnight-june2019.eventbrite.ca](https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/lacfilmnight-june2019)



TTOC Experience Transfer: Make Sure You Get Paid For Your Experience!

Did you know that your TTOC experience is not automatically factored into your pay level when you get a contract? You need to apply to have it transferred.

The deadline to apply to have your TTOC Experience transferred to your Contract Teaching Experience is June 30! Sign and send the form

<https://www.surreyteachers.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/TTOCTransferRequestForm-June.pdf> to the District (Attn: HR/Payroll). It might make you eligible for an incremental increase in September!

Your pay increment (step level) is based on your teaching experience. Contract teachers move up one step on the pay scale after 10 months of full-time experience. Incremental increases take place automatically on September 1 and January 1 each year.

TTOCs are also eligible to move up the pay scale based on their experience: 17 days of TTOC experience equals one month of contract experience. If you have received a contract this year, and have previously accumulated TTOC experience, you can complete a form asking Payroll to convert TTOC experience to contract experience, because the combination of the two might make you eligible for an incremental increase. Payroll will not do this unless you request that your TTOC days and contract months are merged.

If you are a part-time contract teacher AND you work occasionally as a TTOC, you are also eligible to convert your accumulated TTOC experience to Contract experience.

For example: Taylor Smith teaches three days per week at an elementary school in a contract assignment. On Thursdays and Fridays, they TTOC. Taylor has 70 days of TTOC experience accrued in their TTOC experience bank. They also have 7 months of contract teacher experience accrued. In November 2018, Taylor applied to have their TTOC experience transferred to their contract teacher bank. The 70 days Taylor has accrued will be converted to months by dividing by 17. 70 divided by 17 is 4 whole months with 2 days remaining. The four months will be transferred to Taylor’s contract teacher bank and the 2 days will remain in their TTOC bank. Taylor will now have 11 months in their contract teacher experience bank. This means that on January 1, 2019, Taylor moved from Step 0 on the salary grid to Step 1. Taylor will be able to transfer their TTOC experience twice per year.


The next incremental increase will be September 1, 2019. Teachers should have their [form](#) into Payroll, no later than June 30, 2019 in order to receive an increase in September. If there’s any confusion, or you have questions, please contact Grievance Officer, Mark Keelan via grieve2@surreyteachers.org.

Remedy Update

Remedy that is not delivered by the end of this school year should roll over to the next school year. The only exceptions are people who retire or leave the district, or who will be on a long-term leave for most of 2019-20; Those members’ remedy will be paid out.

GRIEVANCE: Failures-to-Fill

The STA has filed a grievance regarding the District’s practice to direct non-enrolling teachers to cover failure to fill for classroom teachers. The STA is therefore collecting data to support this grievance by requesting that staff reps regularly report failures to fill. In an effort to make this task as quick and efficient as possible, we have created a new format for reporting failures to fill. Please use the [this link](#) to report failures to fill at your school.



NEW TTOCS CONFERENCE AND BCTF INDUCTION CEREMONY

STA OFFICE • 8:30 AM TO 2:45 PM

June 12,
2019

If you are a new TTOC (or someone who's been TTOC-ing for a year or two but hasn't previously attended) consider this your personal invitation to be formally inducted into the British Columbia Teachers' Federation!

The STA will be hosting a day-long conference on Wednesday, June 12, 2019 at the STA office.

Lunch is provided!

If this is a day that you would normally TTOC, you will **not** lose out on a day's pay by attending.

Submit a paper-copy LOA to Pete Nuij at the District Office. Every school's office should have paper LOA forms available; ask the secretary if you need help locating one.

LOA Information:

Article G.7. - "TTOCs conducting union business"
Details: STA New TTOCs Conference
Cost of TTOC to be borne by: STA
Attention: Julia MacRae

Register:

<https://newttocsconference-june2019.eventbrite.ca>

We Need Your Help and Your Staff Change Forms!

The STA is looking for information to assist with initiating a grievance on leaves of absence. You can help us if you have received a staff change form with the following information on it:

"PLEASE NOTE:

Leave of absence has been approved as per Article G.21.2 (or any leave article)
Please contact payroll at 604-595-6115 regarding your benefit coverage during your leave. It is your responsibility to reinstate your benefits within 30 days of returning to work if you have cancelled them while on leave. Please contact HR for applicable forms. It is your responsibility to submit your membership dues prior to June 30th each year to the [Teacher Regulation Branch](#). Our records indicate that this is your third and final approved leave of absence. District practice is that we are unable to approve any further leaves after the completion of this leave. Please advise the District Principal, Human Resources, in writing, by March 31, of your intention for the next school year - either to return to teaching or if you will be resigning from the District. Thank you for your cooperation."

Parenthood Leave

Have you taken more than one approved parenthood leave from the employer? We are concerned that the employer has decided that parents are only entitled to one parenthood leave and any other leaves must be "other leaves" with a limit of 3 leaves per teacher per career. We would like to know if you have applied for and been approved for more than one parenthood leave and have the staff change forms to indicate that.

If you have been approved for more than one parenthood leave, please email the staff change form(s) to hs@surreyteachers.org.

If you have applied for a parenthood leave and the employer has changed the leave to an "other leave", please send any staff change forms or Leave of Absence copies to hs@surreyteachers.org.

Employment Insurance: Navigating the EI Claim Process



Are you a TTOC or a new teacher who recently received a layoff notice?

Did you know that you are likely eligible to receive Employment Insurance payments over the summer months? Applying for EI can be a bit of a confusing process, but we are here to help!


The STA is putting on a workshop from 3:30 - 5:30 pm on Thursday, June 13 to help TTOCs understand the steps to follow in applying for, and obtaining, EI benefits.

Register now:
eiworkshop2019.eventbrite.ca

School Visits – we want to visit all our members!

We have visited (or have booked to visit) 123 of our STA worksites so far this year. Hurray! We still have not visited the following schools and other work sites: Coast Meridian, East Kensington, HT Thrift, Lee School, Ocean Cliff, Senator Reid, SAIL, TREES, The Welcome Centre, and various small programs such as APU, TREK, Am'ut, PLEA, HOPE, Fastrack, Hospital Homebound, Growing Together, The HUB, ETC, CBTOP, and potentially other worksites where STA members work their magic every day!

If you would like to help arrange a time for one of us to visit to your above-mentioned site, please contact Julia at 1vp@surreyteachers.org to suggest a date, and we will book a Table Officer to visit you. Members 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.



Have You Moved Recently?

Have you moved recently? Does the BCTF have your current, up-to-date, contact information?

Please double check that everything is correct to ensure you're receiving any important communications. Many PSA's and local Associations use the BCTF membership database to send out information to members. Don't miss out - [update your information](#) today!



**Reminder:
Submit Your
Receipts!**

Attention teachers!

Do you have any outstanding, unclaimed expenses from this school year? Have you filed your claim to be reimbursed for Pro-D or other related expenses? STA Committee members and Staff Reps, do you have any receipts that need to be sent in?

This is a friendly reminder to complete your expense vouchers and submit your paperwork (including receipts!) **ASAP!** The STA's fiscal year ends on June 30 and Donna is trying hard to get everyone paid. Please help her out by not waiting until the bitter end to get your paperwork in! Can't find your sheet? Download it [here](#). Forms can be sent via courier #000 to the STA office. Attention: Donna Stewart.



Happy Pride Month Everyone!

THE LGBTQ2+ ADHOC COMMITTEE IS HOSTING AN

STA QUEER NIGHT OUT

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12 **HOOK AND LADDER PUB** **FROM 5 PM - 8 PM**
 8593 132 STREET, SURREY

We invite all STA members with diverse sexual orientations and gender identities, and their allies, to join us for this fun night out. Connect, socialize, make new friends, and maybe even learn a bit more about the Committee, in a safe, inclusive space.

Let's Talk About Gender-based Violence



**Presented by
Anastasia Gaisenok**

Executive Director
of Check Your Head:
The Youth Global
Education Network

Register now:

<https://antiviolencetraining-june2019.eventbrite.ca>

Join us from **12:00 pm - 3:00 pm on Thursday, June 13 at Camp Alex (near Crescent Beach)** for an interactive multimedia session on the reality of violence experienced by women and girls in Canada today, the ways to end it, and the tools available to engage youth in violence prevention.

Teachers will receive a unit ready to use in the classroom or workplace.

Lunch will be provided.

TOC Provided: Leave of Absence Information

Leave Type: STA Business, Article G.21.7.h

Leave: With pay

Cost of TOC: To be borne by the STA Status of Women Committee

Attention: Angela Marcakis

****Please notify the STA if you do not require a TTOC****

STA Status of Women Committee's

Wellness Event



Our last Wellness Event for this school year will be taking place on **Thursday, June 13 at Camp Alex (near Crescent Beach)**. Feel free to come right after work and enjoy the beach boardwalk. The event will officially begin at 4:00 pm with Jasmine Bhramba, founder of Sacred Space Yoga. Jasmine is a graduate of the Langara Yoga for Trauma and Resilience Program and teaches in schools across the Fraser Valley. She also offers trauma informed yoga therapy sessions to trauma survivors struggling with addiction, depression, and anxiety. The event will end with a delicious catered dinner and the chance to win door prizes.

Reserve your spot by registering online today via <https://wellnessevent-june2019.eventbrite.ca>

STA National Indigenous Peoples Day Celebration!



The STA's Indigenous Education Committee enthusiastically invites you to their 4th Annual National Indigenous Peoples Day Celebration for an afternoon of traditional teachings, dancing, drumming & singing, food, and much more, including giveaways!! This year's theme is Truth & Reconciliation.

Please come out and help us make this National Indigenous Peoples Day Celebration our best yet - and please feel free to bring your colleagues. The more the merrier!!

While this event is free for all STA members, there will be a registration fee of \$25.00 for all guests (CUPE, admin staff, family members, etc.), to cover the cost of dinner. For those CUPE members working in Aboriginal Learning, your registration fee will be reimbursed by the department.

PLACE: REC, Room 304
TIME: 3:45 - 7:45 pm
DATE: Thursday, June 20th

This is a scent-free event. Please honour all guests by adhering to our scent-free policy. Thank you!

Contact Carolyn Sousa for more information at sousa_c@surreyschools.ca.

Register now at nationalindigenousday-june2019.eventbrite.ca.

REACH OUT!

Reach us by phone at 604-594-5353 or via email at 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.



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 Monica-Rae Grant to Susan Ottewell:

"I would like to recognize Susan Ottewell (teaches grade 5 full-time at Jessie Lee Elementary) for these things:

- 1. Organizing the track and field program at our school and giving the coaches excellent resources to help them coach their events.*
- 2. Organizing three classes to see the play "Beauty and the Beast" at Betty Huff. It was a pleasure to support our talented colleagues and students at Betty Huff.*
- 3. Leading her class in organizing the food bank drive in December.*

Susan's strengths as an event organizer have helped to make our school a better place. Thank-you!"

Thank you Monica, you and Susan 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!

Pahilē Kadama

Let's Talk!

Mental Health & Substance Use In Our Communities

Keynote Speaker:

Hon. Minister Judy Darcy

Free tickets from:

<https://traumaandsubstanceuse.eventbrite.ca>

JUNE 13TH - Doors open at 5.30pm

Surrey Arts Centre, 13750 88 Ave, Surrey, BC V3W 3L1