

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

SEPTEMBER

- 12 Labour Affairs Committee
- 12 Staff Committee Chair Training
- 15 Red Dress Gathering (Bear Creek Park)
- 17 **STARA + GM**
(4:00 pm at Bombay Banquet Hall)
- 17-19 Pro-D Rep Training
- 18 Staff Committee Chair Training
- 24 Executive Committee
- 24-26 Pro-D Rep Training
- 27 Rookie Staff Rep Training
- 30 Orange Shirt Day
- 30 Pro-D 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.

Have You Moved Recently?

Does the STA have your current, up-to-date, contact information? Please let us know if you have moved.



SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17!

Please come to the Special General Meeting on 4:00 Tuesday, September 17, at Bombay Banquet Hall (7475 135 St, Surrey). BCTF President Teri Mooring will be there to provide an update on bargaining! A short STARA meeting will follow. Free dinner will be provided. This is an excellent chance to ask questions and make your voice heard.

Please note the unusual date – it is on a TUESDAY!

Committee Elections at the STARA Meeting Tuesday, September 17

We have vacancies on the following committees for this school year. Please forward your name to reception@surreyteachers.org if you are interested in running for election to open spots on any of these committees, as it is helpful to have nominees beforehand. "Open" means there are an unlimited number of spots available.

- Anti Poverty Committee – open
- Awards Committee – 1 spot
- Convention Committee
 - Aboriginal site – 1 spots
 - Primary site – 3 spots
 - Intermediate site – 1 spot
 - Secondary site – 2 spots
 - Excursions – 1 spot
- Economic Welfare Committee – 8 spots
- Ed Governance Committee – open
- Grievance Committee – 5 spots
- Health and Safety Committee – 8 spots
- Indigenous Education Committee – open,
- International Solidarity Committee – 1 spot
- Political Action Public Relations Committee- 3 spots
- Pension Chair – 1 spot
- Professional Development Committee – 4 spots
- Social Convenor – 1 spot
- South Asian Student Advocacy by Teachers Committee – open
- Status of Men in the teaching Profession Committee – open
- Teachers interested in Multicultural Education (TIME) Committee – 5 spots

Orange Shirt Day - STA t-shirt giveaway!

Orange Shirt Day is quickly approaching, and we encourage everyone to come together to honour residential school survivors and their families in the spirit of reconciliation. This commemorative day, celebrated on September 30, began in 2013 by Phyllis Jack Webstad, a Stswecem'c Xgat'tem First Nation Elder in Williams Lake. Since September 30 is one of our professional development days, schools can choose to commemorate this day on Friday, September 27 or Tuesday October 1 instead.

As with last year, the STA will be giving away 1 orange t-shirt to each elementary school and 2 orange shirts to each secondary school. Staff Reps, please hold a draw at your school. Sizes will depend on what we receive.



You can also order a t-shirt for \$6 using one of the order forms found at the end of this [document](#). **The deadline to order is Monday, September 16.**

PRO-D REP TRAINING SEPTEMBER 2019

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

FOR ROOKIE PRO-D REPS

SEPTEMBER 17: ROLE AND FUNCTION OF THE PRO-D REP

This **workshop** is geared specifically to the Rookie Pro-D Rep and aims to help you:

- Understand the leadership role of the PD rep in asserting professional rights, facilitating professional learning for teachers as autonomous professionals, and defending public education.
- Develop an understanding of the history and context of professional development in BC.
- Develop an understanding of what is and is not professional development.
- Discuss the culture of professional learning in your school.
- Identify the available resources for PD reps as both individuals and as a network.

FOR RETURNING PRO-D REPS

Pick one of the following sessions:

SEPTEMBER 18, 19, 24, 25, 26: SELF-DIRECTED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

This **workshop** is geared specifically to Pro-D Reps with prior training and is structured to help you:

- to take control of teachers' professional learning
- to promote professionalism and autonomy
- to promote collaboration
- to facilitate and encourage professional growth
- to identify challenges/threats to professionalism and autonomy

STEP 1: REGISTER VIA EVENTBRITE

Role and Function of the Pro-D Rep

<https://rookiepd-Sept2019.eventbrite.ca>

Self-Directed Professional Development

<https://pd-sept2019.eventbrite.ca>

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: Erin Coleman

Both workshops will include ALL the information you need to be the Pro-D Rep at your school including reviewing all forms and procedures.

These updated workshops introduce the skills and knowledge of the PD chair as a union leader using the PD lens as a strategic tool. Strategies are explored for building member and public support for professional development, advocating for teacher-centered PD, and returning control of PD to teachers.

PLEASE NOTE: Pro-D Funds will only be released to your school once you have attended a Pro-D training session. Space is limited so we can only accommodate one Pro-D rep from each school.

Reminder: Time to Elect your School Union Representatives!

Have you elected your school union representatives yet? If not, this week would be a good time to get everyone together and hold a vote! More information and the form can be found on our website [here](#).

Are you a new teacher? Join Mentor36!



Mentor 36 is currently accepting applications from mentees for the new school year. For more information, and to apply, visit the Mentor 36 website at <https://mentor36.com/join>.

Staff Committee Chairs Tune-up / Gear-up!



Were you elected as your school's staff committee chair? [Register now](#) for one of the tune-up / gear-up sessions held on September 11, 12, and 18. Be one of the first to receive our staff committee handbook – second edition. Our goal is to have effective staff committees to improve our wonderful Surrey Schools.

STAFF REP TRAINING SEPTEMBER 2019

STA Office (#201, 9030 King George Blvd)

Soft Start at 8:30 am
Prompt Start at 8:45 am
End Time at 2:45 pm

Lunch & snacks provided



FOR ROOKIE STAFF REPS

SEPTEMBER 27 ROLE AND FUNCTION OF THE ROOKIE REP

- to determine the role and function of the staff rep.
- to become familiar with the format and content of the provincial and local collective agreement.
- to identify where can I go for help.
- to identify my role in the staff rep network and how can I support my local.

FOR RETURNING STAFF REPS

Pick one of the following sessions:

OCTOBER 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10 CONTRACT AWARENESS: KNOW YOUR COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT

- to understand the history and current context of the collective agreement
- to familiarize staff reps with their local and provincial language
- to increase staff rep's confidence in identifying and understanding collective agreement (CA) issues
- to identify recent changes within the collective agreement.



Please bring your own device for the training to easily access the Collective Agreement online.

STEP 1: REGISTER VIA EVENTBRITE

Role and Function of the Staff Rep
<https://Rookie-Sept2019.eventbrite.ca>

Contract Awareness: Know Your Collective Agreement
<https://Contract-Oct2019.eventbrite.ca>

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: Jatinder Bir



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 to Maire Walker:

"Maire is a leader who is not afraid to speak her mind and stand up for social justice. Her rainbow hair, bright clothing, sunshine smile, and matching personality instantly draws everyone to her. She is severely missed at Creekside Elementary, and we wish her all the best on her new journey as an early literacy teacher. We know she will be amazing no matter what she does."

Thank you Maire, you 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!

Support for the Student Climate Strikes: World-wide Days of Action

BCTF delegates to the spring 2019 Representative Assembly passed the following resolution:

"That the BCTF support the student Climate Strike on the next world-wide day of action that is organized to demand action on the climate emergency."

This September 20, 21 and 27, a number of Global Climate Strikes have been planned around the province. For ideas on how to support your students in becoming engaged in these events, see this [Student Climate Strike](#) document.

RED DRESS GATHERING

in Bear Creek Park

An event to honour the thousands of missing and murdered Indigenous women in Canada.



**Sunday,
September 15, 2019**

11 am to 2 pm

Bear Creek Park

13750 88 Ave, Surrey B.C.
(140th Street east side entrance)



First Nations Greeting –

Kwantlen Chief MARILYN GABRIEL and KEVEN KELLY

Stars of the North Drum Group

"Tu Tu Wasakwatnulkth" led by LaDonna Wiks Joseph

Speakers:

SHELLEY SAJE RICCI,
Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 728

JOULENE PARENT,
International Longshore Warehouse Union, Local 500

**Bring a chair and a picnic lunch,
some refreshments provided**

HEU with Fleetwood Local

