



CALL FOR RESOLUTIONS

BCTF Annual General Meeting

Surrey Teachers' Association
#201 - 9030 King George Boulevard, Surrey, V3V 7Y3
Tel: 604-594-5353 Fax: 604-594-5176 Courier #000

This year marks the 105th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the BC Teachers' Federation (BCTF). Throughout the long history of the Federation, generations of teachers have come together every year to discuss and debate the policies and actions that have guided the organization through many challenges.

BCTF policy is ultimately created by its members through the AGM, so locals are encouraged to submit resolutions. To see examples, have a look at the Members' Guide to the BCTF (<https://bctf.ca/MembersGuide/>)

If any policy adopted through a resolution were traced back to its source, its origin would probably be in the mind of an individual member, who concluded, as a result of experience or of reflection on problems confronting members, that BCTF policy was lacking or deficient on a particular issue. Every individual member can therefore initiate policy. In other words, if you have a good idea for the BCTF, we want to hear it!

Locals are encouraged to use their resolutions to the AGM for emergent issues, or for matters that can only be dealt with by an AGM, such as revisions to by-laws or policies and procedures.

Each resolution is submitted with a supporting statement containing evidence and argument in support of the resolution.

If possible, resolutions should refer to specific statements in the *Members' Guide to the BCTF*. Resolutions should ask "That statement (number) be amended to read..." or "That statement (number) be deleted."

Examples of Surrey Resolutions submitted last year:

THAT the BCTF investigate the process of allowing RA and AGM motions to have one supporting infographic displayed while the mover is opening on a motion.

Rationale:

Sometimes extended debate is a result of confusion over the meaning of a resolution, which a clear graphic might be able to avoid. Guidelines for submission could be developed to ensure that BCTF staff have sufficient time to process graphics, and to ensure graphics do not violate copyright, are not offensive, and are compatible with technology at the meetings. There is no intent to have the graphics be allowed for amendments.

THAT the BCTF lobby the Ministry of Education to work with relevant agencies to create Co-op Work Experience Programs for students with developmental disabilities.

Rationale:

There are few programs in place across the province to facilitate/aide/assist many special needs students to transition from the protected public school system into adult society as successfully as possible. Often times, the waitlists are very long and acceptance into programs is complex. As teachers, we believe that if co-operative education would exist, more employers in British Columbia would recognize the benefits of inclusive hiring practices and this therefore these kinds of programs would combine academic study/skills with alternating work terms/experiences. Co-ops would also give our students an opportunity to test skills learned in the classroom, and to expand their knowledge through related work experience and the chance to contribute as global citizens. With a work experience program there will be opportunities for many of these students to transition into accommodated/customized work and for the workplace to become supportive of and accustomed to these workers with special needs.

THIS IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO SUBMIT IDEAS FOR LOCAL RESOLUTIONS

Please submit your idea **as soon as possible** on the resolution form below to the STA office at courier #000, or fax: 604-594-5176, attention: Resolutions Committee. You can also send ideas by email to Jatinder Bir at 2vp@surreyteachers.org.

Some areas of previous AGM resolutions:

- Professional Development
- Pensions
- Privatization and Commercialization
- Health, Welfare and Safety of Teachers
- Teachers Teaching on Call
- Social Justice

Resolution Submission Form

Name	School
Motion: e.g. THAT the BCTF lobby the provincial government to . . .	
Intent or goal: What do you hope to accomplish with this motion?	
Rationale: Reasons people would support your motion. You may include some background, statistics, as well as arguments.	

The wording of resolutions and rationales is very important. Sometimes great ideas fail because of faulty resolution wording or weak supporting statements. The STA Resolutions Committee will assist you with this.

Resolutions that come in after October 15th will not be dealt with at the November 20th General Meeting. If you have any questions, please give Jatinder Bir a call at 604-594-5353.