



STA Connection December 2-6, 2019





#RedforBCED spirit around Surrey!

Last week at least two schools have held “walk-ins” where the teachers gathered outside the school before walking in together in the morning. This action shows solidarity and organization as we face our bargaining challenges, and lets parents know things are not “business as usual!” If your school organizes a walk-in this week please post your pictures on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram using the hashtag #RedforBCED and/ or send us photos/videos, so we can help circulate these on social media.

Other schools have purchased matching buttons or t-shirts, taken pictures as a group on “wearing red Wednesdays,” and other actions. Keep up the efforts, everyone!



- December 2: Pro-D Committee
- December 4: [IST Union Orientation](#)
- December 5: Members of Colour Committee
- December 5: LGBTQ+ Committee meeting
- December 6: [Gender-Based Violence Workshop](#)
- December 6: Status of Women Dinner Meeting @ Taste of Punjab
- December 6: Candlelight Vigil 6 pm @ Holland Park – 30th anniversary of Montreal Massacre.
- December 10: Executive Committee
- December 11: Health and Safety Committee
- December 11: Surrey School Board Meeting 7 pm @ DEC
- December 18: STARA Meeting @ Eaglequest

Bargaining Update On The Portal - Check It Out!

BCTF members can sign in to the secure portal on the BCTF website at bctf.ca/mybctf access the update on bargaining that was posted there last Thursday. There is news from the special RA that happened in Victoria last weekend, news about further meetings with the mediator, and about future plans for considering a strike vote. Please check the portal. We will not post bargaining updates here as this is not a private message to members only.

Final STARA of 2019!



The final STARA Meeting of 2019 will be held on Wednesday, December 18 at Eaglequest Golf Centre starting at 4:00 pm. As a thank you to our reps for all the hard work they do, there will be a social event and snacks following the meeting. All members are welcome to attend the STARA meeting, though only members of STARA have a vote. If you require childcare for this meeting, please email Stacy at repsupport@surreyteachers.org prior to December 6, 2019 to make arrangements.

**On the 30th Anniversary of the 1989 Montreal massacre and the
National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women**

End Violence Against Women 9th Annual Candlelight Vigil

FRIDAY DECEMBER 6TH, 2019

6:00 - 7:00 PM

HOLLAND PARK, SURREY, BC



PLEASE BRING AN ITEM TO DONATE TO LOCAL WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS

Free • Open to all • Wheelchair accessible • Organized by the Public Service Alliance of Canada
West Fraser Valley Area Council and New Westminster & District Labour Council.

For more information contact Susie Blyth, sockeyesushi@yahoo.ca or Janet Andrews, nwdlc@shawcable.com

It is sure hard to believe it has been thirty years since the horrific massacre of women engineering students in the Montreal Polytechnic, December 6, 1989. Please join us at the vigil in Holland Park in commemoration.

2020 BCTF Women's Institute

The third annual BCTF Women's Institute will be held in Richmond on February 13 - 15, 2020. Each Local has been asked to send one member, who identifies as a woman, to this conference. Last week, Christy Van Ieperen was drawn to represent Surrey.

In addition, the BCTF Executive Committee will select 20 additional delegates. **Preference will be given**

to those who, in addition to identifying as women, are members of other equity-seeking groups and who did not attend the 2018 or 2019 Women's Institutes. The posting can be found [here](#). To apply to be one of these additional delegates, please fill out the [curriculum vitae form](#).

BCTF New Teachers' Conference

A promotional banner for the BCTF New Teachers' Conference. The background features a pattern of overlapping triangles in shades of yellow, green, and blue. On the left, a dark blue speech bubble contains the text "REGISTER NOW" in bold, yellow, uppercase letters. To the right of the speech bubble is a framed photograph of a smiling woman with glasses and long brown hair. Below the banner, a light blue horizontal bar contains the website URL "bctf.ca/NewTeachers.aspx" on the left and the text "Renowned Keynote: Saylesh Wesley" followed by "a teacher, a public speaker, a strong caring voice" on the right.

REGISTER NOW

bctf.ca/NewTeachers.aspx

Renowned Keynote: Saylesh Wesley
a teacher, a public speaker, a strong caring voice

The STA will be covering registration fees, mileage and parking for new Surrey teachers to attend the BCTF New Teachers' Conference on Saturday, January 25, 2020 in Richmond. If you'd like to be considered, please email reception@surreyteachers.org by 4:00 pm on December 9th. We have received and approved 19 participants so far; we have funds for 23 more! If we receive more names than we have spots, we will be selecting attendees by a random draw.

The conference will feature Saylesh Wesley as keynote speaker, a panel of teachers, a wide range of workshop topics, and a resource fair displaying teaching material and more. Most of all, this event is an opportunity to network with teachers coming from all over the province and make some new lifelong friendships. The registration fee includes a welcoming reception in the evening before the conference as well as breakfast, lunch, and refreshments.

The conference is specifically designed to serve teachers who have been teaching for five years or less, it is also open to teachers who have come back to the classroom after a leave or who changed district and/or workload. Student teachers are encouraged to attend.

School Visits

We are working hard at the STA to provide up-to-date information about bargaining. We organized two information sessions after school in November, and we have been visiting many schools at lunch hours to discuss it all! We have visited 51 schools so far; reps: if your staff would like a visit from a table officer please contact our new Rep Support staff person, Stacy Johnson at repsupport@surreyteachers.org to arrange.

Update on Drinking Water in Schools

Updated response from District concerning drinking water sources at all public schools in Surrey – from District Health & Safety Manager, Mary Campbell:

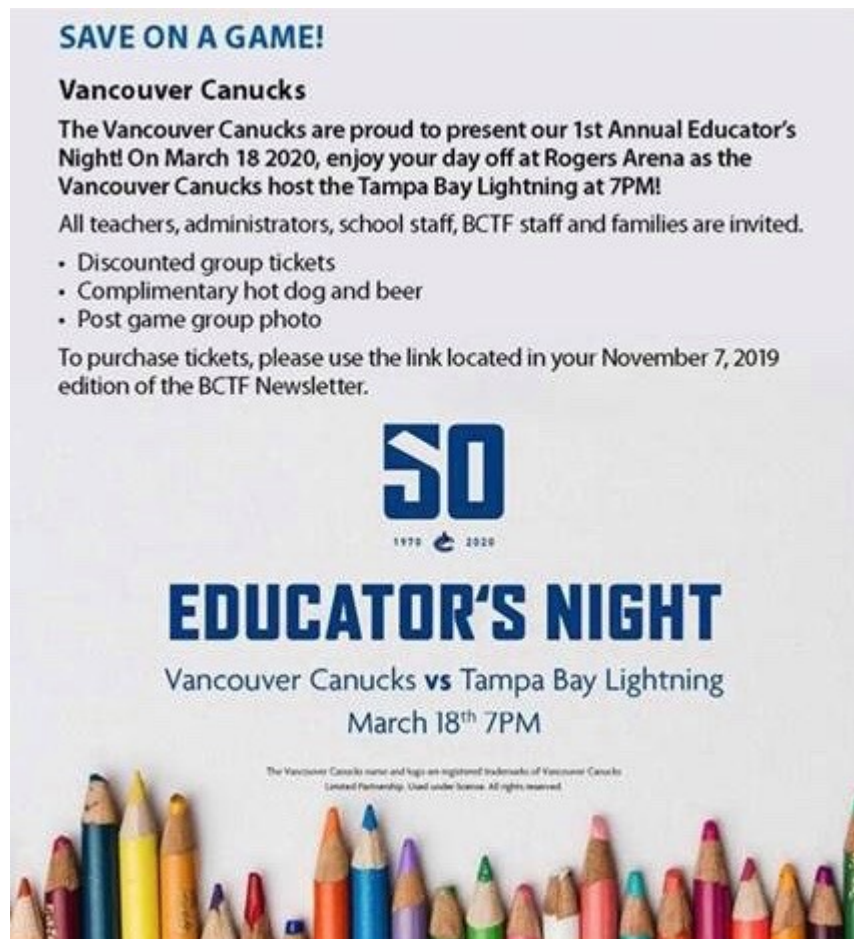
"Drinking water at all public schools in Surrey is safe, and regularly tested to ensure it is lower than Health Canada's recommended lead limit of 5 parts per billion (ppb).

Interested staff and parents can be guided to this [website link](#)."

Opportunity for Members: BCTF Assistant Director

There is an opening for a full-time continuing position of Assistant Director in the Field Service Division at the BCTF. **The deadline for applications is 5:00 pm, December 6, 2019.** The full posting can be found on the [Employment Opportunities page](#).

BCTF Advantage



SAVE ON A GAME!

Vancouver Canucks

The Vancouver Canucks are proud to present our 1st Annual Educator's Night! On March 18 2020, enjoy your day off at Rogers Arena as the Vancouver Canucks host the Tampa Bay Lightning at 7PM!

All teachers, administrators, school staff, BCTF staff and families are invited.

- Discounted group tickets
- Complimentary hot dog and beer
- Post game group photo

To purchase tickets, please use the link located in your November 7, 2019 edition of the BCTF Newsletter.

SO
1970 2020

EDUCATOR'S NIGHT

Vancouver Canucks vs Tampa Bay Lightning
March 18th 7PM

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The first ever Educators Night at Rogers Arena will be taking place on March 18, 2020. Due to popular demand, the Vancouver Canucks organization have released additional tickets for this event, where the Vancouver Canucks of the National Hockey League will be playing the Tampa Bay Lightning. The event will be held during Spring Break in most school districts, after the Annual General Meeting which ends March 17.

To purchase tickets, please use the link located in the November 7 edition of the BCTF Newsletter, or email communications@surreyteachers.org

Please check out bctf.ca/advantage for more offers including upcoming Black Friday deals from vendors such as Dell Computers & Telus Mobility.

Seeds of Social Justice: Spotlight on Status of

Women



The [16 Days of Action](#) is an international campaign that starts on November 25 (International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women) and finishes on December 10 (United Nations Human Rights Day). Amnesty International has the [Write for Rights](#) campaign to support human rights defenders around the world. We encourage you and your students' participation in this campaign. Check out all the resources we put together for you in this month's [Seeds of Social Justice!](#)



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 Ann Amsing to Alana Gillies:

“I nominate Mrs. Alana L. Gillies for being such a committed LST teacher. Her passion for helping students improve is awesome.”

Thank you Ann, you Alana and 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!