



STA Connection February 10-14, 2020

THIS WEEK! Job Share: All the Information You Need



Join your colleagues at 3:30 pm on **Thursday, February 13, 2020** at Eaglequest to connect with potential job share partners and learn about your rights when it comes to job shares. The STA will facilitate this information session and answer any questions you may have. In addition to taking you through the application process, you will learn about possible denials and what options you have available to you. Bring your questions! Snacks and beverages will be provided. Babies welcome! [Register](#) now!



UPCOMING EVENTS

- February 10 - BCTF AGM Rookie Delegate Training
- February 10 - Environmental Justice Committee
- February 11 - Executive Committee
- February 12 - Indigenous Education Committee
- February 12 - Health and Safety Committee
- February 12 - Surrey School Board Meeting 7 pm @ DEC
- February 13 - [Job Share Meeting](#) 3:30 pm @ Eaglequest Golf
- February 13 - Labour Affairs Committee
- February 13-15 - BCTF Women's Institute
- February 18 - [IST: Roles and Responsibilities Workshop](#)
- February 19 - Special General Meeting @ Bombay Banquet Hall
- February 20 - BCTF AGM Delegate Training 3:30 pm @ Eaglequest Golf
- February 21 - [Focus Day](#) @ North Surrey Secondary
- February 26 - BCTF AGM Delegate Training 8:30 am @ Eaglequest Golf
- February 27 - Labour Affairs Committee Film Night
- February 28 - [Status of Women Committee Wellness Event](#)
- February 29 - [Cross Border Conference](#) 12 pm @ Kwantlen Park Secondary



TEACHING TO DIVERSITY: INCLUSION IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Keynote Speaker: Dr. J. Katz

Dr. Katz received her PhD in 2008 from the University of British Columbia in inclusive education. She is the author of "Teaching to Diversity: The Three Block Model of Universal Design for Learning," "Resource Teachers: A Changing Role in the Three-Block Model of UDL," and "Ensouling Our Schools: A Universally Designed Framework for Mental health, Well-Being, and Reconciliation." Dr. Katz taught in diverse classrooms from K-12 in Winnipeg and Vancouver for 16 years, including both special education classrooms and inclusive classrooms, in addition to working as a resource teacher, guidance counsellor, and consultant. Her work as an advocate of inclusive education has become known internationally. She is currently an Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Education at UBC.



Cross Border Conference Feb 29, 2020!



We have seen remarkable leadership from teenagers on Climate Justice in the last few months, worldwide. Teachers have a role to play in supporting these activists, and in taking steps in our own practice to support all our students who are growing up in a changing climate. Your STA International Solidarity Committee is hosting the 3rd annual Cross Border Conference, which takes place in Surrey but invites Washington and Oregon teachers, plus all other BC teachers, to come here to confer! Please consider attending, encourage your colleagues to do so, and bring your student teachers along! **This is a unique opportunity to collaborate with some American colleagues, and we have some amazing workshops lined up. It is only \$50, which could be claimed through your Pro D funds. This year we are at Kwantlen Park Secondary, noon to 7:30 pm, Saturday, February 29th.**

We promise you a delightful day. Registration is open! www.crossborderconference.com

Convention: Call for Presenters!

We are still in need of close to 100 workshops to host another successful STA Convention. Do you have a great idea you would like to share with your colleagues? Or if you know of a colleague that does something in their practice that more people need to hear about, please encourage them to submit a proposal on our website at www.staconvention.ca. A half-day of release is provided to presenters to help prepare their workshops. We will be accepting proposals until the end of February.

A Warm Welcome to our New Teachers!



Last week we held the STA New Teachers Welcome and Induction Ceremony at the STA office, open for all new members to the profession. Our STA Table Officers gave our new members a warm welcome, and they learned about our collective agreement, their rights and responsibilities, maintaining professional relationships, what supports are available, how to read their paycheck, and had a chance to connect and network with other new Surrey teachers!

A special thank you to Teri Mooring, BCTF President, for presenting our new members with the BCTF Induction Ceremony.

STA Call for Nominations: Due March 13, 2020

The Surrey Teachers' Association would like to formally recognize those members who have rendered exceptional services to our profession and union, whose achievements in their careers and/or whose contributions in our union have earned them distinction and brought honour to our profession and Association.

Within this community, there are a few exceptional individuals whose dedication, commitment and extraordinary contribution include achievements of such significance across a broad range of areas that

our union wishes to recognize these exceptional leaders by awarding them a Honorary Associate Membership, Honorary Life Membership and Honorary Membership. **This award may not be presented every year.**

[Read more](#)

Grade 7 Girls' Leadership Conference

The STA Status of Women Committee is once again planning our annual Grade 7 Girls' Conference. The conference will be taking place on Monday, May 25, 2020 at Princess Margaret Secondary, located at 12870 – 72 Ave, Surrey. The day will begin at 8:30 am and end by 2:30 pm. Presenters will present for 3 sessions, about 1 hour and 15 minutes each.

If you are interested in presenting, please complete the form at bit.ly/stagirls2020. We would like to ask if you are able to work with us to give the girls a fun and inspiring day, or if you know of anyone (does not have to be a teacher) who would give a fun and interactive workshop, you can send your suggestion to Angela Marcakis at marcakis_a@surreyschools.ca. Thank you so much for supporting this inspiring event!

Nearing Retirement? Withdrawal from Long Term SIP

BCTF members continue to pay into SHORT TERM SIP, which when combined with your accumulated sick days will protect your salary to the date when you will no longer be eligible to receive long term SIP benefits.

Here are the steps for you to withdraw from LONG TERM SIP as you are nearing retirement:

1. Go to bctf.ca
2. Select 'A to Z' link from menu at top of page
3. Select 'Salary Indemnity Plan'
4. Click on 'withdrawal form' (link at the end of 3rd paragraph) – includes details for Regulation 21, LTD benefits
5. Download the form, complete and send to BCTF with required documents
6. You will receive communication from BCTF when your request has been processed
7. BCTF will inform SD36 payroll

#RedforBCED - On Wednesdays, We Wear Red!



Pictured are some of your Local Representatives to the BCTF wearing their #RedforBCED at the last BCTF Representative Assembly!

Surrey teachers, please send us photos and videos of your staff wearing their red, holding walk-ins, Burma Shaves, and any other acts of solidarity. Let us know if we can help support you in any way. We need a fair deal that includes better working and learning conditions and fair salaries!

Please post your pictures on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram using the hashtag #RedforBCED

Are you a French Immersion teacher who left FrImm?

We are gathering information from teachers who have taught in French Immersion, but are no longer teaching in that programme. We are interested both in the number of teachers involved, and in their reasons for leaving French Immersion. If that is you, please send an email to Matt Westphal at pres@surreyteachers.org.

Spotlight on Disability Justice

At the 2019 BCTF AGM, a motion was passed to create the newest action group on the committee for action on social justice (CASJ): Disability Justice. The mandates of the new group include promoting authentic inclusion for diverse learners in public education, examining current and existing policies that present as barriers to accessibility, eliminate ableism, and promote the understanding that not all disabilities are visible. Disability rights are human rights! Please take the time to look through this month's [Seeds of Social Justice](#) and use the resources, book the workshops, apply for grants, and continue to be part of the solution.

Moose Hide Campaign Gathering and Day of Fasting

Teachers and their classes are invited to participate in the [Moose Hide Campaign](#) Gathering and Day of Fasting in Victoria on February 24, 2020. Beginning with sharing circles led by students, the participants will later walk to the Legislature, where youth speakers will share their commitment to the campaign. Surrey teachers can participate on that day via a [Live link](#).

The Moose Hide Campaign is a grassroots movement of Indigenous and non-Indigenous men and boys who are standing up against violence towards women and children. Wearing a piece of moose hide signifies a person's commitment to honour, respect, and protect the women and children in their life and to work together to end violence against women and children. The BCTF is proud to financially support this campaign. Here's the link to their [online learning platform](#) which includes 5 lesson plans with classroom resources. The campaign co-ordinators have told the BCTF that teachers can use it as a pilot and they are happy to receive any feedback.



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 Andrea Leeks to Jessica Boss:

"I nominate Jessica Boss from Hillcrest Elementary. She is an amazingly creative and enthusiastic grade 5 teacher and positive member of our school community. Her class art projects always leave me feeling inspired and add some magic to our hallway."

Thank you Andrea, you and Jessica 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!

One Billion Rising

This year NEVR's ["One Billion Rising"](#) event,

**Free Human Rights
Resource!**

co-sponsored by members Mustang Justice and Network to Eliminate Violence in Relationships (NEVR) will take place on February 24th from 10:30 am to 1:45 pm at LA Matheson Secondary School (9484 122 St, Surrey, BC). One Billion Rising is the biggest mass action to end violence against women in human history. The campaign, launched on Valentine's Day 2012, began as a call to action based on the staggering statistic that 1 in 3 women on the planet will be beaten or raped during her lifetime. With the world population at 7 billion, this adds up to more than ONE BILLION WOMEN AND GIRLS." In attendance will be over 200 students plus members of the public. Please email Annie Ohana at ohana_a@surreyschools.ca for more information.

Here are two free, online, bilingual human rights curriculum-based teaching resources for you to use.

We have [Choose Your Voice](#) for middle school and [Voices into Action](#) for secondary school (and some middle school classes) on a host of topics like the Holocaust, Rwanda genocide, Residential Schools, gender rights, Chinese Head Tax, Islamophobia, and so much more. Credibly sourced, each resource has original, short videos with survivor testimonials along with powerful lessons and assessment rubrics.