

---

*Surrey teachers work on the unceded traditional territories of the Kwantlen, Katzie, Qayqayt and Semiahmoo First Nations. As part of meaningful reconciliation work, we reflect on the impacts of colonialism through self-education in order to be accountable to Indigenous people and pay attention to our students of Indigenous ancestry, providing them the tools for their success in the future. We are all on a path to learn more and understand the role of each of us as educators in healing the broken relationship with the First Peoples of this territory. We thank those who live on and care for the land.*



## STA Connection June 7-11, 2021

June is  
**PRIDE**  
month!

Did you know that in 1997, the District forbade the use in schools of books that featured children who had two moms or two dads? We've certainly come a long way since then! The 2002 Supreme Court victory of Surrey teacher James Chamberlain and the BCTF *et al.* over the District's ban is part of the history of the struggle for LGBTQ+ rights in Canada today.

The struggle for LGBTQ+ rights within our school system is certainly not over as evidenced by the events in the Chilliwack school district where a trustee regularly makes homophobic statements. But it's important to celebrate victories like the existence of many GSA clubs in schools, rainbow crosswalks, the collaboration of the STA and District SOGI committee, the inspiring work of the STA's LGBTQ+ committee, the Pride Prom, and the District joining the STA at Surrey Pride! While we continue to use an intersectional lens when we integrate SOGI resources into our teaching, let's keep those Pride flags flying high!

Read more about the [book banning case](#).

# Vaccines

If you have NOT YET HAD YOUR FIRST DOSE of the vaccine:

1. Go to the booking site located at: <https://priority-fraser-health-vaccinations.myhealthinfo.ca/index.php> (Link not supported by Internet Explorer)
2. Follow booking instructions. The access code: dogwood
3. **Access code needs to be entered twice and is case sensitive**
4. Choose the group you belong to (choose applicable SD or geographic area).
5. In the . llable box identify: **School Staff**
6. Complete the process by **registering for your vaccination**:  
<https://www.getvaccinated.gov.bc.ca>

If you are wanting to have your second dose of the vaccine:

1. Register at the Provincial Vaccination Website [www.getvaccinated.gov.bc.ca/s/](http://www.getvaccinated.gov.bc.ca/s/). **If you have previously registered, you do not need to complete a second registration.**
2. Wait for further instruction.
3. You will receive a notification, via the method you selected at time of registration, when it is time to book your second dose of vaccine.

[Read more](#)



## STARA Meeting: Wednesday, June 16

Elections for positions on our many STA Committees will be held during STARA (STA Representative Assembly) on Wednesday, June 16, starting at 4pm online. If you have not already received your voting and Zoom links for the 2020-2021 year, [sign up](#) for this year's links.

If you'd like to be considered for a position on a committee, submit your name and the name of the committee/s you're interested in putting your name forward for election to

[sta@surreyteachers.org](mailto:sta@surreyteachers.org) **no later than 4pm on June 14th**. You may also nominate yourself from the floor, but it is handy to have as many names in advance as possible.

## Special General Meeting on Bargaining: Thursday, June 17 at 4pm online

A Special General Meeting will be held on **Thursday, June 17 at 4pm**. The Bargaining Committee will be presenting a summary of the bargaining survey results and provincial bargaining objective proposals for ratification and submission to the BCTF Bargaining Conference in October. As bargaining is confidential and only discussed in committee, we are not publishing or circulating recommendations prior to the meeting on June 17.

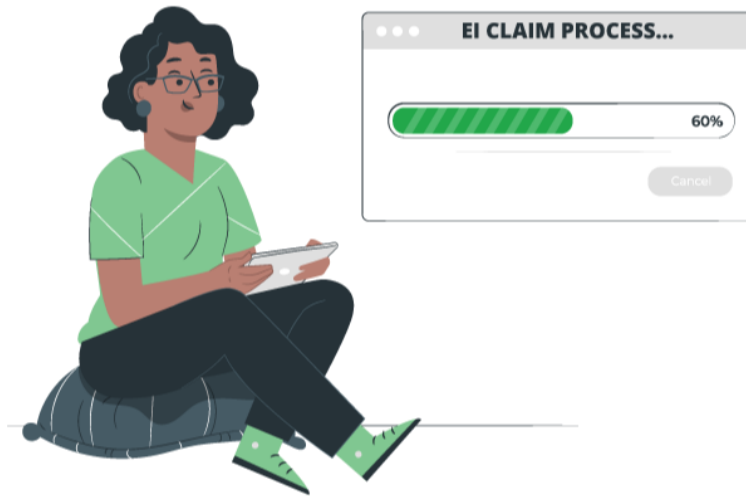
If you have suggestions for Bargaining objectives to be considered at the meeting, please email Bargaining Co-Chairs at: [kevinamboe@gmail.com](mailto:kevinamboe@gmail.com) and [isaacclouie@gmail.com](mailto:isaacclouie@gmail.com). You can submit wording for a motion and at the meeting you can speak to it (unless it has already been captured and discussed within the recommendations being presented by the Bargaining Committee). If you have not already received your Zoom links for the 2020-2021 year, [sign up](#) for this year's links so you can attend.

## Mentor36 – Mentor Applications open

The [Mentor 36 program](#) aspires to create a sustained culture of collaborative mentorship at every site in Surrey, supporting professional growth and a sense of belonging for our teachers. Our mentors do an amazing job supporting early-career colleagues. This year, we supported 207 new teachers in our district.

Our [Mentor Application Form for the 2021-2022 school year](#) is now open for teachers who work at our Elementary Schools and Learning Centres. If you're interested in being a mentor at your school / family of schools, we invite you to apply and join us in our mentoring community!

## TTOC EI Workshop



Are you a TTOC? 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! This seminar helps TTOCs understand the steps to follow in applying for, and obtaining, EI benefits.

The STA will be holding a seminar for TTOCs explaining the process and answering their questions on Monday, June 14, 2021 from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. [Register now!](#)

## TTOC Experience Transfer

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 to the District (Attn: HR/Payroll). It might make you eligible for an incremental increase in September! [Read more](#)



## Join the Environmental Justice Committee!



If you are concerned about the climate crisis, consider putting your name forward to be elected at STARA on Thursday, June 16 to the Ad Hoc STA Environmental Justice Committee which was formed in 2019 after the International Panel on Climate Change released its dire report stating that we have only 12 years (less than a decade now) to reduce carbon emissions to avoid the most disastrous effects of climate change. [Read more](#)

## Status of Women Wellness Giveaway!

The Status of Women committee is giving away *Sacred Feminine* and *IKWE: Honouring Women, Life Givers, and Water Protectors* by Indigenous artist Jackie Traverse. Unplug from technology and pick up some colouring pencils to help you lower your stress and anxiety levels and achieve mindfulness. You don't have to be an artist to use a colouring book. They're also easy to pack if you are planning to get away for the summer holidays. We hope that you all have a relaxing and safe summer!

[Submit your name](#) by 8:30 am on Monday, June 14, 2021 to be entered into the draw.



## AOEC (Anti-Oppression Educators Collective)

Here is an [important petition addressed to the Ministry of Education](#) asking them to mandate two days of in-service training on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action and the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* in the 2021-2022 school year for all K to 12 school district staff in public and independent school systems. The STA Executive Committee voted to sign the petition on behalf of the STA and urges members to sign it as well.

## Teacher Activism: What Does it Look Like?

Are you wondering what practical teacher activism resembles? Come and learn how educators Monica, Nikitha, Ramona, Trevor and Kenneth are transforming pedagogy and student learning experiences through collaboration, ally-ship, organizing and resource sharing. Remember, best educators don't limit themselves into their traditional classroom walls! Wednesday, June 23, 2021 from 5:00-6:00pm

Register: <https://educ.ubc.ca/news-events/>

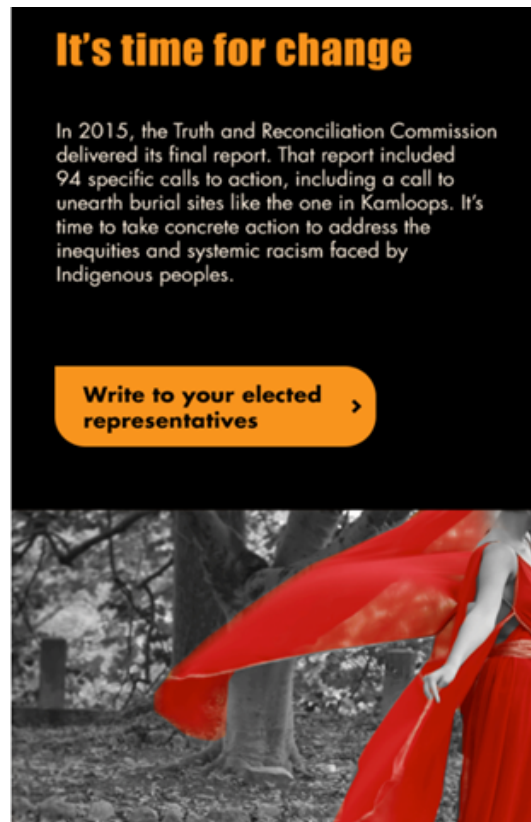
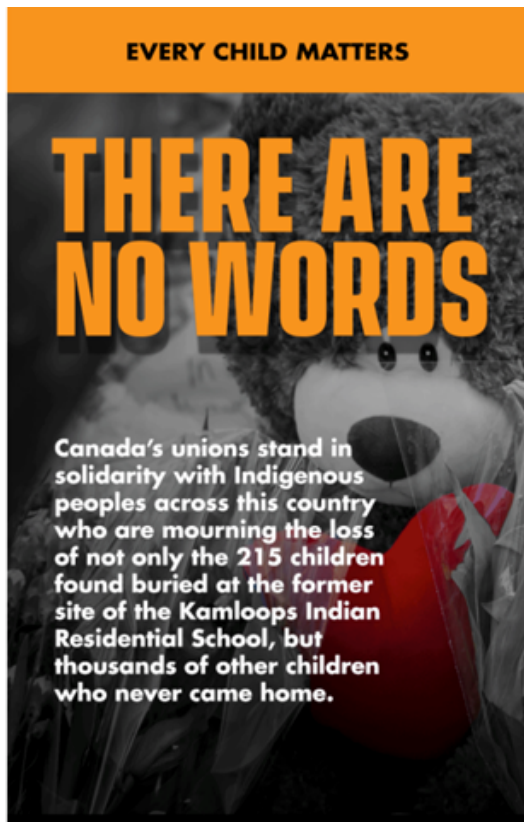
## Before you spend your own money on school supplies this summer ...

Consider participating in the **"Out of Our Pockets" (OOP)** project which is intended to develop and implement a Web-based research tool that will enable teachers and other education workers to **document and record** instances where they use their **own money** to purchase things to be used with their students, and in their classrooms and schools.

A pilot for the Project will run from **mid-August to mid-October of 2021**. It will "enroll" as participants teachers within District 36 Surrey. During this period, participating teachers will be asked to use their smart phones or tablets to access a secure online data system set up to record data on "out of pocket" expenditures. Every time a teacher spends personal money in this way, they would record the transaction online in a process that would take less than one minute.

More information at STARA on Wednesday, June 16!

## Canadian Labour Congress



Write to elected representatives:

<https://canadianlabour.ca/campaigns/justice-for-first-nations-inuit-and-metis-is-long-overdue/>

## Global Peace Alliance

Global Peace Alliance BC Society would like to thank the Status of Women Committee and the STA for their support in our yearly Literary and Visual Arts Contest.

Our ART4PEACE Literary & Visual Arts Contest 2021 is for everyone to participate and express their desire for Peace. The theme may encompass love and kindness, caring and sharing, friendship, forgiving, multiculturalism, conflict transformation and anti-racism to name a few ideas. It can be a painting, drawing or a story or poem. It can also be an essay on how Canada can foster peace at home and abroad. We have awards and prizes for winners, and recognition takes place in September at our "Give Peace A Chance Festival" celebrating the International Day of Peace. The deadline for submission is Wednesday, August 25 2021.

# LITERARY & VISUAL ARTS CONTEST 2021



## ART 4 PEACE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE

**One World - One People  
Global Peace Alliance(GPA)**

Email: [info@peacealways.org](mailto:info@peacealways.org)  
[www.peacealways.org](http://www.peacealways.org)

\*Every participant receives a Certificate of Appreciation

\*Entry Deadline August 25th, 2021

\*Winners(3 in each age group)also receive cash Prizes & Trophies

**5-12 yrs | 13-17 yrs | 18-64 yrs | 65+ yrs**

Please note that your literary/visual artwork will be archived & displayed at ART4PEACE Exhibitions and on the GPA website and other social media platforms.  
Upon request original artwork may be picked up after GPA use.

## CONTEST RULES

\*Essay: What have we learned from COVID19, what needs to....

\*Every literary/visual art work submission to the contests must have a theme of peace(love-kindness, caring & sharing, forgiving & forgetting, friendship, multiculturalism, nuclear disarmament, social justice, conflict transformation, and the like). This year we encourage you to capture the impact of COVID19 on family, work, society and the world

\*Minimum size for photographs is 5"x7".

\*Unlimited entry submissions per person.

\*Maximum number of words for literary works(prose or poetry): 400 for 5-12 yrs & 2000 for others.

\*The size of drawings and paintings (hand-drawn, sketched or painted) should be 8"x11" or smaller.

\*Every entry submission must accompany a cover letter giving:

(a)Your name, birthday, physical address, phone number and email address; and

(b)A description of the peace message behind your work.

\*Mail original work to Postal Box PMB #235 800-15355 24th Ave.

Surrey, BC, V4A 2H9 or call 604-329-0850 to hand deliver by appointment, or enter online at GPA website [www.peacealways.org](http://www.peacealways.org)

\*Although we welcome entries outside of the Vancouver/Fraser Valley region, please be aware that trophies cannot be mailed. If entering from outside the country only a winning certificate is issued.



Dear colleagues,

I hope this message finds you healthy and well as we are slowly overcoming the challenges of the pandemic. On behalf of the British Columbia Teachers' Council (BCTC), I am pleased to share with you the [BCTC's 2019/20 Annual Report](#). This report highlights the work of the BCTC between May 2019 and April 2020. In this reporting period, we continue to be proud of our accomplishments and appreciate the collaboration with all our partner groups. This teamwork helps in ensuring students are supported by highly trained and committed educators.

We are already working on the 2020/21 Annual Report and hope it will be released before the end of 2021.

Sincerely,

Jim Iker

Chair

British Columbia Teachers' Council



## **STA EVENTS**

All STA committee meetings are open to all members, contact us for more information.

June 11 – Status of Women Committee

June 14 – [El workshop for TTOCs at 4 pm](#)

June 14 – Anti-Racism Committee

June 15 – Bargaining Committee

June 16-18 – Canadian Labour Congress Convention

June 16 – STARA (including committee elections)

June 17 – Special General Meeting to discuss bargaining

June 21 – National Indigenous Peoples Day

June 22 – Executive Committee