



STA CONNECTION

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 these shared territories. We thank those who live on and care for the land.

TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

Indigenous Veterans Remembrance Day is November 8

As plans for Remembrance Day on November 11 get underway, please be reminded that November 8 is Indigenous Veterans Remembrance Day. Read more about the experiences of Indigenous Veterans [here](#) and also [here](#).

Untold History of British Columbia

Episode 1 of Knowledge Network's [British Columbia: An Untold History](#) explores the history of the creation of the place we call British Columbia from Indigenous peoples' points of view.

COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT NOTES

Ideas to balance the loss of Monday and Friday prep times?

At many elementary schools a few teachers end up with Friday and Monday prep times. As most statutory holidays fall on these days, these teachers end up with significantly less prep time for the year. We're gathering ideas of how schools are solving this problem. Please share your ideas by emailing Gavin Slade-Kerr at hs@surreyteachers.org. [Read more](#)

Notification of TTOC transfer deadline: November 15

TTOCs who get a contract and have TTOC days accumulated can add the TTOC days to their contract experience in order to go up the salary grid. The TTOC days are divided by 17. Each 17 days equal one month. 170 days are needed for an increase. For a transfer of TTOC experience to be effective December 31, teachers must apply to the payroll department in writing by November 15. For an increase to be effective September 1, the deadline is June 30.

TTOC access to sick leave

The STA and District have agreed to extend the agreement from last year permitting TTOCs to access sick leave without reporting to the school. The only change is that they must notify the school principal on the morning of the dispatch, in addition to notifying Dispatch, to ensure that the school is aware.

BARGAINING

Observers at the 2021 Bargaining Conference

BCTF Members who are interested in the 2021 Bargaining Conference (October 28, 29, 30) may attend as observers with no voice and no vote. It is not necessary to be available for all three days of the conference to be an observer. No release time will be given by the BCTF for members to attend as observers. Register via the BCTF member portal.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Vaccine Mandate

The vaccine mandate for public service workers does not apply to schools. School Boards are the employer who would be responsible for issuing a vaccine mandate. We would have no opposition to a mandate for school staff and would work with those who have medical exemptions to receive accommodation.

Mask Wearing Non-Compliance

Our advice is to have the Public Health Order regarding masks handy when discussing issues of non-compliance with administration. The wording in the Public Health Order is much stronger than the Health and Safety guidelines for K-12 and supersedes them. [Read more](#)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Provincial Specialist Associations Day 2021

This year PSA day is Friday, October 22. Take note of all the [offerings from various PSAs](#).

Pro-D Townhall - October 27, 2021

The STA office will be presenting a Pro-D Townhall on October 27, 2021 from 3:30-5:00 pm via Zoom. This will be an open forum for you to ask questions and share ideas with other Pro-D Reps. [Register now](#) and feel free to submit your Pro-D questions during your registration.

Seeking 3 More Members for our Convention Committee

The Convention Committee plans the yearly STA Convention and is looking for 3 members to round out the committee. Members serve for a two-year term and there are currently openings for 1 Aboriginal, 1 Primary and 1 Excursion member. Interested members are encouraged to submit a completed [Committee Curriculum Vitae Form](#) to reception@surreyteachers.org. For more information, visit the [Convention Committee Page](#) on our website.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special General Meeting on Thursday, October 21

To vote in the election for 1st Vice President, you'll need to [register](#) to attend the October 21 Special General meeting using your surreyschools email. Registration will be open until October 21, 2021 at 12:00 pm. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing your registration keys and information about joining the webinar (this process may take some time, so please register as soon as possible). Email questions or concerns to sta@surreyteachers.org.

Zoom Meditation for Surrey Teachers

Are you feeling stressed out? On Wednesday, October 27, come and spend the afternoon relaxing and freeing your mind within the safety of your home through a virtual guided meditation hosted by the STA Status of Women Committee. Achieve mental and emotional release and stress relief surrounded by those who understand our stress the best - other Surrey teachers! [Register now](#)

Staff Rep Training

The STA is offering [Rookie Staff Rep Training](#) on November 2 and [Returning Staff Rep Training](#) on October 18, 19, 20 and November 3.

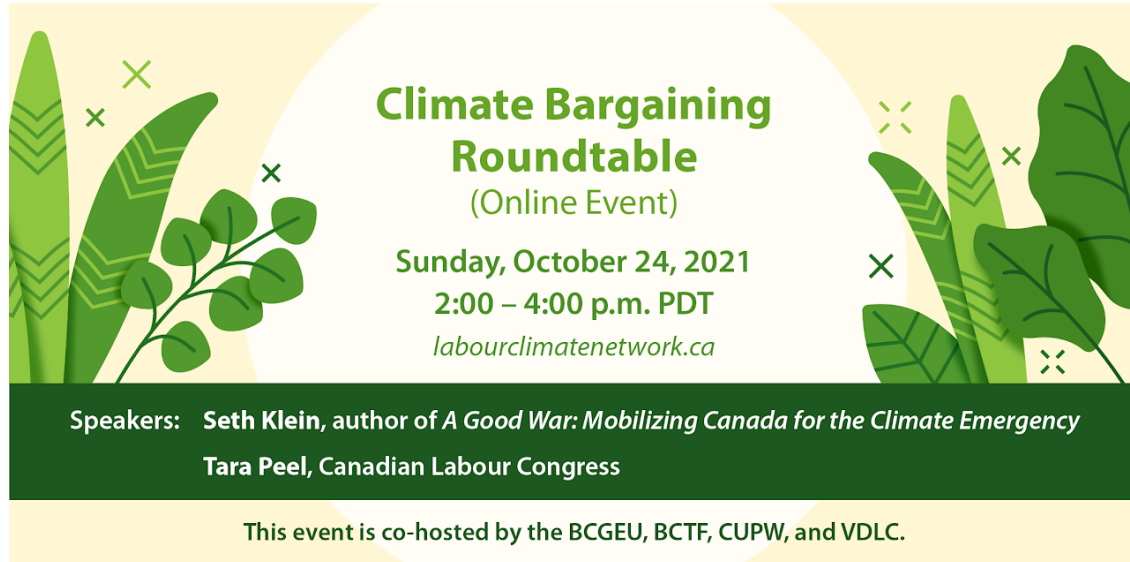
New Teachers' Conference

Are you new to teaching? Do you have questions about what your union has to offer? Your pay cheque? Your contract? Please feel invited to attend our New Teacher's Conference on

October 27th, 2021 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm via Zoom. [Registration is open](#) to teachers in the first 3 (or so) years of teaching, who have not attended before.

Climate Bargaining Round Table

Hear from environmental activist and author Seth Klein about the role of workers to force a wartime-level response to the climate crisis in this two-hour online Roundtable. Additionally, Tara Peel, from the Canadian Labour Congress, will share the work of the CLC on climate action and what unions are and need to be doing. Join us for a facilitated discussion as we explore ways we can demand that our unions fight for a livable planet.

A graphic for the Climate Bargaining Roundtable event. It features a central white circle on a light green background with stylized green leaves and 'x' marks. The text inside the circle reads: "Climate Bargaining Roundtable (Online Event) Sunday, October 24, 2021 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. PDT labourclimatenetwork.ca". Below the circle, on a dark green background, are the speakers: "Speakers: Seth Klein, author of A Good War: Mobilizing Canada for the Climate Emergency Tara Peel, Canadian Labour Congress". At the bottom, on a light green background, it says "This event is co-hosted by the BCGEU, BCTF, CUPW, and VDLC."/>

Climate Bargaining Roundtable
(Online Event)

Sunday, October 24, 2021
2:00 – 4:00 p.m. PDT
labourclimatenetwork.ca

Speakers: Seth Klein, author of *A Good War: Mobilizing Canada for the Climate Emergency*
Tara Peel, Canadian Labour Congress

This event is co-hosted by the BCGEU, BCTF, CUPW, and VDLC.

Northwest Social Justice Conference

The Northwest Teaching for Social Justice Conference is an annual gathering of conversation, idea-sharing, and inspiration is co-sponsored by Rethinking Schools and is taking place on Saturday, October 23rd online. The cost is just \$10 – \$5 for students. [Read more](#)



14th Annual Northwest Teaching for Social Justice Conference

“Rethinking Our Classrooms, Organizing for Better Schools”

Online – Saturday, October 23, 2021

Keynote Speaker:

Dr. Bettina Love

We Gon' Be Alright, But It Ain't Alright: Abolitionist Teaching

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 18
Bargaining Delegation
Resolutions Committee
[Staff Rep Training](#)

October 19
Bargaining Committee
Finance Committee
[Staff Rep Training](#)
Status of Women Committee
Ad Hoc Technology Advisory Committee

October 20
Mentor36 Orientation
[Staff Rep Training](#)
STARA Meeting

October 25
Bargaining Delegation Training
Grievance Committee

October 26
Bargaining Committee
[Pro-D Training](#)
Executive Committee

October 27
[New Teachers Conference](#)
Health and Safety Committee
Pro-D Town Hall
Status of Women Meditation Event

October 28
BCTF Bargaining Conference
Anti-Racism Committee

We acknowledge with gratitude and respect that STA members have the privilege of working on the unceded ancestral territory of the Hul'q'umi'num' speaking Kwantlen, Katzie, Qayqayt and Semiahmoo First Nations who have cared for this land for thousands of years, and who continue to care for this land. As educators, we are committed to actions aimed at healing the broken relationship between settlers and Indigenous peoples.