



Temtl'i:q'es (February – March)

Time when one's hands stick to things because of the cold

ELECTION RESULTS



Anne McNamee



Melissa Sumpton

At the Special General meeting on February 16, Anne McNamee was elected as First Vice-President and Melissa Sumpton was acclaimed as Secretary-Treasurer. Congratulations to Anne and to Melissa!

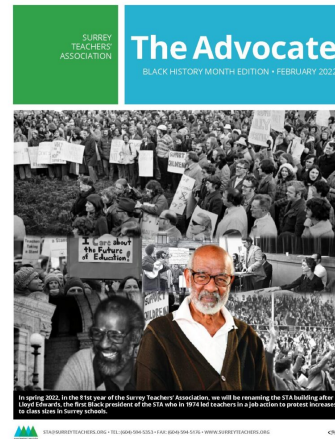
TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

With Family Day coming up, something to consider is the impact that residential 'schools' had on First Nations' families for multiple generations. [In this article](#), the biological and psychological impacts are recalled by North Peigan, a member of Piikani Nation in southern Alberta. [This website](#) has information on how residential 'schools' impacted individuals, families, and communities. Suggestions for how to include reconciliation as part of Family Day celebrations can be found [in this article](#).

BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2022

Black History Month Edition of The Advocate

The first [Black History Month edition of The Advocate](#) has been published today. One printed copy will be sent to each school. Let us know what you think about it! Send comments to communications@surreyteachers.org.



Queering Black History Month

For this year's Black History month, the Ad Hoc LGBTQ2S+ Committee wishes to bring awareness to the various intersectional identities within Black Queer and Trans communities. We acknowledge the struggles of Black Queer and Trans folx who are frequently erased from mainstream narratives. Honouring Black History Month means also including Black Queer and Trans history in our classrooms and celebrating Black Queer and Trans culture and communities. [Read more](#)



More Black History Month Resources

This year's Black History month theme is [February and Forever: Celebrating Black History today and every day.](#)

To learn about how Black History month came into existence, [visit this CBC Kids site.](#)

[Here is a Canadian Heritage video](#) that "promotes the significant contributions that Canadians of African descent have made to their communities and to Canada."



HEALTH AND SAFETY

Distribution of N95 masks

For non-TTOCs

Please contact your staff rep to inquire as to how you will receive your 2 masks. Staff reps should come to the STA office at 9030 King George Boulevard after school one day next week to pick them up to distribute to their staff. The office will be open for distribution from 3pm - 5pm on February 22-25. Please wear a mask and stay social distanced as you enter the building. We are on the second floor.

For TTOCs

Pick up between 3pm and 5pm at the following locations:

- Tuesday, Feb. 22: Princess Margaret Secondary at 12870 72 Avenue
- Wednesday, Feb. 23: Lord Tweedsmuir Secondary at 6151 180 Street
- Thursday, Feb. 24: Queen Elizabeth Secondary at 9457 King George Blvd.

There will be a member handing out masks to TTOCs in the parking lot. Look for an STA flag, umbrella, or sign (or all three).

New Teachers' Conference

March 1, 2022

Registration is open to teachers in the first 3 (or so) years of teaching, who have not attended before.



Register at ntc-march2022.eventbrite.ca

Are you new to teaching? Do you have questions about what your union has to offer? Your pay cheque? Your contract? For answers, you can attend our New Teachers' Conference that will be held via Zoom on **Tuesday, March 1st, 2022**, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. [Registration is open](#) to teachers in the first 3 (or so) years of teaching, who have not attended before. Release time is provided for you to attend. Details will be sent after you register.

GRIEVANCE



Message from Grievance Officer, Kelli O'Malley

In a unionized workplace, the grievance process is the normal method for settling disputes regarding employee rights. Unions depend on members bringing forward issues in order to actively defend the Collective Agreement rights of all teachers. If teacher rights are violated, and the union takes no action, it can be difficult to enforce those rights later.

The STA has two full-time Grievance Officers, Joanna Cerazy and Kelli O'Malley. Seven additional members are elected to the Grievance Committee, which examines grievance issues, makes recommendations, and receives training in defending the Collective Agreement. For general grievance inquiries, please contact the STA office at (604) 594-5353. For more information, please visit our [Advocacy and Protection of Rights page](#).

STA COMMITTEES

[STA Committees](#) are important structures within the STA. Run by volunteers, they usually meet once a month, after school.

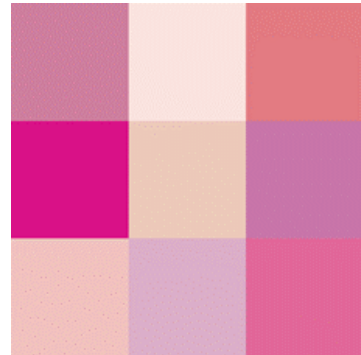
Anti-Racism Committee

A motion was passed at the Special General Meeting in January that the Antiracism Committee be expanded by 3 seats, from 10 to 13 members, and at least 5 seats should be reserved for members identifying as Black, Indigenous, or a Person of Colour ("BIPOC"). If you self-identify as BIPOC and are interested in joining this activity, please complete the form at [this link](#) and send to reception@surreyteachers.org to be considered for appointment by the Executive.

RETHINKING PINK DAY

The first Pink Shirt Day was held in a Nova Scotia high school in 2007 when two Grade 12 students - Travis Price and David Shepard and a few friends - stood up against the homophobic bullying of a Grade 9 student who had a worn pink shirt to school. For Pink Shirt Day 2022, the LGBTQ2+ committee challenges STA members to "[think beyond pink](#)" by:

- acknowledging, respecting and naming the truth to this day's history,
- standing up against homophobic bullying,
- learning and unlearning our own gender and sexuality biases,
- building awareness and celebrating diverse SOGI identities, and by
- challenging dominant gender and sexuality norms and stereotypes.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Surrey Schools in Vancouver Pride 2022

The Ad Hoc LGBTQ2S+ committee is excited about Surrey Schools' participation in Vancouver Pride 2022 tentatively scheduled to be in-person on Sunday, July 31, 2022. SD36 will be part of the Pride Walk and will also have a booth. We are seeking STA members who are interested in being part of the Pride Parade and/or who would like to volunteer at the SD36 booth at Vancouver Pride. **Please express your interest through this link: <https://forms.office.com/r/9TuaG9TipS> by 28th February 2022.** For more information, contact Noel Abraham at abraham_n@surreyschools.ca. [Read more](#)

SD36/STA VIRTUAL FOCUS DAY FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH

A NEW HOPE: Positive solutions for teaching in a changing world.

Workshops include climate change, anti-racism, inclusion, and Indigenous education as well as curriculum supports for Math, Science and Literacy.



Key note speaker Len Pierre of the Katzie First Nation will be presenting "Decolonizing Education and Institutionalizing Cultural Safety."

The Other People

The Other People is an incredible opportunity for educators to hear from a wide range of local luminaries, including Jody Wison-Raybould, who represent a variety of faiths, cultures and heritages in a discussion on what anti-racist futures can look like. While LA Matheson is the first public school to hold the panel in BC, Mustang Justice hopes to help other schools have the panel come to their schools as well. We hope classes from a variety of schools can join us. Interested teachers should contact Annie Ohana at ohana_a@surreyschools.ca.



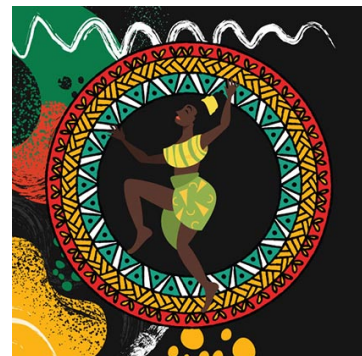
**L.A. MATHESON SECONDARY SCHOOL
FEB 22, 2022 | 1:40 - 3:00 PM**

Ending Racism Together

Celebration of Black Power and Joy

The Members of Colour Committee is excited to host a virtual celebration of Black power, joy and beauty on **Saturday, February 26, 2022 at 10am via Zoom**. STA members are invited to share a piece of art that celebrates and honours Blackness. All participants should be ready to dance, listen and reflect on the ways in which Black excellence shapes our society. [Register now](#) to take part in this event.

If you are interested in presenting or **know students** who may be interested in presenting their poems, speeches, dances and artwork at this event, please email Thais Pimentel Cabral at cabral_t@surreyschools.ca and Amrit Sanghe at sanghe_a@surreyschools.ca.



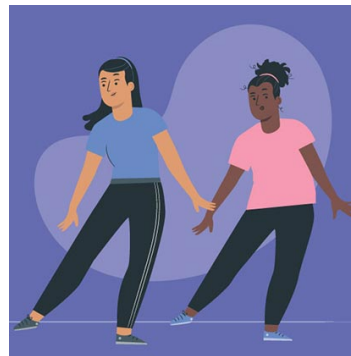
Members of Colour Committee Presents

No Visible Trauma is a 98-minute documentary film about systemic police misconduct in Canada. [Register](#) to receive a link to stream the film at your convenience, then participate in a discussion and Q&A on Monday, February 28 at 4:00pm about the role of police in our society and how they can better serve us. This film has been made free for members and friends of Surrey Teachers' Association by the STA Members of Colour Committee.



Zumba on Zoom-ba for International Women's Day

March 8th is International Women's Day! At 4:30 pm, the STA Status of Women Committee will be hosting a virtual Zumba Wellness Event for all STA members to celebrate our love and appreciation for each other. Zumba is great for our wellness, both body and mind. After running the world (or at least our classrooms) all day, take an hour out for yourself and just dance! [Register today](#)



Aromantic Spectrum Awareness Week

Aromantic Spectrum Awareness Week (ASAW) is an annual, international event meant to spread awareness and acceptance of aromantic spectrum identities and the issues the communities face. Learn more about AWAW at <http://www.arospecweek.org> and <https://lgbtqreads.com/2020/02/17/happy-aromantic-awareness-week/>.

SHOUT OUT!

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. You and the colleague you shout out will have your names entered into our monthly draw for a \$25 Indigo gift certificate. Submit your "shout outs" **with the email subject heading SHOUT OUT** to Lizanne via communications@surreyteachers.org **before 4pm on Friday, March 11, 2022.**



UPCOMING EVENTS

February 22

Bargaining Committee
Executive Committee

February 23

Bargaining with the Employer
BCTF AGM Delegate Meeting

February 24

Bargaining with the Employer
AD Hoc LGBTQ2S+ Committee
Grievance Committee

February 26

[Members of Colour: Celebration of Black Power and Joy](#)

February 28

Bargaining Committee
[Members of Colour: No Visible Trauma](#)

March 1

Ad Hoc Social Justice Directory Project Committee
[New Teachers Conference](#)
TTOC Advisory Committee

March 2

Health & Safety Committee
Status of Women Committee

March 3

Indigenous Education Committee
Education Governance Committee
BCTF AGM Delegate Training

March 7

Ad Hoc Environmental Justice

Pro-D Committee

Labour Affairs Committee

March 8

Ad Hoc Covid Action Committee
[Status of Women Committee: Zumba Wellness Event](#)

March 9

Executive Committee

March 10

Ad Hoc Indigenization Committee

We acknowledge with gratitude and respect that STA members have the privilege of working on the unceded ancestral territory of the Coast Salish peoples, the q^wa:ńł'ən (Kwantlen), qícəy (Katzie), qiqéyt (Qayqayt) and səmi'á:mu: (Semiahmoo) 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.