

STA CONNECTION

Truth and Reconciliation

On Friday, April 1, [Pope Francis made a personal apology](#) to First Nations, Inuit and Metis for the ‘deplorable conduct’ of “a number of Catholics, particularly those with educational responsibilities” during the century of the existence of residential ‘schools’ in Canada. The apology comes 139 years after [Sir John A Macdonald authorized churches in Canada](#) to establish residential ‘schools’ because he said that “in order to educate the children properly we must separate them from their families. Some people may say this is hard, but if we want to civilize them, we must do that.”

For teaching resources on the role that churches played in residential schools, [visit Facing History & Ourselves](#). Did you know that the first mission school for Indigenous students was [established in 1620?](#)



Action Items in this newsletter

For All Members

1. STA Convention registration
2. Lloyd Edwards Building Renaming Event registration
3. Use surreyteachers.org email for Table Officers, not their surreyschools.ca email

For Staff Reps

1. Staff Rep Training registration
2. Pro-D Town Hall registration
3. Add repsupport@surreyteachers.org to safe senders list
4. Send school concerns to STARA Steering Committee



The Staff Reps Section

Safe Sender List

To avoid the big yellow banner that comes up when you get emails from the STA, please add repsupport@surreyteachers.org to your Safe Senders list on Outlook. For instructions, follow these [steps on how to add Safe Sender](#).

Use Surreyteachers.org Email Please

When emailing STA Table Officers, please use their surreyteachers.org email address on all union related matters. Please avoid using their surreyschools.ca email address for this purpose. Thank you for your attention this request. Table Officers receive hundreds of emails about union issues each day so having those all in the same place is important. [See Table Officers Contact Information](#)

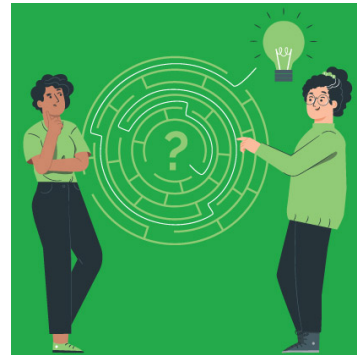
Connect with your STARA Steering Committee

We know you're busy doing a million and one things, and it can be hard to remember all the issues that have popped up in between STARA meetings. There's two easy ways to get these items off your mental load!

1. You can submit a school concern anytime via www.bit.ly/starep1 (and either ask for a response or speak to it at the next meeting).
2. You can email the STARA Steering committee (STARA@surreyteachers.org) with any possible issue or motion that you'd like to address during the meeting (or with your questions/ideas/suggestions!)

Staff Rep Training

We are offering Staff Rep Training on **April 13, 19, 20, and 21**. The BCTF portion, "Is it a Grievance? Problem Solving at the School Level Workshop", gives union representatives an understanding of the grievance procedure for solving disputes. The Local portion, "Organizing to Win", is a workshop adapted from the course Organizing 4 Power, by Jane McAlevey and Secrets of a Successful Organizer, by Labor Notes. [Register now](#)



Health and Safety

With the updated Provincial COVID-19 Health & Safety Guidelines, our Medical Health Officer from Fraser Health has provided a list of activities that can return to pre-pandemic practices. [Read more](#)

Collective Agreement Notes

To learn more, please visit the [Collective Agreement](#).

Job Share Agreement

The Surrey School District and the Surrey Teachers' Association have signed an agreement that extends the April 1 job share deadline for members waiting for entitlements for their specific position. The deadline will be extended by one calendar week from the date that entitlements for a teacher's specific position were sent to principals. [Read more](#)

Economic Welfare Committee

The Economic Welfare Committee needs more help in organizing a Town Hall to discuss how salaries and benefits are impacted by **maternity and parental** leaves. Join us to help plan what we should tell members about what they should know *before* they go on maternity leave and what they should consider when they return to work. To join the committee [complete this form](#) and email it to reception@surreyteachers.org

Round 1 Transfers

There are three parts to the transfer process. The first is the online application. Apply for postings using Employee Self-Serve. The other two parts to the transfer process are the interview and a reference check. The STA's position is that the interview should come first, followed by the reference check. The district does not agree. Learn more about the [District's hiring policies](#). [Read More](#)

Professional Development

Summer Pro-D Townhall – April 13, 2022

We will be presenting a Summer Pro-D Townhall on **April 13, 2022**, from 3:30pm - 5:00 pm via Zoom. This will be an open forum for you to bring forward your concerns, ask questions, and share ideas with other Pro-D Reps. You can submit your Pro-D questions during your registration. [Register now](#)



STA Convention 2022 (Virtual)

[Registration for the STA Convention](#) opened on Monday, April 4th. There is an Early Bird prize draw for those who register prior to April 14th. The Convention will be virtual this year again. We are still looking for more presentations for the secondary theme. If you've got a great idea to share with secondary teachers, [submit your workshop proposal](#) by Friday, April 8.



Sara Florence Davidson



Dr. Shauneen Pete

Pro-D Funding Draws

Because we did not have Professional Development Funding Draws at our Annual General Meetings in 2020 and 2021 due to COVID-19, we are going to be drawing 12 applications at our Annual General Meeting in May 2022! To be considered, completed application forms and accompanying documentation must be received by the STA office before 4:00 p.m. on the first school day of May (May 2nd). [Read more](#)

STA Awards

STA Scholarships and Bursaries

Every Spring, the STA sends \$1,500 to each Secondary school-site and \$500 to each Learning Centre for scholarships and bursaries for graduating students. The STA also grants 4 Jennifer Wadge Memorial Social Justice Awards and two Indigenous Students bursaries. Deadline for applications is May 13, 2022. [Read more](#)

STA Honourary Awards

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. Please submit nominations to Kevin Amboe, 2nd Vice President, Awards Chairperson. Courier no. 000 or sta@surreyteachers.org by Thursday, April 14. [Read more](#)

Announcements

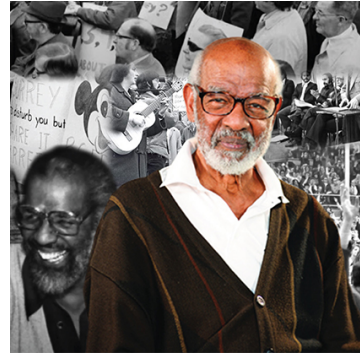
Special General Meeting

There will be a Special General Meeting on Wednesday, April 20 followed by STARA. If you have previously registered for STARA and General meetings this year, you will receive your meeting package and voting keys closer to the meeting date. If you have not yet registered to attend these governance meetings, please [register now](#).

Lloyd Edwards Building Renaming Celebration

We will be hosting an event to mark the renaming of the STA building from Park Place Building to Lloyd Edwards Building on Saturday, April 30, 2022. You're invited to join us from 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm at Queen Elizabeth Secondary School, 9457 King George Blvd.

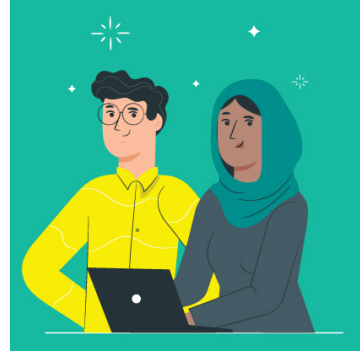
Lloyd Edwards was the first Black President of Surrey Teachers' Association who, on February 15, 1974, led the STA's protest against the Surrey School Board's increase of class sizes. [Register now](#)



STA New Teachers' Conference

Are you new to teaching? Do you have questions about what you 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 May 4, 2022, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Release time is provided for you to attend. Details will be sent after you register. [Register now](#)

Note: Registration is open to teachers in the first 3 (or so) years of teaching, who have not attended before. Teachers Teaching on-Call who do not have a part-time contract are not eligible to attend this event. We will hold a TTOC event in June.



Truth & Reconciliation Advocate coming in June

Have you been using the lesson resources suggested in the Truth and Reconciliation section of the STAC each week? If so, please consider submitting an article about your experiences for the next Advocate which is scheduled to be published in June 2022 in recognition of National Aboriginal Day. Have you taken a [personal pledge](#) to work on truth and reconciliation? Consider writing an article about your experiences fulfilling your pledge. Submit all articles to communications@surreyteachers.org by Monday, May 9.



Museum of Anthropology Educator After Hours

Register for a teachers-only evening hosted by the MOA Education team and learn how to make the most of your MOA Field Trip.

Preview the range of digital and in-person school programs, rentable teaching kits, and resources that MOA has to offer. Get after-hours access to MOA's galleries and exhibitions with knowledgeable facilitators stationed throughout. Learn more about MOA's Native Youth Program and our upcoming exhibition [Xicanx: Dreamers + Changemakers](#), opening May 12, 2022. [Register now](#)



Support for Hospitality Workers

Join locked out Hilton Metrotown workers and Asian Canadian Labour Alliance BC for a conversation about what it means for Unequal Women to be part of the longest hotel lockout in the province's history – and what it takes to keep on fighting. [Register now](#)



Shout Out!

To be included in the next draw for a \$25 Indigo gift certificate, [submit your "shout outs"](#) before 4pm on Friday, April 29, 2022.



Upcoming Events

April 11
Grievance Committee

April 12
Indigenous Education Committee

April 13
[Summer Pro-D Town Hall](#)
[Staff Rep Training](#)

April 19
Executive Committee
[Staff Rep Training](#)

April 20
[Staff Rep Training](#)
[Special General Meeting](#)
[STARA](#)

April 21
[Staff Rep Training](#)
TTOC Advisory Committee

April 22
Ad Hoc Young Workers' Committee

April 27
PA/PR Committee
Resolutions Committee

April 28
LGBTQ2+ Committee
Indigenous Education Committee

May 2
Ad Hoc Young Workers' Committee
Pro-D Committee

May 3
Executive Committee

May 4
[STA New Teachers' Conference](#)
Health & Safety Committee
Indigenous Education Committee

May 6
[STA Convention](#)

May 9
Labour Affairs Committee

May 10
Ad Hoc Social Justice Committee
Status of Women Committee – dinner meeting

May 11
Resolutions 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'w'a:ńł'əń (Kwantlen), q'icáy (Katzie), qiqéyt (Qayqayt) and semi'a: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.