

# STA CONNECTION

## Truth and Reconciliation

### Red Dress Day

Annually since 2010, there has been a [Red Dress Day](#) on May 5 to honour the lives and memories of [Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women \(MMIW\)](#). Hanging red dresses in public spaces acts as a symbolic reminder of the missing women. The BCTF has developed the teaching resource, [Their Voices Will Guide Us](#), and there is also a new BCTF [Workshop](#) with the same title that can be booked on the BCTF website.



### Indigenous Month Edition of The Advocate

Have you been using the lesson resources suggested in the Truth and Reconciliation section of the STAC each week? If so, please consider making a submission 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 about your experiences fulfilling your pledge. Poetry, reflections, lesson plans – all welcome! Submit all articles to [communications@surreyteachers.org](mailto:communications@surreyteachers.org) by **Monday, May 16**.

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## Action Items in this newsletter

### For Staff Reps

- Request a school visit to discuss provincial bargaining

### For All Members

- Complete the Anonymous Governance Meetings Survey
- Reminder that Awards (Bursaries & Scholarships) deadline is May 13
- [Register](#) for AGM: May 18 and May 25, 4 pm on Zoom



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## STA Election

Twenty-one positions on the STA Executive and seven positions on the Resolutions Committee are up for election on **Wednesday, May 18, 2022**. Attached to this newsletter are the [candidate statements](#) that were received by the deadline. All statements, including those that were submitted after the deadline, are [available to be read](#) on the website. You must be registered to attend and to vote at the AGM. [Register](#) to have a say in who leads the STA!



## The Lloyd Edwards Building



Our office building was renamed the Lloyd Edwards building at an event on Saturday, April 30. It was a joyful celebration attended by the Minister of Education Jennifer Whiteside, Superintendent Mark Pearmain, Deputy Superintendent Andrew Holland, MLAs Jinny Sims and Rachna Singh, Trustees Laurie Larsen, Bob Holmes, Terry Allen, Laurae McNally, BCTF president Teri Mooring and many others. To read about the event see articles in [Surrey Now Leader](#) and at the [CBC News](#) website.

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## School Visits

We'd like to visit you at your school/worksite to discuss the latest bargaining updates. Please [complete this form](#) to let us know when a good time would be.



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## Professional Development

Due to the ongoing pandemic, we've had online AGMs since 2020. The AGM will be online again this year. A few reminders about Pro-D draws:

- Pro-D draws happen at the AGM each year
- Usually there are 4 draws; this year there are **12**
- The AGM this year occurs on two dates: May 18 (Elections) and May 25 (Budget)
- There will be **6 draws at the May 18 AGM** and **6 at the May 25 AGM**
- To attend the meeting, you need to register at [bit.ly/sta-governance](https://bit.ly/sta-governance)

We hope to be meeting in person for AGM 2023.

## Introducing Navneet Basra

If you've submitted Pro-D claims, you'll be getting emails from our new Accounting Clerk, Navneet Basra at [accounting2@surreyteachers.org](mailto:accounting2@surreyteachers.org) who started working with Donna just this week.



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## Anonymous Governance Meetings Survey

How can we increase attendance at our governance meetings? It will take less than 3 minutes to anonymously respond the 4 questions in this form. Please [complete this form](#). Thank you!

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## Collective Agreement Notes

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

### Declare your Prep Time

Non-enrolling teachers who lose their prep time while covering failures-to-fill are **entitled to recover that lost prep time**. Often, non-enrolling teachers don't have their prep time attached to a particular time or day of the week (for elementary teachers), or to a block in the timetable (for secondary teachers). Non-enrolling teachers should **declare time in their schedules as their prep time** or keep a careful record of their time lost to prep coverage. Please contact Kelli O'Malley at [grieve2@surreyteachers.org](mailto:grieve2@surreyteachers.org) with any questions or concerns.

### Job Share Application Extension Agreement

Reminder to non-enrolling teachers that you have seven days from the day you receive your entitlement to make a written application for a job share. If you received your entitlement on May 5, then you have until May 12 to apply for a job share. [Read the agreement](#)

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## Health and Safety

### Health & Safety Rep Training

Health & Safety Reps, join this workshop on May 24, 25, or 27, 2022 from 8:45 am to 2:45 pm to review the WCB section on violence protection and learn about the process of refusal of unsafe work in the school context. [Register now](#)



### Increase in COVID cases

The number of people with COVID in the Fraser Health region continues to climb. One of the impacts on schools is that failure-to-fills have tripled recently as a result of more people becoming infected. In response to surging infections, we recommend that you:

- Wear a mask to avoid infection and to reduce the spread of infection
- Diligently complete the [Daily Health Check](#)
- Create a space for yourself with barriers such as tables to keep 2m distance from others
- Stay home if you're sick



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## STA Awards

### STA Scholarships and Bursaries - Last chance!

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



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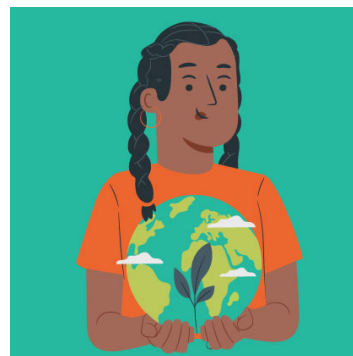
## Announcements

### Communications Coordinator Job Opportunity at the STA

We are seeking an STA member to help us at the office with our communications work for the coming school year. The person will have great writing skills, be adept with social media strategies, and be passionate about public education and union work. This job will be 3 days per week for the 2022-23 school year. Attached to this newsletter is the STA CV form. To apply for this position, please complete the form and submit it, along with some recent original writing in any format on any topic, to [sta@surreyteachers.org](mailto:sta@surreyteachers.org) before **noon on May 20, 2022**.

### Empowered Girls Conference

Grade 7-12 teachers are invited to register their class to join us at the "Empowered Girls' Conference: Taking Action on Climate and Environmental Justice", on **Tuesday, May 24, 2022** from 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm. [Register](#) to receive the Zoom link. Please contact us if you have any questions at [marcakis\\_a@surreyschools.ca](mailto:marcakis_a@surreyschools.ca).



### Young Worker Pub Night

Come on down to the Dublin Pub for an evening of relaxation, conversation, and a drink. Hosted by the STA Young Workers Committee this event for members aged 35 and under is aimed at hearing and connecting with our profession's leaders of tomorrow! Come meet the Young Workers team, socialize in a friendly and supportive environment, and share your ideas on future events! There will be games to play and awesome prizes to win! [Register now](#)



### Eligible Education School Supply Tax Credit

Canada Revenue Agency has informed teachers and educators who claim Line 46900 – Eligible educator school supply tax credit for their 2021 tax return that they will experience delays with their Notices of Assessment (and subsequent refunds) because Bill C-8 has not yet received Royal Assent. Read more information at the [Canadian Federation of Teachers website](#).

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## Blast from the Past

From the 1987 STA Bulletin, CREATIVE JOB ACTION or How to put pressure on the board and (gasp) not anger the public. [View full version](#)

### **Peter Thompson — Hjorth Road**

*Assumed objective*

Unstrike strategy

*prep time increase*

— we take it! One or two teachers show videos while the rest take prep time.

*salary settlement*

— every lunch hour each staff sends 10 members to the Board office to request renewed negotiations.

*half-hour duty free lunch*

— we take it! After unionization Employment standards cover us.

*staff control of Pro-d*

— we take it! Set committees and go for it!



*Peter Thompson*

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## Shout Out!

Congratulations to the winners of the April draw: Melissa Allingham of Katzie Elementary and Shauna Sohi of Newton Elementary! To be included in the next draw for a \$25 Indigo gift certificate, [submit your "shout outs"](#) before 4pm on Friday, May 27, 2022.



## Upcoming Events

### May 9

Economic Justice Committee  
Pro-D Committee

### May 10

Status of Women Committee – dinner meeting

### May 11

Resolutions Committee  
Local Reps meeting

### May 12

Labour Affairs Committee

### May 16

Cross Committee Meeting  
Grievance Committee

### May 17

Executive Committee

### May 18

[AGM – Elections](#)

### May 19

Indigenous Education  
Education Governance

### May 24

[Empowered Girls' Conference](#)  
[Health & Safety Rep Training](#)  
PA/PR Committee

### May 25

[AGM – Budget](#)  
[Health & Safety Rep Training](#)

### May 26

Ad Hoc LGBTQ2S+ Committee

### May 26

BCTF Spring Representative Assembly

### May 27

[Health & Safety Rep Training](#)

### May 31

Executive Committee

### June 1

STARA Steering Committee  
Health and Safety 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'ícəy' (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.