

## **Bargaining Update**

Clint Johnston, President of the BCTF, will be sharing details of the tentative deal on **Monday, November 7, 2022** starting at **7pm**

### **Click to join the Zoom Webinar**

Webinar ID: 820 2794 2249

Passcode: 394360

Or Telephone: +1 778 907 2071

## **Action Items**

1. Wear Red for Ed on Wednesdays
2. "To Shine a Light on It" – Indigenous Pro-D Event: Thursday, November 10, 2022
3. Register for LST Focus Group
4. Register to Attend the Reconvened Annual General Meeting and Special General Meeting
5. Read Updated BCTF Bargaining

### **1. Red For Ed Campaign**

Our Red for Ed campaign this time is focused on raising awareness about the impacts of the loss of service and supports currently being experienced in many schools. This [CTV article](#) succinctly covers our major concerns.

The STA Executive passed a motion that would subsidize staffs 50% of the cost of #RedforBCED apparel to a maximum of \$15 per item to help encourage Surrey teachers to wear red on Wednesdays. Members are encouraged to design and print their own #RedforBCED t-shirts. To get reimbursed, please [complete the Red for Ed expense](#)

[voucher](#) and send your original receipts to [sta@surreyteachers.org](mailto:sta@surreyteachers.org) or through the courier to #000.

Please post your pictures on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram using the hashtag #RedforBCED



## **2. “To Shine a Light on It” – Indigenous Pro-D Event: Thursday, November 10, 2022**

The STA's Indigenous Education Committee is hosting a variation of their “To Shine a Light on It” Indigenous Pro-D Day event. There will be a virtual keynote by Kwantlen First Nation Brandon Gabriel. Registration for virtual and in-person sessions are now open. Please [register](#) early as seats are limited.

STA's Indigenous Education Committee's  
**To Shine a Light on It**  
November 10, 2022

**Virtual Keynote**  
Kwantlen First Nation  
Brandon Gabriel

## **3. LST Focus Group: November 15, 2022 at 4:00 PM**

The STA is hosting an LST focus group session to better understand the workload of LST/ELL teachers and organize effective advocacy strategies. Please [register](#) by November 13 for this event at the latest to get your dietary requirements accommodated.

## **4. Reconvened Annual General Meeting and Special General Meeting on Wednesday, November 16, 2022 at 4:00 pm**

Please take notice of the upcoming reconvened AGM and SGM taking place at Westfield Country Club (7778 152 St, Surrey, BC - some of you might remember this place as Eaglequest Golf Club). Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend. Please [register](#) as soon as possible. We hope to see you there!



## **5. Bargaining Update**

The BCTF has reached a tentative deal with BCPSEA. This is not the final deal as members still need to vote on whether to accept it. Details of the deal can be found on the BCTF website. Follow the steps below to find a summary of the tentative agreement. It will be discussed and debated at the Representative Assembly on November 4 and 5.

The ratification vote will take place online via Simply Voting. Information to follow. All STA members are eligible to vote, even if you are on leave. [Read more](#)

## Truth and Reconciliation

### My Journey with Truth and Reconciliation

*Submitted by Katerina Bardouniotis, French Immersion Learner Support Teacher*

I have been taking little steps to educate myself on the history of residential schools and learn what truth and reconciliation means to me as an educator and most importantly, as an individual. These steps include wearing orange on September 29 at school and on September 30 to honour residential school survivors and the children who did not return. [Read more](#)

### Share your Truth and Reconciliation Actions

We're gathering stories from members who have been taking action in support of the [TRC's 94 Calls to Action](#). If you have been taking action in your classroom, in your school and/or

in your community, let us know.

Submit the story of your action/s (and any images) to [communications@surreyteachers.org](mailto:communications@surreyteachers.org) and **we will send a gift your way** created by the artist Carey Newman - Hayalthkin'geme (@blueravenart on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#)) Be sure to include your school and courier number in your submission please.



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## Collective Agreement Notes

### Failure to Fill

The Failure to Fill Agreement was updated in May of 2022, and the 'no more than 3 teachers in one day' "rule" was removed. [Read the updated agreement](#)

Staff reps are encouraged to ensure a procedure for failure to fill is established through Staff Committee, as per the agreement. If you have any questions regarding this agreement, please contact Kelli O'Malley at [grieve2@surreyteachers.org](mailto:grieve2@surreyteachers.org).

### Resignation Arbitration

The STA reached a settlement with the Employer regarding resignation letters. As a result of the settlement, an electronic form for resignations will be available for members on the Employee Self-Serve no later than March 10, 2023. [Read the full agreement](#)

### Concerns about Elementary Reporting

We have heard from many members with concerns about the changes in Elementary Reporting, notably that Elementary school teachers are required to use Spaces or the CSL Template for reporting now. We have told the district, and continue to hold the position, that if teachers are required to use Spaces or the CSL Template and can no longer use the platform they are familiar with (Freshgrade) they should be provided with in-service. Teachers should not be expected to learn these tools after school, during lunchbreaks or on Professional Development days. [Read more](#)

## Variance to the Instruction Day

Article D.22.1 of the collective agreement limits the length of a school's instructional day. Some courses involve multi-grade classes that do not fit neatly within a timetable designed to comply with the collective agreement. For years, the Association has approved a limited number of "variances" to the instructional day to accommodate such courses.

The process of looking at possible variances to the school day for the 2023 – 2024 secondary classes has begun. The [variance application form](#) is attached to this week's STAC. The forms need to be completed and returned to the STA office by **November 15, 2022**. [Read more](#)

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## Health and Safety

### Newly Formed Joint Health and Safety Committee for the STA Office

Please email Sona Sekhon, our office manager at [operations@surreyteachers.org](mailto:operations@surreyteachers.org) if you have any safety issues at our STA office that you wish addressed at our monthly meetings. Also, we are now a nut-free workplace, so please do not bring any food with nuts into the building.



## Professional Development

### November 10

The next Pro-D day is November 10. This is a teacher directed Pro-D day. Please read our [Professional Development Information](#) for some guidelines to help you make the most of your professional development.

### Carole Fullerton Math Strategies Workshop: Thursday, November 17

The Surrey Primary Teachers' Association (SPTA) is proud to present Carole Fullerton for a workshop on math strategies for kindergarten to grade 3 teachers at Maddaugh Elementary from 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm. [Register](#) by November 9, 2022 (Registration is limited to 100 people maximum). Cost is \$10 for SPTA Members and \$35 for Non-Members.

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## Social Justice

### November is Antipoverty Month

Goal #1 of the [UN Sustainable Development Goals](#) is to end poverty in all its forms everywhere. For global stats, infographics, reports, and more, visit the [UN Goal 1 page](#). Here in Canada, it's important to note that "not everyone is equally susceptible to living in poverty. Historically marginalized groups such as Indigenous, racialized people, recent immigrants and refugees, people with disabilities, single-parent families, seniors, youth, and 2SLGBTQ+ communities are more likely to live in poverty." Learn more about the [Basic Facts of Canadians Living in Poverty](#).

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## Announcements

### STA Young Workers Committee Presents Coast Salish Art Night

Come join us for a hybrid evening of drawing alongside Ovi! Mailhot, a Coast Salish artist from the Sto:lo Nation. This event, hosted by the STA Young Workers Committee, is open to all members and aims to bring together members for a night of art, connection, and fun. You may participate through Zoom or come into the STA Office and enjoy some snacks as you draw alongside Ovi on the screen! [Register now](#) as spots are limited!



### Staff Rep Training

We have just completed two sets of SURT [School Union Rep Training] sessions which were completely full for all three days. So incredible! As a result of this interest, we have opened a fourth session of "The Role of the Staff Rep" on December 1. [Register now](#)

We are also taking a waitlist for another possible offering of the "Having Conversations" session training. Please email Shiela at [repsupport@surreyteachers.org](mailto:repsupport@surreyteachers.org) to get your name on the list. If we get enough interest, we will add a future session.



### Newly Elected STA TTOC and Early Career Rep - Hallan Mtatiro

As of Wednesday October 19th, I'm happy to be your newly elected TTOC and Early Career Rep in our association. As both a TTOC in our district, and in my first 5 years of teaching, I am looking forward to representing you all to the utmost of my abilities in our association. [Read more](#)

### STA Office Management

Hello members, if you are a committee member and have following tasks for our office staff; please see below for your point of contact depending on nature of your inquiry:

1. Committee Events/Projects task list should be sent to Operations Manager at [operations@surreyteachers.org](mailto:operations@surreyteachers.org)
2. Any requests for Agenda contribution in terms of motions/items, should be sent to 1<sup>st</sup> VP at [1vp@surreyteachers.org](mailto:1vp@surreyteachers.org)
3. Committee related questions to go to [reception@surreyteachers.org](mailto:reception@surreyteachers.org)
4. Committee Meeting minutes to go to [reception@surreyteachers.org](mailto:reception@surreyteachers.org)

### November Pensions Seminars

For the next five Tuesdays, from November 1 to November 29, 2022, there will be online pension seminars provided by the BCTF to help members learn about their pension plan, their pension options, and factors to consider when planning for retirement. A different topic will be discussed in-depth each week. All seminars will take place 4:30–6:00 p.m. PST. [Read more](#)

### EMC Mortgages—New Rate Special

EMC Mortgages has been working with BC teachers for over 27 years, helping teachers into mortgages with great rates and providing financial support to the union and local districts. In this changing interest rate environment, EMC has been assisting teachers with early renewals, refinances, and pre-approvals. Because of our large volume discounts and unique position in the mortgage industry, we can assist BCTF members with lowering payments, debt consolidation, or freeing up some cash, even without full-time contracts. Now is a great time to take advantage, [talk to an EMC mortgage professional](#) and access our current 5-year 4.80% (APR 4.86%) rate

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## Upcoming Events

### STA Events

**November 7**[Bargaining Update via Zoom](#)

Pro D Committee

Ad Hoc Environmental Justice Committee

**November 8**

Executive Committee

**November 9**

Indigenous Education Committee

**November 10**

Non-Instructional Day

**November 14**

Status of Women Committee

**November 15**

Labour Affairs Committee

**November 16**

Reconvened AGM &amp; Special General Meeting

**November 17**

International Solidarity Committee

**November 23**

Ad Hoc LGBTQ2S+ Committee

**November 24**

Convention Committee

**November 29**

Executive Committee

**December 1**

International Solidarity Committee

### Other Important Dates

**November**

Antipoverty Month

**November 5-11**[Veterans Week](#)**November 11**[Remembrance Day](#)**November 16**[Louis Riel Day](#)**November 17-23**[BC Multiculturalism Week](#)**November 20**[National Child Day](#)**November 25**[International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women](#) – 16 days of action begins[Buy Nothing Day](#)For more, visit [United Nations International awareness dates](#)

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:n̓ ɬ'əñ̓ (Kwantlen), 'q'ic̓əy (Katzie), q'iq'éyt (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.