

# STA CONNECTION

December 5-9, 2022

## Red for BC ed campaign ongoing

Although we have a new contract, the Red for BC Ed campaign continues until issues around working conditions are addressed. Please continue to wear Red for BC Ed on Wednesdays to raise awareness about ongoing workload issues. [Use Expense Voucher \(Red for Ed reimbursements\)](#)

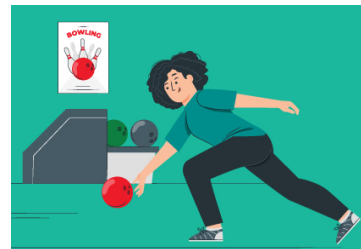


## Action Items

1. Register for TTOC Appreciation Event
2. Register for Virtual B.A.S.E.S. Focus Group
3. Register for Health and Safety Training SURT Training

### 1. TTOC Appreciation Event

TTOCs and Early Career teachers are invited to this appreciation event. Two hours of bowling (shoe rental included). The menu will include Pizza, Wings and Pop. Other drinks also available. Come and meet other new teachers in your district. See you there! [Register now](#)



### 2. Virtual B.A.S.E.S. Focus Group

On Thursday, January 12, 2023, at 4:00 PM, the STA is hosting a virtual BASES focus group session so that Table Officers can better understand the challenges facing BASES teachers and organize effective advocacy strategies. We will be posting a registration link in our next STAC. Please contact Gavin Slade-Kerr at [hs@surreyteachers.org](mailto:hs@surreyteachers.org) if you have concerns or questions. [Register now](#)



### 3. Full Day Health and Safety Training SURT Training: January 10, 11, or 25

One Health and Safety rep from each school can attend to receive training about health and safety from a union perspective. This is a completely different training course from the one offered by the School District. [Register now](#)



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## Truth and Reconciliation

### What Are The 12 Days of Reconciliation?

To support the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's [calls to action](#) and in the spirit of the holidays, here are [12 suggestions](#) of what individuals can do to contribute to [reconciliation](#) with Indigenous Peoples during this holiday season. If you try these you can submit a reflection on your experience and have your name entered for the draw for the Hearts and Minds pin.

### Suggestion for Fifth day of Reconciliation

Included in the 12 Days of Reconciliation is the suggestion to become familiar with Indigenous art. Here's a lesson plan in which students learn how to incorporate particular shapes important to Salish peoples into their art projects. For teaching ideas, visit the [Aboriginal Resources for Teachers](#). You can also find [Resources for All Grades](#).

### Share your 12 Days of Reconciliation Actions

After taking up the suggestions for the 12 Days of Reconciliation, 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

### Get to Know your Collective Agreement!

Each week we'll ask a question about the collective agreement and invite you to email an answer to [communications@surreyteachers.org](mailto:communications@surreyteachers.org). Congratulations to John Struik from Fraser Heights Secondary who was the only person who submitted an answer (the correct one!) to the question about A.34.5.

**This week's question:** If a teacher's position is cut, under what conditions can they return to their original assignment? Send us the answer and include the collective agreement clause for a chance to win a gift card.



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## Health and Safety

### Intense Flu Season

Based on exceptionally high rates of illness recently, it's clear that the flu is impacting a wide swath of students and staff in Surrey schools. The impact of high absenteeism is being experienced throughout the district. To reduce the probability of being infected, we strongly recommend [washing hands](#) frequently and [wearing a mask](#) when indoors. In case you missed it, here's a [recent news article](#) on the current "intense" flu season.



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## Social Justice

### Human Rights Day: December 10, 2022

The 2022 Theme of Human Rights Day is Dignity, Freedom, and Justice for All. Both the Declaration and WHO's Constitution assert that health is a fundamental human right for all people. You can [read more](#) about the history of the UN Human Rights along with the complete list of 30 human rights.

### The Staggering Price of Climate Inaction

This [recent Tyee article](#) explains the economic cost of the wildfires and flooding in BC over the past year. At a cost of \$10.6 billion to \$17.1 billion, 2021 is considered the worst natural disaster year in Canadian history.

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## Announcements

### 2023 BCTF AGM Delegates

The BCTF Annual General Meeting taking place from Saturday, March 18 to Tuesday, March 21 will be in person. The STA sends the largest delegation to this annual event. If you would like to attend as an STA delegate. [Read more](#)



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## Upcoming Events

### STA Events

#### December 8

Ad Hoc Young Workers Committee – Tabletop Game Night

#### December 12

Ad Hoc LGBTQ2S+ Committee

#### December 13

Executive Committee

#### December 14

[STARA Meeting](#)

#### December 16

[TTOC Appreciation](#)

#### January 4

Health & Safety Committee

#### January 5

Local Representatives

#### January 9

Ad Hoc Environmental Justice Committee  
Pro D Committee

### Other Important Dates

#### December 5

[International Volunteer Day](#)

#### December 6

[National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women](#)

#### January 13

[Black Excellence Day](#)

#### January 16

[Martin Luther King Jr. Day](#)

**December 6**  
End Violence Against Women 11th Annual  
Candlelight Vigil

**December 10**  
[Human Rights Day](#)

**December 18**  
[International Migrants Day](#)

**January 16-20**  
[No Name Calling Week](#)

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'wá:ńł'əń (Kwantlen), qíçəy (Katzie), qiqéyt (Qayqayt) and semi'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.