

# STA CONNECTION

May 8-12, 2023



## STA Annual General Meeting: May 10 and 17, 2023

This year, there are **TWO DATES** for our STA Annual General Meeting: Wednesday, May 10 (On Zoom) & Wednesday, May 17 (In Person). Multiple prizes to be won if you [register](#) before the deadline of **Monday, May 8 at 12:00 pm**.

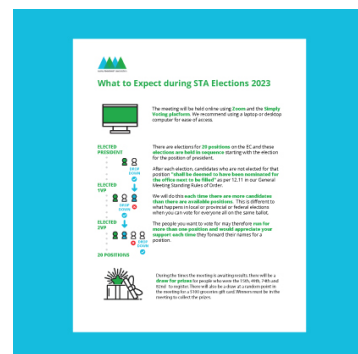
For both meetings, winners of the following prize draws will be announced during the meeting:

- 2 – Pro-D \$2500 prize draws (entries drawn from approved submissions)
- 1 – Pro-D \$250 prize draw
- 3 – STA swag prizes
- 1 – Gift card draw at a random time

**Please note:** You must be at the meeting when the prizes are drawn to win.

## Drop-Down Elections

The elections for the 20 positions on the 2023-2024 Executive Committee will be held **in sequence**, starting with the election for the position of president. After each election, candidates not elected for that position, **“shall be deemed to have been nominated for the office next to be filled”** as per 12.11 in our General Meeting Rules of Order. We will do this each time there are more candidates than there are available positions. For more information, check out our [What to Expect during STA Elections 2023](#) document (attached).



## Attention Kindergarten Teachers!

If you are a kindergarten teacher and your class is at 22 with at least one designated student, or at 23 with no designated students, please contact Kelli O'Malley at [grieve2@surreyteachers.org](mailto:grieve2@surreyteachers.org).

## Communications Coordinator Position

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 2023-24 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 19, 2023**.

## Summer Pro-D Townhall: May 18, 2023

We will be presenting a Summer Pro-D Townhall on May 18 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](#)



## TTOCs and National Day of Mourning Agreement

We have reached an agreement with the district for half a day's pay for TTOCs who were booked when the District cancelled dispatches on Wednesday, September 14, 2022 for the National Day of Mourning on September 19, 2023. The District has informed us that affected TTOCs should see the pay reflected in their pay statement for May 1 or May 15. If you feel you are entitled to payment and do not see it reflected in your pay on those dates, please contact payroll for clarification. If you are not satisfied with the explanation, please contact Health and Safety/Grievance Officer Gavin Slade-Kerr at [hs@surreyteachers.org](mailto:hs@surreyteachers.org).

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## Truth and Reconciliation

### Authentic First Peoples Resources

The First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC) and the First Nations Schools Association (FNSEA) have developed tools to help educators in British Columbia (BC) make decisions about which resources might be appropriate for use with students. Watch this video to understand [The Importance of Including Authentic First Peoples Resources in BC Classrooms](#).

#### Resources:

- [Authentic First Peoples Resources for Use in K-9 Classrooms](#)
- [Authentic First Peoples Resources for Grades 10-12 and Adult Learning](#)
- [Searchable Database for Authentic First People Resources](#)

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## STA Committees

### Engaging Men and Boys to Prevent Gender-Based Violence: May 11, 2023

The Status of Women Committee invites ALL STA members and genders to this after school workshop, taking place on Moose Hide Campaign Day, May 11 at Beecher Place from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm. BCTF Facilitator, Jim Iker, will help deepen your understanding of how socialization contributes to the development of oppressive attitudes and behaviours based on gender. After the BCTF workshop, we will be joined by special guest Carol Todd, creator of the Amanda Todd Legacy Society. Our workshop will conclude with a delicious dinner and resources giveaway. Space is limited, so please be sure to [register as soon as possible!](#)



### Grade 7 Empowered Girls Conference: May 29, 2023

The Grade 7 Empowered Girls Conference, organized by the STA Status of Women Committee, is fast approaching! This year's conference will be taking place on Monday, May 29 at L.A. Matheson Secondary. You can check out our [website](#) for more information.



All Grade 7 teachers will receive a package in the coming week with a letter of information and 15 pamphlets to be distributed to all students who identify as girls in your class. If you need more pamphlets, please contact [graphics@surreyteachers.org](mailto:graphics@surreyteachers.org). [Read more](#)

### BIPOC Teacher Summit: May 31, 2023

While this event is currently full, we encourage you to [register and get on the waitlist](#) as we may have capacity for additional participants. This is a full-day summit of BIPOC educators and activists with the goal of building community with teachers from Surrey and across the Lower Mainland while learning about how unions can be a force for racial justice.



For questions about this event, email Amrit Sanghe at [grieve1@surreyteachers.org](mailto:grieve1@surreyteachers.org).

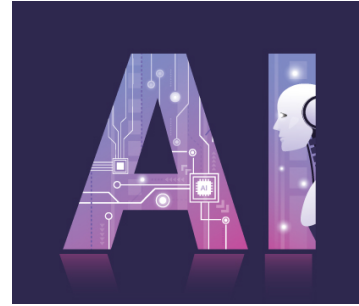
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## Other Events

### Implications of Artificial Intelligence in BC Education Virtual Workshop: May 13, 2023

You are invited to join the BC Early Career Teachers' Association for a virtual dialogue panel on the topic of "AI and BC Education" on Saturday, May 13 from 9:00 to 10:30 am.

We have an impressive panel comprised of education faculty, educational podcasters, teachers and admin from BC, Alberta and Australia combined. The ticket is eligible for [professional development reimbursement](#) if you have PD funds available! [Register now](#)



### Coquitlam Teachers' Association IGNITE43 Professional Development Event: May 18, 2023

STA members are invited to attend CTA's IGNITE43 Pro-D Event with a theme of "Reconnection" on Thursday, May 18 from 5:30 to 8:30 pm at the Old Mill Boathouse in Port Moody. The event includes more than ten presentations, a three-course meal (with non-alcoholic drinks), and time to connect with colleagues. The cost for non-CTA members to attend is \$50. Teacher candidates receive a subsidized rate of \$30.

The ticket is eligible for [professional development reimbursement](#) if you have PD funds available!

[Register now](#) to guarantee your seat. You will receive an invoice via email after you register. [Read more](#)



## Community

### May is Asian Heritage Month

This month is Asian Heritage Month in Canada and theme for this year is "Stories of Determination". Asian Heritage Month is a chance to learn more about the past of Canadians with Asian ancestry and recognize their challenges and difficulties, such as racism, discrimination, and xenophobia. It is also an excellent opportunity to honour the many ways they have contributed to our communities over the last two centuries. Click on the "read more" link for a list of resources. [Read more for a list of resources](#)



### May is National Jewish Heritage Month in Canada

Did you know that Canada has the fourth largest Jewish population in the world with approximately 400,000 people? National Jewish Heritage Month in Canada provides an opportunity to celebrate the cultural, economic, political, and social contributions of Jewish people throughout Canada. It is also a time to recognize the alarming rise of antisemitism, hate, and discrimination. [Read more for a list of resources](#)



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## Upcoming Events

### STA Events

**May 8**

Deadline to complete internal reassignments before Round 2  
Status of Women Committee  
[TTOC EI Workshop](#)

**May 10**

[STA AGM - Elections](#)

**May 11**

[Engaging Men and Boys to Prevent Gender-Based Violence Workshop](#)  
International Solidarity Committee

**May 15**

Ad Hoc Environmental Justice Committee  
Pro D Committee

**May 16**

Executive Committee

**May 17**

[STA AGM – Budget](#)

**May 18**

Closed Round 1 Report Available Online  
[Summer Pro D Townhall](#)

**May 23**

Round 2 Opens at 4:00 pm  
PA/PR Committee

**May 24**

Ad Hoc LGBTQ2S+ Committee  
Labour Affairs Committee

**May 25**

Local Representatives  
Equity Audit Committee  
Awards Committee

**May 26**

Indigenous Education Committee

### Other Important Dates

**May**

[Asian Heritage Month](#)  
[Mental Health Awareness Month](#)  
[National Jewish Heritage Month in Canada](#)

**May 13**

[World Fair Trade Day](#)

**May 15**

[International Day of Families](#)

**May 17**

[International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia](#)

**May 21**

[World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development](#)

**May 24-27**

[Aboriginal Awareness Week](#)

**May 28-June 3**

[National Accessibility 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'w'a:r'á'ə'n (Kwantlen), q'ícəy' (Katzie), q'iqéyt (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.