

STA CONNECTION

June 5-9, 2023

Invite Your MLA To Your Overheated Classroom

Teachers and students will have to endure another week of hot temperatures. The STA encourages members to request their local MLA to visit their classroom in the afternoon this week when temperatures are likely to be above 30 degrees to raise awareness.

Electoral District (link includes area map)	MLA (link includes contact information)	Party
Surrey-Cloverdale	Mike Starchuk	BC NDP
Surrey-Fleetwood	Hon. Jagrup Brar	BC NDP
Surrey-Green Timbers	Hon. Rachna Singh Minister of Education and Child Care	BC NDP
Surrey-Guildford	Garry Begg	BC NDP
Surrey-Newton	Hon. Harry Bains	BC NDP
Surrey-Panorama	Jinny Sims	BC NDP
Surrey South	Elenore Sturko	BC United
Surrey-Whalley	Hon. Bruce Ralston, K.C	BC NDP
Surrey-White Rock	Trevor Halford	BC United

Overheated Classrooms Survey Results

In May, there were record-breaking temperatures across the province. Surrey teachers reported a multitude of issues related to working and learning in overheated classrooms and portables. The STA sent out a survey to all members to gather information. These findings will be shared with the District.

- 95% of respondents reported 1:00-3:00 pm was the hottest time of day.
- 82% of respondents had more than 3 days of over 30 degrees in their classroom over 2 weeks. 42% of respondents chose to buy their own fan(s) for their classroom. [Read more](#)



STARA Meeting: June 14, 2023

Elections for positions on two STA Committees ([Finance and Grievance](#)) will be held during the next STARA (STA Representative Assembly) meeting on Wednesday, June 14, 2023, starting at 4:00 pm at **Westfield Country Club** (7778 152 St, Surrey, BC). **Elections will be held through Simply Voting. You will need a mobile device to vote in these elections.**

If you haven't already, please [register to attend STARA](#). If you'd like to be considered for a committee complete and [submit this form](#) no later than **4:00 pm on June 13, 2023**. Should you miss the deadline, you will be able to run from the floor at the STARA meeting.

Virtual Special General Meeting: June 20, 2023

There will be a Special General Meeting on Tuesday, June 20 at **4:00 pm via Zoom**. Agenda items include elections for [17 STA committees](#), budget adjustments and amendments to By-Laws and Standing Rules of Order. Look for more information in next week's newsletter.

Communications Coordinator Position: EXTENDED Deadline – June 15, 2023

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 before noon on **June 15, 2023**.

STA Expense Forms for the 2022-2023 School Year

We're down to the last few days for submitting STA expense claims for 2022-23. Please submit your forms **as soon as possible** so that our accounting clerk Donna is not overwhelmed by hundreds of claims to process at the last minute! The [expense form](#) is available on our website.

Deadlines for Transferring TTOC credits

If you work as a teacher teaching on call (TTOC), you will accumulate your experience credit in your TTOC silo. If you also work in a contract, temporary, or continuing position, you will also earn experience credit in your contract silo. You can move your TTOC experience credit into your contract silo two times a year. You must make the request to move the experience credit by **June 30** to be effective by August 31, or by November 15 to be effective by December 31. Visit the BCTF's page to [learn more about how to move your TTOC credit](#) to your contract silo, when it is best to move your TTOC credit, or when to keep your TTOC credit in your TTOC silo.

Professional Development Reimbursement for the 2022-2023 School Year

It's the time of year when some schools start allowing top-ups on Pro-D applications that were not fully reimbursed the first time. Please submit any claims for reimbursement **as soon as possible** so that Navneet is not inundated with these at the last minute. Here are some handy tips to make sure your forms are complete and submitted on time. [Read more](#)

Further Improvements to the Provincial EHB and Dental Plan

The BCTF recently reached an agreement with BCPSEA on further improvements to the provincial Extended Health Benefits (EHB) and Dental plan. Surrey was one of two districts whose members had dual dental restrictions that will be lifted as of July 1. If you recall, \$1.5 million of funding was allocated during provincial bargaining for improvements beginning on July 1, 2023, and a further \$2.0 million for improvements that will begin on July 1, 2024.

Effective July 1, 2023	
Dual Dental	Restriction removed in SD 36 and SD 57
HPV vaccine	Covered
Vision care limit	Increased to \$600
Naturopath limit	Increased to \$1000

Effective July 1, 2024	
Shingles vaccines	Covered
Vision care limit	Increased to \$650
Counselling services limit	Increased to \$1500

These improvements are based on the priorities passed at the BCTF Bargaining Conference, held prior to the opening of provincial bargaining in 2022. An email will also be sent to members in the BCTF News next week.

Professional Resource Raffle Winners

Here are the 5 winners of Jo Chrona's book, [Wayi Wah! Indigenous Pedagogies: An Act for Reconciliation and Anti-Racist Education](#). This professional resource is a good example of the type of book that is eligible for reimbursement from your Pro-D funds. We will send it out in the courier this week. Congratulations!

1. Karen McRae - Adams Road Elementary
2. Christie Weigel - Jessie Lee Elementary
3. Lakshpreet Kochhar – MJ Norris Elementary
4. Nona Mazinani - Berkshire Park Elementary
5. Summer Williams – Kwantlen Park Secondary



Truth and Reconciliation

Timeline History of Aboriginal Peoples in British Columbia

The BCTF resource a [Timeline History of Aboriginal Peoples in British Columbia](#) provides a comprehensive historical timeline of Indigenous communities in BC. Teachers and students can learn more about Indigenous peoples' resilience and contributions by studying this resource as part of an ongoing commitment towards reconciliation. This resource is recommended for Grades 4 to 9.

Hearts and Hands Pins for Truth and Reconciliation Learning Resources

We'd love to hear about resources or lesson ideas you've used during Indigenous History Month. Submit a short write up about your resource(s) to 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.

STA Committees

BIPOC Teacher Summit

Congratulations to Members of the Global Majority committee for a hugely successful BIPOC teacher summit on May 31 at Beecher Place. In attendance were STA teachers as well as teachers from other BCTF locals who reviewed the Collective Agreement and participated in various discussions and activities.



Shout Outs to School Union Reps

A big shout-out to the Union Reps in our schools! As a union representative you play a critical role at worksites ensuring that provisions in our Collective Agreement are protected and our members' voices are heard and respected. We deeply appreciate all that you do for staff at your school.

STA members, please send an appreciation message for your Health & Safety Rep, Pro-D Rep, and Staff Rep/s to communications@surreyteachers.org and we will enter both your names into a draw for a reward every week for the month of June.

This week's winners are Lance McFall and Kalie Fehlauer from James Ardiel Elementary! Congratulations!

[Read all the Shout Outs](#) we received over for this past week.

Other Events

BCTF Committee for Action on Social Justice (CASJ) LGBTQ2S+ Action Group

There is currently one vacancy for a one-year term on the LGBTQ2S+ Action Group of the Committee for Action on Social Justice. For more information about the work of this committee, and to apply, visit the [online posting](#). The deadline to apply is June 9.

BC's Office of the Human Rights Commissioner Baseline Project Survey

The BC Office of the Human Rights Commissioner is seeking input as part of a project to monitor and evaluate the state of human rights across BC. Your contributions in this survey contribute to establishing a human rights baseline for BC, and help influence policy, raise public awareness, and deepen relationships across the province. Visit their webpage to [learn more about the survey and to participate](#). The survey is open until June 9.

Sher Vancouver Bollywood Banquet Hall: July 8, 2023

Join Sher Vancouver as they mark their 15th anniversary at the Bollywood Banquet Hall. [Sher Vancouver](#) is a registered charity for LGBTQ+ South Asians and their friends, families, and allies. The event includes South Asian and fusion arts and cultural performances, classical music, delicious food, colorful cupcakes with rainbow icing, and the highlights of our 15-year history in Surrey and Metro Vancouver. [Register and buy tickets](#)

Community News

SOGI 123 Inclusive Education Resource Guide

The [SOGI-Inclusive Education Resource Guide](#) outlines strategies advised by teachers with long-standing experience assisting students of various Sexual Orientations and Gender Identities (SOGI). The creation of the resource guide was given priority by the BC K-12 SOGI Collaborative to help school SOGI Leads, who also collaborated and gave important feedback. The SOGI Guide is also available in [French](#).



World Environment Day: June 5, 2023

World Environment Day on June 5th addresses worldwide environmental issues. This year's theme is #BeatPlasticPollution. Plastic pollution is a major concern on this day. Plastic pollution in landfills and seas threatens marine life and ecosystems. World Environment Day promotes people, communities, and governments to reduce plastic pollution through recycling, eliminating single-use plastics, and promoting sustainable alternatives. It reminds us of the critical need to reduce plastic pollution's environmental damage.

Check out [National Geographic Kids](#) ideas for reducing plastic pollution.

Ocean Week Canada: June 2-11, 2023

Ocean Week Canada is an annual national celebration of ocean events, learning, and engagement held during the week of World Ocean Day (June 8). You can learn more about initiatives in Canada and check out [various school toolkits](#). You can also download some [excellent visuals](#).

Anxiety Action Day: June 10, 2023

June 10, 2023 is the 3rd annual [Action Anxiety Day in Canada](#)! Wear blue and orange from June 5-10 to show your support and to eliminate the stigma around anxiety disorders. Here are some quick facts about anxiety:

1. 1 in 4 Canadians are impacted by anxiety every year.
2. The annual economic cost of mental illness in Canada is \$50 billion dollars.
3. 2 out of 5 youth report having trouble accessing mental health services in Canada.

Access multiple ["How To" guides](#) for caregivers, parents, and educators. There is also an [educator's toolkit](#) you can download to use in your classroom/school.

Upcoming Events

STA Events

June 1

Ad Hoc Members of Colour Committee

June 2

TTOC Advisory Committee

June 5

Pro-D Committee

Ad Hoc Environmental Justice Committee

June 6

STARA Steering Committee

June 7

Health & Safety Committee

Ad Hoc LST Advisory Committee

Indigenous Education Committee: Dinner Meeting

June 14

[STARA Meeting](#)

June 15

Deadline for Changing to/from 12 Month Pay Scheme

June 19

Status of Women Committee

June 22

International Solidarity Committee

June 27

Executive Committee

June 29

Ad Hoc LGBTQ2S+ Committee

June 7

Health & Safety Committee
 Ad Hoc LST Advisory Committee
 Indigenous Education Committee: Dinner Meeting

June 9

STA Retirement Dinner

June 13

Executive Committee

June 27

Executive Committee

June 29

Ad Hoc LGBTQ2S+ Committee

June 30

Deadline for Converting TTOC Experiences for Contract Teachers

Other Important Dates**June**

[2SLGBTQIA+ Pride Month](#)
[Indigenous History Month](#)

June 1

[Injured Workers' Day](#)

June 5-11

[Canadian Environment Week](#)

June 5

[World Environment Day](#)

June 8

[World Ocean Day](#)

June 12

[World Day Against Child Labour](#)

June 18

[Autistic Pride Day](#)

June 19

[Juneteenth](#)

June 20

[World Refugee Day](#)

June 21

[National Indigenous Peoples' Day](#)

June 24

[Surrey Pride Festival](#)

June 27

[Canadian Multiculturalism 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:n'ən'(Kwantlen), 'qic'əy (Katzie), qiqéyt (Qayqayt) and səmi' 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.