

STA CONNECTION

September 5-8, 2023

Jatinder's Welcome Back Message

Dear friends,

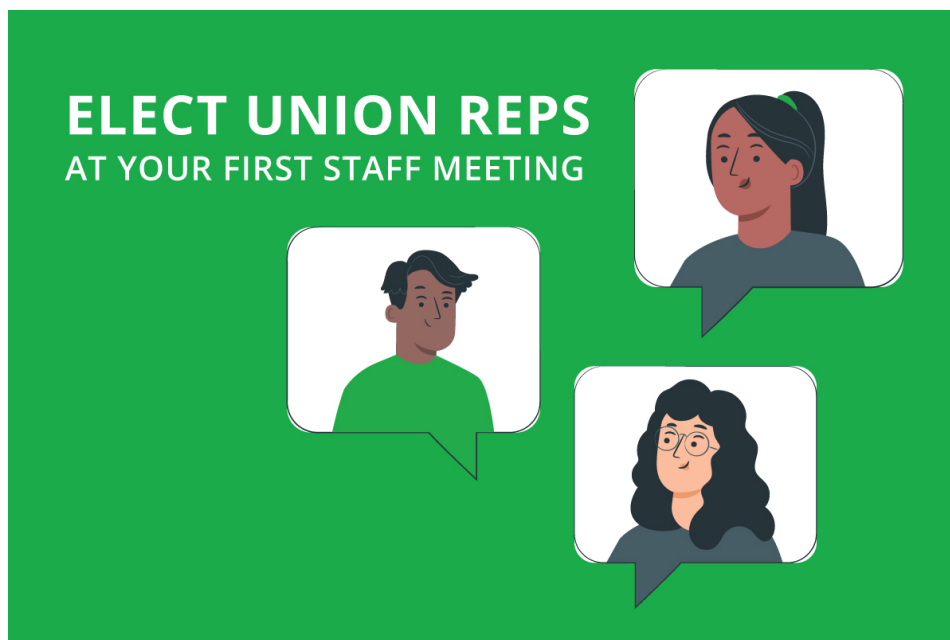
Once again, welcome back to another school year! We know how difficult it can be to truly take care of ourselves during the school year, so I hope you were able to relax and recuperate surrounded by your loved ones and communities the last two months. On behalf of the Surrey Teachers' Association, I express my profound gratitude for your unwavering dedication and tireless contributions to our students and communities in the upcoming school year. [Read more](#)

Table Officers' Contact Information

Please update your contacts list with the names of current officers in the various positions.

Table Officer	Contact Information
Jatinder Bir President	pres@surreyteachers.org (604) 592-8398
Lizanne Foster First Vice President	1vp@surreyteachers.org (604) 635-3360
Angela Marcakis Second Vice President	2vp@surreyteachers.org (604) 592-8396
Amrit Sanghe Grievance Officer	grieve1@surreyteachers.org (604) 592-8390
Kelli O'Malley Grievance Officer	grieve2@surreyteachers.org (604) 592-8397
Manjit Dulla Health & Safety Grievance Officer	hs@surreyteachers.org (604) 635-3365
Dana Neidig Accommodations Officer	accommodations@surreyteachers.org (604) 592-8391
Pauline Veto Professional Support Services Officer	services@surreyteachers.org (604) 592-8392
Erin Coleman Professional Development Officer	pd@surreyteachers.org (604) 594-8588

September Action Items



School Union Reps

To be effective as a union, we need to ensure all members are informed about their rights through upholding the collective agreement. This is why it's important to have School Union Reps in every school and worksite within the Surrey School District.

Elected Staff Reps, Pro-D Reps, Health & Safety Reps, Staff Committee Chair, and Social Justice Reps should ensure that the [School Information Update form](#) is completed as soon as possible and forwarded to Shiela Batin at repsupport@surreyteachers.org. *Reps whose names have been submitted by 4:00 pm on Friday, September 15, 2023, will have their names entered for a prize at the first STARA of the 2023 – 2024 school year.*

Staff Reps – Save the Date!

This year, staff reps will be invited to a special VIP meet and greet pub event on **Tuesday, September 19!** We will send you more info once you get the School Information Update form in with your contact information.

STA Awards – Deadline for Applications: Friday, September 15, 2023

The STA is offering 6 Academic Scholarships, 6 Bursaries, and 2 Jennifer Wadge Social Justice Awards. These awards are available to students who graduated during the 2022-2023 Academic Year and are children of active STA members. For more information and applications, please visit our [Scholarships & Bursaries page](#).

Professional Development

Deadline for Pro-D Funding Applications for the 2022-2023 School Year

All applications, along with original receipts, must be received at the STA by the deadline of **September 15, 2023**. Please get them into the courier on or before Thursday, September 7. We cannot receive emailed applications. Please note that Navneet Basra, the Pro-D accounting clerk, can be emailed at accounting2@surreyteachers.org.

Professional Development Representative Training

We have scheduled training for experienced Pro-D Reps in September and October. Rookie Pro-D Rep training is scheduled in September. All training will be in-person at the STA office from 8:30 to 3:00 pm and lunch will be provided.

- [Register for Rookie Pro-D Rep Training:](#)
September 19
- [Register for Experienced Pro-D Rep Training:](#)
September 20, 26, 28 and October 4, 5, 10, 16



Professional Development Dates for 2023-2024

- **September 25:** Possible admin day (admin can choose ONE day for the year).
- **October 20:** PSA Day. A list of conferences can be found on the [BCTF website](#).
- **November 10:** STA Indigenous Committee holds their annual conference. Info on this will be coming soon to the STA website and the STAC.
- **February 23:** Focus Day and is planned jointly between the STA and SD36.
- **May 3:** STA Convention Day. Watch for registration information closer to the date.
- **May 27:** Possible admin day (admin can choose ONE day for the year).

Truth and Reconciliation

Truth And Reconciliation Week September 25-28, 2023: Honouring the Survivors – Save the Date!

Truth and Reconciliation Week is a national week-long program open to all schools across Canada brought to you by the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (NCTR). This year, the theme is Honouring the Survivors. [Register](#) for a 6-day series of educational programming that's aligned with Canadian education curriculums.

Important Message for School Psychologists

The Minister of Health has approved changes to the Psychologists Regulation under the Health Professions Act (HPA) which will bring school psychologists under the regulation of the College of Psychologists of BC (CPBC). The STA will be meeting with the Employer to discuss incorporating this change into the School Psychologist Job Description. If you have any concerns with the School Psychologist job description being amended to include Registration with College of Psychologists of BC, please email Erin Coleman at pd@surreyteachers.org and Amrit Sanghe at grieve1@surreyteachers.org.

Upcoming Events

STA Events

September 5
First Day of School

September 11
Pro-D Committee

September 12
Executive Committee

September 22
International Solidarity Committee

September 25
Non-Instructional Day

September 26
[Pro-D Rep Training](#)
Executive Committee

September 13
Health & Safety Committee

September 18
SURT - Education for Truth and Reconciliation: Using the Aboriginal Lens Awards Committee

September 19
[Rookie Pro-D Rep Training](#)
Staff Reps VIP Event

September 20
[Pro-D Rep Training](#)

September 27
SGM/STARA Meeting

September 28
[Pro-D Rep Training](#)

September 30
Orange Shirt Day
National Day for Truth & Reconciliation

Other Important Dates

September 8
[International Literacy Day](#)

September 15
[International Day of Democracy](#)

September 18-24
[Gender Equality Week](#)

September 19-25
[National Forest Week](#)

September 21
[UN International Day of Peace](#)

September 24-25
[Yom Kippur](#)

September 25-29
[Truth and Reconciliation 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'w̓a:ḥ̓'əḥ̓ (Kwantlen), q̓ic̓əy̓ (Katzie), q̓iq̓éyt (Qayqayt) and səmi'ɑ: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.