

STA CONNECTION

November 27-December 1, 2023

November & December Opportunities	Date/Deadline
Watch CLiFF movies with Labour Affairs Committee	November 29 at 4:00 pm
Register for Virtual Town Hall on the New Learning Update Order	November 29 at 3:30 pm
RSVP for the hybrid Ad Hoc Working and Learning Conditions committee	November 30 at 4:00 pm
Venez socializer avec le comité API-Surrey (Association des Professionnels en Immersion de Surrey)	le jeudi 30 novembre
Register for the Young Worker Committee's Board Games and Brews	December 14, 2023
Become a BCTF AGM Delegate	January 7, 2024
Register for BCTF New Teachers' Conference (Vancouver)	

Dive in at the BCTF Annual General Meeting (AGM)!

The BCTF AGM is set to take place from March 16 to March 19, 2024, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in downtown Vancouver. It's an incredible opportunity to dive into the workings of the BCTF, gain fresh perspectives on critical issues, connect with colleagues from across the province, and have your voice heard in shaping union decisions. The BCTF covers hotel accommodations and expenses, and childcare arrangements are available. If you're interested in becoming a delegate, please complete the [Call for BCTF AGM Delegates form](#) by **Sunday, January 7, 2024**. Questions? Reach out to Angela Marcakis at 2vp@surreyteachers.org.



Staff Committees: Motion for Admin to Make Territorial Acknowledgements

Staff committee members are encouraged to propose a motion stating that administrators, not students or staff, should give recognition and acknowledgment at school events. The custom of the West Coast Indigenous Peoples is that such recognition is made by an organization's leader.



Fax Machine out of service

Our fax machine has been out of service for the past few weeks as it undergoes repairs. In the meantime, we kindly request that you send any items via courier to #000 or email us at sta@surreyteachers.org for prompt assistance. Thank you for your understanding!



Support Information

Contact: Pauline Veto (services@surreyteachers.org)

Reporting and the New Learning Update Order

The STA has heard concerns from both elementary and secondary teachers regarding the Ministry of Education's new Learning Update Order and the changes to reporting.

We are holding a **Virtual Town Hall on November 29, 2023** at 3:30 pm via Zoom. The BCTF has asked for feedback from teachers on the changes and the implementation. [Register now](#)



Committees

Frustrated About Your Working and Learning Conditions?

Following several LST focus groups last year, the STA created an Ad Hoc LST Advisory Committee. This year the Ad Hoc LST Advisory Committee has been rebranded and is open to anyone passionate about improving working and learning conditions! LST especially should consider joining us to work on a survey for LST teachers. Snacks will be provided!

Date: **Thursday, November 30 at 4:00 pm (Hybrid)**

Submit: Agenda items and RSVP (indicate online or in-person to Amrit)

Contact: Amrit Sanghe (grieve1@surreyteachers.org)



Watch Movies with STA Labour Affairs Committee!

Join the STA Labour Affairs Committee for an [evening of short films](#) about work and workers as part of the Canadian Labour International Film Festival (CLIFF). We will be showing a package of 7 films produced by independent filmmakers. Free for STA members, pizza & pop will be served! Seats are limited so register early to avoid disappointment!



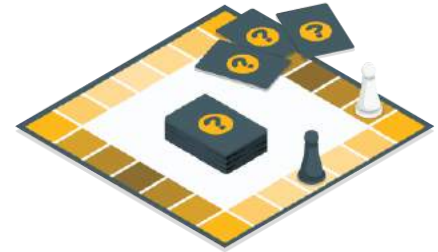
Deadline: **Wednesday, November 29 at 4:00 pm**

Date: Thursday, November 30 at 4:00 pm – 6:30 pm

Location: STA room 2

Board Games and Brews

Dive into a night of friendly competition with an array of board games, sip on your favorite drinks, and connect with fellow young teachers. Enjoy a thrilling atmosphere, win fabulous prizes, and make lasting memories. Your first drink is on us and paired with some great bites, this is the place to be.



This event for members aged 35 and under is aimed at hearing and connecting with our profession's leaders of tomorrow! [Register now](#) and let the games begin!

Date: **Thursday, December 14 at 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm**

Location: Dublin Crossing Irish Pub (101- 18789 Fraser Hwy, Surrey)

BCTF Information

Join the BCTF Executive Committee

There will be a by-election to fill a Member-at-Large vacancy designated for an Aboriginal identifying member in the upcoming BCTF Winter Representative Assembly. The term spans until June 30, 2024, and although not fully released, it regularly involves days on leave for union business and working on evenings and weekends to attend EC meetings, committee meetings, and Federation events.

Interested? Submit the [BCTF nomination form](#) by **January 19, 2024**, to nominatingchair@bctf.ca. You will also need to provide a 200-word statement, a 35-word bio, and a high-resolution headshot to rovergaard@bctf.ca by the same date, which will be published through BCTF communications.

Any questions? Connect with Nominating Chair Andy Closkey (nominatingchair@bctf.ca) or Executive Director Amber Mitchell (amitchell@bctf.ca).

Attend Refracting the Light: AI and Technology in Education Conference

The BCTF's New Teachers' Conference 2024 (NTC): Refracting the Light: AI and Technology in Education will take place on January 27 (Vancouver) and on May 11 (Prince George). This conference is a place to connect with teachers across BC and further your own teaching practice. It is designed for teachers in their first five years of teaching, student teachers, TTOCs, and those returning to teaching after some time away. Participants can register for just one conference or both.



[Register](#) for the NTC in Vancouver (Saturday, January 27, 2024 at Coast Coal Harbour Vancouver Hotel)

[Register](#) for the NTC in Prince George (Saturday, May 11, 2024 at Coast Prince George Hotel)

Community Information

Attend Candlelight Vigil: End Violence Against Women

This vigil will happen on the 34th anniversary of the 1989 Montreal massacre and the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women. Free and open to all. Wheelchair accessible. Organized by Public Service Alliance of Canada West Fraser Valley Area Council and Vancouver Regional Women's Committee, and New Westminster & District Labour Council.



Date: **Wednesday, December 6 at 6:00-7:00 pm**

Location: Holland Park, Surrey

Contact: psacbc-ac-westfraservalley@psac-afpc.com or admin@nwdlc.ca

Volunteer with Bright Beginnings Foundation!

Bright Beginnings Foundation helps some of Surrey's most vulnerable graduating students pursue their dreams of higher education. The foundation provides full tuition, student fees (including medical benefits), and educational materials to enable students to attend the post-secondary institution and program of their choosing. We are looking for volunteers to help us during mall hours between 9:45 am and 9:00 pm, especially between 10:00 am and 6:00 pm.



Dates: **Saturday, December 9; Friday December 15; Tuesday, December 19; Friday, December 22**

Contact: Tammy (tnrneuman@gmail.com)

Venez socialiser, rencontrer vos collègues et vous amuser ...en français!

Le comité API-Surrey (Association des Professionnels en Immersion de Surrey) souhaite réunir de façon conviviale les enseignants en immersion de Surrey (et les anciens!) Des prix de présence seront tirés lors de la rencontre. Venez décrocher, vous détendre, vous divertir et célébrer la fin de l'année 2023! SVP [vous inscrire](#) sur le lien suivant avant le 15 novembre afin de nous aider à mieux planifier notre rencontre.

Date: **le jeudi 30 novembre**

Heure: 15h45 à 18h30

Lieu: The Roadhouse Grill (1781 King George Blvd, South Surrey)

Coût: 10\$ (frais d'adhésion à l'API-Surrey) - gratuit pour les membres de l'APPIPC



Truth and Reconciliation

Understand: Indigenous Women, Intimate Partner Violence & Housing

"Deep-seated colonial attitudes perpetuate racism and discrimination. These factors are compounded by the misogyny and sexism feeding violence against women... [Colonialism] results in laws, regulations, and policy that has existed in different iterations now and into the future... '[Access to safe, quality affordable house – and supports necessary to maintain that housing](#) – constitute one of the most basic and powerful social determinants of health,' – Abercrombie."

Learn: Gender-based Violence Against Indigenous Peoples

"Many Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people experience [higher rates of GBV](#). Legacies of colonialism, historical [and current] trauma, intergenerational [impacts] of violence, and anti-Indigenous racism can exacerbate violence [enacted] against Indigenous Peoples."



Watch: Throw Back - Ending the Violence & Inequality

"Our [panel discussion](#), moderated by award-winning journalist Brandi Morin, speaks to lived experience and ways we can all confront and end violence and inequality waged against Indigenous women and girls. Panelists Nahanni Fontaine, Stephanie Harpe and Josie Nepinak bring forth a collective knowledge and wisdom that is powerful and inspiring."



Social Justice

Teach: BCTF Resource – [Poverty and Inequality](#)

For grades 4-7 social studies: “Economic self-interest can be a significant cause of conflict among peoples and governments.”

Teach: BCTF Resource – [Learning about Homelessness](#)

For grades 9-12 cross curricular studies: “Learning about Homelessness in British Columbia’ is a resource guide, produced by Jennifer Hale, for teachers to use with their students to support aspects of British Columbia senior high-school courses, including Civics 11, Social Studies 11, Economics 12, Family Studies 10-12, First Nations 12, Law 12, and Social Justice 12.”

Teach: [Poverty, Privilege, and Power](#)

“How is poverty linked to privilege and power imbalances in society? Students are expected to know the following: social injustice in Canada and the world affecting individuals, groups, and society.”

Explore: [If Not Now Liberation Syllabus](#)

“[This syllabus](#) was created as part of IfNotNow’s #YouNeverToldMe.... The resources listed here were submitted by Rabbis, teachers, parents, alumni, journalists, and other members of the Jewish community. *Though these materials were sourced through the IfNotNow #LiberationSyllabus project, their inclusion does not reflect an endorsement by IfNotNow. We hope you find these resources useful in furthering your learning.”

Join the UN Special Rappaporteurs

[Join](#) Ms. Reem Alsalen and Ms. Dubravka Šimonović in an online webinar on Monday, December 4. “The [International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women](#) will mark the launch of the [UNiTE campaign](#) (Nov 25- Dec 10) – an initiative of [16 days](#) of activism concluding on the day that commemorates the [International Human Rights Day](#) (10 December).”



Share: 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-based Violence

“The [Government of Canada’s](#) theme for 2023 is Listen. Learn. Act. It addresses the key steps to tackling gender-based violence (GBV). LISTEN refers to supporting survivors who share their experience, and to the experts that work on the frontlines. LEARN encourages us to educate ourselves on what GBV is, how to spot it, and how we can prevent it and take action. ACT is for taking the information and applying it in our daily lives.”



Watch: Violence Against Women – It's a Men's Issue

["Jackson Katz, PhD"](#) is an anti-sexist activist and expert on violence, media, and masculinities. An author, filmmaker, educator and social theorist, Katz has worked in gender violence prevention work with diverse groups of men and boys in sports culture and the military and has pioneered work in critical media literacy. Katz is the creator and co-founder of the Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP) program, which advocates the 'bystander approach' to sexual and domestic violence prevention."



Upcoming Events

STA Events

November 29

[Labour Affairs Committee Film Night](#)
[New Learning Update Order Virtual Townhall](#)

November 30

Ad Hoc Working and Learning Conditions Committee
Association des Professionnels en Immersion de Surrey

November 30 – December 2

BCTF Federation Leadership Institute

December 4

Environmental Justice Committee
Pro-D Committee

December 5

Executive Committee

December 6

Status of Women Committee

December 7

Health & Safety Committee

December 13

STARA Meeting

December 14

[Young Worker Committee's Board Games and Brews](#)

December 15

Executive Committee Training

December 18

Bargaining Committee

December 19

Executive Committee

December 20

International Solidarity Committee

Other Important Dates

November

[Antipoverty Month](#)

November 20

[World National Child Day](#)
[Transgender Day of Remembrance](#)

November 25

[International Day of the Elimination of](#)

December 5

[International Volunteer Day](#)

December 6

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

December 7-15

[Hanukkah](#)

[Violence Against Women](#)
[Buy Nothing Day](#)

December 1
[World AIDS Day](#)

December 2
[International Day for the Abolition of Slavery](#)

December 3
[International Day of Persons with Disabilities](#)

December 10
[Human Rights Day](#)

December 26-January 1
[Kwanza](#)

For more, please 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'wa:ná'əń (Kwantlen), q'icá'y (Katzie), qiqéyt (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.

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