



BURNABY TEACHERS'  
ASSOCIATION

September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
Volume 3, Issue 2



# Report from Henning Drive

## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

### LOCAL ELECTION CONTACT

With the recent B.C. election announcement, the BTA is seeking nominations for a Local Election Contact (LEC). The role of the LEC is to engage candidates on issues of importance for teachers. This engagement could range from interviews, forums or questionnaires of candidates. The LEC would then share this information with members through a special edition of The Whistle (BTA newsletter). The LEC works closely with the Political Action/Public Relations committee and may also bring a recommendation of endorsement to a Rep Assembly or General Meeting. Additionally, the LEC encourages members to vote and help members navigate critical election issues.

The deadline to put your name forward is **Tuesday September 29 4pm**. The Executive Committee will be electing the position on Tuesday September 29th.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SECONDARY REP

The EC has a vacancy for Secondary Rep. Elections for this position will take place at the October 13th GM/RA. This person attends Executive Meetings and Rep Assemblies, sits on Committees which interest them and helps in the planning of BTA events. If you are interested in putting your name forward, send your name into [bta3@bctf.ca](mailto:bta3@bctf.ca) no later than **9am Thursday October 1st**.

## COVID-19 LEAVE

The BTA is advocating for a COVID leave for teachers who are recommended by the Health Authorities (811) to stay home even though they are not actually sick. The goal of this leave is for teachers to not have to access their sick leave bank if required to quarantine. The BCTF is also advocating provincially for additional sick leave provisions in relation to COVID. Additionally, the BTA is also advocating to improve the access to sick leave for TTOCs.

## TRAINING DAYS

Staff Committee Chair Training: Monday **October 5th, 4-5pm via zoom**. More details to come. Please encourage your school Staff Committee Chair attend by emailing [bta3@bctf.ca](mailto:bta3@bctf.ca) to register.

Staff Rep Training will happen **October 7th and 8th**. A Staff Rep email will go out early next week.

Health and Safety Contacts Training: **October 14 and 15th, please see page 2** for more information.

Pro-D Contacts Training: **October 21st**. More information to follow.

[kw/usw/leu2009/BTA Newsletter/Volume 3/Issue 2](http://kw/usw/leu2009/BTA%20Newsletter/Volume%203/Issue%202)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

• **GM / RA**  
**October 13 4pm**  
**Zoom**

### BTA Office

**Hours: 8 am—4:30 pm**

604-294-8141

[bta3@bctf.ca](mailto:bta3@bctf.ca)

[www.burnabyteachers.com](http://www.burnabyteachers.com)

## CALLING ALL HEALTH & SAFETY REPS

The first training sessions of the year will take place on **October 14 and 15<sup>th</sup>** More information will follow but please mark one of these days in your calendar. Ideally your committee would attend on the same day as this allows for site-based connections to the presentations. You should be hearing from your administrator about this important health and safety.

## OTHER HEALTH AND SAFETY NOTES

An updated version of the Burnaby Health and Safety Guidelines is being published today or early next week. Please look on the district website for the updated booklet. Once we have the link to the updated booklet we will send it out. The BTA office sent a health and safety bulletin on behalf of the BTA H&S committee earlier in the week. Hopefully every school site has created their health and safety bulletin board. Please remember minutes from the H&S committee will be posted there as well as other important information. If you have not sent information regarding who sits as the BTA member on your Joint H&S committee to the [bta3@bctf.ca](mailto:bta3@bctf.ca) please do so asap.

## FACE SHIELDS

We have received a number of face shields from the BCTF. If you want a shield please contact the office and we will send it to you through the school mail.

## FSA

It is the time of year where FSA's are upon us. Please know the BCTF continues to advocate for these standardized tests to be abolished. We are waiting for an updated letter that can be shared with parents. In the current context of the pandemic it is even more important that we see these tests suspended for this school year. Having said that; at this point there is no direction from the ministry to change the test. In Burnaby the plan is as follows:

- Administrators were encouraged to not schedule any FSA testing till after Thanksgiving at the earliest. (Preferably later in October)
- Students in schools will have the tests administered in the same way as in the past.
- For students who are learning remotely from home parents can pick up their booklets and the online code in order to administer the test at home. It is the parent's responsibility to return the test booklet to the school by the prearranged date.

## MENTORSHIP

In Burnaby the mentorship program is a collaborative teacher group designed to support teachers in either their first 5 years of teaching or a new position. Experienced mentors work with their mentee groups in a cohort setting. The cohorts meet in after school sessions where there is a presentation on a professional aspect of our teaching lives followed by very valuable talking time allowing for discussion on the many topics at the fore front of your mind. The mentorship program helps create collaborative working relationships, long lasting professional connections and friendships while building upon your existing teaching skills. If you are a teacher in the first five years of your career and would like to join mentorship or you are an experienced teacher who would like to become a mentor, please visit the mentorship blog <https://blogs.sd41.bc.ca/mentorship/> to sign up.

## REGISTER TO VOTE

All members can register to vote now to make voting easier, whether by mail or in-person. You can register online until midnight on **September 26**.

Click here to [register to vote](#).  
Click her to [vote by mail](#).

### BTA CONTACTS

#### **Daniel Tétrault**

President

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#### **Heather Skuse**

First Vice-President

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#### **Shanee Prasad**

Second Vice-President

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#### **Holly Lloyd**

Pro-D Chair

[bta3@bctf.ca](mailto:bta3@bctf.ca)

#### **BTA Office**

604-294-8141

[bta3@bctf.ca](mailto:bta3@bctf.ca)

[www.burnabyteachers.com](http://www.burnabyteachers.com)

## TEACHER INQUIRY PROJECTS

### WHAT IS A TEACHER INQUIRY PROJECT?

- A teacher-organized, teacher-led professional development.
- Groups of teachers who come together to pose questions about their teaching and their practices.
- Teachers who spend time exploring their own questions through a guided process.
- Multiple project groups around the province will be led by a BCTF Teacher Inquiry Facilitator.
- The BCTF facilitators will provide guidance and resources for all of the project sessions.
- They will assist teachers move through the BCTF Teacher Inquiry Cycle (pictured below)
- Participants will meet with the assigned BCTF facilitator for six sessions (usually ½ days).
- Participants will work on their inquiry projects in between meetings as well.

### BCTF Teacher Inquiry Program (TIP)



For more information on the Teacher Inquiry Projects click [here](#). For an application form click [here](#).

The deadline for applications this year is **October 16th at 5pm**. The applications have to be sent to the BTA Office in advance of this date to help secure funding.

## PRO-D DAY OCTOBER 23 INFORMATION

If you are looking for ideas for your October 23 Provincial Pro-D Day, please check out the list below.

There PSA's are being offered from the BCTF. Remember if you are looking for funding to cover your online costs, the deadline for Detached Duty is September 29 at 4pm (see below).

### DETACHED DUTY

Please refer to the brochure [here](#) for further details.

October is traditionally the busiest month for Detached Duty applications, as many teachers make plans to attend a conference on the Provincial Specialist Association (PSA) Professional Development Day, which is held annually on the third Thursday of October. As the committee reviews hundreds of applications for this day, please ensure that your application is submitted by the due date. This year the committee meets on Thursday October 1. Applications to be reviewed at this meeting are due at Burnaby Mountain School no later than Tuesday, September 29 at 4:00pm. Application forms are available in all school offices.

Questions? Email the Detached Duty email: [detached.duty@burnabyschools.ca](mailto:detached.duty@burnabyschools.ca)

### VIRTUAL PRO-D OPTIONS AVAILABLE

#### **Montessori 150 and Beyond BC Montessori Teachers PSA (BCMTPSA) Montessori 150 and Beyond- retaining Montessori in the digital age by connecting through our hearts, hands and minds. BC Montessori Teachers PSA (BCMTPSA)**

Join us virtually for the annual BCMTPSA conference: Montessori 150 and Beyond-retaining Montessori in the digital age by connecting through our hearts, hands, and minds. Keynote speaker, Micahel Duffy, will discuss Supporting Intrinsic Motivation in Montessori Students. He will also host a workshop about Montessori math and brain development. Randall Klein will share his presentation about Early Reading Mastery. BC public school Montessori teachers will host workshops about Classroom Organization, Parent Education, Sharing Montessori Online Resources, and a Discussion Group for New Montessori teachers. Website [www.bcmontessoripsa.org](http://www.bcmontessoripsa.org) Contact [psac78@bctf.ca](mailto:psac78@bctf.ca).

#### **Catalyst 2020 Conference British Columbia ScienceTeachers' Association (BCScTA)**

Join the BCScTA on October 23 for Catalyst 2020. We are going online, and joining forces with the BCTF and other specialist associations to bring you a selection of general sessions as well as workshops targeted at science specialist. We have reached out to our partners to bring you high-quality, engaging workshops. These include offerings from Science World, Genome BC, Nelson Publishers, Flinn Scientific, BC Association of Physics Teachers, Perimeter Institute, Let's Talk Science, Argument Driven Inquiry, an Independent Archaeologist, and BC Agriculture in the Classroom. If you have never attended Catalyst before, this is your chance to attend without even leaving home. Conference website <https://bcscata.com/catalyst-conference/> Contacts [psac57@bctf.ca](mailto:psac57@bctf.ca), [john.munro@learn34.ca](mailto:john.munro@learn34.ca), [anita.gordon@learn34.ca](mailto:anita.gordon@learn34.ca)

## PRO-D DAY OCTOBER 23 INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

### VIRTUAL PRO-D OPTIONS AVAILABLE

#### **Crosscurrents Teachers of Inclusive Education British Columbia (TIEBC)**

Although our conference is usually held in February, we have decided to present an online version of Crosscurrents on the Provincial Pro-D day in October. While we will miss the face-to-face interactions with people who are passionate about inclusive education, we are excited to offer the chance to learn from a fantastic line-up of high-quality speakers, including our Keynote speaker, Kim Barthel. With a focus on trauma-informed practice and self-care, other speakers include Terry Small, Christa Campsall, Linda O'Neill, Suzanne Harwood, and more! Website [tiebc.com](http://tiebc.com) Contacts [tiebcpresident@gmail.com](mailto:tiebcpresident@gmail.com), [tiebcconferencechair@gmail.com](mailto:tiebcconferencechair@gmail.com), [tiebcregistrar@gmail.com](mailto:tiebcregistrar@gmail.com), [tiebcexhibitors@gmail.com](mailto:tiebcexhibitors@gmail.com), [tiebcspeakers@gmail.com](mailto:tiebcspeakers@gmail.com)

#### **Middle Years and Provincial Intermediate Teachers Association (myPITA) 2020 Fall Conference**

Over 60 workshops in all subject areas for educators teaching Grades 4-9. Featuring Carole Fullerton and myPITA favourites such as Diana Cruchley, Scott Hodges, Liliana Pesce, and Bryan Gidinski, as well as brand new presenters and sessions. Attend virtually anywhere! More information [www.pita.ca](http://www.pita.ca) Contact [president@pita.ca](mailto:president@pita.ca)

#### **A Meaningful Mess: Designing Meaningful Experiences for Today's Learners Specialist Association of Gifted Educators in BC (SAGEBC)**

This is a mess, but it's our job to make it meaningful. In this learning experience, Andi McNair will share why it's important right now that we look beyond our current circumstances and find innovative solutions. We will explore practical ways to inspire a willingness to invest, provide opportunities to learn, and encourage meaningful connections beyond the walls of the classroom as we design experiences for our learners. Educators will walk away from this learning experience with the tools and mindset needed to make this a reality in both a manageable and meaningful way. Website <https://www.sage-bc.com/> Contact [psac63@bctf.ca](mailto:psac63@bctf.ca)

#### **World as Home Teachers of Home Economics Specialist Association Conference (THESA)**

Join us as we connect virtually in our 2020 THESA conference World As Home this October. Our Keynote speaker Tisha Richmond, a long-time home economics/family studies teacher and author of the book Make Learning MAGICAL, will bring us together in the morning and a.m. and p.m. sessions will engage us in hands-on and pedagogical experiences sure to enhance your practice. The sessions being offered will focus on food studies, textiles, and family studies—all levels are welcome! Find full details and register at <https://thesaconference.ca/>

#### **Classrooms to Communities: Lhtakoh—Where People, Place and Practice Flow Together Environmental Educators' Provincial Specialist Association (EEPSA)**

Join educators from Prince George and across BC to share and celebrate inspiring approaches to place-based experiential education, and inquire about issues and priorities that matter most to our schools and communities. Explore community-connected, transformative and action-orientated approaches to teaching for and about people, place and practice grounded in the BC curriculum. This year's theme flows from the ancestral lands of the Lheidli T'enneh (people from the confluence of the rivers), honoring their culture, language, and history. The featured morning panel profiles the Koh-Learning in our Watersheds Program, a School District 91 and UNBC collaboration. Website <https://c2c-bc.org/conference/> Contact [info@c2c-bc.org](mailto:info@c2c-bc.org)

#### **Culinary Arts Education Online British Columbia Culinary Arts Specialist Association (BCCASA)**

The BCCASA annual conference and Annual General Meeting is open to all educators who are interested in the teaching of culinary arts, specifically during these challenging times. Join us for collaboration, demonstrations, and more. For detailed information and registration, visit [www.bccasa.ca](http://www.bccasa.ca)

#### **Virtual LATA Conference 2020 Learning Assistance Teachers' Association (LATA)**

LATA will be offering a virtual conference with a keynote by Dr. Paula Kluth. Dr. Kluth, "will explore how to move inclusive practices and ideology forward in our current climate, and present themes and strategies that might be helpful in doing so. Topics that will be addressed include understanding inclusion as a process (vs. as a place), planning creatively, and focusing on self-determination as a goal." The conference will offer morning, afternoon, and all-day workshops available on a diverse array of topics including: co-teaching, inclusion strategies, literacy, assessment, ELL, communication, educating the underdiagnosed, UDL, and much more. Website <https://lata.ourconference.ca/index.php> Contact [latawebmanager@gmail.com](mailto:latawebmanager@gmail.com)

#### **BC Blended Digital Ed Conference 2020 BC Educators for Distributed Learning (BCEDLPSA)**

A truly inclusive event—this one-day professional development opportunity will have something for everyone in K–12 BC education: from the new and experimenting, to the full-time and confident users. Technology in the education realm has completely changed the experiences of both educators and students—it is now both our everyday normal, as well as the most powerful new tool on the planet. Educators will come together on the October 23, 2020 PSA day, online, to share their experiences, tools, tricks, tips, and strategies on utilizing and implementing technology into our practice, classrooms, and schools. Website <https://bcedl.ca/blended-digital-ed-conference-2020/> Contact [psac64@bctf.ca](mailto:psac64@bctf.ca)

#### **Move Your Body: A Virtual Conference BC Dance Educators' Association (BCDEA)**

Annual BCDEA conference for all Dance Educators in BC. Come learn about the best movement practices for your dance classes and classrooms. This year, the BCDEA conference is virtual and is held on Zoom. Our workshops include: Teaching hip hop fundamentals, freestyling techniques and strategies, contemporary with a theme of optimism, components of building mental resilience in youth, video editing, the A.R.T of learning, using breakdancing to teach cross-curricular work, creating vived story lines in dance, and racism in the dance world: historical context for the current climate. Website <https://www.bcdea.ca> or email Contacts [psac73@bctf.ca](mailto:psac73@bctf.ca) or [cjmiller@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:cjmiller@vsb.bc.ca)

#### **Tools for Antiracist Educators: Confronting Antiracism in School Communities Anti-Oppression Educators Collective (AOEC)**

AOEC presents the second annual BC BIPOC Educators Conference titled Tools for Antiracist Educators: Confronting Antiracism in Schools Communities. This virtual conference is for social justice educators who care about making Black lives matter in our schools, unions, and communities. This year's keynote speaker is the multi-talented Ruby Smith-Diaz. She is the founder of Tierra Negra Arts an arts-based facilitation business with a mission to deliver workshops that foster inclusion and social justice in communities. Ruby is the curriculum developer and facilitator for an arts-based workshop titled Stille Here: Black Histories and Futures in Canada. Website [www.aoec.ca](http://www.aoec.ca) Contact [bcbiopoceducators@gmail.com](mailto:bcbiopoceducators@gmail.com)

## PRO-D DAY OCTOBER 23 INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

### VIRTUAL PRO-D OPTIONS AVAILABLE

#### **Transformations British Columbia Association of Mathematics Teachers (BCAMT)**

The BCAMT conference begins with a keynote presented by the amazing Mike Pruner with a focus on ways teachers can transform experiences for themselves and their students. The K–12 conference lineup includes prominent experts from across Canada and presentations that are as diverse as our communities and classrooms. Interact with speakers on topics aimed to create equitable and inclusive classrooms: anti-racist mathematics, the interaction of Indigenous and “Western” knowledge systems, Culturally Responsive Mathematics, and Indigenous perspectives. Expand your classroom experiences by joining speakers presenting topics on Desmos, assessment beyond the test, the foundations of fractions, Reggio-inspired Math, using visuals, remote learning, and much more. Website <https://www.bcamt.ca> Contact [Dbrajcich@sd62.bc.ca](mailto:Dbrajcich@sd62.bc.ca)

#### **Engage to Empower: Honouring Students as Creators, Thinkers, and Communicators BC Teachers of English Language Arts (BCTELA)**

Join us for a wonderful K–12 conference! Keynote Kelly Gallagher is a renowned teacher and writer with deep insight on the reading and writing habits of students. Plus educators from across BC—including Faye Brownlie, Jo Chrona, Shelley Moore, and Leyton Schnellert—will share their teaching practice and energize your thinking about assessment, literacy, Reconciliation, identity, the classics, and more! Website <https://bctela.ca/conferences/> Contact [psac46@bctf.ca](mailto:psac46@bctf.ca)

#### **BC Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (BCTESOL) Conference 2020**

Keynote Dr. Kinsella is an emeritus teacher educator from San Francisco State University where she addresses English as a Second Language research and instruction. Dr. Kinsella offers evidence-based yet tangible guidance for educators across grade levels and subject areas in using consistent, proven practices to help students make academic English strides. Using expert modeling, classroom-tested resources and compelling lesson footage, she shares scholarly interaction protocols that enable all students to actualize personal and academic goals. Keynote: Say it Like a Scholar! Techniques and Tools to Flex Academic Language Muscles, plus a follow-up session titled Providing Actionable Feedback to Advance Oral Language Proficiency are offered. Website <http://bctesol.ca> Contact [hull\\_k@surreyschools.ca](mailto:hull_k@surreyschools.ca)

#### **Celebrating Languages Without Borders 2020 BC Association of Teachers of Modern Languages (BCATML)**

BC Association of Teachers of Modern Languages (BCATML) and the Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers (CASLT) proudly host a two-day online conference bringing educators and speakers from coast to coast to coast; and beyond! Join us as we Celebrate Languages Without Borders presented live from different parts of Canada, the US, and across the pond. Katy Arnet and Kaleb Child (Musgamdzi) will open each day as conference keynotes. We also have six amazing speakers: Martina Bex, Luisa Canuto, Denis Cousineau, Angelica Galante, Catherine Ousselin, and Maria Del Carmen Rodriguez de France, as well as over 130 sessions for French, German, Japanese, Mandarin, Punjabi, Spanish, ELL, Indigenous Languages, and incredible cultural performances! There is something for everyone. Registration <https://bcatml-caslt.ourconference.ca/> Website [www.bcatml.org](http://www.bcatml.org) Contacts [rlavrenc@sd40.bc.ca](mailto:rlavrenc@sd40.bc.ca) [kharte@telus.net](mailto:kharte@telus.net)

#### **Confronting Racism Aboriginal Education Association (AEA)**

Keynote speakers Dr. Sheelah McLean Indigenous Perspectives in Higher Education and Dr. Shauneen Pete Indigenous Resurgence in Education. Also featuring: Two Worlds Colliding, [www.nfb.ca/film/two\\_worlds\\_colliding/](http://www.nfb.ca/film/two_worlds_colliding/) a Tasha Hubbard film, storytelling by an Indigenous Elder, and examining authentic Indigenous resources, including Charlene and Wilson Bearhead’s new series of children’s books, Siha Tooskin Knows. Conference registration [aea.ourconference.ca/](http://aea.ourconference.ca/) Contact [jmoir70@gmail.com](mailto:jmoir70@gmail.com)