



BURNABY TEACHERS'
ASSOCIATION

October, 20th 2022
Volume 5, Issue 2



Report from Henning Drive

EC FOR 2022/23 SCHOOL YEAR

President – Shanee Prasad
1st Vice – Alex Peters
2nd Vice – Ditta Cross
Past President - Daniel Tétrault
Treasurer – Patricia Jukes
Secretary – Sharon Freeman
Local Rep – Rae Figursky
Local Rep – Sabha Ghani
Local Rep – Mary Hotomanie
Elementary Representative –
Heather Skuse
Secondary Representative –
Denise Ferreira
Elementary Member-at-Large
Renee Kerluke
Secondary Member-at-Large –
Dalal Kawas
Representative to the Labour Council – Sara LaBrash

Bargaining Committee Chair– Frank Bonvino
BIPOC Educators Chair-Perminder Hundle
Health & Safety Chair– Preet Lidder
Indigenous Education Chair– Marjean Brown
Pro D Chair– Donna Morgan
Social Justice Committee Chair– David Blaesar
TTOC Chair-Katie Marsh
Adult Educators Chair– Maria Kenward
Below Positions Awaiting Internal Election-
Political Action/ Public Relations Chair

UPCOMING EVENTS

General Meeting

November 8– Zoom (all members welcome)

Rep Assembly

November 15

BTA Office

Hours: 8 am–4:30 pm

604-294-8141

bta3@bctf.ca

www.burnabyteachers.com

SOCIAL JUSTICE BOOK CLUB

Would you like to read and learn with colleagues from around the district? The Social Justice Committee invites you to join our book club!

Please email the BTA Office with your interest and the first 10 members will be sent a free copy of "Queer Indigenous Studies: Critical Interventions in Theory, Politics, and Literature", edited by Qwo-Li Driskill.

Rooted in the Indigenous Americas and the Pacific, and drawing on disciplines ranging from literature to anthropology, contributors to Queer Indigenous Studies call Indigenous GLBTQ2 movements and allies to center an analysis that critiques the relationship between colonialism and heteropatriarchy.

Meetings dates to be determined, but will be on Zoom at 4pm.

VACCINE LEAVE

Teachers are still eligible for a half day paid leave to receive COVID vaccinations, including boosters. When logging an absence, use Vaccine Leave in the Atrieve system.

HEALTH AND SAFETY: INJURED AT WORK?

If you are injured at work the first thing you should do is fill out the first aid form. If you have to leave work due to your injury in the middle of the day, you will use a sick day. If you go to the doctor or if you miss more days of work (anything after the injury day) you will need to fill out the 6A form (these days will be covered by WCB).

https://www.burnabyteachers.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/IncRpt_InjuryReport_Form6A_2021.pdf

HALLOWEEN: CULTURE IS NOT A COSTUME

For many people in our school communities the fun and magic of dressing up is an important tradition. Part of creating a safe school community for ALL students on Halloween is making sure racially, ethnically, and culturally based costumes are NOT part of our festivities. Please look at the attached poster and share and discuss it with your students. ([here](#))

TOCS, NEW TEACHERS AND NEW TEACHERS TO THE DISTRICT

Did you know that the BTA has a New Teachers Handbook. This resource contains information on how our union works, expectations of TOCs and contract teachers, how to access sick days, contact information for the BTA, Board of Education and Learning Leads (previously called Program Consultants) and the restored class size and composition language. Please check it out!

https://www.burnabyteachers.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/22.Oct_11-TOC-New-Hire-Handbook-2022.23.pdf

BTA CONTACTS

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BTA Office

604-294-8141
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HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Both BCTF and the School District provide resources to support teacher wellness. The links below provide details and referral process. If you have further questions please do not hesitate to reach out to table officers at the BTA.

BCTF health and wellness program: <https://bctf.ca/wellness/>
Employee Family Assistance Program (EFAP): <https://burnabyschools.ca/staff/>
Starling Minds: <https://bctf.ca/SalaryAndBenefits.aspx?id=38267>

REFLECTIONS ON AN IMPORTANT BURNABY TEACHER LEADER, GARY ONSTAD

As local President (1969-70) Gary Onstad negotiated our first Learning Conditions contract, the first in BC for any teachers' association. Gary was a teacher activist, in both the local and BCTF. He was the last BTA President who was not full time in the office.

He was an inspirational leader who showed Burnaby teachers that students needed their advocacy. Burnaby teachers were labelled "political" because speaking out was considered "not nice". We took our involvement very seriously. It seemed like at least half of the Burnaby teachers were one of the committees that contributed to the first contract. Once the BTA had convinced our board to negotiate, they quit the BC School Trustees' Association because it was so opposed to them negotiating a Learning Conditions contract with us. The BCSTA was hiding behind the law that teachers at that time could bargain (only) for salaries.

Over the years, as other locals achieved LC contracts, the BCTF personnel practices staff noticed that there were far fewer ethics charges and personnel problems in the locals that had contracts because there were viable grievance procedures.

As a BCTF executive member, Gary strongly supported the formation of a Status of Women programme, not a popular attitude at the time. The first task force found no problems, even though only about 50 of 700 AGM delegates were female. He encouraged Linda Shuto, (later a BTA President), to make a minority report on the very real problems, and a new task force recommended many changes. Many future BTA leaders were mentored by Gary

Gary also took a lead in the one-day pension walk out in 1971. Elderly female teachers who lived too long were literally starving on their non-indexed pensions. WAC Bennett's Social Credit government had raided the pension plans to build BC dams and was paying a very low interest rate on the money and no return of funds. Gary helped us feel brave, but it was frightening if you were the only one on a staff to walk out. The walk out caused the government to guarantee an indexed pension, something teachers take for granted now. It was another huge break through. Years later, Burnaby again took a leading role in fighting off an attempt by Bill Bennett's Social Credit government to cancel the indexing of pensions. We had learned from our predecessors.

In retirement, Gary was a member of the Vancouver school board which the BC government fired because they refused to cut the budget. Next election they were all re-elected!

<https://vancouver.sunandprovince.remembering.ca/obituary/gary-onstad-1086401021>

#RED FOR BCED

The BTA RA passed a motion encouraging all members to wear in support of public education every Friday, starting on October 28th.

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CONTRACT TEACHERS AND TOCS: ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

We hope all members will take a few minutes to read this information, and keep it in their classrooms for reference. Please note that if any member has a concern about another, the BCTF Code of Ethics requires they contact the other person directly, and in private first.

TOCs have the right to:

- Keys for the classroom(s) they'll be teaching in
- Daybook, plan for the day, required materials in an obvious location*
- Information about the school (eg: school roles, staff list including BTA Staff Rep(s), school map, attendance procedures, emergency information, bell schedule)*
- Profile(s) of the class(es) they'll be teaching (eg: designated students, allergies, those who attend other programs, preferred names of the students)*
- Any classroom expectations specific to the teacher they're replacing*
- Who they can see for help*
- The prep or NIS time of the teacher they're replacing (please note that only administrators can reassign a TOC, and only in emergencies)

* These are to be provided by the contract teacher being replaced.

TOCs have the responsibility to:

- Arrive at the school with enough time to prepare for the day
- Check in at the office
- Check for materials and the dayplan; do any prep required
- Fulfill all the duties of the teacher they're replacing, including previously scheduled supervision
- Follow the dayplan as closely as possible to the best of their ability
- Mark the work assigned that day, put up any work on the board required for the next day, and pencil in a plan for the next day
- Ensure the classroom is left in the same state they found it
- Leave a note for the teacher they're replacing (what was accomplished, any issues, contact information for the TOC)
- Return keys

DETACHED DUTY

Please see the attached Detached Duty slides to learn how to apply for reimbursements. ([Here](#))

GENERAL MEETING DOOR PRIZES

Congratulations to Lisa Nerpio, Elizabeth Lo and Preet Lidder on winning the door prizes at the General Meeting.

ESCALATING GIFT CERTIFICATE DOOR PRIZE

Unfortunately, Sandra Van Essen and Ashley Chetty were not at the meeting to win the escalating gift certificate door prize. At the November General Meeting a name will be drawn from the General Membership for the escalating door prize in the amount of \$1550,.

UPCOMING TRAINING:

Staff Committee Chair Training November 1st @1pm
Health and Safety Contact Training November 14th @9am
Rookie Staff Rep Training Dec 6th @ 4pm