



Executive
Election
Newsletter

CTA ANNUAL MEETING
Tuesday, May 17th, 3:45pm
Sardis Secondary School

On the agenda: Executive Elections/CTA Budget/ICPDF Grant Draw

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Lee-Anne Clarke - for President

I have enjoyed the opportunity to serve as your President over this past year. The year has been full of challenges and I am proud of the work we have done. Ed and I have made significant progress on the following goals: providing quality, consistent member support; increasing our committee structures; continue to provide sound financial leadership; and melding the new collective agreements (all members should have a copy of our new Collective Agreement in the fall). The purpose of a union is to protect the rights of its members and I am dedicated to working on behalf of CTA members. My involvement in the CTA goes back to 2001 and I have held a variety of executive positions during the past fifteen years including First Vice President, Second Vice President, Local Representative, and Member At Large. I have also been a BCTF Staff Union Representative Trainer. I would like to continue to serve CTA members for another year as your president. Please consider voting for me and if you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me at lvclarke@telus.net. I look forward to seeing you all at the Annual Meeting on May 17th.

Ed Klettke - for 1st Vice President

I am grateful to serve as your First Vice President and have had a very rewarding year. After thirty-one years in the classroom, the transition to the CTA Office was fairly smooth but involved a steep learning curve that is just starting to level out. My previous experience as a Staff Rep, Staff Committee Chair, CTA MAL and CTA 2nd Vice President was helpful, however this year has involved a higher level of detail. Part of my learning has involved the details of all the services the union provides, such as Pensions, Salary Indemnity Programs, Health and Wellness options, pregnancy leaves, EFAP, grievances, investigations and reading every clause (twice!) during the melding of our latest contract. Highlights of this year have been the school visits that Lee-Anne and I have enjoyed as we see the amazing work of teachers despite continued chronic underfunding. I've overseen the installation of a new projector/screen at the office, the design of the new CTA website, and the development of important relationships with CTA committees (Aboriginal Education, Constitutional Review, Health and Safety, Social Justice and TTOC). I seek your ongoing support in my bid for re-election as CTA First Vice President as I hope to further my focus on providing timely, efficient, ethical and effective service to members. Please forward questions/comments to eklettke@shaw.ca. Join me in continuing to build our union, to involve our members and to support each other, with your vote on May 17th.

Danielle Bennett - for 2nd Vice President

I have been working on the CTA Executive for the past two years. My roles have included MAL, Local Rep, and Primary ProD Rep. I have attended the BCTF Annual General Meeting for the past three years and had the fortunate experience of attending Summer Conference this past year as the Bargaining Rep. During my time on the CTA Executive I have learned a great deal about providing service to members as well as learning about the workings of the local and provincial union bodies. I would like to serve as your 2nd Vice President to further support our members and their needs.

**Tammy McKinley - for Local Representative**

I am seeking re-election to the position of Local Representative. During the past two years, I have learned a lot about the decision making process at the BCTF provincial meetings and I now have a good understanding of how the BCTF operates. One of the roles of the LR is to bring back information to our local and I have done this through reports to our CTA executive and at our CTA General meetings. Another important role is to bring the concerns of Chilliwack Teachers to the provincial level. I am comfortable with speaking on behalf of Chilliwack at provincial meetings of 300-700 teachers. I have brought forward concerns that teachers have shared with me about the pension reforms to the January Representative meeting, and strike pay changes that would impact our local members to be Annual General Meeting. I have extensive experience both locally as a member of the CTA Executive for 8 years in the positions of: Local Rep, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Professional Development Rep, Bargaining Team Member, and first Vice President. Provincially, in addition to serving as Local Rep for the CTA, I am also in my first year as a BCTF School Union Rep Trainer. I ask that you consider supporting me again as your Local Representative.

Jen Thiessen - for Local Representative

I have been involved with the Chilliwack Teachers Association for the past 6 years and have held a variety of positions from TTOC Chair, Assistant Treasurer, Treasurer, and currently 2nd Vice President. During my time on the Executive I have learned a lot. I have been a part of the Mentoring Committee, Pro-D Committee, and the Constitutional Review Committee and attended several BCTF Annual General Meetings. Through the many positions I have held and committees I have been a part of, I have learned a lot about the processes that guide our organization and understand my role as a member in our union. I have now come to a point, where I would like to try a new role as Local Representative and represent our local at the provincial level.

Stephan Biela - for Member At Large

I have been staff rep at three different schools at various times over the past two decades. I feel strongly that unions improve working conditions for all workers, and that the BCTF plays an important role in advocating for public education. I am also a Member at Large on the British Columbia Social Studies Teachers' Association. I have a professional passion for the new curriculum, but I also have significant concerns about its roll-out, and the effect this will have on teachers.

Al Hubner - for Member At Large

I have been involved in various CTA union positions for numerous years: as a Member at Large, ProD Rep, Staff Rep, AGM delegate, LEC Chair, FV Labour Council Rep/Exec, and various BCTF initiatives. I would like to continue working in support of the CTA. I enjoy working with colleagues of the CTA, to stand up for the rights of teachers and the teaching profession.

Jacqui Higginbottom - for Member At Large

A long, long time ago in a galaxy far, far away, Jacqui was a Member at Large on the CTA executive. She was appreciative of the learning opportunity as a beginning teacher. Now as a teacher with more experience, she would like to have that opportunity again. She has been teaching for over twenty years, in a number of subject areas. Jacqui went back to school in 2010 to complete her MEd and is now a Teacher Librarian. She has been the Staff Rep and is currently the ProD Rep and new curriculum liaison for her school. This past March, Jacqui attended the BCTF AGM and the experience made her realize that she would like to represent her colleagues at a district level again. It would be an honour to receive your vote for the position of Member at Large for the 2016-2017 school year.

Elizabeth MacKenzie - for Member At Large *(unavailable at press time)*

Allan Rogers - for Member At Large *(unavailable at press time)*

**Elizabeth MacKenzie - ProD Committee Chair**

Teacher Professional Development time is an important aspect of our professional learning. The CTA policy booklet states that the primary goal of ProD is: To assist teachers in improving the quality of their instruction, curriculum knowledge, pedagogical practices and professional well-being by providing professional development services and activities. The CTA ProD policies have been carefully developed over many years with the input of teachers, advisory committees and provincial guidelines, and they work well for our association. However, we are seeing increased attacks on our professional autonomy and ProD days. I believe that I have the knowledge and experience to continue the mandate of supporting Chilliwack teachers in developing their skills and knowledge.

Rick Joe - for Aboriginal Education Chair (*unavailable at press time*)**Vicki Willis - for Health & Safety Committee Chair**

Thank you for giving me the opportunity this past year to represent the CTA as the Health and Safety Chair. It has been a year of growing this new position and I would like to continue to work for the members in the coming year. I have also taken on the position of Health and Safety Facilitator with the BCTF for next three years, giving me access and experience to other locals that I can bring back to benefit ours as well. At the upcoming AGM I would appreciate your support for the position of Health and Safety Chair for the upcoming year.

Mollie Lofthouse - Social Justice Committee Chair

Since graduating from UVic's BEd Program in the spring of 2014, I have been a teacher in the Chilliwack School District. While relatively new to our union, I'd like to add my voice to the already strong community of CTA members as an advocate for public education. I look forward to working with you all, hearing your ideas, and affecting change through that collaborative effort.

Jasjit Gill - for TTOC Committee Co-Chair

I have been on the CTA Executive since last year as a TTOC co-chair. Before, I had been on the TTOC committee for 2 consecutive years. With my experience as a co-chair and being a TTOC myself I have learned a great deal about the pros and cons of being a TTOC. I have enjoyed guiding my fellow colleagues through their various questions and concerns, and connecting them to the CTA. Also, I have worked hard to consistently provide valuable information and resources through our TTOC/New Teacher socials. Being a TTOC can be tough at times and I will try to continue to work with my co-chair to ensure we can guide and support all TTOC's. I am looking forward to continuing my journey as a TTOC co-chair.

Shelley Jones - for TTOC Committee Co-Chair

I have only been part of the CTA as a TTOC for one year. Prior to this, I was a staff rep for various schools in VESTA (Vancouver Elementary School Teacher's Association) and a full-time classroom teacher for more than 10 years. It has been an interesting learning curve to become a TTOC once again. I feel I bring both the experience of teaching and the newness of being a TTOC. I look forward to working with Jas and the CTA executive to be able to support and guide all TTOCs and to continue to provide information and resources to TTOCs.

Lisa Taylor - for Communications Chair

I am a newer teacher, currently finishing my second year in the district. I am looking to become more involved in the union and so I decided to put my name forward for Communication Chair. I feel that this position will allow me to contribute to our group and also to learn more about our local in general. I enjoy staying up to date with current events and staying in touch with other teachers via Facebook. I look forward to helping other members stay current by posting relevant information to the website and, eventually, to Twitter.



Social Justice

BCTF Newsletter: The deadline for submissions for the summer-fall 2016 edition of the *Social Justice Newsletter* is **Monday, May 16, 2016**. Please submit articles, book and movie reviews, lesson plans, etc., about social justice topics that will be of interest to teachers from K-12. Teachers enjoy reading about social justice initiatives happening in your classroom. Articles should be between 250-1,000 words. Pictures, minimum 300 dpi (dots per inch), would also be appreciated. Please ensure your school or organization has photo release forms for children who appear in the photos on file, and indicated that you have confirmed this along with your submission.

Refugee Action Committee: The last Social Justice event of the year is a fundraiser for our Eastern Fraser Valley Refugee Committee to support our sponsored refugee families. Lawrence Hill, author of award-winning Book of Negroes and The Illegal, will be speaking about refugees, his fiction, and the connection to world events on Wednesday, May 11th at 7:00 p.m. at the Cornerstone Reform Church. The tickets are \$40 and can be purchased via www.chilliwackculturalcentre.ca.



PLEASE POST



EI Seminar
June 8th
CTA Office
3:30 - 5:30pm

This BCTF seminar provides Teachers Teaching on Call and temporary teachers with the information they need to:

- make effective, error free applications for Employment Insurance
- navigate through the red tape surrounding EI
- maximize their EI benefits
- maintain their EI claim throughout the school year

If you are interested in applying for EI, this workshop should not be missed!

Please RSVP the CTA Office by May 31st in order for us to have enough EI packages!

chwkmonica@shawcable.com or call **604-792-9233**

#203-45970 Airport Road, Chilliwack, BC V2P 1A2 TEL 604-792-9233 FAX 604-792-9389
md.LEU/USW 1-3567

Mark Your Calendar!

- May 10 -Joint ProD Meeting, CTA 3:45pm
- May 17 -CTA Annual Meeting, SSS 3:45pm
- -Executive Elections/CTA Budget
- May 24 -Constitutional Review Mtg, CTA 3:45pm
- May 26 -H&S Committee Meeting, CTA 3:45pm
- June 3 -First Friday Social, CTA 2:30pm
- June 7 -Executive Meeting, CTA 3:45pm
- June 8 -TTOC EI Workshop, CTA 3:45pm
- June 8 -Ab Ed Committee Mtg, CTA 3:45pm
- June 9 -Social Justice Committee Mtg, SSS Rm B120
- June 14 -CTA ProD Committee Mtg, CTA 3:45pm



Candidates needed for the following:
Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Recording Secretary, and various committee positions. Please contact the CTA Office for more information.



Lee-Anne Clarke	President	(chwkpres@shawcable.com)
Ed Klettke	Vice President	(chwkvp@shawcable.com)
Clint Johnston	CTA ProD Chair	(chwkprod@shawcable.com)
Monica Dahl	Office Manager	(chwkmonica@shawcable.com)