



CTA NEWS

This has been a very busy year full of many changes – new curriculum, new and inconsistent reporting protocols, new automated dispatch system for TTOCs, varying TTOC shortages, pension changes and even new photocopiers. We breathe a sigh of relief that we made it to the end of the school year!

This year was the first year that we (Lee-Anne and Ed) have worked together. You all have been helpful to us in our first year together in this office. We have appreciated the phone calls, emails and visits. You have made us aware of collective agreement violations, health and safety concerns, and school based issues. You have been very supportive and understanding.

At each work site the CTA counts on three volunteers: the CTA Professional Development Representative, the CTA Health and Safety Representative, and the CTA Staff Representative. The Pro-D Reps at each school provide relevant information, help plan school based Pro-D activities and provide advice on funding and collaborative activities. Health and Safety Representatives attend monthly meetings, participate in school inspections and assist with paperwork when accidents occur, keeping our work sites safe.

CTA Staff Representatives have done an incredible job this year. We really appreciate how well they support teachers in their schools. We could not do this job effectively without their eyes and ears at the school sites. We appreciate all of the work they do from handing out BCTF/CTA materials to helping CTA members with problems and concerns. Staff Reps, we know we can count on you!

Our CTA Committees have been very active this year. The TTOC Committee has put on several social events and recently had a very well attended EI workshop. The Aboriginal Education Committee has initiated planning for a Sto-lo style BCTF induction. The Social Justice Committee was involved in many endeavours this year including a film showing of “Fractured Land” in March. The Pro-D Committee worked together to organize another successful professional development day in May. The Health and Safety Committee has initiated meetings and provided training for school representatives.

Finally, the Executive Committee has also worked hard this year. As released officers we appreciate the patience and persistence provided by this year’s Executive and we look forward to working together next year with the continuing, and new, executive members.

Highlights for us this year include a Staff Rep and a TTOC breakfast prepared by yours truly, two Baby Bliss events, the Skate Party, Friday Socials and the first BCTF Induction held in many years!

Thank you to all of our members - you make this Union strong! Thank you to the Executive and thank you to Monica, our Office Manager, for all of her support, reminders, great ideas, and patience.

Please use the summer to relax and recharge!

Lee-Anne and Ed



**Your Union Cares - BCTF programs for members**

Pensions: The BCTF has full-time staff dedicated to providing information regarding your teachers' pension and group benefits. For more information, contact Victor Choy, BCTF Income Security Division: vchoy@bctf.ca or phone the BCTF toll free 1-800-663-9163 Ext 1949.

Health & Safety: The BCTF H&S Program provides support and advice to members like training workshops for reps, how to file a WCB claim, potential workplace risks and hazards, and fundamental H&S rights. For more information, contact Mike Wisla, BCTF Income Security Division: mwisla@bctf.ca or phone the BCTF toll free 1-800-663-9163 Ext 1891.

Salary Indemnity: The plan applies to all active BCTF members with regular assignments. Short Term SIP can be applied for when an eligible teacher is ill and unable to work and has run out of sick days. Long term SIP is adjudicated by Great West Life to take effect at the end of the ST portion. For more information contact Sarb Lalli, BCTF Income Security: slalli@bctf.ca or phone the BCTF toll free 1-800-663-9163.

Health & Wellness: This program is available for members who are having difficulty maintaining their teaching assignment because of illness or injury. The program is strictly voluntary and has rehabilitation consultants throughout the province. For more information, contact the CTA Office chwkpres@shawcable.com or phone the BCTF toll free 1-800-663-1925 Ext 1925.

Living with Balance: This is a group wellness initiative exclusively for BCTF members. Developed and piloted in 2009, the program consists of a series of workshops to provide strategies and skills for living a healthier lifestyle and managing the stressors that exist at home and in the workplace. It is designed to assist teachers at all stages of their personal and professional lives. For information contact the CTA Office chwkpres@shawcable.com or phone the BCTF toll free 1-800-663-1925 Ext 1925.

WCB Advocacy: This program provides support and advice to members on how to successfully navigate the WCB claims process. It also provides an Employment Insurance (EI) Advocate to assist you with questions in regard to layoff, shortage of work, pregnancy/parental leave, sickness or compassionate care. For more information contact the CTA Office chwkpres@shawcable.com or Diane Irvine, BCTF WCB Advocate: [dirvine@bctf.ca](mailto:d Irvine@bctf.ca) or call the BCTF 1-800-663-9163 Ext 9163.

New Website Helps BC Residents with Everyday Legal Problems

The Justice Education Society of BC (JES) is pleased to announce the launch of their new website: www.JusticeEducation.ca. With this site, the Society is introducing a range of new information and services that will help improve the legal capability of British Columbians. From the home page, site visitors are greeted by JES - a virtual assistant. "In life, sometimes everyday issues can become legal problems", she explains. "I'm here to help you get the information you need". And she does exactly that, in a number of ways.

To start, users are invited to select their issue from one of 10 legal topics. The list includes everyday issues like working, housing, family, and crime. The virtual assistant provides some basic information about the selected topic, and then site users can get more information from 36 legal help guides, 158 info sheets and 93 videos. All the info sheets have Google Translate, which converts the text to one of 100 different languages. This feature alone makes JusticeEducation.ca the most accessible legal information websites in Canada, but the site provides even more innovation.

Weekdays, from 11am to 2pm, site users can click "Ask JES" to ask questions about any of the 10 legal topics. Answers are provided by live chat. During offline hours, users can submit their question plus their email address to receive an answer.

The Ask JES service is both unique and innovative. It's a first for BC and a first for legal issues in Canada. "Ask JES legal help services are powered by two distinct elements" says Dave Nolette, Digital Program Director for the Society. "To start, we developed a knowledge base of hundreds of questions and answers that have been legally reviewed. This is used by our service delivery partner, UBC's Law Students Legal Assistance Program." Law students respond to live chat and email inquiries using the same knowledge base.

Along with these new legal help information and services, the new JusticeEducation.ca website also introduces the JES Online Academy – a hub for online justice courses – and highlights the Society's International program. The JES Academy is a hub for online courses that cover a range of legal issues, such as renting, parenting after separation, cyber safety, youth crime and more.

The International section highlights the justice system capacity development work of the Society in 15 countries - including active projects in Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Guyana and Panama. "It's great to see how international work is profiled on the new website" says the organization's founder and executive director, Rick Craig. "For BC, the site introduces a new standard of legal help information and services. We're really excited about being able to help more people get answers to their legal questions."

If you have legal questions, put them to the test. Visit JusticeEducation.ca and Ask JES to learn more about how to address your legal issues.

Contact: Dave Nolette, Digital Program Director

Phone: [604-660-1943](tel:604-660-1943) **Email:** Dave.Nolette@JusticeEducation.ca

Congratulations to our 2015/16 Retirees!



Kevin Ault - June 2016
Marilyn Connolly - June 2016
Rob Farrant - June 2016
George Francis - June 2016
Trish Hands - June 2016
Susan Hannah - June 2016
Verna Isbister - June 2016
Malcolm James - March 2016
Laurie Lenardon - June 2016
Kathy Lowe - June 2016
Inge Mah - February 2016
Kevin Moore - January 2016
Violet Nielson - June 2016
Bryan Stephenson - December 2015
Catherine Taylor - December 2015
Carolyn Vogt - June 2016
John Zieleman - June 2016



Congratulations to the CTA Bursary Awardees:

Brooke Riel, GWG - Al Berry Memorial Bursary
Benjamin Mazerolle, CSS - CTA Bursary
Martina Stolee, CSS - CTA Bursary
Sebastian Warkentin-Scott, SSS - Ralph Marini Memorial Bursary
Josh Biegel, SSS - Bob Fitzsimmons Memorial Bursary
Jillian Klassen, SSS - Rene Peake Memorial Bursary

We wish them all the best in their future studies!



Retiring?

It would be greatly appreciated if you could donate your current teaching materials to TTOCs and new teachers.

Thematic units, books and materials that can be photocopied are appreciated. Old books or worksheets will not be accepted.

You can drop your donation off at the CTA Office or contact the CTA and we will be happy to pick up from you. Thank you so much!



Congratulations to this years ProD ICPDF Grant winners!

- **Paula Aquino** - Attending the American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences 107th Annual Conference in Bellevue, Washington, USA, in June 2016
- **Leah Kelley** - Attending the Disability Studies in Education Annual Conference in June 2017
- **Audra Schroeder** - Attending the National Council of Teachers of English in Atlanta, Georgia, in November 2016
- **Shannon Wedel** - Attending the International Literacy Association Conference in Boston, MA, in July 2016

Tech Issues - *from Labour Letter Canada*

Employees could be losing more than two work weeks each year trying to get their computer equipment to work, according to a new survey of Canadian office workers by Robert Half Technology. The survey found that based on working five eight hour days for 50 weeks of the year, they lose 80 hours a year due to tech issues. Workers also waste an average of 19 minutes each day dealing with IT-related problems, the survey estimated. "For technology to improve business productivity rather than hinder it, companies must ensure that their teams are provided the proper resources to help make the best use of tools available to them" said Deborah Bottineau, senior regional manager of Robert Half Technology. "If not functioning properly, technology can create delays and inefficiencies... a proficient help desk (is) an invaluable asset to any company." Nearly half of those surveys (44%), however, rated their organization's IT infrastructure good or excellent, despite the tech issues.



You are invited to the following CTA summer events!



Party in the Park
July 8 and July 22, 2016
Central Community Park
5:00 - 9:30pm

Labour Day Picnic
Monday, September 5, 2016
Mill Lake Park (Bevan St entrance)
11am - 3pm

Bring family, friends and co-workers and join us to celebrate LABOUR DAY 2016!



Free Food! Entertainment!
Kids Events! Solidarity!



Chilliwack Teachers' Association - Executive 2016/17 PLEASE POST

Table with 4 columns: Positions, Term, Elected, Elected. Rows include Released Officers (President, First Vice President, ProD Chair), Table Officers (2nd Vice President, Treasurer, Local Representative), Other Officers (Assistant Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Ab Ed Chairperson, H & S Chairperson, Social Justice Chair, TTOC Co-Chairs, Communication Chair, Members At Large), ProD Committee (Elementary Rep, Middle/Sec Rep, Member At Large), Barg Committee, and SJ Committee.

What a great turnout for the Annual Meeting! The meeting featured many nominations from the floor and spirited yet respectful debate on the budget, the mortgage pay down and even the constitutional changes. Thank you for attending and thanks to all nominees for putting their names forward. Congratulations to our elected Executive and Committee members. We look forward to working with you throughout the coming school year!

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May 18, 2016

Mark Your Calendars!

- August 23 - 26 -BCTF Summer Conference, Kamloops
August 29 -CTA Office opens
September 8 -Executive Meeting, CTA Office 3:45pm
September 17 -Union BBQ, Cultus Lake
September 22 -Executive Retreat, CTA Office
September 27/28 -CTA H&S Rep Training, CTA Office
September 27 -CTA ProD Committee Meeting, CTA Office 3:45pm

Check out the CTA Website for current issues, news, ProD forms, the CTA calendar and much more!

www.chilliwackteachers.com

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)