



# Strike Update

2011 November 4

We are  
stronger  
together

## Sending Information about Job Action to Parents—BCTF Advice

Sending information about our job action, and the reasons for it, to parents via e-mail is not advised. There are some risks for members who use e-mail to contact parents for this purpose, especially if they are using Board e-mail addresses such as “vsb.bc.ca” which were acquired by the school.

The employer has raised issues of privacy protection and violation of their “acceptable use” agreements which cover such topics as copyright, plagiarism and inappropriate subjects being accessed or distributed.

Teachers should not use parent personal email addresses for communication related to job action or any communication of a political nature. Boards may seek to discipline teachers on these grounds rather than the actual content of the message sent home (i.e., rights to freedom of expression.) To reduce, as much as possible, the potential for disciplinary action, any messages to parents directly related to our job action should be sent home on paper in a sealed envelope or folded and stapled shut.



## Food Bank

This is a very common activity in schools during the run-up to Christmas. Our advice is that collecting for food banks is an extra-curricular voluntary activity. Teachers are encouraged to donate and encourage students to donate to such community drives. If it is being organized through a school program students can continue to organize the activity. However, in keeping with previ-



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