



# Staff Rep Weekly

\*\*\*Please share this important information with all VESTA members\*\*\*

## Dates to Remember

Meetings at VESTA Office, 4 PM  
unless otherwise noted

November 20  
Staff Rep Assembly at Tupper

November 21  
Health & Safety Committee

November 22  
Resource Teachers Meeting

November 26-30  
BC Federation of Labour  
Convention

November 26  
Status of Women Committee

November 26  
Communications and Ad Hoc  
Election Committee

November 28  
Anti-Racism Committee

November 29  
Professional Issues Committee

November 30  
Professional Development Day

December 3  
Working & Learning Conditions/  
Bargaining Committee

## Violence Prevention in the Workplace

On Wednesday November 21 at 4 PM VESTA's Health and Safety Committee will have a special guest. Karen Langenmaier, the BCTF Health and Safety Officer will lead a discussion on how to deal with issues of violence towards workers in schools.

Topics will include the violent incident reporting process, how to complete the required risk assessment forms and prevention plan guidelines. This is an excellent opportunity to learn about an issue that can be difficult to deal with and have serious ramifications for the health and well-being of our members.

Invitations were sent to all school-based Health and Safety Reps on Tuesday. Please RSVP by fax to the VESTA office at 604-873-2652.

For additional information contact Patti Park, the VESTA Health and Safety Chairperson at [patti@vesta.c](mailto:patti@vesta.c)

## Committee Date Changes

Please note that several committees have changed their meeting dates. Correct information is found under "Dates to Remember"



Gerry Kent, President  
[gerry@vesta.ca](mailto:gerry@vesta.ca)

Dan Graves, 1st VP  
[dan@vesta.ca](mailto:dan@vesta.ca)

Heather Allison, 2nd VP  
[heather@vesta.ca](mailto:heather@vesta.ca)

Jack MacDermot, 3rd VP  
[jack@vesta.ca](mailto:jack@vesta.ca)

Jody Polukoshko,  
Co-Grievance Officer  
[jody@vesta.ca](mailto:jody@vesta.ca)

Sasha Wiley-Shaw,  
AE President  
[sasha@vesta.ca](mailto:sasha@vesta.ca)

## VESTA is Working to End Poverty in Our Schools

The recent "Justice, Not Charity" conference organized by the COPE Education Committee was very successful in part because of powerful presentations from two VESTA members, Linda Young and Anna Chudnovsky. Issues addressed at the conference included inequities of fundraising, problems with corporate charity and the negative effects of these on our students who are living in poverty. Petitions regarding the elimination of child poverty in BC were sent to schools last week. Please continue to make them available to members and other adults and return originals to the VESTA Office by November 30.