



Stronger Together

2014 May 8

Staff Rep Weekly

Please share this important information with all VESTA members

Dates to Remember

*Meetings at VESTA office
4pm unless otherwise
indicated.*

May 10

Adult Ed GM – ERIP
Ratification vote

May 12

Status of Women

May 13

TTOC Committee

May 15

Adult Ed Exec 11:00

May 20

VESTA AGM – 4:00

May 22

Sustainability



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VSBC Lays Off Over Half of All Adult Education Employees!

On Friday, 2014 May 2, the Vancouver School Board issued layoff notices to 67 VESTA members working in Adult Education. These layoffs go back to July 1998, hitting hard dedicated members who have been teaching and assisting students for almost 16 years!

These layoffs are the direct result of the changes in the funding policy initiated by the provincial government for Adult Education, which have been detrimental to student enrolment, as well as the VSB's downsizing of the number of classes.

Stage One of Our Job Action – Week 3

Our members have been united in demonstrating their support of our job action in stage one. Tuesday, *Strike Bulletin #2* was sent out to provide more details about managing school-based team meetings and field trips that are upcoming.

The BCTF bargaining team is continuing to meet with the employer, BCPSEA, and on April 30 made new proposals for salary, preparation time, TTOCs and benefits. Go to the BCTF Members' Portal, www.bctf.ca, and look for *Report from the Table* under Bargaining.

Frank Rogers...Labour Union Organizer and Martyr

April 15 marked the anniversary of the death of this legendary labour union activist in 1903.

In 1903, the United Brotherhood of Railway Employees (UBRE), a union that organized by industry — regardless of occupation, gender and race, unlike the trade unions, began a strike when ticket clerks were fired on February 27 by the CPR for organizing. Many other workers all walked off the job in sympathy strikes. CPR saw a serious threat to their power posed by this militant industrial unionism and solidarity. CPR hired spies, undercover agents, strike breakers and special police.

Then, three days after the strike began, Frank Rogers was shot and killed by CPR's special police. Every Vancouver union attended his funeral and more than 800 workers marched in the procession. The special policeman who shot and killed Rogers had his lawyer paid for by the CPR, and was not convicted. Web link: <http://interestingmountainview.wordpress.com/2012/08/17/frank-rogers/>

Teacher Regulation Branch – TRB Annual Payment Deducted

On the May 2 VSB salary deposit, an \$80 deduction occurred to pay this annual fee to the TRB for their teaching certificate. Please check your pay statement.

Late Vacate Cards – Request from school office

The VSB will still accept for the next few days any request to vacate assignments. Please submit the lavender transfer card by blue bag to HR asap.

Coming Events

VESTA AGM on Tuesday, May 20 at Museum of Vancouver, Vanier Park

This meeting starts at 4 p.m. with refreshments available about 5:30 p.m. Elections will be held for positions on the 2014-15 VESTA Executive Committee. All members are welcome to attend.