



Stronger Together

2014 May 28

Staff Rep Weekly

Please share this important information with all VESTA members

Dates to Remember

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

May 29

Workshop Post & Fill
For TTOC's 4:15

June 1

Adult Ed AGM 11:00

June 4

Aboriginal Ed

June 5

Professional Issues.

June 12

Adult Ed Exec 10:00 am



Gerry Kent, President
gerry@vesta.ca

Dan Graves, 1st VP
dan@vesta.ca

Heather Allison, 2nd VP
heather@vesta.ca

Janek Kuchmistrz, 3rd VP
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Chris Murphy,
AE President
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Photo by: Matt Kieltyka/Metro



Jim Iker, BCTF President

Thank You for Your Solidarity! Week 6

On Monday, May 26, members demonstrated their unity and strength of purpose by engaging in a rotating strike affecting all VSB worksites. Thanks to each of you walking on the picket line, our presence made a positive impact on the public and our efforts at the bargaining table will be made stronger because of our solidarity. Please send any photos from the walkout on Monday to vilmam@vesta.ca

The BCTF Executive will be determining the next walkout date soon, and the BCTF Spring Rep Assembly this weekend in Richmond will discuss our job action plans. Keep up to date with developments by visiting the BCTF's Member Portal at bctf.ca and strike updates at vesta.ca. Update your profile on the BCTF portal to receive direct emails from the BCTF about our job action.

VESTA AGM May 20 and the new Executive Committee

At the VESTA AGM, held on May 20 at the Vancouver Museum, the budget for the fiscal year 2014-2015 was approved and the VESTA fee remains at 0.85% of each member's salary, where it has been since 2011.

Elections were held for the VESTA Executive Committee, with the following members all acclaimed to their positions for a one-year term, ending in June 2015:

President – Dan Graves; 1st Vice-president and Grievance Officer – Heather Allison; 2nd Vice-President – Chloe McKnight; 3rd Vice-President – Janek Kuchmistrz; Local Representatives to the BCTF: Jill Barclay, Heidi Ravenel, Leslie Roosa and Jody Polukoshko; Members at Large: Dana Aweida, Donna Brack, Greg Canning, Allan Haley, Melissa Moore; Chairperson(s) of VESTA Standing Committees: Aboriginal Education – Fiona LaPorte and Laura Rudland; Anti-Poverty – Tanja Cvekic; Communications – Suzie Mah; Professional Issues – Allison Jambor and Patricia Gudlaugson; Health and Safety – Patti Park and Kathryn Mazzone; Status of Women – Jennifer Wyss and Susan Kurbis; Teachers Teaching on Call – Kevin McPherson.

VESTA still has some vacancies on the Executive Committee, and would welcome hearing from members interested in these roles: Committee Chairperson(s) for: Working and Learning Conditions, Anti-Racism, Pride, and Sustainability; the post of Secretary-Treasurer. For all of these vacant positions, we need volunteers. Please contact the president or any executive member if you are interested. Thanks again for your support and solidarity.

Coming Events

Deadline: Retirement and the ERIP (Early Retirement Incentive Plan)

Thinking about retiring this year? You can still retire now and receive a payment if you are between 55 and 64 years of age. Deadline: May 31 by sending notice to Human Resources for ERIP with name, school, and intent to retire on June 30.

Resource Swap Meet/BBQ – Friday, June 20

The annual TTOC Swap Meet/BBQ has been scheduled for Friday, June 20 at the VESTA office. Beginning teachers or those new to a grade level should mark this date! Come and browse through teaching resources donated by other teachers. Teachers can drop off teaching resources to the VESTA office June 18 or 19.