



Stronger Together

2014 October 31

Staff Rep Weekly

Please share this important information with all VESTA members

Dates to Remember

Meetings at VESTA office 4pm unless otherwise indicated.

November 3 & 4
School Union Rep Training, 9—3pm at Maritime Labour Centre

November 5
Election Phone Canvass STARTS! Join up. Email amy@vesta.ca

November 6
Aboriginal Ed Committee

November 10
School Closure

November 11
Remembrance Day
Office Closed

November 13
Anti-Poverty Committee



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SURT Nov. 3 & 4—Be ready to pick up election materials!

At the SURT on Monday and Tuesday, election materials such as lawn signs and leaflets will be available for distribution so that they are taken back to schools for our colleagues' use. Please use transportation that will allow you to carry these items back to your school (car pooling, bus etc.).

Help for Resolving Conflict with a Colleague

Has the return to work this fall left situations of tension and conflict between yourself and a colleague? The BCTF provides confidential mediation services to BCTF members. A team of volunteer BCTF members, trained and experienced as mediators, makes up the Federation's Internal Mediation Service (IMS). The BCTF's mediation model is a carefully designed, non-adversarial, voluntary process. Two mediators work to facilitate conversations between professionals to help them resolve, in their own manner, workplace conflict.

If conflict in your school is threatening your positive relationships, use the BCTF Internal Mediation Service. Contact Patti Turner directly: pturner@bctf.ca or 604-871-1803.

BCTF AGM Resolutions Wanted

While it may seem far away, the BCTF's AGM in March 2015 has deadlines coming soon. Staff reps will have received a notice asking them to hold a VESTA meeting to seek input from members on creating any resolutions. Are there issues that you feel need to be addressed? Perhaps about poverty, curriculum, professional autonomy. Any changes or additions to BCTF policies?

The deadline to submit your resolutions to VESTA is Friday, November 14. Next, the Executive Committee meeting on November 25 will review submitted resolutions and make recommendations for our December 9 General Meeting at Tupper Secondary.

Upcoming Events

CIVIC ELECTION — Saturday, November 15

We can't afford to be complacent and run the risk of losing our progressive trustees on the Vancouver School Board. Their advocacy for teachers has been terrific, and we need to get our endorsed candidates elected.

Get out and volunteer at the campaign office of Public Education Project at 2280 East Hastings or call 604.362.5313 or volunteer with Vision Vancouver at 326 W. 5th Ave. or telephone 604.568.6913.

Thank you!