



Stronger Together

2015 February 25

Staff Rep Weekly

Please share this important information with all VESTA members

Dates to Remember

Meetings at VESTA office 4pm unless otherwise indicated

February 26- 7-9pm
"Fight for 15"— Better Minimum Wage

Spring Transfer Process

Submit cards by March 15
(Article E.21.12)

Increasing FTE

Request in writing by March 31 (Article C.20.3.c) Form available at your school

E-mail!

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School Calendar – VTF General Meeting Passed Motion

On Tuesday, February 24, the VTF General Meeting (GM) at Tupper discussed and voted on a motion to approve a Letter of Understanding with the VSB for the 2015—2016 school calendar, as required by last year's GM. After some debate, the motion was passed on the proposed five school closure days for next year.

Online Satisfaction Survey – No Thanks!

Members may have been "invited" to take part in this Ministry of Education *Satisfaction Survey*. VESTA's Executive Committee is encouraging members to boycott this survey as it undermines our solidarity by circumventing our elected union as the collective voice of teachers. Say, no thanks!

Celebrate International Women's Day – Support Teacher Training in Afghanistan, Thursday, March 5

The Status of Women Committee has organized a fundraiser dinner to benefit The Lantern Fund created by the non-profit agency Canadian Women for Women in Afghanistan which trains desperately needed teachers.

WHERE: Bistro 101, Pacific Institute of Culinary Arts, 101—1505 West 2nd Ave. Complimentary guest parking at 1515 West 2nd Ave.

WHEN: Thurs. March 5, 6pm — Welcome, gourmet 3-course meal, and speaker
COST: Tickets \$45. Please make cheque payable to VESTA and send by blue bag to the VESTA office, Attention: Vilma

BC Teachers' Council Elections – Vote before March 20

After the TRB's (Teacher Regulation Branch) error in mailing packages without any ballots to teachers, BCTF president Jim Iker asked for an extension to voting. However, the TRB has refused and ballots must arrive by mail at TRB before March 20 for this Teachers' Council election.

Please vote for our BCTF endorsed candidates:

- Vancouver Coastal Zone – **John Hall** (incumbent from 2012)
- Fraser Zone – **Laurence Greef** (incumbent from 2012)

You should have received two envelopes from the TRB: a white voting package and a brown envelope with ballot.

Don't forget to vote, and do support our BCTF endorsed candidates!

Upcoming Events

Public Forum on March 5 – Adult Education is A Right

Please come and support adult education and oppose government cuts in funding. The BC Government announced in December devastating changes to funding students who want to upgrade or take courses for a new career. These courses will likely now cost about \$600 each!

Thursday, March 5, 7—9pm @ Croatian Cultural Centre
3250 Commercial Drive, close to Broadway Skytrain

