



Stronger Together

2015 April 29

Staff Rep Weekly

Please share this important information with all VESTA members

Dates to Remember

Meetings at VESTA office 4pm unless otherwise indicated

April 30

VSBC Board Budget Adoption 7:00 pm

May 1– May Day!

Join the march on Commercial Dr @ 14th Ave. See details below.

May 4

Anti-Poverty Communications

May 5

TTOC Committee
WLC/ B Committee



Dan Graves, President
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INTERNATIONAL WORKERS' DAY

MAYDAY

Friday, 2015 May 1

VESTA Staff Rep Workshop for Post and Fill

Staff reps would have received a notice last week to register for training on Tuesday May 5 or Wednesday May 6 about the Spring Transfer Process. Please attend on the designated day for your school so that you can share this information with members. Return the registration form to vilmam@vesta.ca or fax 604.873.2652 by **May 1**.

VESTA AGM Coming on May 19!

Mark your calendars and plan to attend VESTA's Annual General Meeting, where the table officers and other members of the Executive Committee will be elected, the VESTA budget adopted, and any changes to bylaws made. This year's AGM will be held in the Joyce Walley Room at the Vancouver Museum, 1100 Chestnut Street, Vancouver, BC, starting at 4pm. Parking is available on site.

VSBC Preliminary Budget Meeting – April 30

The Board will conduct final deliberations at the VSBC Education Centre, 7pm, Thursday, about the preliminary budget. This year's budget proposal addresses a \$8.52 million deficit for 2015–2016 through recommendations such as: the sale and leaseback of assets; reductions to maintenance (5.0 FTE) and equipment; closure of classrooms; 3.0 FTE cut to the Band and Strings program; 26.32 FTE cuts to adult ed instructors and the closure of two adult ed schools (Hastings and Downtown Eastside), literacy classes, and a youth program at Collingwood.

On May 31, special advisors Ernst and Young report to Minister of Education Fassbender. Then, on June 29 the final draft budget for 2015–2016 will be approved by the trustees. This report may demand further cuts to Vancouver's budget.

District Emergency Drill to be Held – Thursday, May 7

A district-wide emergency drill will occur on May 7 in the afternoon. Although similar to the usual "Big One at 2," this year there will be a full, formal release of students to the caregivers named on their emergency contact forms in the office. School Staff Committee will likely be meeting to discuss how this will work at your school.

VSBC Health and Safety Online Survey – due May 5

The VSBC is conducting a district-wide Workplace Violence Risk Assessment in compliance with WorkSafeBC. VESTA members are encouraged to participate. There are 3 Parts to the Risk Assessment: Part 1 – an all staff anonymous survey which will be done electronically; Part 2 – a school/site environmental assessment conducted by each school/site's H&S Committee; Part 3 – an assessment of our special education programs with elevated risks of violence, conducted by a school admin and the staff working these specific programs.

Upcoming Events – May Day Parade, Friday, May 1, 5:30pm

Join the March and Rally for Fight for 15!

Come gather at Clark Park, 14th Ave. and Commercial Dr. between 5 to 5:30pm. Walk with us up Commercial Drive. Then, 6:15pm rally to increase the minimum wage at Grandview Park, 1657 Charles St, Vancouver, BC. After the rally, join us at Wise Hall, Adanac St. and Victoria Dr. for a May Day party with Punkrockeoke. Doors open at 7pm, cost \$10. To RSVP visit the [Facebook event](#) page.