



*Stronger Together*

2015 June 18

# Staff Rep Weekly

*Please share this important information with all VESTA members*

## Dates to Remember

*Meetings at VESTA office 4pm unless otherwise indicated*

**June 18** – 5:30pm  
VESTA Appreciation Event for Volunteers  
Vancouver Rowing Club

**June 22** – 5pm  
VESTA Retirement Dinner – by invitation.  
A celebration of achievements!

**June 23** – 4pm to 8pm  
TTOC Resource SWAP  
Come and pick up used teaching materials. For TTOC & new members



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## VSBC Special Advisor's Report – VESTA Urges Action!

Members would have heard, both in the media and from VESTA, about the incredibly myopic Special Advisor's Report to Minister of Education Fassbender on the operations of the VSB, released last Tuesday, June 9. This report eviscerates the VSB's vision of a quality public education for all students, and is a compilation of mendacious findings and ill-founded recommendations by Ernst and Young. It is not even a thinly veiled attempt at privatization, but a blatant push in this direction.

On Wednesday, June 17, VESTA president Dan Graves sent emails to all staff reps with *pdf* documents to share with members. These provide members with background information to give to parents, and help on how to lobby politicians on this issue. Please do this! VESTA is planning further actions before the VSB's final budget is adopted on Monday, June 29 at 7 pm, so stay tuned.

## Boycott BCAA's EVO Car Share Service

On Friday, June 5, BCAA gave lockout notice to their 70 tow truck dispatch centre workers for Emergency Roadside Assistance. These workers have been without a contract since September 2014. The employer lockout began on Monday, June 8.

Canadian Office and Professional Employees (COPE) Union Local 378 vice-president Heather Lee stated, "Right now our members are making the same wage as people doing the same work for BCAA's car-sharing company (EVO), but working five hours longer every week. BCAA is not treating them fairly." EVO is un-unionized. Unions are being encouraged to boycott EVO by the Vancouver District Labour Council.

The COPE 378 workers would very much appreciate the support of other union members visiting them. COPE 378 members have set up a picket line outside the BCAA Road Assist Contact Centre at 3590 Goring St at Douglas Rd in Burnaby.

## Getting Fit is Easier – 25% Discount Available

Recently, the VSB announced that members will receive a 25% discount on the purchase of a Vancouver Board of Parks & Recreation Flexipass. Go to <http://vancouver.ca/parks-recreation-culture/flexipasses.aspx> for the list of city locations where a Flexipass can be used.

To apply, visit any facility on the list, mention that you are a VSB employee and bring as proof a recent VSB paystub and any photo ID. Enjoy getting fit over the summer holidays!

## Update on Pay Parking

At the VSB's Committee II meeting (Facilities) on Wednesday, June, 17, VESTA and VSTA reps presented arguments to the trustees against proceeding with the implementation of pay parking at all school sites for the fall 2015. VESTA reps asked that the Board rescind its budget decision from spring 2014, and find alternate revenue sources to replace those lost by cancelling pay parking.

Despite many stakeholders' efforts to alter this, the VSB has already built parking info panels at various school lots. A final decision by trustees will come on Monday, June 29. 7 pm at a public board meeting, held at the VSB Education Centre.