



*Stronger Together*

2015 June 24

# Staff Rep Weekly

*Please share this important information with all VESTA members*

## Dates to Remember

*Meetings at VESTA office 4pm unless otherwise indicated*

### Summer Hours

VESTA office open  
June 29 to July 10,  
9am—3pm

The office reopens on  
August 24, 9am—3pm

E-mail!

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*Enjoy a restful and well-deserved vacation!*

*Dan, Heather, Chloë  
Janek, Chris*

## Rally at Board office, Monday, June 29, 6pm – Support your school trustees – push back against Special Advisor's Report!

VESTA members are urged to come to a rally in support of our democratically elected trustees on Monday, June 29 at 6pm. We'll be meeting at the corner of Fir and West 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue, and then onto the lawn in front of the VSB Education Centre along 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

Teachers need to show their support for keeping neighbourhood schools open and for local trustees responsive to their community.

Bring placards to our VESTA rally. See you there at 6pm on Monday, June 29!

## WE > TAR SANDS – Rally on Saturday, July 4 at 1 pm

The WE are greater than the Tar Sands group has organized a rally at Sunset Beach (Bute St and Beach Ave., Vancouver) to advocate for jobs, social justice and fighting climate change. Show support for our indigenous peoples' rights and for an economy that respects the environment.

The BCTF and BCGEU are among the unions that have endorsed this event. Wear **RED** to this event and be part of a giant human chain on the beach!

## 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Pride Parade in Vancouver!

On Sunday, August 2 from noon until 3pm, join teachers from all over BC in celebrating our LGBTQQ community at the Pride Parade in downtown Vancouver.

The BCTF will have a walking group in this parade, so you can have even more fun by being part of the parade! All are welcome to join this group, with our allies particularly encouraged to be part of this event. Meet on Alberni at Burrard Street.

Contact Jack MacDermot at the BCTF for more info: 604.871.1883 or visit website for parade details: <http://vancouverpride.ca/events/pride-parade/>

## Celebration of Life for Val Hamilton, Saturday, July 25

VESTA Honorary Life Member, BCTF Honorary Life Member and BCTF Stewart Schon Health & Safety Award recipient, Val Hamilton was a teacher-librarian for 35 years, and a long-time union activist who spent decades on the VESTA executive and many VESTA, BCTF, VTLA and BCTLA committees. She died of cancer last fall. Her far-flung family members will gather to celebrate her life this summer, and they would be very pleased to meet as many of Val's friends as possible.

You are invited to attend a Celebration of Life at the home of Val's cousin, Pru Christensen, on Saturday, 2015 July 25 at 1pm, 5810 Ontario Street, Vancouver. For further information, contact Pru at 604-318-0939, or Val's nephew Matt Hamilton at 604-862-7311.

If you wish, you can send a card to Val's family at the address above, or a send a message to Pru at [pchris@telus.net](mailto:pchris@telus.net).