



Stronger Together

2016 January 14

Staff Rep Weekly

Please share this important information with all VESTA members

Dates to Remember

Meetings at VESTA office 4pm unless otherwise indicated

January 14

Social Justice Committee

January 19

General Meeting/
Staff Rep Assembly
Tupper Auditorium

January 20

Professional Issues
Committee

January 26

Executive Committee

January 27

Infusing Aboriginal
Content Workshop
4–7pm

February 2

SURT 9am–3pm
Maritime Labour Ctr.



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News on Appeal expected Thursday, January 14

The Supreme Court of Canada will announce on Thursday morning if it will hear the appeal in our long-running court case with the government of BC. The announcement will be made at 6:45am and is expected to say whether or not the nation's highest court will hear the appeal from the BCTF. Stay tuned!

Resource Guide for Supporting Children with Refugee Experience

This [resource guide](#) on how to support children with refugee experience in schools is available on the [ISS of BC](#) website. It provides valuable information to help teachers understand the experiences of some refugee children. There is also an interesting reading list on the refugee experience available.

Upcoming By-election in Vancouver Mount-Pleasant and Coquitlam-Burke Mountain Electoral Districts

You may have already noticed some signs in these neighbourhoods. General Voting Day for both by-elections will be on 2016 February 2. Get out and vote for a progressive provincial candidate if you live in these areas. Better yet, call the local candidates office to offer your support.

BCAA Dispatchers Return to Work

The long-running strike for these workers ended on 2015 December 11, after six months on the picket line. This dispute involved workers in the Emergency Roadside Assistance Dispatch office. The Union agreed to a mediated settlement that addressed the inequities in pay and hours of work between employee groups within the same bargaining group. Congratulations to those workers on standing up for their rights.

New Teachers' Induction

VESTA will be hosting a New Teachers' Induction on Wednesday, February 10 from 4–6pm at the VESTA office. All new teachers and TOCs hired in 2014 and 2015 who have not yet attended in the past are welcome to attend. Come out and celebrate the beginning of your career and meet some of your colleagues. The BCTF offers all new inductees a complimentary one-year membership to a Provincial Specialist Association (PSA) of their choice. RSVP vilmam@vesta.ca or call the VESTA office by February 8.