



Stronger Together

2016 January 27

Staff Rep Weekly

Please share this important information with all VESTA members

Dates to Remember

Meetings at VESTA office 4pm unless otherwise indicated

January 29

Communications Committee

February 1

Health & Safety Committee

February 2

SURT 9am–3pm
Maritime Labour Ctr.

February 2

VTF General Meeting
Tupper Auditorium

February 9

Executive Meeting

February 9

Pro-D Workshop, 9-3pm
Challenging Behaviour



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Census this Spring

The 2016 Census will be conducted in May of this year. Two teaching kits, the 2016 Census Teacher's Kit for K–12 and the 2016 Census Adult Education Kit are currently available on the [2016 Census website](#).

Upcoming Pro-D Opportunity – February 9 at the VESTA office

There is still space available in the BCTF workshop, *Challenging Behaviour: Dealing with At-risk and Targeted Students* hosted by the Professional Issues Committee. This workshop reviews theory, assessment tools, teacher self-reflection, resources and a variety of strategies for responding to targeted and intensive behavioural needs. To register email vilmam@vesta.ca.

VSBC Calendar Proposal

The VSBC proposed school calendar for the next 3 years includes the following days not in session:

- 2016–2017: March 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24
- 2017–2018: March 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29 and either November 10 or May 18
- 2018–2019: March 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29
- As well as the required number of professional days, curriculum implementation days and standard holidays

A few years ago, the VTF General Meeting carried a motion, that proposed calendar changes for subsequent years be taken to a VTF General Meeting for discussion and a vote. This meeting will be held at Tupper on February 2 at 4pm. The employer's proposal on how to amend the collective agreement will be shared at this meeting. The proposal does not comply with the terms and conditions of our collective agreement. The union has an obligation and responsibility to ensure that the collective agreement rights of all of our members are upheld. Each member shares this obligation through their commitment to the BCTF Code of Ethics, #7, *The teacher adheres to the provisions of the collective agreement*. Our solidarity and future successes as a collective depends on it.

International Women's Day Event

VESTA Social Justice and Solidarity Committee invites you to a special event on March 10 to celebrate International Women's Day. The event is a fundraiser for the WISH Drop-In-Centre. The centre offers programs and services for women in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside. There will be a guest speaker and dinner at Bistro 101 at the Pacific Institute of Culinary Arts. Look for a poster to come to your school or see the VESTA website for more details.

School Union Rep Training – February 2

Please remember to register one staff rep per worksite for the School Union Rep Training (SURT) on 2016 February 2.