



Stronger Together

2016 March 2

Staff Rep Weekly

Please share this important information with all VESTA members

Dates to Remember

Meetings at VESTA office 4pm unless otherwise indicated

March 2

Health & Safety Committee

March 8

Information Session: Urban Learners Cohort

March 10

TTOC Committee

March 15

Deadline for Transfer Cards to be at VSB

March 12-15

BCTF AGM
Hyatt Regency Vancouver



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M.Ed. – UBC Urban Learners Cohort Information Session

This information session will be held at the VESTA office on Tuesday, March 8. Meet with the program advisors and learn more about applying to become a graduate student. The program begins January 2017 and will run for 2 years, part-time. The deadline to apply to the program will be 2016 October 2. The theme of the program is *Theorizing Knowing: The Significance of Teaching*.

Are You Interested in Advocating for Public Education?

The BCTF is sponsoring a Public Education Conference on April 8-9, 2016 at the Sheraton Airport Hotel, Richmond. This will be a significant gathering of over 300 education activists from across BC including teachers, parents, students, trustees, and other community members who will commit to sharing what they've learned at the conference and carrying on pro-public education activities back in their home communities. The purpose of the conference is to bring together concerned British Columbians to explore current issues and challenges in public education, to build mutually-supportive relationships, and to plan together for positive change leading up to the 2017 provincial election. VESTA is looking for delegates to attend on our behalf. Please call the VESTA office or email vilmam@vesta.ca if you are interested in attending.

Post and Fill Timeline

Part-time teachers wishing to increase their FTE at their current school must notify their principals using Request for Increase/Change in Teaching Time for desired FTE for 2016 September. A copy of the form (with both teacher and administrator signatures) **must** be received in HR before 4:30pm on March 31. If there are layoffs, teachers will not be able to increase their teaching time as per Article C.20.3.c.

New Collective Agreement – Effective 2013 June–2019 June

The newly printed collective agreements will be in schools soon. Each member should receive a smaller size copy of the collective agreement and the Staff Reps will have additional full size copies. Learn about the provisions for Leaves, your salary increase schedules and more in this document.

Staff Rep Assemblies and Quorum

In order to hold a SRA we must have quorum, which consists of 50% of the voting cards. That number is 197 cards. The minimum number of Staff Representatives, that must be present to exercise the full voting strength of their school or worksite is as follows:

- 1-17 staff members at school — at least ONE representative
- 18-32 staff members at school — at least TWO representatives
- 33-47 staff members at school — at least THREE representatives
- 48-62 staff member at school — at least FOUR representatives

In order to reach quorum and hold the meeting we must have at least 66 staff reps present. Please encourage your VESTA team to attend the Staff Rep Assemblies so your school can exercise its voting rights and support the meeting to have quorum.