



*Stronger Together*

2016 November 16

# Staff Rep Weekly

*Please share this important information with all VESTA members*

## Dates to Remember

*Meetings at VESTA office 4pm unless otherwise indicated*

**November 16**  
TTOC Committee

**November 17**  
Aboriginal Ed Committee

**November 21**  
Professional Issues Committee

**November 22**  
Executive Committee

**November 24**  
Health & Safety Committee



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## Supreme Court of Canada Ruling

On Thursday November 10 the Supreme Court of Canada ruled 7-2 in favor of the BCTF, thereby restoring class size and composition language to our Collective Agreement. The full webcast of the SCC ruling can be found [here](#).

The BCTF will continue to assert its position that the province needs to provide school districts with funds to fully implement the restored language as soon as possible. The BCTF legal team and EC will be meeting and determining the next steps in the days and weeks to come. Please check the BCTF website regularly for updates and we will continue to inform members as more information becomes available.

## BCTF Health and Wellness Program Starling Minds

The BCTF has a variety of Health and Wellness programs and resources available to members. Starling Minds is an online education program based on Cognitive Behavior Therapy that helps to boost and support mental health fitness. It has recently been updated this year, so members can now refer family members allowing them access to the program. You will need your BCTF identification number to access the initial sign up, but are then given a separate identification number that remains confidential. If interested please visit [starlingminds.com](http://starlingminds.com).

## Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)

The board has recently developed and released a Bring Your Own Device guidelines document. The BCTF has policy stating, *51.B.03 – That the BCTF oppose students being required to “Bring Your Own Device,” and advise the government to provide funding to districts to adequately equip and support teachers and students with necessary and up-to-date technological resources. (15 AGM, p. 29).* Therefore, VESTA members should not be expecting or requiring students to bring their own devices to complete school lessons or assignments.

## FSA Pilot Reminder

The BCTF has recently pulled out of discussions with the Ministry regarding the redesign of the new FSA. The reason for withdrawing participation stems around the ongoing issue of protecting school and student data collected. A decision at the 2016 BCTF AGM stated that the BCTF participation in these discussions was premised on Ministry addressing the concerns around the use of the data, which they have thus far, failed to do. The BCTF is encouraging all locals to remind members not to participate in the new Pilot FSA as these concerns have not been addressed.