



Stronger Together

2017 February 15

VESTA Weekly

Topics Worth Talking about! Please read and discuss with your colleagues.

Dates to Remember

Meetings at VESTA office 4pm unless otherwise indicated

February 16
Aboriginal Education Committee

February 20
Professional Issues Committee

February 20
Adult Ed Executive Committee

February 23
NDP Phone Bank
4:30-7:30

February 27
VTF General Meeting



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BCTF Winter Representative Assembly Motions

At the BCTF Winter Rep Assembly the following motion was carried:

THAT until a final agreement is reached under LOU #17, members only participate in staffing school organization decisions that are consistent with the class size limits, specialist teacher ratios, and other collective agreement guarantees restored by the Supreme Court of Canada, and that the Federation fully support all members in this action.

This will have an immediate effect in secondary schools as timetabling for next year is beginning soon. For elementary teachers, school staffing conversations are held later in the school year. Teachers should participate in school organization conversations using the restored language.

The following motion came as a late resolution and was also carried at the Winter Rep Assembly:

THAT the BCTF oppose the installation of BC Hydro substations beneath public schools or on school property.

This late resolution came as a result of the recent proposal announced by BC Hydro to build a substation under Emery Barnes Park and Lord Roberts Annex.

February is Anti Poverty Month

February is Anti-Poverty Awareness Month. At the 2015 BCTF AGM, the following resolution was passed:

THAT the BCTF encourage members to recognize February as Child Poverty Awareness Month and take steps as individuals and/or as part of their social justice network.

At yesterday's Staff Rep Assembly Staff Reps received a poster, postcard and button to display to highlight the importance of working towards eliminating poverty in BC. Please see the BCTF website for available teaching resources on the BCTF Anti Poverty webpage.

Pink Shirt Day

Wednesday February 22 is Pink Shirt Day. Pink Shirt Day began in Nova Scotia with two high school students who stood up for another student who was being bullied for wearing pink. Take a stand against bullying and homophobia, and show your support for kindness! #PinkShirtDay

Save The Date

The VESTA Political Action committee will be holding phone banks to call BCTF members living in the ridings that VESTA endorsed. The call outs will take place on the following Thursday evenings: February 23, March 2, 9, 30 from 4:30 to 7:30 pm. You will be provided with some training and a light dinner. If you are able to volunteer some time, please email jill@vesta.ca.