



**Stronger Together**

2017 February 24

# 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 27

VTF General Meeting  
Tupper Auditorium

### February 27

Elections Committee  
1—3pm

### February 28

Professional Issues  
Committee

### February 28

VESTA AGM Delegates  
Meeting, 9am—3pm



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## Black History Month

In December 1995, the Parliament of Canada officially recognized February as Black History Month. The motion was brought forward by the Honourable Jean Augustine, MP for Etobicoke-Lakeshore. She was the first black Canadian woman elected to Parliament and in 2009 she was made a Member of the Order of Canada for her work in education, politics and social justice. The BCTF website has a page dedicated to Black History Month with facts and links to teaching resources. Also, of note, the Vancouver School Board has a Multiculturalism and Anti-Racism Policy which can be found on their website for reference.

## Spring Transfer Timeline

A reminder to teachers that the deadline to submit your vacate card is March 15 to the VSB. Requests to increase/change FTE must be submitted to HR by March 31, and requests for leave of a year or longer beginning September 2017 must also be submitted to HR by March 31.

## Interview Process

Interviews are now underway in many schools due to the job postings from the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) funding. Staff Committees in each school should establish an interviewing committee and should be present during the interview process. However, VESTA has policy that states,

*That VESTA members on an interview committee not ask questions during interviews—2010 Oct 19 Gen.*

Therefore, no teachers should be asking the questions during the interview process.

## Reports and Resolutions Booklets

The BCTF AGM is fast approaching, taking place March 18—21. The Reports and Resolutions booklets are now available in schools. Teachers are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the resolutions and should hold a VESTA meeting to discuss and provide feedback to Staff Reps. At the March 7 General Meeting the membership has an opportunity to provide feedback and direction to the delegates attending the BCTF AGM who will be voting on these resolutions on behalf of the local.

## Important Reminder: VTF General Meeting

VTF General Meeting on Monday February 27 at Tupper 4pm to discuss the Extended Health Benefits Plan. All members are encouraged to attend.