



**Stronger Together**

December 21, 2017

# VESTA Weekly

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

## Dates to Remember

Meetings at the  
VESTA office start at  
4pm unless otherwise

**Executive  
Committee Meeting**  
January 9

**Staff Rep Assembly/  
General Meeting**  
January 16  
Tupper Secondary  
at 4:00pm

**TTOC Committee  
Meeting**  
January 17

**WLC/B Committee  
Meeting**  
January 17



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**The VESTA Office will be closed for the Winter Break from December 23 until January 7, 2018.**

### Remedy

It is our understanding that the board has begun, as of December 20, to send out remedy emails for the month of October to teachers in addition to those from the pilot schools. If you receive an email from the board about the remedy you are entitled to, please respond to the board indicating which of the choices for remedy you would like. Please remember that the choice for the type of remedy is in place for the remainder of the school year during months you are eligible.

### VESTA President Chloe McKnight in the News about Teacher Shortage

Last week Rick Cluff of the CBC interviewed Chloe regarding the VESTA ad that requested teachers who hadn't been hired by the VSB to email us at [appliedanddenied@vesta.ca](mailto:appliedanddenied@vesta.ca). We had decided to collect teachers' stories of the barriers to employment with the VSB in order to provide both specific examples and to identify trends that could be used in discussions with the board and ultimately lead to more hiring. To listen to the interview on the Early Edition go to [http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/teachers-association-seeks-numbers-on-hiring-process-1.4453485?cmp=rss&utm\\_content=buffer20414&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=twitter.com&utm\\_campaign=buffer](http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/teachers-association-seeks-numbers-on-hiring-process-1.4453485?cmp=rss&utm_content=buffer20414&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer).

### Pay Periods

Just a reminder that for continuing teachers during the month of December this year we are paid on December 15 and December 22. There is no payment at the very end of December. Our next cheque after this Friday will be on January 15. Please be sure to plan accordingly.

### Health and Wellness Support

Through its Health and Wellness Program, the BCTF offers support for teachers who are finding it challenging to remain at work or to return to work due to a medical condition or disability. Self-referral is one of the ways you can become involved in this voluntary program. Working with a rehabilitation consultant and your health care practitioners, you make an individual plan that takes into consideration the demands of the teaching profession. The consultants understand these unique demands and assist participants to improve and sustain their health. If you would like more information on the Health and Wellness program follow the link to <https://www.bctf.ca/wellness/> and watch the video overview, email [jill@vesta.ca](mailto:jill@vesta.ca) or call Jill at the Vesta Office at 604-873-8378.

### VTF Building

There will be an important notice coming to your inbox regarding the redevelopment of our VTF building. We are ready to progress to the next phase and the matter will be discussed at the **Tuesday January 16, 2108 VESTA General Meeting**. As with all General Meetings, all members are invited to attend. The meeting will be held at Tupper Secondary in the lunchroom starting at 4:00pm.

### Happy Holidays and Winter Solstice!

December 21 is the shortest day of the year, the Winter Solstice, so enjoy the return of the sun and the lengthening days in the coming weeks! We at the VESTA office hope that your winter break is full of joy and special times with family and friends. Relax, rejuvenate and have a Happy New Year! Wishing you the best for 2018.