



Stronger Together

October 11th, 2018

VESTA Weekly

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

CORRECTION

Collaborative Inquiry Application Final Deadline October 26th

If you are interested in joining with other teachers and pursuing professional development through an inquiry model, the deadline for you and your group to submit an application for financial support of your inquiry question is October 26th for the 2018/19 school year. Guidelines and application forms are available on the VESTA website at <http://vesta.ca/documents/>.

Planning to Vote in Vancouver

The candidate lists for the Vancouver municipal election are very long this year. To help you organize to vote, the City of Vancouver has developed a tool in which you can list your preferred candidates and get an emailed or print copy of the candidate list with your choices indicated to take with you on voting day. The tool also gives you the questions for capital borrowing that will be on the ballot. The tool can be found at <https://vancouver.ca/plan-your-vote/index.aspx>. The list of school board trustees that VESTA has endorsed are available on our website at <http://vesta.ca/>. Scroll down to the green list. We also encourage you to vote for the progressive slate for mayor, councillors, and parks board, endorsed by the Vancouver and District Labour Council now found on their front page at <http://www.vancouverlabour.ca/>.

Polls are open now. Please get out and vote as soon as you can!

What is Proportional Representation and why do we need a change?

The BCTF has taken a position to advocate for electoral change away from the "First Past the Post" model BC currently uses. Proportional Representation countries outperform First Past the Post countries on:

- Democratic measures
- Quality of life
- Voter turnout, especially among youth
- Diversity among elected representatives
- Fewer false majorities
- Lower levels of inequality: Better fiscal, environmental and social policy

Ballots will be mailed to registered voters starting October 22nd and need to be received by Elections BC by November 30th to be counted. Questions about Proportional Representation? Here are some excellent places to find answers!

<https://elections.bc.ca/referendum/voting-systems/voting-systems/>.

<https://www.policyalternatives.ca/newsroom/updates/debunking-myths-about-proportional-representation>.

<http://behindthenumbers.ca/2016/10/11/proportional-representation-likely-produce-better-public-policy/>.

<https://www.policynote.ca/how-electoral-reform-enhances-local-representation/>

Dates to Remember

Meetings at the VESTA office start at 4pm unless

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

**Communications
Committee Meeting**
October 17th

**TTOC Committee
Meeting**
October 18th

**Health & Safety
Committee Meeting**
October 22nd

**Executive Committee
Meeting**
October 23rd



Chloë McKnight
President
chloe@vesta.ca

Jill Barclay
1st Vice President
jill@vesta.ca

Joanne Sutherland
2nd Vice President
joanne@vesta.ca

Allison Jambor
3rd Vice President
allison@vesta.ca

Jody Polukoshko
4th Vice President
jody@vesta.ca

Hollie Williams
AE Sublocal President
hollie@vesta.ca

Office: 604-873-8378
Fax: 604-873-2652
www.vesta.ca

VESTA

The Vancouver Elementary School Teachers' Association is the union representing elementary teachers and adult educators working in public schools in Vancouver.