



**Stronger Together**

October 18th, 2018

# VESTA Weekly

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

## Get Out and Vote and Get the Vote Out!

Voting day is this Saturday, October 20th, and hopefully you have already voted or you have your plan to vote the VDLC slate on Saturday. If you have a bit of time on Saturday or before then, the Vancouver and District Labour Council could use your help. Contact the VDLC at [elxnvdlc@gmail.com](mailto:elxnvdlc@gmail.com). You don't need to go door knocking if that is not in your comfort zone. There are many ways to help.

## Compassionate Care Leave

Compassionate care leave is covered in our Collective Agreement under Article G.2. and works in conjunction with Part 6 of the BC Employment Standards Act. It is funded through Employment Insurance with a top-up from the VSB, much like maternity benefits. For information on eligibility please visit <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/ei/caregiving.html>. Although the E.I. benefits are available for up to 26 weeks, the supplemental benefits (top up) are available for a maximum 8 weeks. Both E.I. and the Board will require medical information that demonstrates that the family member has "a significant risk of death within 26 weeks."

## Mentor and Mentee Meetings

The District Mentoring Support Teachers are planning two more sessions, one for Early Career Teachers (ECTs) this coming Wednesday, October 24 and another for teachers interested in becoming mentors on Monday, October 29th. Both sessions will be held at Templeton starting at 3:45. ECTs should register for the October 24th session on the VSB Pro-D Reg site at [prod.vsb.bc.ca](http://prod.vsb.bc.ca). For more information about either of these sessions please contact [DMST@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:DMST@vsb.bc.ca).

## Update Your Information

If you move, change your email address, change your phone number or change other contact information, it is very important to ensure that **VESTA** has your most recent information. In addition, please ensure that you update your information with the **BCTF**, the **VSB** and the **TRB** as one or all of the groups may be trying to contact you with important information concerning your employment.

In addition, please update your assignment information on SFE so that TTOCs can prepare for the appropriate assignment when called.

## Dates to Remember

Meetings at the VESTA office start at 4pm unless

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

**Executive Committee Meeting**  
October 23rd

**Professional Issues Committee Meeting**  
October 24



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**VESTA**

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