



Stronger Together

October 26th, 2018

VESTA Weekly

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

New Trustees Elected!

Congratulations to the nine newly elected VSB school trustees; Janet Fraser, Estrellita Gonzalez, Jennifer Reddy, Oliver Hanson, Fraser Ballantyne, Carmen Cho, Lois Chan-Pedley, Barb Parrot and Allan Wong! The Inaugural Board Meeting where the new trustees are sworn in will be taking place at the VBE on November 5th at 7pm. This Board of Trustees will be with us for the next 4 years. We are especially excited to have former president of VESTA and Lifetime Member of the BCTF, Barb Parrot, on the Board.

Proportional Representation (Pro Rep) Models Compared

Having trouble getting your head around the models for Pro Rep? Seth Klein of the Canadian Center for Policy Alternatives has done a lot of work on the Pro Rep models and he explains his plans for ranking of the models in the article in *Polycynote* found at <https://www.policynote.ca/getting-to-prop-rep-how-i-plan-to-rank-the-options/>. Also, check out this video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GffjXjodeOY&feature=youtu.be> that gives you a simplified way to understand the three proposed models for Proportional Representation in BC. The BCTF passed a motion at the 2018 Winter Representative Assembly "That the federation encourage locals and members to participate in the consultation process and to advocate for a change to BC's current "first past the post" provincial election model." Vote for change!

International Solidarity: Columbian Strike Organizers Speak

On Monday October 29th Front Lines, a coalition of Canadian labour organizations including CoDev Canada, will be hosting speakers from Columbia's Buenaventura Strike Committee at Mount Pleasant Neighborhood House starting at 6:30pm. CoDev explains,

In the past 2 decades, the Colombian port of Buenaventura faced mass displacement, roll-backs of worker's rights, education cuts, the elimination of public healthcare, and skyrocketing violence as the port rapidly expanded under "free" trade, the state retreated and drug gangs and right-wing paramilitary forces fought for control of lucrative smuggling and drug export operations. On May 16, 2017, hundreds of thousands of Buenaventura residents launched a general civic strike against displacement, cutbacks and violence. After holding firm for three weeks, the Buenaventura strike committee reached an agreement with the Colombian government on a program to resolve the crisis. Strike organizers will speak at the Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House at 6:30 PM on Monday, October 29 to share their experiences of organizing the huge labour community alliance that ensured the success of the strike.

For more information about this event or about CoDev check their website at codev.org or call them at 604-708-1495.

Dates to Remember

Meetings at the VESTA office start at 4pm unless

WLC/B Meeting
October 30, 2018

Adult Ed EC Meeting
November 5
4 pm

Retirement Workshop 1
November 6
3-6 pm

Communications Committee Meeting
November 8
4-6 pm



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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.