



**Stronger Together**

# VESTA Weekly

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

May 17, 2019

## VESTA Annual General Meeting on Tuesday

VESTA's Annual General Meeting is next week on Tuesday May 21 at VanDusen Gardens in the Visitor Center starting at 4 pm. Come and vote to elect the 2019/20 Executive Committee! BCTF President Glen Hansman will be attending as a guest speaker. There are also a number of motions to amend our by-laws. Please see the invitation sent to schools and staff reps for details. Help to shape the future of our local with your votes. Appies and beverages will be served. The Visitor Center is located at 5251 Oak Street. There is plenty of free parking and the location is accessible by transit.

## Fridays for Future

Last week we informed you that VESTA passed a motion in support of the Fridays for Future movement to push for climate change action. There have since been some concerns regarding student safety considering the young age of those in our care. We support any parents who wish to pull their children from school to attend rallies, but we are not suggesting that students leave the school grounds unattended during school hours. The website for Fridays for Future can be found at <https://www.fridaysforfuture.org/>. We hope that teachers will support students wishing to show their engagement in the movement in a variety of ways.

## Teacher Concerns in the News

As bargaining continues and we get closer to the expiry of our current Collective Agreement we are seeing more of our concerns in the news. Yesterday former VSB Trustee, Patti Bacchus came out with an excellent article highlighting teacher concerns with the concessions being proposed by BCPSEA. The article can be found at <https://www.straight.com/news/1241651/patti-bacchus-bctf-contract-talks-war-two-words>. In a Vancouver Sun article published today <https://vancouversun.com/news/local-news/class-sizes-back-on-the-table-as-teacher-talks-at-a-standstill> Allan Chell of BCPSEA claims there are no concessions on the table, but goes on to admit that changes would result in larger class sizes in some districts; Vancouver is one of the "some."

## Dates to Remember

Meetings at the VESTA office start at 4pm unless otherwise indicated

**VESTA AGM**  
VanDusen Botanical Garden – Peggy Gunn Woodland Hall A & B  
5251 Oak St  
May 21

**TTOC Committee Meeting & EI Workshop**  
May 23

**Social Justice & Solidarity Committee Meeting**  
May 23



Chloë McKnight  
President  
[chloe@vesta.ca](mailto:chloe@vesta.ca)

Jill Barclay  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
[jill@vesta.ca](mailto:jill@vesta.ca)

Joanne Sutherland  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President  
[joanne@vesta.ca](mailto:joanne@vesta.ca)

Allison Jambor  
3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President  
[allison@vesta.ca](mailto:allison@vesta.ca)

Darren Tereposky  
4<sup>th</sup> Vice President  
[darren@vesta.ca](mailto:darren@vesta.ca)

Hollie Williams  
AE Sublocal President  
[hollie@vesta.ca](mailto:hollie@vesta.ca)

Office: 604-873-8378  
Fax: 604-873-2652  
[www.vesta.ca](http://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.*