

VANCOUVER TEACHERS' FEDERATION

CONSTITUTION

1. **NAME**

This organization shall be known as the "VANCOUVER TEACHERS' FEDERATION" (VTF).

2. **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the VTF is:

- (a) To represent the Federation's members and to regulate relations with their employer. The Vancouver School Board, through collective bargaining of terms and conditions of employment

BYLAWS

I. **MEMBERSHIP**

1. Persons who:

- (a) Are active members of the British Columbia Teachers' Federation (BCTF), and
- (b) Are active members of either the Vancouver Elementary School Teachers' Association (VESTA) or the Vancouver Secondary Teachers' Association (VSTA), (the "Local Associations") and
- (c) Have paid an initiation fee of \$1.00 to the VTF,

shall be eligible for active membership in the VTF and entitled to vote and hold office in the VTF.

II. **OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

(a) The officers of this Federation are as follows:

- (i) Co-President (Elementary), elected by VTF members who are members of VESTA at a General Meeting of those members.

- (ii) Co-President (Secondary), elected by VTF members who are members of VSTA at a General Meeting of those members.
- (iii) Co-Secretary-Treasurer (Elementary) elected by VTF members who are members of VESTA at a General Meeting of those members.
- (iv) Co-Secretary-Treasurer (Secondary), elected by VTF members who are members of VSTA at a General Meeting of those members.
- (v) First Vice-President (Elementary), elected by VTF members who are members of VESTA at a General Meeting of those members.
- (vi) Second Vice-President (Elementary), elected by VTF members who are members of VESTA at a General Meeting of those members.
- (vii) Two Vice-Presidents (Secondary), elected by VTF members who are members of VSTA at a General Meeting of those members.
- (viii) Local Association Representatives (Elementary), (LAR's (Elementary)) in equal numbers to LAR's as allowed for VESTA from time to time by BCTF policy, elected by VTF members who are members of VESTA at a General Meeting of those members.
- (ix) Local Association Representatives (Secondary), (LAR's (Secondary)) in equal numbers to LAR's as allowed for VSTA from time to time by BCTF policy, elected by VTF members who are members of VSTA at a General Meeting of those members.
- (x) Immediate Past Co-President (Elementary).
- (xi) Immediate Past Co-President (Secondary), in the event that the Past President of VSTA holds office in a given year.
- (xii) Five Standing Committee Chairpersons (Elementary) elected by VTF members who are members of VESTA at a General Meeting of those members, the Standing Committees being the Bargaining Committee, Communications Committee, Professional Development Committee, Status of Women Committee and Working and Learning Conditions Committee.
- (xiii) Three Standing Committee Chairpersons (Secondary) elected by VTF members who are members of VSTA at a General Meeting of those members, the Standing Committees being the Bargaining Committee, Professional Development Committee and Working and Learning Conditions Committee.

- (xiv) Four Members at Large (Elementary) elected by VTF members who are members of VESTA at a General Meeting of those members.
 - (xv) Six Members at Large (Secondary) elected by BTF members who are members of VSTA at a General Meeting of those members, but in the event that no Immediate Past Co-President (Secondary) hold office in a given year, seven Members at Large (Secondary) shall be eligible for election.
- (b) Elections for the officers and Executive Committee of the VTF shall take place at the same time and pursuant to the same procedures as govern the elections for the equivalent positions in the Local Associations.
- (c) Any person running for office in a Local Association shall run for the equivalent office in the VTF as follows:
- (i) VESTA President—VTF Co-President (Elementary).
 - (ii) VSTA President—VTF Co-President (Secondary).
 - (iii) VESTA Secretary-Treasurer—VTF Co-Secretary-Treasurer (Elementary).
 - (iv) VSTA Secretary—VTF Co-Secretary-Treasurer (Secondary).
 - (v) VESTA First Vice-President—VTF First Vice-President (Elementary).
 - (vi) VSTA Vice-President—VTF Second Vice-President (Elementary).
 - (vii) VESTA Second Vice-President—VTF Second Vice-President (Elementary).
 - (viii) VESTA LAR—VTF LAR (Elementary).
 - (ix) VSTA LAR—VTF LAR (Secondary).
 - (x) Standing Committee Chairperson (Elementary)
 - (a) VESTA Bargaining Committee Chairperson—VTF Bargaining Committee Chairperson (Elementary).
 - (b) VESTA Communications Committee Chairperson—VTF Communications Committee Chairperson (Elementary).
 - (c) VESTA Professional Development Committee Chairperson—VTF Professional Development Committee Chairperson (Elementary).

- (d) VESTA Status of Women Committee Chairperson—VTF Status of Women Committee Chairperson (Elementary).
- (e) VESTA Working and Learning Conditions Committee Chairperson—VTF Working and Learning Conditions Committee Chairperson (Elementary).
- (xi) Standing Committee Chairpersons (Secondary)
 - (a) VSTA Bargaining Committee Chairperson—VTF Bargaining Committee Chairperson (Secondary).
 - (b) VSTA Professional Development Committee Chairperson—VTF Professional Development Committee Chairperson (Secondary).
 - (c) VSTA Working and Learning Conditions Committee Chairperson—VTF Working and Learning Conditions Committee Chairperson (Secondary).
- (xii) VESTA Member at Large—VTF Member at Large (Elementary).
- (xiii) VSTA Member at Large—VTF Member at Large (Secondary).
- (d) No person may run for office in the VTF unless that person also runs for the equivalent office of the Local Association. One vote shall be taken for both the Local Association office and the equivalent VTF office. The person elected shall hold both offices for the same term.
- (e) The officers shall constitute the Executive.
- (f) The officers shall have the power to appoint and constitute any committee necessary for bargaining.
- (g) The Co-Secretary-Treasurers (Elementary and Secondary) shall, subject to the direction of the Executive Committee, jointly have the care and custody of all the financial affairs of the VTF.

III. MEETINGS

- (i) General Meetings may be called at the discretion of the Co-Presidents of the VTF, or the Executive Committee, or by petition of 10% of the membership of the VTF.
- (ii) A quorum for a general meeting shall consist of 70 VTF members, but in the event that a General Meeting fails through lack of quorum to accomplish the business on the Agenda, the meeting shall recess for 10 minutes, and the members present following the recess shall constitute quorum.

- (iii) Emergency General Meetings may be called on 48 hours' notice and Regular General Meetings may be called on 7 calendar days' notice. Notice in the form of a bulletin sent to the members' places of employment shall constitute sufficient notice of the calling of General Meetings.
- (iv) Executive Committee Meetings may be called at the discretion of the Co-Presidents of the VTF, or by petition of 40% of the members of the Executive Committee.
- (v) A quorum shall exist at a meeting of the Executive Committee when at least five officers who are members of VSTA and five officers who are members of VESTA are present.
- (vi) The BCTF Simplified Rules of Order shall govern the conduct of all meetings.

IV. AMENDMENT OF CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

Amendments of the Constitution and Bylaws of the VTF may be made at a General Meeting provided 14 calendar days' notice is given of the amendments and a two-thirds majority of the members voting at the meeting approve each amendment.

V. FEES AND LEVIES

1. The fees and levies of the VTF shall be, in addition to an initiation fee of \$1.00,

- (a) in respect of VTF members who are members of VSTA, the fees and levies established pursuant to the VSTA constitution and by-laws;
- (b) in respect of VTF members who are members of VESTA, the fees and levies established pursuant to the VESTA constitution and by-laws;

inclusive of fees and levies established by the BCTF according to its constitution and by-laws.

2. VTF shall forward, or shall cause to be forwarded through dues check-off provisions in a collective agreement,

- (a) in respect of VTF members who are VESTA members, that portion of the VTF fees and levies established pursuant to the VESTA constitution and by-laws, directly to VESTA;
- (b) in respect of VTF members who are VSTA members, that portion of the VTF fees and levies established pursuant to the VSTA constitution and by-laws, directly to VSTA;
- (c) in respect of all members, that portion of the fees and levies established pursuant to the BCTF constitution and by-laws, directly to the BCTF.

VI. CONSISTENCY OF CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

No provision in this Constitution and Bylaws shall be inconsistent with the Constitution and Bylaws of the BCTF, VESTA or VSTA.

Carried at Inaugural VTF General Meeting—1987 November 24