



Vancouver Elementary School Teachers' Association

3 April 2020

Dear TTOCs,

I know this has been a difficult few weeks for everyone. With information coming from all directions and changes happening daily, we are all trying to cope and figure out how we move forward. While we don't have all the answers, discussions are happening at both the local and provincial levels regarding TTOC opportunities. Both VESTA and the BCTF will be providing updates, so please ensure that you are receiving those communications. Please follow the links to ensure your information is up-to-date on both websites: www.vesta.ca; www.bctf.ca.

The advice from the BCTF is that TTOCs apply for Employment Insurance Benefits or the new Canada Emergency Response Benefit.

The BCTF has a few documents that may be helpful to navigate this process. One specific to our current situation, <https://bctf.ca/uploadedFiles/Public/TTOC/COVID-19AndEIclaims.pdf>; and one general E.I. information page, <https://bctf.ca/TeachersOnCall.aspx?id=4754>. Hopefully these will help you access some financial support at this time.

There is also the Starling Minds resource <https://app.starlingminds.com/registration/bctf> available through the BCTF that any teacher can access for support. For more information about the program please follow this link: <https://bctf.ca/uploadedFiles/Public/SalaryBenefits/Rehab/StarlingMindsFAQs.pdf>

Thank you for your patience and understanding, I know it is hard with so many uncertainties. I appreciate your questions and concerns. Please continue to share them with me as it helps to advocate for TTOC rights, not only in Vancouver, but also across the province.

In solidarity,

Vanessa Lefebvre
TTOC Chair
Vancouver Elementary Teachers' Association

www.vesta.ca