



WEST VANCOUVER Teachers' Association

Vol. 44, no 9 June 2022

Notes from your President – *Spencer Capier*

Dear Colleagues,

Not only is there light at the end of the tunnel, but I'm also pretty sure I can see blue sky, fluffy clouds, and even a nice sandy beach! In other words, it's the end of June and we made it - mostly intact!

Summer break is a definite upside to our difficult and stressful work. I hope you all take full advantage of it this year, because let's face it, it's been a long couple of COVID years. Though many of you will have summer employment in July and August, I hope you too get time to rest and recharge.

The WVTA office is undergoing a renovation over the summer. The place is starting to fill with boxes as we prepare to move our furniture and files into storage for two months. Because of the upheaval we will only be available by cell phone or email as the contractor moves in starting the 27th of June. As usual, we continue our work well into July so don't hesitate to reach out to us if you have any questions or issues.

On behalf of Stephen, Karen, myself, your WVTA executive and School Staff Representatives, I wish you all a well-deserved Summer Break!
Sincerely, Spencer

➤ **Provincial Bargaining Update**

Six days remaining at the table before June 30

At the BCTF Bargaining Conference—the body that sets the broad objectives and priorities for provincial negotiations—the Federation set a goal to reach an agreement-in-committee for a new collective agreement by June 30. At this point,

such an agreement is unlikely given the amount of time left before June 30. The BCTF will try to book some bargaining dates with the employer during the summer, and it is likely that negotiations will continue into the next school year.

While negotiations have seen a positive tone, critical roadblocks have emerged that are slowing progress down. In particular, the employer has come to the table with insufficient funding to address any of our working conditions and has not expressed any serious interest in our proposals that would address key issues like class size, class composition, and staffing ratios.

In addition, the employer's salary proposal E15, which you can [read here](#), doesn't address inflation and the increasing cost of living. Other public sector unions are facing similar salary proposals, and the BC General Employees' Union (BCGEU) will be announcing the results of their strike vote next week. A primary issue for them is the government's position on salary.

It has become abundantly clear that member engagement, public pressure, and working in solidarity with other unions will be necessary to increase funding and get a deal that we can recommend to the membership. The BCTF will be ramping up member engagement and education strategies to ensure this happens. This will include a special Representative Assembly in August for Local Representatives and Local Presidents.

Two new items have reached an agreement

While progress on the large-cost items like salary and workload have not progressed, there are items that the two sides have made an agreement on. View them in the [agreed items](#) section of the

proposals. In particular, two no-cost items have been agreed to that address important gains for members toward employment equity and truth and reconciliation.



WVTA General Meeting
Thursday, September 22, 2022

3:45 pm, Kay Meek Theatre
Wine & Cheese Social following

Thanks to the Many Who Serve their Union

Many WVTA members contribute to their union by serving as Staff Reps, ProD Reps, or members of committees. We thank those who, despite the demands of teaching and home-life, stepped forward this past year to serve their Association and support their fellow teachers in their schools!

Executive Committee: *Spencer Capier* (president), *Stephen Price* (VP), *Jane Standfield* (secretary/treasurer), *Camille Parente*, *Jessica Selzer*, *Sylvie Sturgess* & *Dianne Wanless* (members-at-large), *Kimberley Jung* (ProD chair), *Stephen Price* (Bargaining Chair), *Aaron Anthony* (Social Justice rep), *Richard Warrington* (TTOC rep), and *Rose Murray* & *Tracy Smith* (Health & Safety Reps).

Staff Reps: *Heather Johnston* (BICS), *Jade Constantineau* & *Suzanne Seward* (CA), *Renelle Allard* (CE), *Shannon Clarke* & *Sue Anne Poh* (CH), *Andrea Anderson* & *Krista Koke* (CP), *Erica Hardern* (EH), *Lise Harquail* (GE), *Tara Nesbitt* & *Jennifer Stephenson* (HO), *Geoff Hamelin* (IP), *Sonia Southam* (LB), *Scott Kittredge*, *Emily Lacock* & *Megan Roger* (PJ), *Dianne Wanless* (RI), *Moriah Gibli* (WB), *Karen Foster* & *Kevin Thorpe* (WE), *Michelle Ahoy*, *Aaron Anthony* & *Rebecca Peterson* (RR), *David Gibson* (SE), *Greg Cormier*, *Adrienne Gruber* & *Brain Smith* (WVSS), *Kristy Olson* & *Chantalle Wigley* (SSS), *Richard Warrington* (TTOCs)

Professional Development Committee Reps: *Kimberley Jung* (Chair), *Suzie Harrington* & *Tess McDonald* (BICS), *Micha Prins* (CA), *Stephanie Davenport* & *Valerie Viens* (CE), *Roland Samson* (CH) *Andrea Anderson* (CP), *Meghan Robertson* (GE), *Doni Gratton* (HO), *Laura Fee* (IP), *Nina Parr* (PJ), *Leanne Pruner* (RI), *Morikke Espenhain* & *Kevin Darling* (WB), *Parnaz Kashani* & *Meghan Lesieur* (RR), *Sarah Cormier* (WVSS),

Health & Safety Committee: *Rose Murray* (HO) & *Tracy Smith* (RR)

School staffs are asked to be thinking ahead about selecting their Staff & ProD Reps for the coming 2022/23 school year. To plan for Union Rep Training sessions, we will need the names and member counts as early as possible in September. Rep names can be forwarded to the WVTA office by phone, (604) 926-1617, or by email to info@wvta.ca.

WVTA Executive 2022-2023

These members, apart from **Spencer Capier** (President) and **Stephen Price** (VP), were elected at the WVTA AGM on May 19th to fill the Executive Committee positions for the 2022-2023 school year. Spencer and Stephen were both re-elected to their positions in a one member-one vote process prior to the AGM, and those at the AGM were elected by online voting or by acclamation. **Thank you to all these individuals for agreeing to put their names forward to serve their union.**

President	Spencer Capier
Vice President	Stephen Price (EH)
Secretary/Treasurer	Jane Standfield (WB)
Local Reps to BCTF	Jane Standfield (RV) Chantalle Wigley (SSS)
Alt. Local Rep	Aaron Anthony (RR)
Members-at-Large	Susan Carsky (CA/EH) David Gibson (SE) Jessica Selzer (RR) Dianne Wanless (RV)
ProD Chair	Kimberley Jung (RR)
Social Justice Rep	Esther Cheng (CA)
TTOC Rep	Richard Warrington
Health & Safety Reps	Rose Murray (HO) Matt Trask (RR)



WVTA SCHOLARSHIPS

The application form for the **WVTA Scholarship Awards** is available from the WVTA office and at the WVTA web site: www.wvta.ca > Teacher Resources > *Forms for Download*. To be eligible, the June 2022 graduate must be a child or legal ward of an active WVTA member or of a retired member. Two scholarships of \$1000 will be awarded. The deadline for application is August 31, 2022.



Congratulations
WVTA 2021/2022
Retirees!

Thank you to our retiring colleagues for their years of good work for their students. We wish them great happiness in their retirement pursuits!

Marisa Battilana (Rockridge)
Laura Berardinucci (Gleneagles)
Joan Buchanan (Ridgeview)
Leslie Buchanan (WVSS)
Sandra Dawson (Eagle Harbour/on leave)
Keltie Faynor (on leave)
Tracy James (WVSS)
Andrea Kump (Rockridge)
Marie McLauchlan (Chartwell)
Marla McLellan (Rockridge)
Shelley Philips (Hollyburn)
Karen Schulz (WVSS)

ProD Opportunities:

With summer upon us, WVTA members may be considering attending a Professional Development course or workshop. If you attend a ProD event during the summer and did not make application prior to the summer, or received only partial coverage of the costs, you may apply for ProD funding from next school year's fund. ProD application forms and receipts for summer ProD should be submitted to the WVTA office as early as possible in September, preferably by September 30, 2022. No applications are processed during the summer.

The next Provincial PSA Day is next October 21st. Many of the PSA conferences being offered will soon be previewed on the BCTF website.



Provincial Intermediate and Middle Years Teachers' Fall Conference 2022 October 21, 2022 North Delta Secondary & Online

Featuring Dr. Gordon Neufeld plus over 70 presenters with 100 in-person workshops and 60 online workshops in all subject areas for grades 4-9 teachers and EAs.

Early bird registration ends September 30th.
In-Person - \$160 until Sept. 30th; \$195 Oct. 1 and later.
Online - \$75 until Sept. 30th, \$100 Oct. 1 and later.
This conference is limited in attendees and usually sells out, so register early.

For more information, go to www.mypita.ca or you can [Register now.](#)

**The WVTA office is closed for much of the summer.
Your President, Spencer Capier can be reached for
emergencies at president@wvta.ca.**

Have a Happy, Healthy Summer Break!

