



WEST VANCOUVER Teachers' Association

Vol. 45, no 8 June 2023

Notes from your President – *Spencer Capier*

Hello Colleagues,

I promised myself I would make no allusions to it “being June already,” “we’re on the home stretch,” or “there is light at the end of the tunnel.” Have I already done so by saying I won’t? You decide.

It’s been a year of change, a year of returning to “normal”, and a year of enduring the aftershocks of a global pandemic. We’ve seen those aftershocks in our classrooms and in our staff rooms. Despite these things teachers have continued to care for their students, each other, and for the work of public education. I commend you all for your professionalism this year.

I urge you to take time this summer for yourself. Our jobs are relentless for ten months of the year. Read a book for pleasure, one that you have no intention of buying a whole class set. Forget where you put your daybook. For a few weeks, every day should be a Saturday. You’ve earned it.

If you have a summer job lined up, terrific. A change is as good as a rest, some would say. Teaching Summer School is great occupation of your time, but make sure you get time just for yourself in August.

All that to say: Wow! Look at that! It’s June already! I can see the light at the end of the tunnel, and we are definitely on the home stretch! Well done everyone!

➤ **A few quick notes:**

- If you are on a term contract and have **not** received an evaluation from your administrator, please let us know.

- Advice for Term Teachers: Apply for the non-ideal posting. You can always apply for another posting you prefer later in the summer, and you will still be an internal applicant. Once the year starts, you’re locked in to a position and can’t change, but before that, apply early and often.
- The BCTF recently reached an agreement with the employer to further improve Provincial Extended Health Benefits Plan based on the priorities passed at the Bargaining Conference.

Effective July 1, 2023: HPV vaccine covered; Vision care limit increased to \$600, and Naturopath limit increased to \$1000.

Effective July 1, 2024: Shingles vaccines will be covered; Vision care limit will be increased to \$650 and Counselling services limit to \$1500.

Have a wonderful summer!

In Solidarity, Spencer



WVTA General Meeting
Thursday, September 21, 2023

3:45 pm, Kay Meek Centre
Studio 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), **Susan Carsky**, **David Gibson**, **Jessica Selzer** & **Dianne Wanless** (Members-at-large), **Jane Standfield** & **Chantalle Wigley** (Local Reps to BCTF), **Aaron Anthony** (Alternate LR), **Adrienne Gruber** (ProD chair), **Stephen Price** (Bargaining Chair), **Esther Cheng** (Social Justice rep), **Richard Warrington** (TTOC rep), and **Rose Murray** & **Matt Trask** (Health & Safety Reps).

Staff Reps: **Heather Johnston** (BICS), **Suzanne Seward** (CA), **Renelle Allard** (CE), **Roland Samson** (CH), **Krista Koke** & **Jenn Ross** (CP), **Stephen Price** (EH), **Lise Harquail** (GE), **Tara Nesbitt** & **Jennifer Stephenson** (HO), **Geoff Hamelin** (IP), **Sonia Southam** (LB), **Scott Kittredge** (PJ), **Dianne Wanless** (RI), **Moriah Gibli** (WB), **Karen Foster** & **Kevin Thorpe** (WE), **Aaron Anthony**, **Rebecca Peterson** & **Donna Rinfret** (RR), **Hugh Wilson** & **Lara Winstone** (SE), **Nicola Colhoun**, **Rozhin Emadi** & **Brian Smith** (WVSS), **Kristy Olson** (IE), **Richard Warrington** (TTOCs)

Professional Development Committee Reps: **Adrienne Gruber** (Chair), **Samantha Adkins** & **Andrea Layzell** (BICS), **Micha Prins** & **Andrea Layzell** (CA), **Stephanie Davenport** (CE), **Roland Samson** (CH) **Andrea Anderson** (CP), **Meghan Robertson** (GE), **Doni Gratton** (HO), **Laura Fee** (IP), **Nina Parr** (PJ), **Maria Dawson** (RI), **Morikke Espenhain** & **Claudia Ng** (WB), **Lisa Lee** & **Kevin Thorpe** (WE), **Aaron Anthony**, **Dave Dickinson**, **Parnaz Kashani**, **Scott Lawson** & **Meghan Lesieur** (RR), **Sarah Cormier** (WVSS), **Tara Rodas** (IE)

Health & Safety Committee: **Rose Murray** (HO) & **Matt Trask** (RR)

School staffs are asked to be thinking ahead about selecting their Staff & ProD Reps for the upcoming 2023/24 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 2023-2024

These members, apart from **Spencer Capier** (President) and **Chantalle Wigley** (VP), were elected at the WVTA AGM on May 18th to fill the Executive Committee positions for the 2023-2024 school year. Spencer and Chantalle were both elected to their positions by acclamation prior to the AGM, and those positions elected at the AGM were by online voting or by acclamation. **Thank you to all the individuals who agreed to put their names forward to serve their union.**

President	Spencer Capier	
Vice President	Chantalle Wigley	(IE)
Secretary/Treasurer	Jane Standfield	(WB)
Local Reps to BCTF	Jane Standfield	(WB)
	Aaron Anthony	(RR)
Alt. Local Rep	Susan Carsky	(EH/CA)
Members-at-Large	David Gibson	(SE)
	Stephen Price	(EH)
	Jessica Selzer	(RR)
	Sylvie Sturgess	(PJ)
ProD Chair	Adrienne Gruber	(WVSS)
Social Justice Rep	Rozhin Emadi	(WVSS)
TTOC Rep	Richard Warrington	
Health & Safety Reps	Roland Samson	(HO)

Deadline for ProD Funding Applications 2022-23

Applications must be received at the WVTA Office **by June 15th** to qualify for funding for the current school year.

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, by September 30, 2023, latest. No applications are processed during the summer.

The next Provincial PSA Day is next October 20th. Many of the PSA conferences being offered will soon be previewed on the BCTF website.



**Provincial Intermediate and Middle Years
Teachers' Fall Conference 2023**
October 20, 2023
North Delta Secondary & Online

Featuring **Dr. Jody Carrington** plus over 70 presenters with 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 - \$130 until Sept. 30th; \$170 Oct. 1 and later.
Online - \$100 until Sept. 30th, \$140 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.](#)



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 2023 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, 2023.



Congratulations
WVTA Retirees!

Thank you to all our retiring colleagues, including those preferring to not be listed, for their years of good work for their students. We wish them great happiness in their retirement pursuits!

Kathy Finch	(WVSS)
Bill Keary	(WVSS)
Kevin Thorpe	(Westcot)
Beth Turner	(Inglewood)

**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!

