



WEST VANCOUVER Teachers' Association

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Notes from the President – *Spencer Capier*

Colleagues,

As November hurtles towards December and the prospect of a break, I hope this November newsletter finds you well. I want to talk with you about three issues this month. The first issue is the challenges we've been hearing about regarding the New Reporting Order. The second is TTOC booking. Lastly I'll say a few words about class composition and non-enrolling ratios.

➤ **New Report Order:**

We've seen a range of responses to the New Reporting Order (NRO). Some teachers feel like it is considerably more work, others that it feels like *different* work but not necessarily *more* work.

My sense is that how one responds to the NRO depends on how it was presented by Admin at your school. To be fair, districts were not given a lot of guidance and not a lot of time to roll out this new program.

Our takeaway after hearing from district staff and from policy experts at the BCTF is that there are lots of things one *can* do in the NRO, but it doesn't mean one *has* to.

My advice is to keep it simple, be mindful of what ministry [guidelines](#) are and if you get the sense your admin wants your school to go far beyond ministry or district expectation, have that conversation in staff committee.

➤ **TTOC Callouts:**

The WVTA is seeing many cases of TTOC callouts that are shorter than the actual workload of the absent teacher. If you're a classroom teacher, please remember to book a TTOC for your prep as well as

class time. Prep is instructional time and you should include it in your booking, unless you intend to be at school during your prep.

For example, if you have a prep last block and the TTOC teaches the first three blocks, book a full day. If you have a prep first block and the TTOC teaches the last three blocks, book a full day. If you don't have a class or a prep in the afternoon but teach the three blocks before lunch, that's a .75 callout for a TTOC, not a .5.

TTOCs never know how much work they will get in a month, so it's important to record absences accurately.

➤ **Class Size and Composition:**

Finally, I want to let you know your union is reviewing the size and composition of every classroom in the district, as well as the workload of non-enrolling teachers. We've struck a committee of Staff Reps who will meet for a day to do this work in the coming weeks. We do this work annually, once we've received the 1701 forms the district submits to the Ministry. 1701s drive funding to the district. Any concerns the committee discerns will be brought to the employer. We have heard from your Staff Reps about teachers feeling overwhelmed and we will address those concerns with good data.

It's November, it's dark early in the day, but the Winter Break is just around the corner...

In solidarity, Spencer



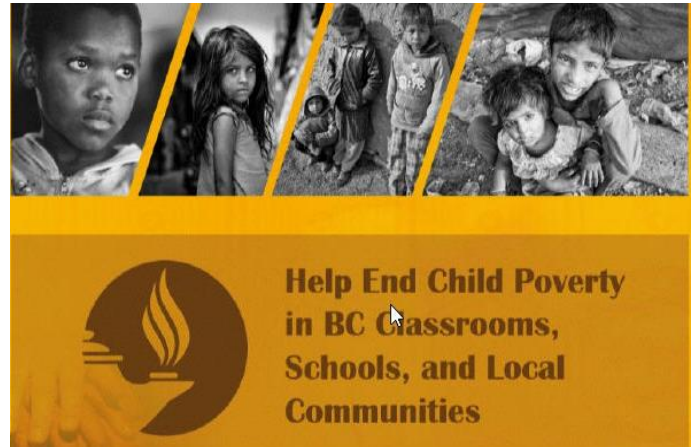
BCTF Peer Support Service (PSS)

What is Peer Support Service? BCTF Peer Support Service (PSS) is designed to provide support to teachers who are on plans of assistance (i.e., have received a less-than-satisfactory teacher evaluation), prior to a teacher evaluation where concerns about teaching competence have been raised, or to teachers who request assistance with their teaching (i.e. are self-referring).

Who will provide the service? The peer support will be provided by teachers, known as BCTF peer support consultants, who have an extensive background in teaching, and training in planning, consultation, classroom observation, analysis, and feedback skills. Peer consultants will offer support in a collaborative and non-judgmental environment. Peer Support Service consultants support the growth of a teacher's professional practice, through a non-evaluative, peer coaching model.

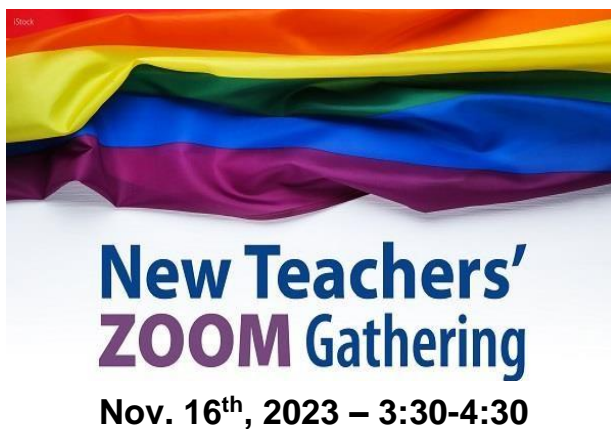
How can a member access the service? Any active member who desires help with their teaching, or who is on a plan of assistance, may request PSS by contacting their local president, who will direct the request to the BCTF Peer Support Service coordinator. Alternatively, a member may call the PSS program coordinator directly for information and request the forms to begin the process for assistance.

This gathering is open to all BCTF member with five years of fewer of teaching experience, and teacher candidates are also invited to attend. It will be an open discussion focused on building understanding an improving practices for inclusive classroom environments.



November is Anti-Poverty Month

The Bctf has named November as Anti-poverty Month. As teachers, you know the firsthand effects of poverty on your students. Please take time to look through available resources to help affect change. Anti-poverty workshops (and more) can be booked via the BCTF website: [Book Professional and Social Issues Workshops \(bctf.ca\)](https://www.bctf.ca)



Join new teacher colleagues from across the province virtually on November 16th, 3:30 – 4:30 pm for discussions, connection, and learning opportunities at the New Teachers Zoom Gathering.

British Columbia | November 2023
YOUR UPDATES FROM STATISTICS CANADA

DATALENS

UPCOMING RELEASES, 2021 CENSUS OF POPULATION

The [seven major planned thematic releases](#) for the 2021 Census of Population have concluded.

However, new 2021 Census products and product enhancements will be added to the site going forward.

Click [here](#) for more [Upcoming releases, 2021 Census of Population \(statcan.gc.ca\)](https://www.statcan.gc.ca)

A SNAPSHOT: STATUS FIRST NATIONS PEOPLE IN CANADA, 2021

Statistics Canada is releasing the report titled, "[Status First Nations people in Canada: A snapshot from the 2021 Census](#)," produced in collaboration with the Assembly of First Nations. This report includes a variety of social and economic statistics for Status First Nations people living on and off reserve, as well as comparisons with the non-Indigenous population.

Population demographics, housing, the labour force, income, education and Indigenous languages, as well as other topics, are covered in the report, which is

based on the results of the 2016 and 2021 censuses of population.

For the 2021 Census, the net undercoverage rate (percentage of people missed less those enumerated more than once) was 3.1%. This rate is slightly higher than that for the 2016 Census, which was 2.4%.....[Read more](#)

- [Status First Nations people in Canada: A snapshot from the 2021 Census](#)

Click [here](#) for more [Indigenous Peoples Thematic Series](#)