



WEST VANCOUVER Teachers' Association

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Notes from your President – *Spencer Capier*

Hello Colleagues,

It's been a very busy month! I'm keeping this newsletter to point form so you can scan for relevant information.

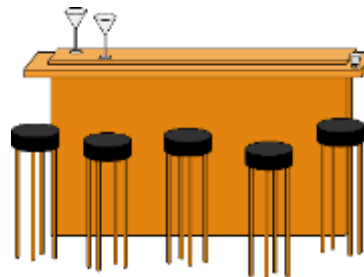
- Thanks to the many members who attended our September General Meeting. The budget was approved, and I gave a "state of the union." The wine and cheese social afterwards was a great success, and people loved their door prizes!
- The conversation with the district regarding the transition from Department Coordinators to Teacher Leaders is ongoing. The current issue is the method of appointment. After visiting all three high schools we know most members want to preserve these roles as advocates for departments, rather than VPs in training.
- The BCTF bargaining conference is in May next year. We will soon be asking members what their priorities are for the next round.
- A reminder that you now can roll over your \$350 ProD fund for three years, and can also access a \$2000 conference fund once in every five years. The new applications, including the one for Paid Collaboration, can be found on the [WVTA website](http://www.wvta.ca).
- We will have a WVTA Social at the Village Taphouse in Park Royal, 3:30 – 5:00 on October 19th! Come by for a beverage and a

free appetizer and chat with other members of the local.

- The District in partnership with the WVTA will be holding an **Evaluation Workshop at the School Board office, 3:30-4:40, Monday November 6th**. Term appointment teachers are strongly advised to attend this one-hour workshop that will outline the process of teacher evaluation in West Vancouver. All term contract teachers are evaluated and should become familiar with the processes, their rights and responsibilities.

As always, don't hesitate to reach out to your staff reps, myself, or Chantalle if you have any issues or questions. We work for you.

In solidarity, *Spencer*



"Oktoberfest"!
WVTA Members'
Social, Thursday,
October 19th,
3:30 – 5:00
The Village Taphouse,
Park Royal

Don't Forget...



**Turn your clocks back one hour
on November 5th (2:00 am)!**



WVTA Scholarships Awarded

Because the quality of applications was so competitive this year, the WVTA had decided to award three scholarships instead of our usual two.

WVTA scholarships of \$1000 were awarded to each of three school graduates that are the child of a WVTA member. Congratulations to:

Connor Lambie, son of WVTA member **Daphne Lambie** (WVSS). Connor has begun his studies in the Schulich School of Engineering at the University of Calgary.

Mehdi Naami, son of WVTA member **Ahmed Naami** (Sentinel). Ahmed has begun his courses towards a Bachelor of Science degree at UBC.

Amelia Obeck, daughter of WVTA member **Christian Obeck** (Sentinel). Amelia is pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree at Queens University.

The Scholarship Committee looked for dedicated service to school and community as well as academic and extra-curricular achievements. There was an exceptionally large number of applicants this year, all outstanding.

The committee was particularly impressed with how all the applicants were able to balance dedicated involvement in extra-curricular activities while maintaining outstanding scholastic achievement. We congratulate them all and wish them great success as they pursue their academic and life goals!

Dianne Wanless
Chair, WVTA Scholarship Committee

Free Pension Education

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR PENSION

New to your teaching career or thinking of joining the plan? Here's an introduction to the values and benefits of plan membership.

This 15-minute online learning can help answer your questions about what it means to have a pension and be a member of the plan. You will learn how:

- Your pension is a valuable source of retirement income
- Your pension is secure for your lifetime.
- The plan website and My Account can help you make the most of your pension

Take [Getting to Know Your Pension](#)

MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR PENSION

Are you establishing your career or several years away from retirement? Learn how the decisions you make throughout your career can affect your pension when you retire. Learn about:

- Buying kmkservice for approved leaves
- Purchasing service for a time when you worked for your current employer but didn't make pension contributions
- Transferring service from other plans
- How the decisions you make in your career can affect your pension
- The effects of life events on your pension
- Using our online tools to plan for your future

[Take the 45-minute online course now](#)

or

[Register for an upcoming instructor-led webinar](#)

APPROACHING RETIREMENT

Are you planning or within 5 years of retirement? Understand how your pension is calculated and the important decisions you need to make about it.

- Choosing your best pension option
- Eligibility for an unreduced pension
- The retirement application process
- Returning to work after you have started collecting a pension

[Take 45 minutes of online learning now](#)

Or

[Register for an upcoming instructor-led webinar](#)