

VESTA WEEKLY

TOPICS WORTH TALKING ABOUT! PLEASE READ AND DISCUSS WITH YOUR COLLEAGUES

IN THIS ISSUE

Draft Reporting Order - Page 1

VESTA Welcomes Hitomi Maruyama-Prasad-Page 2

School Union Rep Training - Page 2

Teacher Pension Plan Child Rearing Credits - Page 2

CoDevelopment Canada - Page 3

Adult Educator Pay Issues - Page 3

Provincial PSA Day October 22 - Page 3

Mask Mandate - Page 3



Draft Reporting Order

The Ministry of Education released a new draft reporting order this week that is intended to begin in the 2022 / 2023 school year. The Ministry is seeking feedback through a link on their website. You can find [information about the policy and the feedback survey here](#).

The changes will result in increased workload for teachers and includes:

- Parents will receive communication from teachers at least five (5) times during the school year. At least four (4) "Learning Updates" will be provided to parents throughout the school year. The first "Learning Update" must be provided within the first 25% of instructional time and two "Learning Updates" must be written reports. At the end of the school year, one (1) "Summary of Learning" will be provided to parents
- Grades K-9 will require descriptive feedback and use of the Provincial Proficiency Scale for each subject area in each report
- increased student self-assessment and goal-setting
- requirement to report on areas of significant student growth and opportunities for further development.

VESTA Welcomes Hitomi Maruyama-Prasad

After a long search, we are delighted to report that the VESTA Office has hired a new Accounts / Finance Staff person, Hitomi Maruyama-Prasad. She will be taking over the role previously held by Olga, including leaves for union business, expenses, the Staff Rep Assembly and the Health and Safety Committee. She is learning an enormous amount in these early weeks and we are looking forward to a strong and lasting relationship!

.....



School Union Rep Training

Thank you to all Staff Reps who attended the SURT last week, and for those of you who have registered for the coming week. After the completion of the SURT, we will post the powerpoints on the VESTA Website at the Training Materials/Workshops link

.....

Teacher Pension Plan Child Rearing Credits

Teacher Pension Plan has a process for applying for contributory service in certain cases where members took leaves to raise children. You can find information on the [TPP website](#).

Please contact TPP with questions, as we cannot provide Pensions advice through the VESTA Office.

You can apply for child-rearing credit if you:

- Were an active plan member (or had existing service in the plan) before you took time off to raise a child
- Quit work or took an employer-approved (full-time, unpaid) leave of absence specifically to raise a child under age seven
- Did not contribute to the Canada Pension Plan or any registered pension plan during the child-rearing time
- Returned to work and began contributing to the plan again after the child-rearing period
- Paid back any refund of contributions you might have taken before the child-rearing period

CoDevelopment Canada

VESTA has purchased 25 spots at the **CoDevelopment Canada fundraiser on October 16 between 4-6pm, that includes an opportunity to learn and work in solidarity with Latin American Teachers.**

CoDev Canada is a partner of VESTA and does incredible international solidarity work, and VESTA is a sponsor of two teachers' unions in Colombia and Honduras, in their efforts for quality public education and emancipating pedagogical methodologies. In February 2021, VESTA partnered on the "Schools as Territories of Peace" project with the Colombian Teachers' Federation and the "Non-Sexist and Inclusive Pedagogy" project with the Honduran Teachers Union.

We are seeking members to attend this event! Please email to hitomi@vesta.ca by Tuesday October 12 at 9am to secure your spot. Any unclaimed seats will be donated to the Vancouver and District Labour Council's Young Workers Committee.

Adult Educator Pay Issues

VESTA has learned that there have been some pay irregularities regarding the Labour Day stat holiday and the Anti-Racism Training Day. Please take the time to check your pay advice for the first three sessions and email rob@vesta.ca if you have concerns.

Provincial PSA Day October 22

The next Pro-D day is October 22. It is the BCTF PSA Day. The BCTF Provincial Specialists Associations across BC are hosting a wide variety of online conferences. Check the BCTF site for the full list of choices. Funding to attend these conferences is in every VSB elementary school/site. Each school/site has a Professional Development Fund, Account 8114 for members. The registration costs for the PSA Conferences can be paid from this fund. If you register for a conference, complete a Self-Directed Pro-D Form and submit it to your Pro-D Chair. The Self-Directed Pro-D form is available on the [VESTA site](#) and needs to be completed as soon as possible.

Mask Mandate

Members – we are each responsible for doing our part not only to model appropriate and consistent mask wearing for students, but also to protect ourselves and our colleagues. Remember that masks are required for all staff and volunteers in schools and now for all students as well.

Please remember that not everyone at your worksite may have the same level of comfort and that we don't always know personal medical conditions or vulnerabilities and home situations so following the mask mandate helps to protect our extended communities.



Joanne Sutherland
President
joanne@vesta.ca

Allison Jambor
Vice President
allison@vesta.ca

Darren Tereposky
Vice President
darren@vesta.ca

Marjorie Dumont
Vice President
marjorie@vesta.ca

Jody Polukoshko
Vice President
jody@vesta.ca

Rob McGowan
AE President
rob@vesta.ca

Office:
604-873-8378
Fax:
604-873-2652
www.vesta.ca



Dates to Remember

WLC/B

Committee Meeting

Oct 7, 2021 @ 4:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87694266870>

Meeting ID: 876 9426 6870

Passcode: 550917

Dial by your location

+1 778 907 2071 Canada

Executive Committee Meeting

Oct 12, 2021 @ 4:30 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87402138987>

Meeting ID: 874 0213 8987

Passcode: 087318

Dial by your location

+1 778 907 2071 Canada

TTOC Committee Meeting

Oct 13, 2021 @ 4:30 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81184097306>

Meeting ID: 811 8409 7306

Passcode: 988682

Dial by your location

+1 778 907 2071 Canada



VESTA

The Vancouver Elementary School Teachers' Association is the union representing elementary teachers and adult educators working in public schools in Vancouver.