

VESTA WEEKLY

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



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VESTA TOC'S!

COME TO A TTOC SOCIAL IN YOUR HONOUR

COME TO CRAFT IN OLYMPIC VILLAGE TO CELEBRATE AND SOCIALISE WITH OTHER TTOCS. YOUR FIRST DRINK AND APPY WILL BE ON US AND THERE WILL BE DOOR PRIZES.



WHEN: TONIGHT! FRIDAY, MAY 6TH AT 4PM

WHERE: CRAFT BEER MARKET FALSE CREEK

(85 WEST 1ST AVENUE)

Happy TTOC Appreciation Week! The BCTF and VESTA want to thank you for all your hard work, flexibility and dedication. TTOCs have been the backbone of our profession and kept us afloat in these trying times. We want to thank you during TTOC Appreciation week. We hope you have had many kind words and thoughts from your site-based colleagues this week, and we want to cap the week off by throwing a TTOC Social:

ALL TTOCS ARE WELCOME TO JOIN FOR DRINKS, APPIES AND SOCIALISING WITH FELLOW TTOCS

PLEASE RSVP TO KARINE@VESTA.CA TO BE ADDED TO THE LIST

School Visits

Due to illness and challenges coordinating, our Spring EC school visits are taking longer than expected. Please be patient with us while we determine the roll out of our VESTA listening sessions and bargaining updates. Our EC is working hard to ensure that all schools are reached as quickly as possible.

Wellness Consultation

In the last VESTA General Meeting, VESTA members had a lot to say about the VSB Wellness program in the context of the District Goals of wellness and safety of students and staff, equity, and Reconciliation. Thank you to each of you who participated in the discussion and brought forward feedback from your school staff.

We have reviewed and compiled your feedback into a letter that has been provided to the VSB Wellness Department and Senior Management. We will also be forwarding it to Trustees. You can read the letter on the VESTA website.

The themes that emerged from the consultation were: VSB Lack of Respect and Trust for Employees; Increasing Workload and lack of trauma informed practice; Individual and Problematic focus on Wellness; and Inadequacy of the current EFAP and VSB services.

Spring Transfer!

Your Staff rep will likely be calling a VESTA meeting to discuss school organization once staffing entitlements have been provided to you by your Administrator. Staffing entitlements should be widely shared, as transparency and equitable access to information supports collaborative discussions about next year.

School organization can be a stressful time for members, especially in years of potential surplus. Please be mindful of the challenges some members are facing in this respect, as well as the fact that surplus years tend to result in greater internal reorganization than some might be expecting.

It's important to respect one another's privacy regarding the terms of leaves and potential retirements, and to acknowledge that as information emerges, there may need to be changes to organizations. This is due, in part, to the fact that the VSB budget has not been finalized.

When postings do come out, they are open to all members. You do not have to have put in a vacate card in order to apply for positions in the Spring Transfer process, and there is no obligation to accept a position you have applied for.

Staff Reps attended an intensive Post and Fill workshop this week and the powerpoint can be found on the VESTA website.

Some key messages to keep in mind:

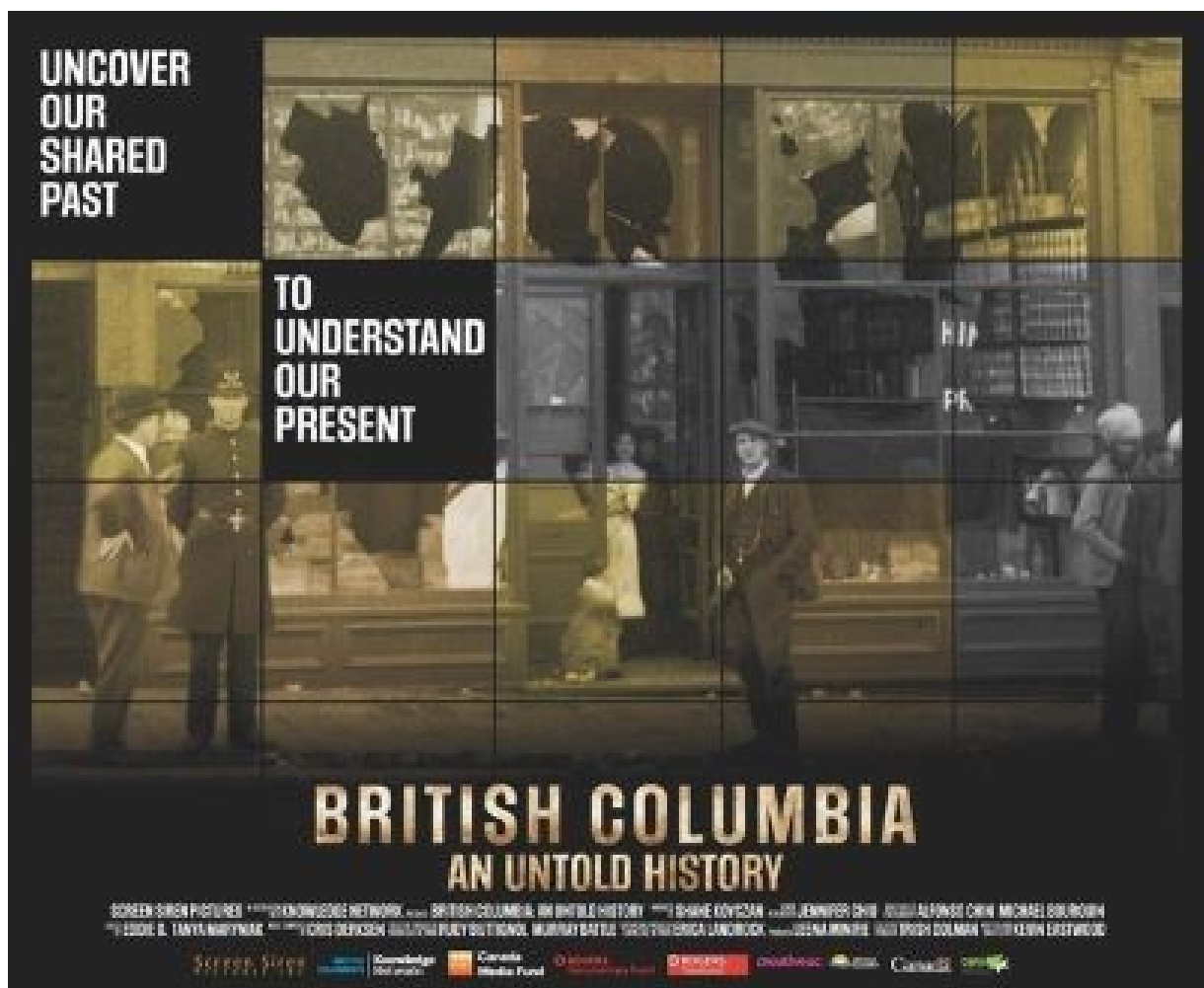
- Seniority is a fair and unbiased way of organizing a school
- Staff Committee is the structure by which members advise the principal of our opinions and advice. This includes ensuring that the school posting process is timely, transparent, and follows the Collective Agreement.
- We do not participate in teacher interviews for ethical reasons, but we still participate in all aspects of the post and fill process! The Interview Committee is a subcommittee of the Staff Committee and should advise the Principal on posting language, shortlisting, timelines and offers.
- Seniority lists are available in schools through your administrator. Please ask them for the most recent list and email jody@vesta.ca or marjorie@vesta.ca if you experience challenges receiving or sharing this information
- Staffing Entitlements and School Organization Allotments are also available through your Administrator and should be widely shared with staff.

Community Events:

May is Asian Heritage Month

National Association of Japanese Canadians is hosting an online screening of **Migration + Resilience = BC: An Untold History**
Friday May 27, 2022 6pm Pacific, 7pm Mountain, 8pm Central, 9pm Eastern

Join filmmaker Kevin Eastwood and Japanese Canadian storytellers Mas Fukawa and Lorene Oikawa for a Q&A after screening Migration + Resilience, Episode 3 of the documentary series, British Columbia: An Untold History. Episode 3 "reveals the immigrant narratives of resilience that define B.C. Chinese, Japanese, and Punjabi migrants, the Doukhobors and American war resisters catalyzed social movements that still continue today."



Register in advance for this 1.5 hour event at <https://bit.ly/BCUntoldDoc>
After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Mental Health, Substance Use, the Current Toxic Drug Supply & Support Services in BC

Join us in our toolbox talk on Mental Health, Substance Abuse, the Current Toxic Drug Supply and Support Services in BC.

Wednesday May 25, 2022 from 6:30pm to 7:30pm PST via Zoom

Register:

<https://vdlc.ca/events/tailgatetoolbox/>

Free Virtual Webinar presented by the Tailgate Toolkit Project and hosted by the VDLC Young Workers Committee

A promotional graphic for a virtual webinar. The top section is yellow with a white rounded rectangle containing the text: "JOIN US IN OUR TOOLBOX TALK ON MENTAL HEALTH, SUBSTANCE USE, THE CURRENT TOXIC DRUG SUPPLY & SUPPORT SERVICES IN B.C.". Below this is a red banner with the text "PRESENTED BY THE TAILGATE TOOLKIT PROJECT". The middle section is yellow with two illustrations of people at desks with laptops. Between the illustrations, it says "FREE VIRTUAL WEBINAR WEDNESDAY MAY 25 6:30-7:30 PDT" and "REGISTER ONLINE AT VDL.CA/EVENTS". The bottom section is red with the text "HOSTED BY THE VDLC YOUNG WORKERS COMMITTEE".

**TAILGATE
TOOLKIT**

**VANCOUVER & DISTRICT
LABOUR COUNCIL**

Join Pacific Gateway Hotel Workers on the picket line

Join Pacific Gateway Hotel Workers on the picket line to mark the 1-year anniversary on Thursday May 12.

We're calling on Pacific Gateway Hotel to do what's right and return long-term staff to their pre-pandemic jobs!



Pacific Gateway Hotel, 3500 Cessna Drive, Richmond, Thursday May 12 at 5pm

Pacific Gateway hotel workers went on strike in May 2021 after the hotel terminated 143 long-term workers, mostly women, during the pandemic. The firings came after the federal government took over the hotel as a quarantine site and brought in contractors. The feds left the hotel earlier this year, but Pacific Gateway workers continue to fight back against mass firings and economic rollbacks.

RSVP here: <https://www.facebook.com/events/377456367609341>



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

Health & Safety Committee Meeting

May 9, 2022 @ 4:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86709122713>

Meeting ID: 867 0912 2713

Passcode: 391392

Dial by your location

+1 778 907 2071 Canada

Executive Committee Meeting

May 10, 2022 @ 4:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83974081855>

Meeting ID: 839 7408 1855

Passcode: 391392

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.