

# VEAES WEEKLY

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



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## Last Days of the Municipal Election

### ***Final Advanced Voting Day October 13th, Election Day October 15th***

Election day is coming soon! Have you voted yet? Voter turnout is historically quite low during municipal elections, meaning that every vote counts! The composition of our City Council and School Trustee team can have a large impact on our lives and working conditions, so it is critical to make sure we elect candidates that share our concerns as teachers and want to work collaboratively with us!

You should have received a Vancouver District and Labour Council (VDLC) poll card in your mailbox that has a list of endorsed candidates. The VDLC conducts a lengthy interview and vetting process to put together a list of endorsements with the idea that if all 60,000 VDLC members vote together, we could help elect a slate of many worker-friendly candidates.

If you have not received your VDLC poll card, or live in another municipality than Vancouver, click here to see VDLC endorsed candidates in Vancouver and other cities: [Vote for Labour Endorsed Candidates – Vancouver and District Labour Council. \(vdlc.ca\)](http://vdlc.ca)

VEAES has also specifically endorsed School Trustee Candidates. The following candidates have been endorsed for being very communicative and receptive to teacher concerns and have shown a strong willingness to work in a collaborative manner towards bettering our school district and working conditions.

Suzie Mah ([Cope](#))

Aaron Leung ([Vision](#))

Jennifer Reddy ([OneCity](#))

Kyla Epstein ([OneCity](#))

These candidates and others attended the VTF's Virtual School Trustee Town hall, where they answered questions sent in by teachers across the district. If teachers are interested in hearing the positions of these candidates, they can click the following link: [The Virtual School Trustee Town Hall | VESTA](#)

So, speak to your friends, neighbours and family about who you're voting for and bring them to the polls with you!



## **Workplace Injury**

Reminder to all members that VEAES is working hard to ensure that health and safety incidents, including violent incidents, are being documented by the Board. In order to support our Health and Safety reps to better advocate for teachers at the District Health and Safety Committee, please remember to complete a [6A form](#) after any workplace injury, and ALSO send a copy to [marjorie@veaes.ca](mailto:marjorie@veaes.ca).

Any incident, including an accident, near miss, injury (including psychological injury), threat of violence, or occupational disease involving a BCTF member should be reported to WorkSafeBC, investigated by a team which includes the worksite BCTF health and safety representative, or another BCTF member designated by the representative. This can be found on the [VEAES website](#), in your school office, or on the [Worksafe website](#).

Even though this is a Worksafe form, it is not automatically forwarded to Worksafe BC, and goes only to the employer (your site-based admin) and the Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee. If you are injured and are making a Worksafe claim for injury and related loss of time at work, contact the [WorkSafeBC Teleclaim](#) and complete [Worksafe form 6](#).

You can find up to date Health and Safety materials at: <https://www.bctf.ca/services-guidance/health-and-safety>

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## **Supervision scheduling**

Before and after school supervision is a workload issue that impacts teacher wellness and our daily responsibilities. We have been hearing that some schools are experiencing much greater frequency of supervision duties throughout the school year. Please remember that your Staff Committee is an excellent mechanism to convey your concerns to your Administrator and/or to provide advice about scheduling of this and other duties. If you have experienced a significant increase in supervision duty at your school, please ask the Staff Rep to email [jody@veaes.ca](mailto:jody@veaes.ca) with details including last year's and this year's numbers.

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## **Communications with the Union**

If you are calling for the first time, or have a new issue that has come up, the most timely way to talk to someone is by phone at 604-873-8378. The phones are live from 8:00am – 4:30pm. We are moving away from the IHTO Zones of schools that was implemented during the pandemic while people were working remotely, as we are all back in the office this year. When sending an email, please use your personal email address, as we cannot reply to mail sent on VSB email – it's not private or confidential!

We encourage members to talk to their staff rep before calling the office. Staff reps may already know the answer, or know where to find the information. This is a way to build capacity & see trends that need to be addressed. The more informed our membership is, the stronger we are as a collective.

## **Failure to Fill**

Notify your Staff Rep if you experience loss of service due to Failure to Fill / reassignment of non-enrolling staffing to cover absences. The Board says it's not an issue this year, but we are hearing from some sites that this is already happening. We have a [failure to fill form](#) to help collate that info on a weekly basis. Staff Reps, please send your info to [vanessa@veaes.ca](mailto:vanessa@veaes.ca).

## **TTOC Pro-D Funds**

VEAES offers TTOCs \$75/year for professional development opportunities to help offset registration costs of workshops. You can send your receipts to [hitomi@veaes.ca](mailto:hitomi@veaes.ca) and indicate your full name with the subject line: TTOC Pro-D reimbursement.

## **General Meeting**

There is a General Meeting on Tuesday, Oct 18th at 4pm, at Tupper Secondary's cafeteria. This meeting will be in person. We will be providing an important bargaining update, so it is important to have as many members attend as possible so we can discuss these issues that affect our working conditions and collectively work toward next steps. You can read all of the provincial bargaining updates and see the language that was tabled by logging into the [BCTF portal](#).

## **VEAES is Launching an Instagram Social Media Page!**

Follow [@veaes\\_van](#) on Instagram for union updates, events and other content. If you are interested in creating content and helping with social media, please contact [eric@veaes.ca](mailto:eric@veaes.ca).



## **Staff Rep ½ day Leave**

Please remember that in order to have release time provided for the ½ day Staff Rep Leave, the online [form](#) must be completed and submitted to [hitomi@veaes.ca](mailto:hitomi@veaes.ca) in advance if possible. Please remember that this is one ½ day per school per month, and is not available in October and February when we hold our SURT training, as it is rolled into the budget for that event. Please also note that the ½ day release is per school, not per union rep. Please talk to your colleagues about how to share that time if you are rotating Staff Reps!



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## Dates to Remember

### **Professional Issues Committee Meeting**

Oct 17, 2022 @ 4:00 PM

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87112642915>

Meeting ID: 871 1264 2915

Passcode: 853898

Dial by your location

+1 778 907 2071 Canada

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### **General Meeting/Staff Rep Assembly**

Oct 18, 2022 @ 4:00 PM

**@ Tupper Secondary School – Cafeteria**

419 E 24th Ave, Vancouver, BC V5V 2A2

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### **Teachers Teaching on Call**

**Committee Meeting**

Oct 19, 2022 @ 4:00 PM

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83920506330>

Meeting ID: 839 2050 6330

Passcode: 647673

Dial by your location

1 778 907 2071 Canada



VEAES

The Vancouver Elementary and Adult Educators' Society is the union representing elementary teachers and adult educators working in public schools in Vancouver.