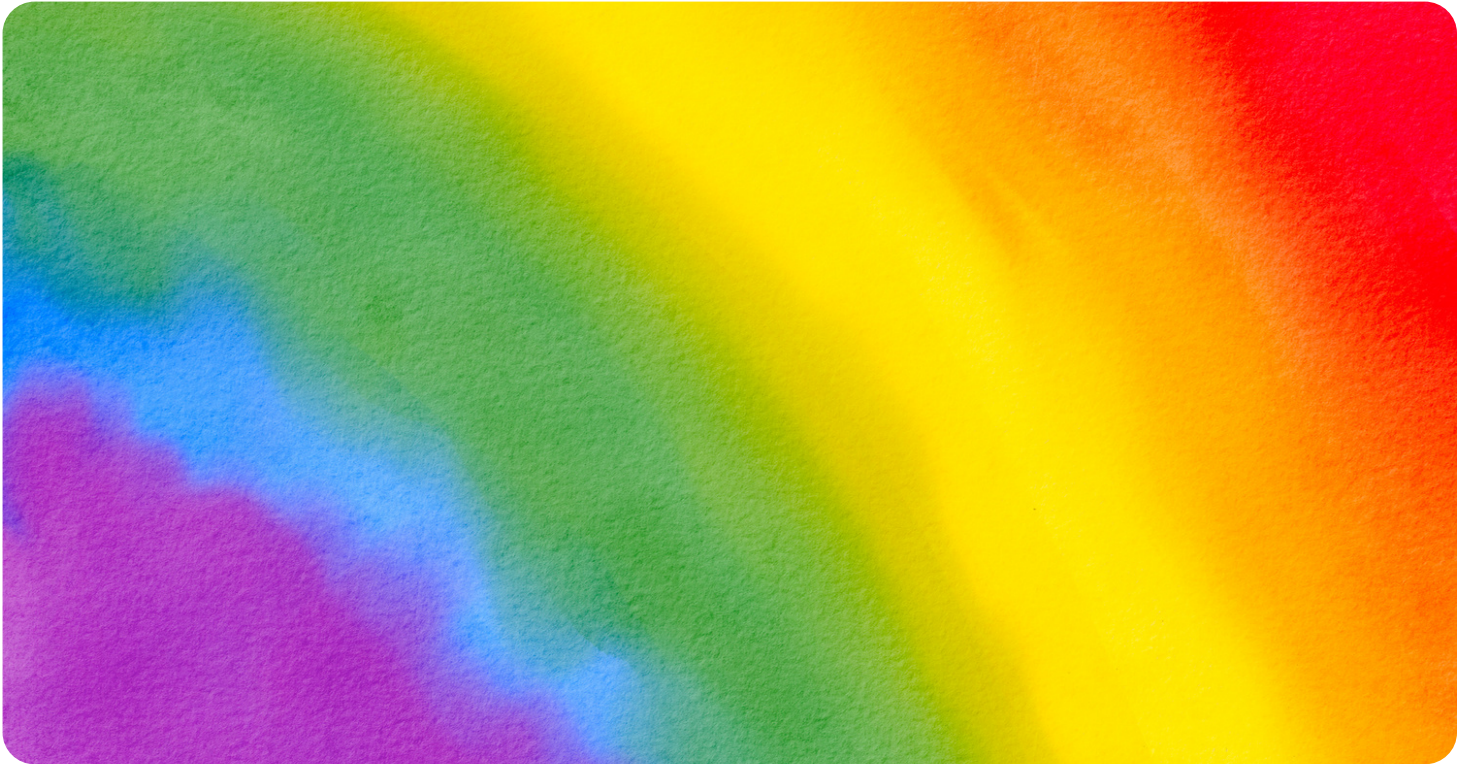


# VEAES WEEKLY

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



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## June is Pride Month



Pride is a month of celebrating the 2SLGBTQIA+ community, learning about the history of the Pride movement, and working toward a more inclusive world. Here are some articles to further our own learning regarding [the history of BIPOC activists who started Pride](#), [Pride History in Canada](#), and understanding more about [impacts of colonization on Two-Spirit identity](#).

As VEAES members, we are committed to ensuring our schools are safe and inclusive spaces for queer and trans students and staff. As such, we need to be informed of the updated [policies](#) and [procedures](#) of our district and enact them in our schools, as well as seeking out professional development opportunities that help us grow as educators.

The updated VSB policy sets out the Board's commitment to protection of 2SLGBTQIA+ students', families', and employees' rights, including rights related to: confidentiality; self-identification and determination; and, being included, represented, valued, and respected within all areas of the school environment. All of this is consistent with the VSB's obligations under the [BC Human Rights Code](#) and collective agreements. Accompanying the updated Policy is an updated Administrative Procedure, which applies to every school in Vancouver and gets into specifics about how the VSB's commitments are put into action.

It is important that we are bringing these policies and procedures to life at our sites, so we strongly encourage members to bring these documents to a VEAES meeting and discuss how we can make our spaces more inclusive and respond to the needs of our 2SLGBTQIA+ students and colleagues.



## Pride in Action!

Shout out to VEAES members at Strathcona who held their annual Pride parade with their students and invited other school communities along. ʂxʷwəqʷəθət Crosstown and Seymour Elementary schools came along to march in the parade and celebrate the 2SLGBTQIA+ community. It was joyful and loving celebration that brought so many people together. As union members, we know the importance of working collectively to effect change and hitting the streets is a great way to show that solidarity and build community. If you have any Pride events happening at your site, please let us know at the VEAES office! You can email [vanessa@veaes.ca](mailto:vanessa@veaes.ca).



## Post and Fill

Round 2 of postings came out on Tuesday! For members who have been surplused, please continue to apply for positions. The district can start placing members into positions as of June 15.

- Members who are placed after June 15 may still apply for postings in Round 2 and August.
- Administrators should have provided school organizations and assignments to staff, acknowledging that there is always the possibility of change.
- Members who are being placed must accept that assignment – it may be a temporary or a continuing posting, but can continue to seek work through the post and fill process.
- Members who have vacated their position and not been successful in post and fill may also be placed as of June 15.
- Members who are successful in the Spring Transfer Round may not apply for positions again until the following Spring Transfer process.
- Members should provide advice to the administrator through Staff Committee if they have concerns about the way interviews are being conducted.



## VEAES Meets the Mayor

Alongside other Vancouver District and Labour Council (VDLC) union groups, our VEAES Political Action Contact met with Mayor Ken Sim and his staff at City Hall. Mayor Sim committed to reestablishing the longstanding practice of meeting with the VDLC on a quarterly basis and VEAES will be present at these meetings to have our members' concerns heard.

Mayor Sim also responded to the concerns raised by our VEAES rep by asking for an additional meeting to occur between his staff, the ABC party school trustees and VSB employed union groups. This meeting would represent the first time the ABC trustees have made themselves available to meet and we are happy to have this new forum to discuss how public education can be improved at the VSB for students and educators.



## Case Manager Role

We're working on an issue regarding the Case Manager role in the Collective Agreement. We need to talk to any members who were Resource Teachers or considered the school's Case Manager **back in the 90s** and hear their stories. If you were in one of those roles, or know any colleagues that fit that description, please contact [vanessa@veaes.ca](mailto:vanessa@veaes.ca).



## BIPOC Affinity Group Year-End Gathering

VEAES was happy to host this event in the new office on June 16. Members brought not only food to share, but also vulnerability and positive energy to give each other a boost to finish the school year with radical love, hope and spiritual strength. The growing curiosity about how BIPOC members can participate in union work and leadership roles is truly energizing!

Thank you to all those who showed up this year to lay the ground work by building trust and practising community care; this work is foundational and undergirds anything else that the Union does. Before we are unionists, we are human beings. We lift our hands up in honour of the decolonizing effort that the group has made and committed to continue next year!



## Sharing Ideas for Teaching Truth and Reconciliation

The BCTF is looking to compile suggestions from teachers across the province to share some ideas for teaching truth and reconciliation in the fall, leading up to the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on September 30:

- your name
- where you teach
- what you teach
- one recommendation for teaching truth and reconciliation
  - this could be as simple as a few sentences, sharing a book or resource you've used, or an idea for a longer, more in-depth project with your class. Feel free to write as little or as much as you'd like about your project/resource/lesson idea/etc.

If you have an idea to share, please send the following to [sjhaj@bctf.ca](mailto:sjhaj@bctf.ca)



## Call for Participants to the IDEA Indigenous Educators' Network— Fifth Continental Encounter of Indigenous Educators

The BCTF invites Indigenous teachers to apply to participate in a continental encounter of Indigenous educators from October 12–14, 2023, in Ecuador. Indigenous teachers with experience teaching Indigenous languages and involved in their local or within the BCTF are strongly encouraged to apply. The BCTF will cover all costs related to participating in the encounter, including release time for the event and required travel. For more information and to apply, [click here](#). The deadline to apply is July 15, 2023.



### Contact Us:

Jody Polukoshko, President  
Marjorie Dumont, Vice President  
Darren Tereposky, Vice President  
Karine Ng, Vice President  
Vanessa Lebfèvre, Vice President  
Eric Proulx, Vice President  
Rob McGowan, Adult Ed President

[jody@veaes.ca](mailto:jody@veaes.ca)  
[marjorie@veaes.ca](mailto:marjorie@veaes.ca)  
[darren@veaes.ca](mailto:darren@veaes.ca)  
[karine@veaes.ca](mailto:karine@veaes.ca)  
[vanessa@veaes.ca](mailto:vanessa@veaes.ca)  
[eric@veaes.ca](mailto:eric@veaes.ca)  
[rob@veaes.ca](mailto:rob@veaes.ca)

### VEAES

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