



VEAES WEEKLY

**TOPICS WORTH
TALKING ABOUT**

**PLEASE READ AND DISCUSS
WITH YOUR COLLEAGUES**

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CORRECTION: Remedy Will Appear on November 30th Pay Advice

By Françoise Raunet

Unfortunately, there was an error in last week's VEAES Weekly article about using remedy hours. It mistakenly said that teachers should start to see their accumulated remedy minutes on their pay advice at the end of October. In fact, although remedy starts to accrue in October it won't actually show up on pay stubs until the end of November. Teachers must therefore wait until they have individually accumulated enough remedy in order to bring a TTOC into their class for a full- or half-day. Once there, the TTOC can assist in a wide variety of ways—everything from co-teaching, to resource support, to providing some extra prep time. Teachers whose class composition is not in compliance with the provisions of our collective agreement should check their Nov 30 pay to make sure that it is reflected in the accrued remedy minutes. If you notice any discrepancies, you can let the VEAES officers know so they can look into it for you.



Updating your information on the BCTF website

By BCTF

To ensure that you continue to receive timely updates and key information, particularly during provincial bargaining, it is important that your membership information is accurate and up to date. We are pleased to offer a quick and easy way for you to review and update your contact information on the BCTF website.

1. Sign into the BCTF website: members.bctf.ca/login.aspx.
2. Navigate to your Member Profile: db.bctf.ca/MyProfile.
3. Review your membership and contact information. Some information can be updated immediately by you, while other information may require you to notify us to change.

If you need assistance signing into the BCTF website or updating information that cannot be automatically updated, please contact membership@bctf.ca for assistance.

Updates are processed automatically and are reflected in BCTF records immediately. To keep your membership and contact details current, please update your [BCTF Member Profile](#) whenever your information changes.

BCTF award nominations are open

By BCTF



The BCTF is now accepting nominations for the following awards:

- [Bob Rosen Social Justice Award](#)
- [Connie Jervis Early Career Teaching Award](#)
- [G.A. Fergusson Memorial Award](#)
- [Stewart Schon Health and Safety Award](#)
- [Honorary Life Membership.](#)

Concerns regarding Professional Development

By Françoise Raunet

At the BCTF's Fall Representative assembly, attendees heard that the Minister of Education & Child Care had asked the BC Teachers' College to consider making mandatory professional development a requirement for maintaining teacher certification in British Columbia. This is a very concerning development that all VEAES members should be aware of and prepared to push back on. The current autonomy that teachers in BC have over their professional development is the result of countless teachers working tirelessly for decades—fighting back on picket lines and through bargaining and advocacy campaigns. In the 1970s & 1980s, when the Ministry of Education was pushing for centrally directed in-service models of professional development, BC teachers pushed back hard. They knew that no one understands the educational needs of students better than their classroom teachers, and that for teacher training to be relevant and responsive, it must be completely autonomous. Teachers know best what areas of their professional practice are in need of additional support, and there is no way that training planned at a district or provincial level could possibly be as relevant or responsive as Pro-D they plan themselves. When it comes to new technologies or processes that school boards expect teachers to adopt, the union's position has always been that this should be provided as paid in-service training, not on teachers' contracted professional development days. The idea that teachers should be required to complete mandatory training in order to maintain their professional certification seems a dangerously slippery slope. As a BCTF local president recently said:

"Teachers continue to do more with less, navigating increasingly complex classrooms without the resources, support, or time that other professions receive for mandated learning. To layer a new certification requirement on top of an already overburdened system—without time, funding, or collective agreement language—is untenable and inequitable."

Indigenous Language Learning Online Opportunities

By Outdoor Learning School and Store

Our charity is very excited to share these upcoming introductory online **Indigenous language learning opportunities**, starting in January:



- **Anishinaabemowin** (Ojibwe)
- **Kanyen'keha** (Mohawk)
- **Skarù-rę?** (Tuscarora)
- **Nêhiyawêwin** (Cree)
- **Mi'kmaw** (Mi'kmaq)
- **Michif** (Métis)

These are offered by some incredible Indigenous instructors, and are open to everyone. Early bird registration is open until December 14.

Learn more about these courses, and the importance of Indigenous language learning:

<https://outdoorlearning.com/events/category/indigenous-language-learning/>



Trans Day of Remembrance: November 20

By Xander Graham

Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR) was started in 1999 by transgender advocate Gwendolyn Ann Smith as a vigil to honor the memory of Rita Hester, a transgender woman who was killed in 1998. The vigil was an effort to commemorate the transgender people lives to violence since Rita Hester's death, and began an important tradition that has become the annual Transgender Day of Remembrance. Trans Day of Remembrance is a call to action as much as it is a day of mourning. Each year, we honour the transgender, Two-Spirit, and gender-diverse people whose lives have been taken by transphobic violence, violence that is rooted in systemic discrimination, inequity, and the ongoing devaluing of trans lives.

In Vancouver and beyond, trans communities continue to face disproportionate barriers in healthcare, housing, employment, and safety. Schools are not separate from these realities. As educators, we have both the responsibility and the power to actively challenge harmful narratives, interrupt discrimination when we see it, and build learning environments where trans and gender-diverse students can thrive without having to justify their existence.

As educators, we play a vital role in fostering these inclusive classrooms that challenge discrimination and uplift the voices and experiences of all of our students. Today, we remember those we have lost, but we also recommit to resistance, solidarity, and collective care. Let's continue to push for schools, and a society, where trans lives are protected, celebrated, and encouraged to flourish.

School Union Rep Team

By VEAES IHTOs

Please be reminded that school union reps can build capacity at school sites by sharing their role with other members. We advise that such decisions be made by consensus at a VEAES meeting, in order to optimize collaboration and have full clarity on roles and responsibilities.

- Below are some ways that reps can mentor members to take up union leadership roles:
- Rotate attendance at SRA by having members to go as staff rep designates
- Rotate SURT opportunities, so designates can receive training to be effective at their role
- Submit a VEAES mentorship application to access release time for reps and designates to work together
- Be explicit about succession and the goal of mentorship, which is to prepare members to be new reps and/or to divide up the responsibilities

The remaining SURTs this year will take in the coming new year, and we encourage members to have conversations about spreading out the work and opportunities to SURT training in an equitable manner. Many hands make light work. Let's paddle together!

A successful #RedForEd Monday!

By Xander Graham

The BCTF has reached out local offices to let us know how much the provincial bargaining team appreciated membership mobilizing for a display of solidarity this past Monday, November 17th, on the designated #RedForEd day.

To hear from their bargaining team:

At the table we made it clear to the employer that they need to show up with two things if they truly want a negotiated deal at the table – adequate funding to meaningfully address our key priorities of compensation and workload, and the willingness to shift their positions away from concessions towards improvements in both cost- and non-cost items.

Knowing that teachers around BC were showing up in red in solidarity bolsters our resolve to achieve a fair deal for members. Going forward, we're going to have to keep up the pressure including as we go back to the table this coming Monday. Keep your eyes open for an update coming out soon to all members.



Thanks to VEAES members for their show of solidarity while provincial bargaining is still going on. Be it through our community supports, our show of solidarity, or our commitment to push for a better system: When we fight together, we win together!

Professional Issues Committee Meeting: November 25 (In-Person)

By Xander Graham

The Professional Issues Committee would like to remind all committee members, and those who are simply interested in professional issues and professional development, that the VEAES Professional Issues Committee will be holding its first in-person meeting of the 2025-26 school year. The meeting will be held from 4pm – 5:30pm on November 25th at the VEAES Office (410 - 2238 Yukon Street, Vancouver), with light snacks served. We look forward to seeing you there!

CoDevelopment Canada Celebrates 40 Years

ACoDev was founded in 1985 by a group of activists who wanted to go beyond simply sending financial aid to Latin American countries, they believe that partnerships between like-minded organizations in Canada and Latin America can be vehicles for learning, social change, and community empowerment.

Their goal is to mobilize Canadians to work with the people of Latin America for a fairer world. CoDev achieves this by fostering partnerships between trade unions and civil society groups in Canada and their counterparts in Latin America. These partnerships educate Canadians about Latin America and allow them to directly support the region. Such connections build solidarity and mutual understanding and ultimately improve prospects for a more just world.

VEAES and the BCTF have partnered with CoDev for many years and have developed many strong connections with Teachers' Unions throughout Latin America. These relationships have been strong and long lasting. Did you know that many Latin American teacher unions sent messages of solidarity with some rallying outside Canadian embassies to protest the stripping of our collective agreement in 2002. Relationships are important and together we can lift people up.

CoDev is conducting a fundraiser and members may be interested in learning a little more about the organization and possibly becoming a member or getting more involved. Here are a couple of initiatives that you may be interested in.

1. Bid in our first-ever Online Art Auction

Our inaugural art auction is now open!

100% of proceeds will directly support CoDev's work to empower women, protect workers' rights, and uphold human rights across Latin America.

With nine unique artworks and framed posters, some with opening bids as low as \$25, there's something for everyone.

[Explore the collection and place your bid today!](#)

2. Join our 40 for 40 Monthly Giving Campaign

As we celebrate CoDev's 40th anniversary, we're inviting 40 new monthly donors to help sustain our work into the future. From modest beginnings, CoDev now supports dozens of projects and programs in 11 countries, a testament to the dedication of our partners and supporters.

By becoming a monthly donor, you ensure this vital work continues all year long.

[Join the 40 for 40 Campaign and make a lasting impact!](#)

National Philanthropy Day is more than a celebration; it's a reminder of what generosity makes possible. Thank you for being part of a community that believes in justice, solidarity, and the power of collective action. Together, we are strengthening communities and improving lives every single day.

In solidarity,
The CoDev Crew



Solidarity, now more than ever

IMPORTANT DATES

Pro-D Fixed Date on November 21



Additional Delegates to the 2026 BCTF Women's Institute application deadline on November 24

2025-26
veaes.ca

VEAES MEMBER PORTAL

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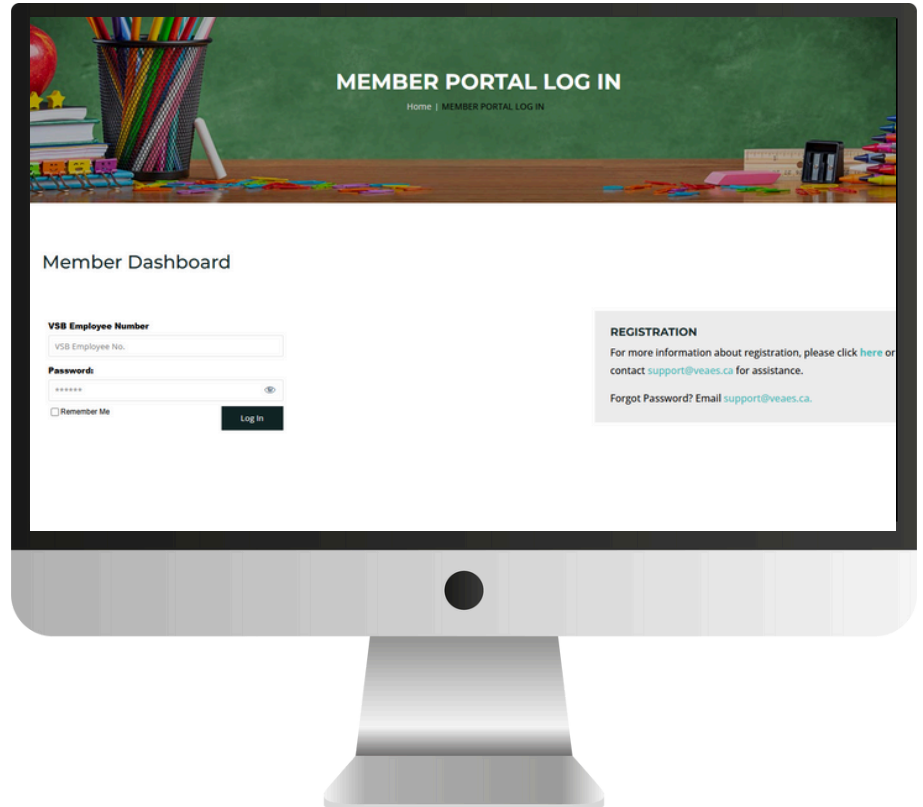
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To access the portal, go to the VEAES website. On the menu, scroll down to "Member Portal Log In". After much consideration, we have chosen to use members' VSB employee numbers as the username, as it allows us to verify members. So, you will have to have your VSB employee number ready in order to login to the portal.

To receive your temporary password, please email support@veaes.ca. Support staff will send you your temporary password and you can reset it under "My Account" then "Profile Details."



VEAES

The Vancouver Elementary and Adult Educators' Society is the union representing elementary teachers and adult educators working in public schools in Vancouver.
Thank you all/ é·iθamə cən