



VEAES WEEKLY



TOPICS WORTH TALKING ABOUT

PLEASE READ AND DISCUSS
WITH YOUR COLLEAGUES

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In memory of Shane Pointe, Musqueam

By Marjorie Dumont, C'tan

It is with a heavy heart that we share the news of the passing of Shane Pointe of Musqueam. Shane has served as a Knowledge Keeper and Elder in Residence within the Vancouver School District offering his time, spirit, and deep cultural teachings to students, educators, and the broader community.



Shane was more than a teacher – he was a mentor, a guide, and an ambassador for his people. He carried his responsibilities with humility and strength, generously sharing Musqueam teachings, language, and worldview in ways that fostered understanding, respect, and connection. His presence in the classrooms, schools and gatherings created space for meaningful learning, where both Indigenous and non-Indigenous students and teachers could grow together.

Through his work, Shane helped bridge generations and cultures. He supported Indigenous teachers by affirming identity and strengthening cultural knowledge, while also helping non-Indigenous students and educators deepen their understanding and responsibility in reconciliation. His wisdom was shared not only through words, but through stories, ceremony, and example-always grounded in care for community and future generations.

We raise our hands in honour and respect to Shane’s family for sharing him with us. We have been truly blessed by his presence and are deeply grateful for the teachings he gifted to all who had the privilege of learning from him.

We send our condolences to the family and community of Musqueam. We ask the Creator to guide, protect, and most of all give them peace as they prepare for Shane’s journey into the spirit world.



Photos of Shane (blue sweater and orange handkerchief) attending the Indigenous Circle at the Musqueam Cultural Centre.

The BCTF Annual General Meeting was held over spring break at the Hyatt in downtown Vancouver. 28 delegates represented VEAES for voting on policy, listening to presentations on our pension and SIP, and electing members of the BCTF Executive Committee.

VEAES brought fifteen motions to the AGM. Unfortunately, many did not hit the floor or were moved into unfinished business (although they might be heard at the next BCTF Rep Assembly).

The following VEAES motions were resolved:

Resolution 113

That the Federation review progress on Policy 13.D.71 through consultation with members and re-open discussion with the BC Public School Employers' Association and WorkSafeBC as needed.

CARRIED

Resolution 116

That the Federation develop provincial guidelines for challenging unreasonable administrative directives, including guaranteed union representation and timelines for employer responses. AMMENDED and CARRIED

Resolution 120

That the Federation lobby the Ministry of Education and Child Care to create mandatory disclosure requirements for districts to provide locals with timely class-size, class-composition, staffing, and budget-impact data, with penalties for noncompliance.

Carried

Resolution 122

That the Federation lobby the Ministry of Education and Child Care for province-wide minimum standards for inclusive education supports—such as education assistant staffing ratios, caseload caps for specialists, and assessment timelines.

Amended and Carried

Resolution 141

That the Federation endorse and support the Palestinian-led Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions movement.

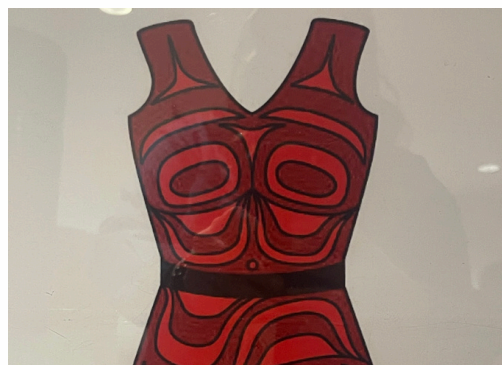
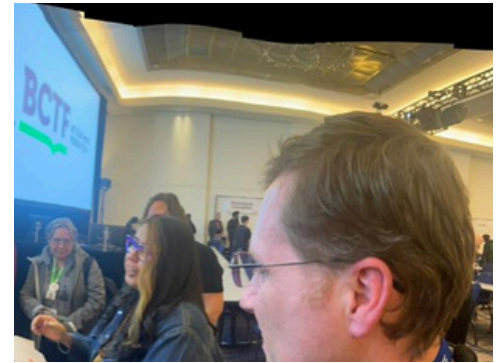
Considered dealt with by earlier Haida Gwaii's earlier Resolution 139 being carried.

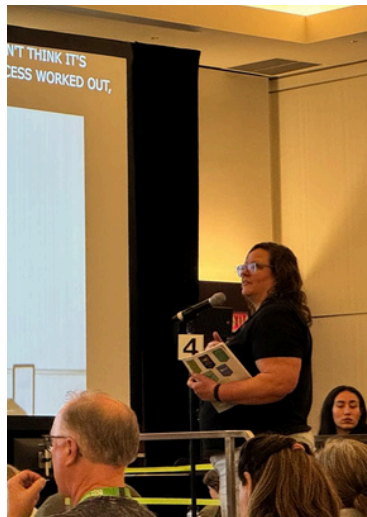
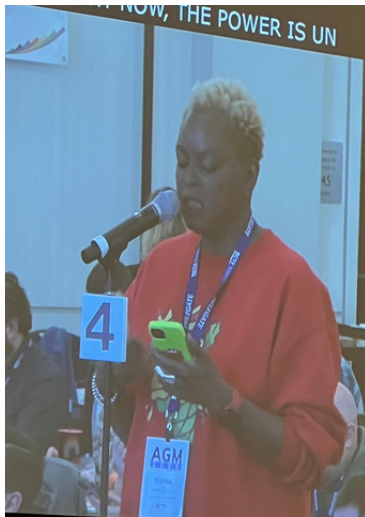
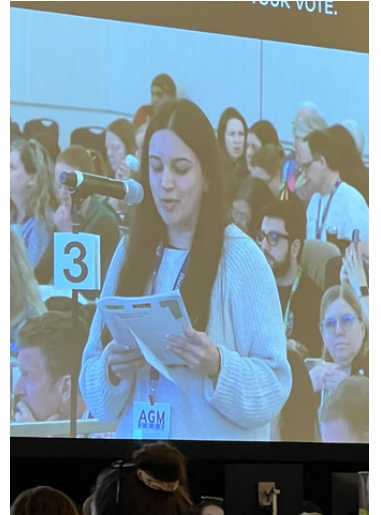
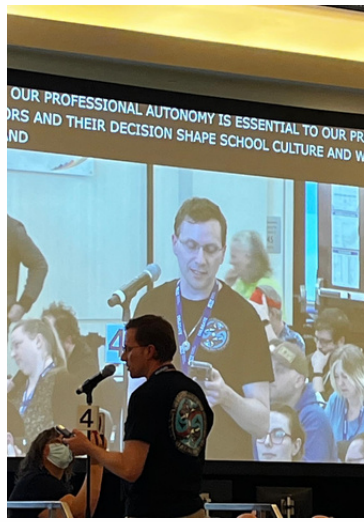
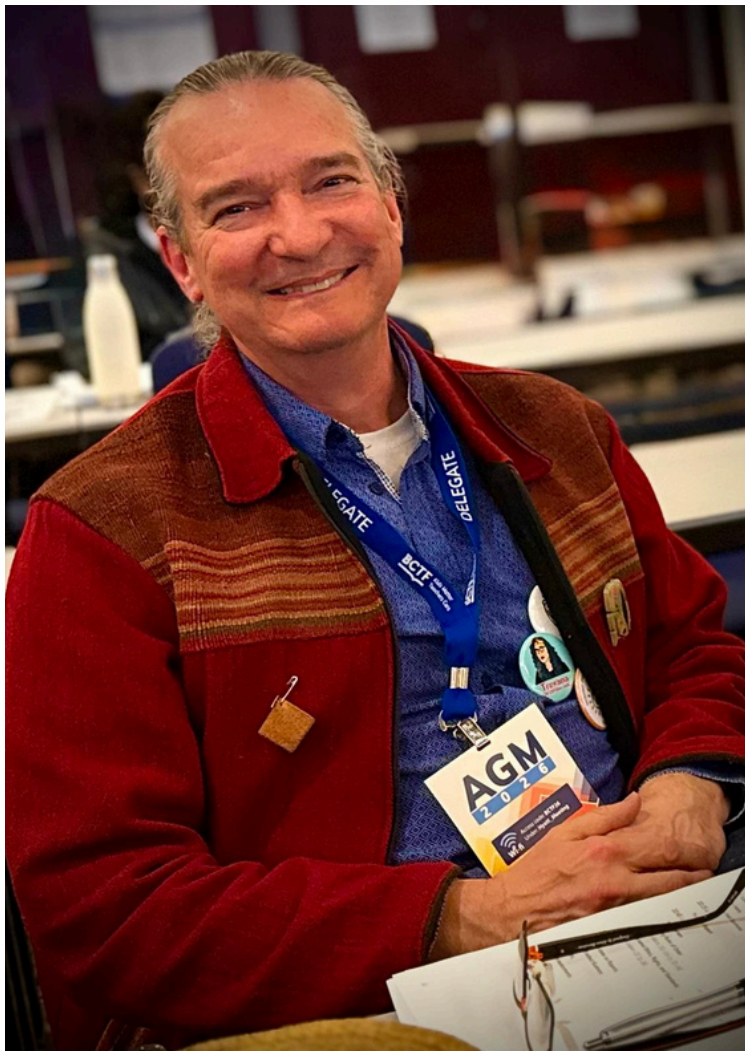
Resolution 155

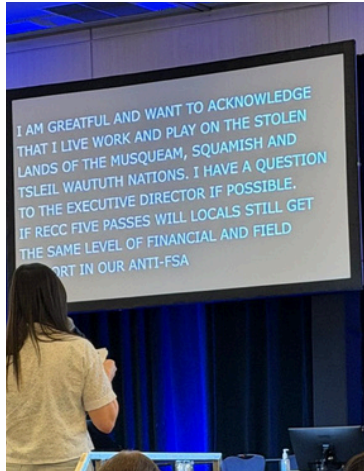
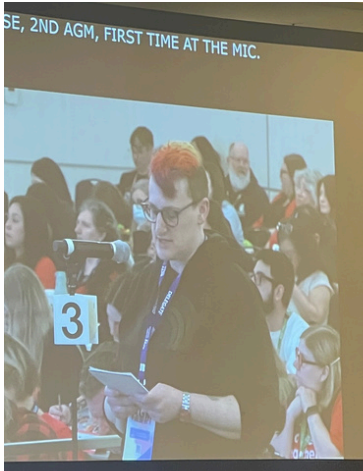
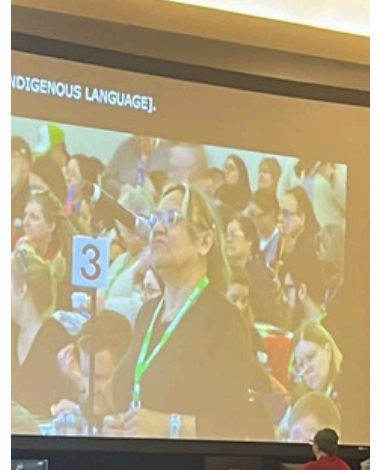
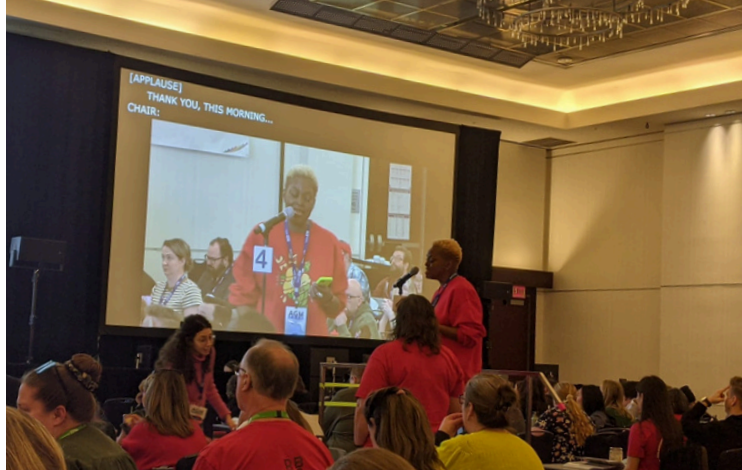
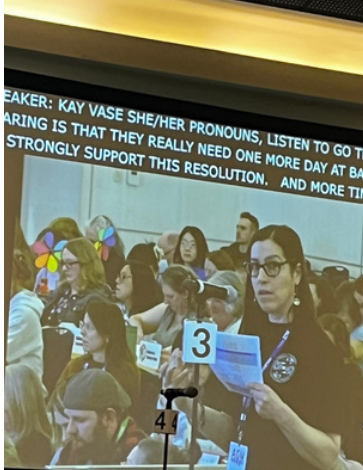
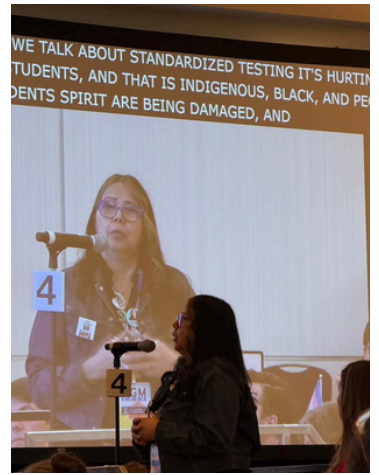
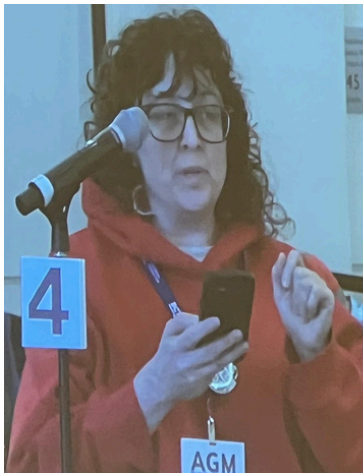
That Policy 47.B.01 – 5.a. be amended as follows: In order to facilitate the preservation of ~~Aboriginal~~ Indigenous language and culture, that additional pathways to full certification and TQS recognition at Category 6 be made available, ~~endorsed certificates be granted~~ including recognizing fluency in an to ~~Aboriginal~~ Indigenous language as equivalent to coursework and culture teachers.

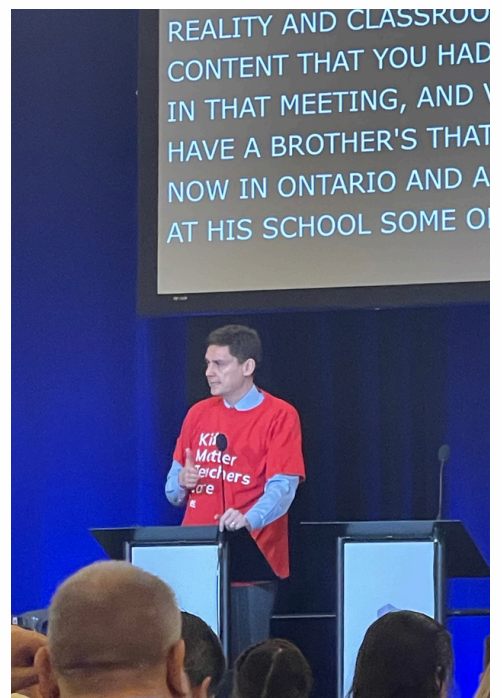
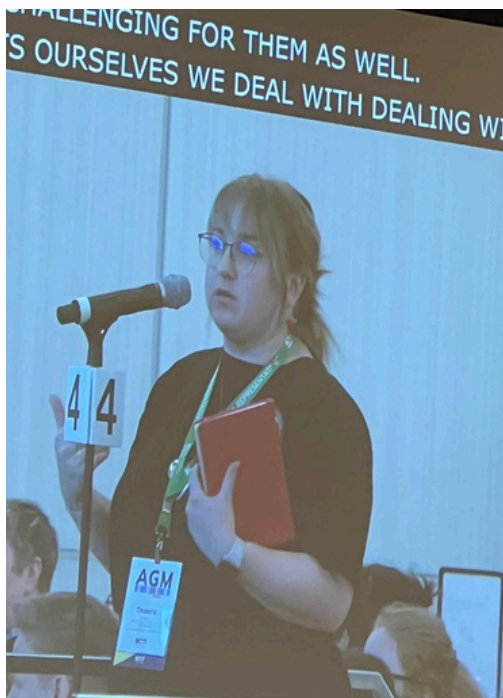
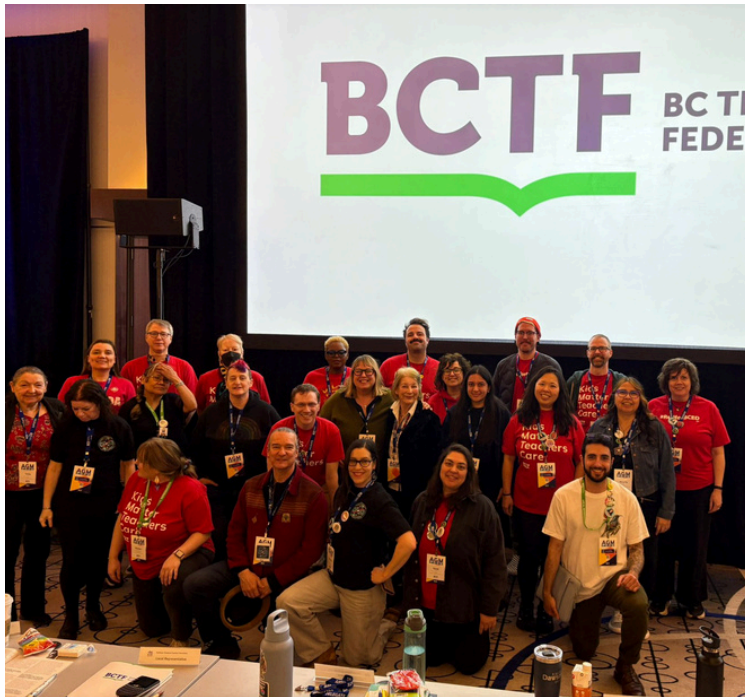
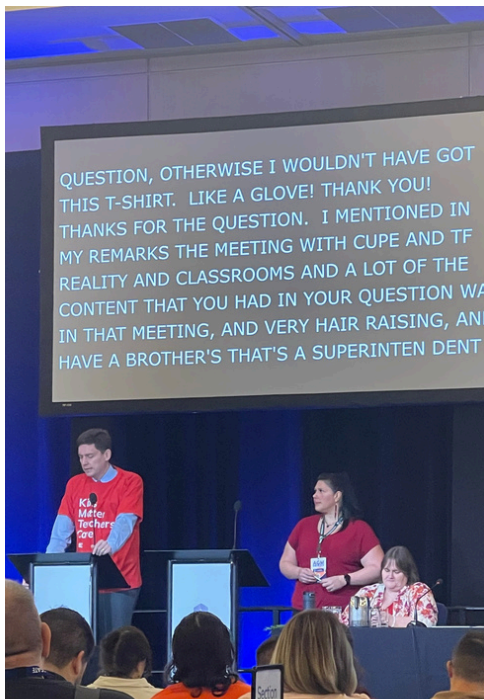
Amended and Carried.

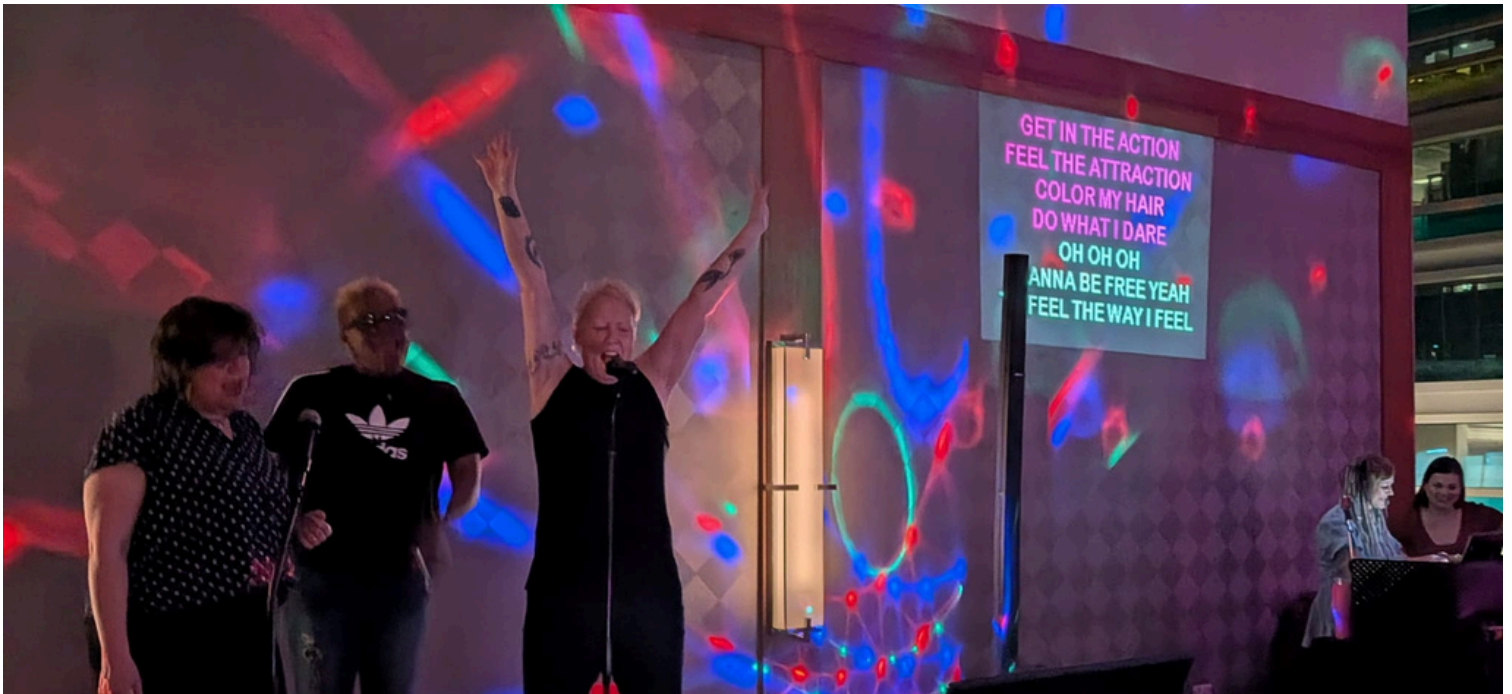
You can find more decisions from the 2026 BCTF AGM in [this document](#).











Call for Nominations: 2025–2026 VEAES Executive Committee

By IHTOs

**APPLY
NOW**

VEAES is seeking engaged and curious members to run for election to the 2025–2026 Executive Committee (EC). The EC (approximately 20 members) meets biweekly to implement VEAES policy, guide the In-House Table Officers, set organizational direction, and provide leadership on priority issues. With many current members stepping into new roles next year, we strongly encourage both new and returning members to run.

All EC positions are elected annually, including In-House Table Officers, Committee Chairs, BCTF Local Representatives, and Members-at-Large. These roles help VEAES stay connected to members, respond to VSB and public education issues, and support effective representation. Training and orientation are provided.

To run, please complete the EC nomination form and return it by **April 13, 2026** to be included in the VEAES News. Elections will be held at the **VEAES AGM on May 12**.

EC members commit to attending twice-monthly EC meetings and monthly General Meetings and/or Staff Rep Assemblies. Committee Chairs also lead regular committee meetings throughout the school year.

For questions about specific positions, contact an In-House Table Officer

Find the VEAES EC Nomination Form [here](#).



Deadline April 30: Relinquishing a Part-time Continuing Contract to join the TTOC List

By IHTOs

If you hold a part-time continuing contract (less than 1.0 FTE), are currently on the TTOC list, and wish to work exclusively as a TTOC in September, you may relinquish your continuing contract for the following school year.

To do so, email EmployeeServices@vsb.bc.ca by April 30 with the subject line “Relinquishing Part Time Continuing Contract.” Details are outlined in the Letter of Understanding (LOU) on page 200 of the Collective Agreement. Successful applicants will return in September 2026 as a TTOC with Category F status.

This option does not apply to members who converted from a temporary contract to a full-time (1.0 FTE) continuing contract. In that case, the employer currently requires resignation from the district and reapplication to the TTOC list, with no guarantee of rehire.

TTOCs will automatically convert to a continuing contract if they accumulate more than one aggregate year of temporary contract service, or they receive two full-time temporary contracts in the same school year. A TTOC converts at the FTE of their current temporary contract. If you are concerned about conversion, contact EmployeeServices@vsb.bc.ca before accepting a temporary contract to confirm your aggregate days and conversion threshold. For additional support, contact the VEAES office.

TTOC Appreciation Week is May 4–8!

From the BCTF



Teachers Teaching on Call
APPRECIATION WEEK
May 4–8, 2026



A message from the Vancouver Elementary and Adult Educators Society

May 4–8 is TTOC Appreciation Week, and we want to help you celebrate the amazing work TTOCs do! Whether you've filled in at the last minute to keep classes going, or a TTOC has come to your rescue, we all know how pivotal teachers teaching on call are to the public education system. So let's show them how much we appreciate all their hard work!

Our Graphics Department has created a new ad and shareable that you can use to broadcast your appreciation online and in print. You can find both attached to this email and in the [Political Action and Public Relations Workspace](#) in the Newspaper Ads and Shareables folders. If you'd like to post a TTOC Appreciation Week ad in your community newspaper tailored to your local, please complete [this form](#).

Don't forget that locals can apply for a TTOC Appreciation Week and Outreach Grant to cover related activities! Host a thank-you lunch, give out goody bags, or print posters—whatever you think will best show your gratitude. For more information and to apply, visit the [Grants and Funds](#) webpage on the BCTF website or read the grant package attached.

Ad Hoc Committees: What We Heard from Resource & Grade 7 Teachers

By Françoise Raunet

On Wednesday, VEAES met with Resource Teachers and Grade 7 teachers to talk about the challenges they're facing in their day-to-day work. The message was clear: workloads are increasing, staffing is shrinking, and the system isn't keeping up with student needs.

Many longtime Resource Teachers shared that staffing levels have steadily declined over the years, even as student needs grow more complex. As one member put it, "There are not enough adult humans in our schools." Teachers are also seeing more designation applications rejected, and they receive little clarity about why or how student eligibility for supports is determined. Also, student needs aren't fully captured in the annual school needs assessments, making it hard to understand how decisions around staffing and compliance with ratios for non-enrolling teachers are made.

Resource teachers also spoke about how their role combines learning assistance support, inclusion case management, and ELL teaching into a single job position. Many feel they are asked to "wear too many hats". For example, District Support Teachers and administrators for Inclusion and ELL work in two different departments. If they recognize that two departments are required for their own administrative purposes, why are resource teachers expected to do both roles? They feel that they are expected to cover it all – without adequate training, role clarity, or scheduled time for case management. Their prep time is used to plan for individualized learning, not case management, so this work needs to be done on their own time. Also, Resource Teacher workload varies greatly from school to school (depending on student designations, percentage of ELL learners, etc.).

Reporting and paperwork also came up repeatedly. Teachers are spending significant time providing the same information in multiple formats. For Grade 7 teachers, the articulation process adds even more paperwork, with different secondary schools having varying expectations. Members also highlighted the many "hidden" responsibilities of being a Grade 7 teacher – grad activities, fundraising, camps, yearbooks, mini school applications, and more – much of this work going unrecognized. Some teachers reported feeling pressured to do things that should have been voluntary.

There was also concern that parent advocacy does not always lead to equitable access to supports, and that sometimes the loudest voices are the ones that get heard, instead of supports being directed to where there is the greatest need.

VEAES will take this feedback forward in our ongoing advocacy with the Board. These issues will be part of the discussion at the next **Working & Learning Conditions / Bargaining Committee meeting on Thursday, April 16 at 4:00 pm**. All members are welcome to attend (only committee members can vote). Also, if you are a Grade 7 or Resource Teacher, please click on the links below to fill out a brief survey to help VEAES collect more information about your role.



[Survey for Grade 7 Teachers](#)
[Survey for Resource Teachers](#)

TOWNHALL ON FUNDING FOR SCHOOLS

HOSTED BY THE
VANCOUVER & DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL

JOIN US FOR...

1

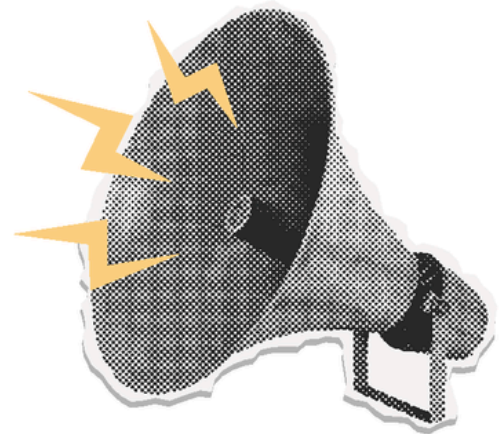
A panel discussion on 'a day in the life' of:

- Parent of VSB student
- IUOE - Cook
- VEAES - Elementary Teacher
- VSTA - Secondary Teacher

2

Roundtable conversations on
VSB budget priorities:

- Budget process
- Staffing
- Inclusion
- Planning for the future
- VSB Governance



WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 6-8 P.M.



VSTA OFFICE

Unit 505, 63 West 6th Ave, Vancouver, V5Y 1K2

Light refreshments provided



RSVP REQUIRED

(Scan QR code or [click here](#) to register)



Retirement Links

[Teachers Pension Plan Online courses and webinars - Teachers - Teachers](#)

[BC Retired Teachers Association Pre-Retired Workshops bcрта.ca/register/](https://bcрта.ca/register/)

**IMPORTANT
DATE** →

**General Meeting/Staff Rep Assembly
meeting on April 14 at Tupper @ 4:00 pm**

2025-26

 veaes.ca

VEAES MEMBER PORTAL

**Marjorie Dumont
President**

marjorie@veaes.ca

**Xander Graham
Vice President**

xander@veaes.ca

**Vanessa Lefebvre
Vice President**

vanessa@veaes.ca

**Françoise Raunet
Vice President**

francoise@veaes.ca

**Greg Canning
Vice President**

greg@veaes.ca

**Rob McGowan
Adult Ed President**

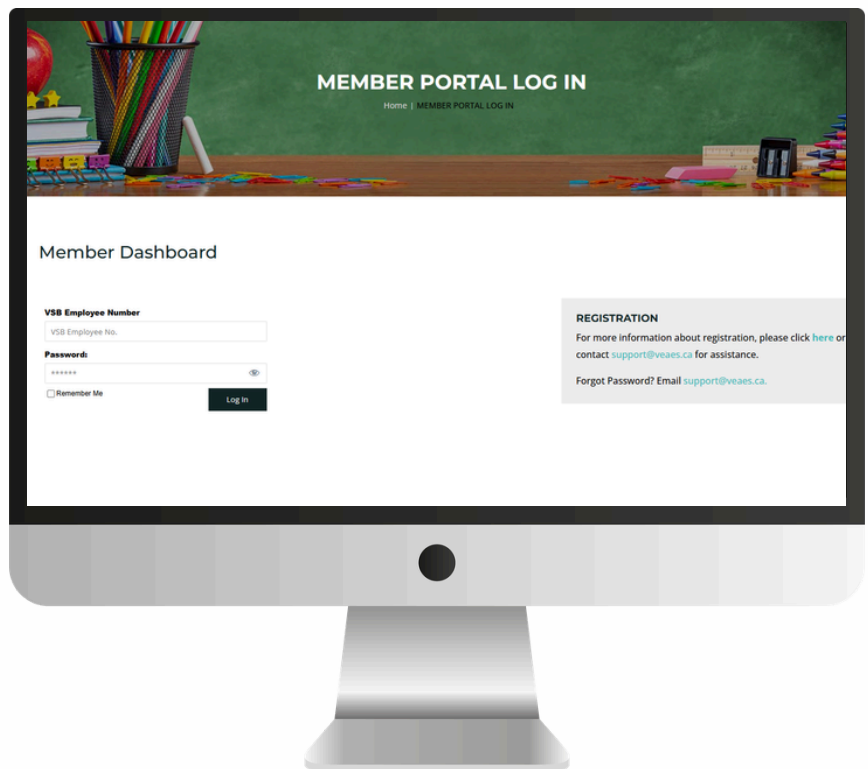
rob@veaes.ca

To access the portal, go to the [VEAES website](#). From the menu, scroll down and select [Member Portal Log In](#).

When you become a VEAES member, your Member Portal profile is created for you. After careful consideration, we have chosen to use members' VSB employee numbers as the usernames, as this allows us to verify members. You will need your VSB employee number ready in order to login to the portal.

To set your password, click [here](#).

If you have any questions, please contact support@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.
Thank you all/ é·iθamə cən**