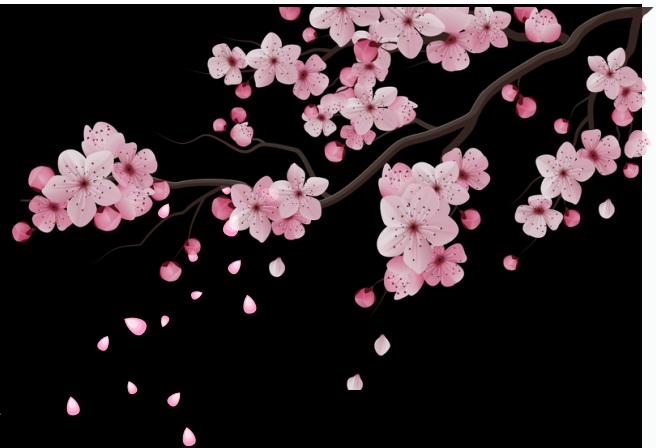




VEAES WEEKLY



TOPICS WORTH TALKING ABOUT

PLEASE READ AND DISCUSS
WITH YOUR COLLEAGUES

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2026 BCTF AGM DELEGATES



**STAY TUNED FOR NEXT
WEEK'S FULL STORY...**



NOMINATIONS

Executive Committee CV Deadline

By IHTOs

We are seeking curious, passionate, VEAES members to put their name forward for election to the 2025-2026 VEAES Executive Committee! The VEAES Executive Committee (EC), of around twenty or so members, meets biweekly throughout the year to implement VEAES policy, direct the In-House Table Officers (president and vice-presidents), make decisions about the direction of the organization, and provide leadership on our priorities. Many current EC members will be stepping away and into new roles next year, so we really encourage folks to step forward and be part of how the VEAES supports its members.

Whether you are interested in continuing your role as an existing or returning EC member or someone considering it for the first time, there are a lot of opportunities for participation. The various positions on the EC help VEAES connect to members, stay relevant to their concerns, and respond to the VSB and broader issues in public education. Positions include In-House Table Officers, Committee Chairs, Local Representatives to the BCTF, and Members-at-Large. Training and orientation will be provided to all EC members.

All positions on the VEAES Executive Committee are open every year for election. Please find attached the EC nomination form if you would like to run for a position on the executive for the 2026-2027 school year. It is important to **return the form by April 13th, 2026** in order for your write-up and photo to be included in the VEAES News publication. Elections will take place at the VEAES AGM on May 12.

The commitment of an EC member includes attending twice-monthly EC meetings, as well as monthly General Meetings and/or Staff Rep Assemblies where EC members are informed by staff reps and other VEAES members. These meetings are essential, as EC members serve in a governance role that guides IHTOs and VEAES.

Committee chair roles involve additional leadership responsibilities, including chairing regular committee meetings throughout the school year. While there is flexibility in how meetings are organized, they must occur regularly to support effective representation and communication.

If you have any questions about a particular position, please reach out to one of the IHTOs.

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

International Transgender Day of Visibility From the **BCTF**

A message from Nikitha Fester, BCTF's Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression Office

As we move through the spring season, I want to take a moment to recognize the International Transgender Day of Visibility on March 31. This day is dedicated to celebrating the strength, diversity, and contributions of trans and gender-diverse people, while also acknowledging the ongoing challenges many continue to face. First established in 2009, by activist Rachel Crandall, Trans Day of Visibility was created to shift focus toward joy, resilience, and community—not only the hardships that too often dominate public narratives. It is a reminder that visibility can be empowering for some and complicated or unsafe for others, and that all experiences are valid.

What can I do for myself?

- Spend time in spaces and with people who affirm you.
- Celebrate your identity in whatever way feels right, whether quietly or boldly.
- Prioritize rest, connection, and joy.

How can I show up as an ally?

- Listen to and uplift trans voices, centering their needs and perspectives.
- Support inclusive policies and practices that help create safer, more equitable environments.
- Educate yourself on gender diversity, honour people's names and pronouns, and approach learning with curiosity and respect. Check out [Trans Care BC](#).
- Interrupt trans-negative comments or behaviours and model inclusive language and actions.

Trans Day of Visibility is an opportunity for all of us to reflect on how we contribute to a culture of belonging. Thank you for continuing to build a community where everyone is seen, valued, and supported.

Nowruz Mobarak

By Sarah Adams



The Persian New Year, Nowruz, began over Spring Break on March 20 and comes to a close this week. It is a time marked by renewal, reflection, and the arrival of spring.

This year, Nowruz has held special meaning for me personally as I continue learning alongside my daughter, who is half Iranian, about her cultural heritage. Together, we set up a Haft-Sin table, carefully choosing and discussing the significance of each item. As a Teacher-Librarian, I also purchased some new books for my school library, sharing them with students who excitedly said, “Nowruz is my favourite time of year!”

Nowruz Mobarak to all members of our community who are celebrating!

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

By IHTOs

If you hold a part-time continuing contract (anything less than 1.0 FTE), currently on the TTOC list, and would only like to work as a TTOC exclusively in September, then there is a process you can follow to relinquish your continuing contract for the following school year.

Before the deadline of April 30th, you can email your notification to EmployeeServices@vsb.bc.ca with the subject line: Relinquishing Part Time Continuing Contract. The details can be found in the Letter of Understanding (LOU) on page 200 of the Collective Agreement. This would mean that you would return in September 2026 as a TTOC with Category F status.

Unfortunately, if you were a TTOC that converted from a temporary contract to a continuing contract at full-time (1.0 FTE), then you are not eligible under this LOU. Currently, the employer's position is that you would have to resign from the district to relinquish your 1.0 FTE continuing contract and then apply back to the VSB to get on the TTOC list. There is **no guarantee** you will be hired back.

If you are a TTOC concerned about converting into a continuing contract automatically, here are the two mechanisms that cause that:

- 1) You accrue more than one aggregate year of service of temporary contracts.
- 2) You received a maximum of two full-time temporary contracts in the same school year.

If you have worked temporary contracts in the past and are worried about converting, you should email EmployeeServices@vsb.bc.ca before you accept/roll into a temporary contract to get your number of aggregate days and ask them how many days under a temporary contract would activate conversion to a continuing contract. If you have any questions or concerns around conversion, please contact the VEAES office for support.

Salary Increase and Retroactive Pay

By IHTOs

Our new collective agreement has now been ratified by all parties. The 3% pay increase will be implemented in two ways. Teachers and TTOCs should have seen their new salary ranges reflected on their March 31, 2026 pay stubs.

The agreement also includes retroactive pay dating back to the start of the contract period on July 1, 2025. Retroactive payments for Teachers, TTOCs, and 2025 Summer Learning teachers will be issued on the May 15, 2026 pay date.

Parental Rights from the BCTF

By IHTOs

As part of the Public Education Exchange’s ongoing webinar series on the privatization of public education, please consider attending one of the following webinars.



The Political Evolution of “Parental Rights” (Part 1)

Wednesday, April 8, 2026

4:00 to 5:30 p.m. (PT)

[Register](#) by April 5, 2026



The Political Evolution of “Parental Rights” (Part 2)

Thursday, April 23, 2026

10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (PT)

[Register](#) by April 22, 2026

The webinars spotlight research examining how the language of “parental rights” is increasingly mobilized to challenge public education, democratic governance, and inclusive curricula. Each session will feature a short presentation by authors from the special issue of *Our Schools/Ourselves*, followed by a facilitated discussion.

VEAES Member on Carolyn Roberts’ Teacher Talk Podcast

By Françoise Raunet



Carolyn Roberts—a renowned educator, researcher, speaker and storyteller with a passion for supporting decolonization and Indigenous resurgence through education—recently featured VEAES member, Jamie Sinclair, on her podcast [Teacher Talk](#). Jamie is a kindergarten teacher at General Gordon elementary, and she and Carolyn talked about how to have difficult conversations about challenging topics with younger students. Jamie has been integrating her personal experience as a settler on the lands of the s̓kwx̓wú7mesh (Squamish), sel̓ílwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh), and x̓w̓məθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) nations into her teaching practice since she started teaching about fifteen years ago. In this insightful conversation, Carolyn and Jamie discuss ways to cover topics like residential schools and missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls with very young learners in sensitive and age-appropriate ways.



Images from carolynroberts.net

Teaching Certificate Suspensions and Criminal Record Checks

By IHTOs

At the end of February, the Teacher Regulation Branch (TRB) suspended 160 teaching certificates in BC for failure to comply with the province's Criminal Records Review Program (CRRP), resulting in members in at least 15 districts being placed on unpaid leave. This is an abnormal number of teachers affected.

All BC teaching certificate holders are required to complete a criminal record check every five years. This process is usually automatic. However, if there are questions or if fingerprints are required, the CRRP contacts teachers directly using the email and mailing address on file with the TRB. If requests for additional information are not completed within 90 days, certificates are suspended; after six months, they may be cancelled.

Possible contributing factors for these 160 teachers:

- Outdated contact information with the TRB
- CRRP emails being filtered to junk/spam folders
- Delays in fingerprint processing, which can take up to six months in some cases
- The process taking place in February instead of the usual timing in July

What can you do to be vigilant?

- Ensure TRB contact information is up to date on [BCeID](#) (preferably use a non-district email)
- Regularly check junk/spam folders
- Monitor CRC status through the Security Programs Division Screening Portal using your BC Services Card login.
- Track your personal CRC renewal dates proactively

The BCTF is working with the Ministry and BCPSEA to address process issues—particularly the earlier-than-usual timing of this year's checks—and to push for improvements to reduce future disruptions.

VEAES is working with locally impacted members and advocating on their behalf.

IMPORTANT DATE

EC Meeting at the
VEAES Office
at 4:00 pm

CHECK
THIS OUT!



Big thanks to Jacey Gibb for turning a broken VEAES computer into a one-of-a-kind living plant now known as "The Mossitor."

2025-26

 veaes.ca

VEAES MEMBER PORTAL

Marjorie Dumont
President

marjorie@veaes.ca

Xander Graham
Vice President

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Vanessa Lefebvre
Vice President

vanessa@veaes.ca

Françoise Raunet
Vice President

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Greg Canning
Vice President

greg@veaes.ca

Rob McGowan
Adult Ed President

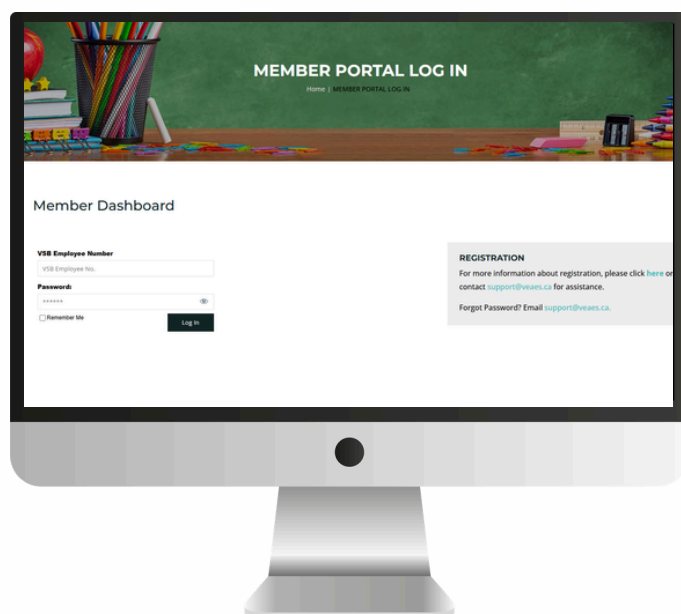
rob@veaes.ca

To access the portal, go to the [VEAES website](http://veaes.ca). 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/  i am  c n