

The Advocate

In consensus atque unitate stat potentia

"There is strength in unity"

A Monthly Newsletter

September 2018

Welcome Back!

I hope that everyone had an excellent summer break and are feeling refreshed and ready to tackle the school year. We are likely heading into another busy year with numerous issues to work with. This year will see us continuing to address restored class size and composition challenges from last year and again this year, remedy, bargaining, grievances, re-designed curriculum and a litany of other issues that impact our daily lives as teachers. It will be an interesting year. I also would like to encourage all teachers to be cautious when signing up for committees and volunteer activities as is often a September task; make sure that you are not spreading yourself too thin and are allowing for a good healthy balance of work and life. Set reasonable goals, take care of yourself and I hope you have a great year.

In Solidarity,

Jennifer Brooks, ADTA President



Class Size & Composition

The first week always brings many questions and changes as we adjust to the actual number of students that walk through the door. Please refer to the restored class size and composition language as classes should be set in keeping with that language. If you are having any issues in your school, please contact the ADTA right away.

Do you have the full FTE you're owed?

We had no lay-offs last spring and so people had to post into vacant positions. If you have not yet been successful in regaining your entire FTE through the posting process, please contact the ADTA office immediately.

Electing Reps for your School

It is this time of year that people are being elected to be reps at their schools. In addition to the usual Staff Rep, Professional Development Rep, Health and Safety Reps, and SOGI Reps don't forget to elect an enrolling teacher to sit on your School Based Team.

The ADTA will be sending out a form to collect this information.

Attention Middle School Teachers

This is the week that Team Leaders in middle schools are elected. We encourage all middle school teachers to arrange and attend an election meeting and participate in the democratic voting process. The successfully elected candidates will be your team leaders for the 2018-2019 school year. If you are needing any further information or have questions about this process please contact the ADTA.

TUTOR LIST

Did you know that we maintain a tutor list on the ADTA website? If you would like more information about getting your name on that list please contact Nicole at nicoleadta34@shaw.ca

Opportunities for BCTF Members

bctf.ca/OpportunitiesforMembers.aspx

BCTF committee vacancy

Committee for Action on Social Justice—Status of Women Action Group One, 1-year term

The committee is composed of 24 BCTF members who serve on 6 social justice action groups—Antiracism; Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning (LGBTQ2S+); Peace and Global Education; Antipoverty; Environmental Justice, and Status of Women. There is one vacancy on the Status of Women Action Group.

The committee makes recommendations to the BCTF Executive Committee on social justice issues and BCTF social justice policy; promotes and assists in the development of local, zonal, and provincial networks of teachers on social justice issues; creates resources for teachers and locals; assists locals and zones in developing general social justice programs, projects, and events; and works on developing links with other unions, community groups, NGOs, and others.

Committee members are expected to attend three advisory committee meetings during the year; each meeting is three days, usually scheduled on Thursday/Friday/Saturday. Committee members will also attend and help facilitate up to two zone meetings on a Friday/Saturday in the fall and spring, and BCTF Summer Leadership Conference for three days in August.

This is a volunteer activity where members represent all of the teachers in BC. Accommodation, meals (per diem), leave of absence (LOA), necessary travel costs, and dependant care costs (if required) to attend these meetings will be provided by the Federation in accordance with BCTF policies.

Deadline: September 12, 2018

A CV application form can be found on the BCTF website at bctf.ca/opportunities/BCTFCommittees.aspx

If difficulty in submitting electronically, fax to 604-871-2289. Please call Vanessa Terrell at 604-871-1878 to advise and confirm receipt at the BCTF.

Because the BCTF has an affirmative action policy, an applicant may wish to provide, on a voluntary basis, information as to whether they self-identify as a member of an equity-seeking group, which includes female, trans* (trans, transgender, transsexual, genderqueer, two-spirit, transwoman, transman), visible minority or racialized person, Aboriginal (Indigenous) person, person with a disability, or lesbian, gay, or bisexual person.

For more information and to access this BCTF Committee application form please visit

<https://bctf.ca/opportunities/BCTFCommittees.aspx>

Did you move this summer?

If you have had a change of address or phone number please notify the ADTA so that we can update our records. Email Nicole at nicoleadta34@shaw.ca.

ADTA OFFICE HOURS

Our office hours are **Monday to Friday, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.**

Any inquiries can be directed to the emails listed below or reach us at **604-854-1946**

Contact Us

Jennifer Brooks, President jenniferadta34@shaw.ca

Leslie Kemp, Vice President leslieadta34@shaw.ca

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