



TODAY

May 27, 2004

Issue # 14

NEWSLETTER OF THE DELTA TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

President's Column

I am sure you all know by now that the federal election has been called for June 28, 2004 but how many of you know for certain that you are registered to vote? Voter's cards will be mailed to eligible voters in the next week. If you do not receive a card, you can still vote by taking proper identification to the polling station nearest your home. While it is too late to get your name on the Federal Voters List, if you register for the provincial list, you will automatically be included on the municipal and federal lists. The federal election is an opportunity to practice for the provincial election May 17, 2005.

*The BCTF Representative Assembly is meeting this weekend to set the BCTF budget (the AGM sets the annual fee) and to deal with pertinent issues including the BC College of Teachers. The term for the nineteen Ministry appointees is expected to end on July 31, 2004 provided that the election of the new BCCT councilors has taken place. The RA will deal with recommendations from the Executive Committee on members participating in the election of BCCT councilors. Among other policies the BCTF finds offensive, the BCCT has determined that no teacher who acts in a leadership capacity at the local or provincial levels may run for a college position. Why does a group of political appointees have the authority to exclude **any** college member from running for the council? The BCTF has demanded that this policy be reversed.*

The number of teachers in receipt of notices of layoff is 103 this year which is down from last year while those retained with less seniority than others, has risen slightly. In tabling a balanced budget on May 11, 2004, the Board stated that in the 2004 – 2005 school year, Delta will retain class size averages at or below provincial requirements. The DTA will survey members next year to verify the number of students in Delta classrooms.

To those colleagues who are getting ready to write the final report cards of their careers, may the gift of the bard be yours!

DTA EXECUTIVE/COMMITTEE

Elected May 18, 2004

| | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| President | Val Windsor |
| 1 st VP/ | Jan Eastman |
| Bargaining Chair | |
| 2 nd VP/ | Jeanie Lucas |
| Grievance Support | |
| Treasurer | Pat Thiesen |
| Secretary | Ian Stuart |
| Local Rep | Paul Steer |
| Alt Local Rep | Jacquie Schierer |
| Members at Large | Irene Freeman |
| | Jacquie Schierer |
| | Bill Tereposky |
| Adult Ed Rep. | Cameron Drysdale |
| TOC Rep. | Kirsty Gourlay |

Committee Chairs

| | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| PEAC | Pat Truelove |
| Health & Safety | Jeanie Lucas |
| Social Justice | Sukhy Dhillon |
| Professional Dev. | Guillermo Bustos |

POSTING BOOKLETS

Check out the Delta School District web site at <http://web.deltasd.bc.ca> click on Employment Opportunities for up-to-date information.

- May 28 - Posting Booklet #1 to schools, on web site.
- June 2 - Deadline at 4:00 p.m. for round one applications.
- June 8 - 11 - Internal Staffing
- June 16 - Booklet #2 distributed.
- June 21 - Deadline for round two applications at 4:00 p.m.

**BCTF Draft Statement
Commitment to Public Education**

An Advocate for public education:

- 1. promotes the importance, benefits, and successes of public education, and**
 - upholds the principles and ideals set out in the Charter for Public Education, and
 - encourages the participation of parents, community groups, and other public interest groups in ongoing discussions about the schools in communities, and
 - encourages ongoing discussion among all citizens about the public education system and its responsiveness to the needs of our society, and
 - recognizes the critical role of public education in building a democratic, egalitarian, and just society.
- 2. works to guarantee success for every student in B.C. and stability in the public education system by supporting improved funding in order that public schools will have:**
 - programs and staffing to meet the needs of all students.
 - class-size limits appropriate to the subjects taught and facilities available are established and adhered to.
 - appropriate materials and resources are available to students and teachers to enable all to meet the expectations of the curriculum.
 - adequate interventions such as enrichment programs, breakfast and lunch programs, and other support services for students and their families who live below the poverty level.
 - programs free of charge and free of commercial enterprises.
- 3. works to encourage the highest respect for teachers and other school workers by:**
 - supporting a college of teachers that is democratically governed.
 - supporting professional rights that will allow teachers to make the best decisions for their students.
 - supporting ongoing professional inquiry and improvement of the quality of instruction and advancement of the knowledge and art of teaching and learning.
 - supporting consultative structures to ensure that the public benefits from the best professional advice when making decisions about school structures and curriculum.
 - supporting the professional autonomy of teachers.
- 4. ensures respect for teachers' professional and employee rights by:**
 - supporting full collective bargaining rights for teachers including the right to bargain all conditions of employment and the right to strike.
 - upholding the integrity of freely negotiated collective agreements.
 - refraining from legislative interference with collective bargaining and collective agreement provisions.

This has been approved in principle by the DTA Executive committee and will be discussed at the BCTF Rep Assembly May 28, 29, 2004.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- May 31st - Staff Rep Assembly
- June 4th - DTA Golf Tournament
- June 15th - LSA Presidents meeting.
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TAD BOYES SCHOLARSHIP

Application forms are available from the DTA office. The deadline is June 25.

**DTA RETIREMENT
RECEPTION**

**Monday, June 14, 2004
4:00 – 5:15 p.m.
Delta Town & Country Inn**

All district employees are invited to attend this reception.

A dinner for retirees, their guests and all DTA committee members will follow.



**Occupational Health &
Safety Program
District Committee
Vacancy**

The DTA is looking for 3 members to sit on an Ergonomic Musculoskeletal Injury Prevention Team. Team members are asked to commit to a three-year term. For more information check your bulletin board or contact the DTA

For Sale:

1 new polarizing 19" computer screen \$150.00.
Phone the DTA office for more details.