



NEWSLETTER OF THE DELTA TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

President's Column

BCTF President, Jinny Sims, was the keynote speaker at a well-attended DTA Special General Meeting on June 7 at Seaquam Secondary School. In addressing the current state of BCTF/BCPSEA bargaining, Jinny reiterated the BCTF position that teachers need improved working conditions and they need and deserve a significant salary increase. Although the cost of living in BC is among the highest in Canada, teachers' salaries have fallen to eighth place in this country. Even if teachers received the tabled 24%, by the end of a three or four year contract, salaries would still not have kept up with the pace of inflation. The time is long past for teachers to be apologetic for the salaries they receive. Nurses beginning their careers will receive \$49,000 after four years of training. Beginning teachers in Delta with five year degrees currently make \$38,432.00. This inequity needs to be addressed and the only way to do so is through the bargaining table.

On June 1 2006, Vince Ready issued his recommendations on Grid Harmonization. While it was hoped that Ready would create the grids, he turned the issue back to the BCTF and BCPSEA to be negotiated. When the harmonization is implemented, it will be retroactive to April 1, 2006. It will include a PB+15 and will eliminate Categories 2 and 3 placing those teachers on Category 4. As salaries in Delta are among the lowest in the province, most teachers in this district will receive a lift to their salaries. This issue has been separated from the provincial bargaining table as it has nothing to do with the current round of bargaining. As information becomes available, the DTA will update members in a timely fashion.

Irene Holden, the government mediator, released her report on the state of bargaining on June 2. While Holden indicated that progress at the bargaining table is slow, she stated that given the bargaining history of the two parties, progress is being made. In her words, "It is my view that both sides are committed to reaching a settlement and are working towards such a result." The BCTF agrees with this sentiment.

Teacher resolve will be tested through the media in the next few weeks. During the job action in the fall, we remained united in our cause. We must demonstrate that same unity if we are to achieve a negotiated settlement that helps to address teacher needs now and into the future.

DTA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTED MAY 9, 2006

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|--|------------------|
| President | Val Windsor |
| 1 st V.P./Bargaining Chair | Paul Steer |
| 2 nd V.P./Grievance Support | Richard Kirincic |
| Treasurer | Pat Thiesen |
| Secretary | Phyllis With |
| Local Reps | Jacquie Schierer |
| | Guillermo Busto |
| | Lynda Caron |
| Alternate Rep | Paul Steer |
| Members at Large | Tashi Papau |
| | Angelika Hedley |
| | Bill Tereposky |
| Teacher On Call | Susan Yao |
| Adult Ed Rep | vacancy |
| Committee Chairs: | |
| Public Education Advocacy | Pat Truelove |
| Health & Safety | Greg Stafford |
| Social Justice | Patti Hillary |
| Professional Development | Jacquie Schierer |



WORLD PEACE FORUM 2006

JUNE 23 - 28

The World Peace Forum 2006 is an international gathering of individuals, groups and civic governments from cities and communities to envision a living culture of peace and sustainability in our lifetimes. For more information go to www.worldpeaceforum.ca or email admin@worldpeaceforum.ca

SPECIAL THANK YOU

Pat Thiesen, Delta's Returning Officer, extends an enormous thank you to all the volunteer polling clerks who helped out during the 3 major voting activities that took place this year. A special thanks goes to each of the Secondary Schools' organizers for making the voting task as easy for everyone as was possible. Hopefully, we will not need to recruit volunteers for this type of service in the near future. Have a well-earned restful summer.



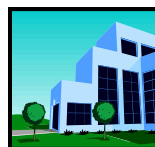
"TAD" BOYES SCHOLARSHIP

Applicants for the scholarship must be a son or daughter (graduating from a public school in B.C.) of a DTA member. The criteria is based on academic excellence.

Application forms are available from the DTA office or online at www.deltateachers.org. The deadline is June 20, 2006.

Final Job Opportunity

Any new vacancies arising from the second round of postings will be posted on the Delta school district website from June 28-30. Applications must be in by **4:00 p.m. on June 30th, 2006**. Successful candidates will be informed by email on July 7th.



DTA BUILDING PURCHASE - "NO DEAL"

The DTA was unable to secure the consent of the Vendor in extending the deadline for arranging financing suitable to the DTA. As a result, the AGM – authorized purchase will not proceed. Many thanks to DTA Treasurer, Pat Thiesen, for the "number crunching" she did to assist in determining the financial ability of the DTA to make such a purchase.

Paul Steer, 1st Vice President

PB + 15 INFORMATION

Article G3 of the Collective Agreement states that salary category changes as a result of the completion of PB+15 will be effective at the beginning of the term following notification from you to the Board that you have completed PB+15. **If you know you will complete your PB+15 during the summer. Please notify the Board in writing before school starts in September, in order to be placed in your new category for September.** You can forward your transcript to the Board once you receive it. The same applies if you finish your PB+15 in the fall; you must notify the Board before the end of December.