



# TODAY

Issue # 12

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NEWSLETTER OF THE DELTA TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

## President's Column

On June 19, the BCTF tabled a new proposal to the employer, lowering the salary proposal to 19% over three years and dropping a number of items from its package. BCPSEA responded on June 20 with an increased salary proposal to 10% over four years. No other salary related items such as SIP, or the Inflation Adjustment Account were mentioned in the employers' package.

**BCPSEA** wants our current Teacher Evaluation and dismissal for non-performance replaced with the following: No requirement for three consecutive less than satisfactory reports within a specified period of time and prior to dismissal. The test to justify dismissal would be "just and reasonable cause" instead of the language in the collective agreement that clearly defines the process. The Employer finds the current evaluation process cumbersome. The BCPSEA proposal would fast track dismissal of teachers without the processes and provisions for support that are currently in place.

Local presidents met today, Thursday, to provide advice to the BCTF Executive and the bargaining team. The BCTF is still hopeful that a deal can be signed by June 30. Keep your school fan phone out lists handy.

*Val*

**After the most stressful teaching year most of us can remember, all of us at the DTA wish you a relaxing, refreshing summer!**



In April, DTA President Val Windsor, attended the 7<sup>th</sup> Tri- National Conference in Defense of Public Education in Oaxaca, Mexico. Rocio Luna Acevedo, a teacher and member of local 22 of the National Education Workers Union, provided translation services for Val during the conference, which included a day-long visit to a Primary School (K-6) in Tamazulapan, 2 1/2 hours outside of Oaxaca.

Eight short weeks later, Rocio, along with other members of Local 22, are involved in a protracted strike and political protest. On June 12<sup>th</sup>, Oaxaca State Governor Ulisez Ruiz Ortiz authorized the use of state and federal police and military forces to break up the strike, allegedly resulting in many injuries and several deaths. Val has since been unable to contact or to confirm the safety of Rocio Luna Acevedo. The protest, which began with teachers striking for better pay, has spread into a general cry for the governor to resign.

In response to this state-sanctioned violence, I have created an online petition addressed to the President of Mexico, Vincente Fox. So far, over 160 individuals have added their electronic signatures to it; many have also left comments that add credibility.

I encourage all to take a few seconds to read the petition and hopefully add your names and comments as well:

<http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/OaxacaTeachers/>

Paul Steer, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

**DTA HONOURS RETIREES:** On Monday, June 12, the DTA held a celebration honouring teachers who have retired or are retiring effective June 30. Retirees had the opportunity to share their retirement plans and their most memorable teaching moments.

**The DTA wishes the following colleagues a happy, healthy retirement.**

Bernadette Bennest  
 Jennifer Birtwell  
 Keith Brown  
 Richard Brown  
 Terence Brown  
 Darlene Buchanan  
 Ellen Callaghan  
 Sandra Clark  
 Diane Cowen  
 Lynda Dandurand  
 Paul Dean  
 Erwin John Deutsch  
 Donna Dussault  
 Cyril Frasier  
 Dan Frye

Randy Gibbons  
 Nadia Grumm  
 Shannon Hack  
 Philip Hague  
 Brian Haigh  
 Lynda Hansen  
 Judith Hardy  
 Susan Henderson  
 Susanne Innes  
 Linda Keate  
 Gisela Kleinschmidt  
 Quin Kung  
 Angela Lee  
 Christman Lee  
 Leonard Lendvoy

Paul Leroy  
 Patricia Loewen  
 Sheryl Lowes  
 Judy Lucas  
 Barbara MaLette  
 Lon Mandrake  
 Bill McCombe  
 Donna McCormick  
 Joan McCracken  
 Colleen McDonald  
 Lorraine Montague  
 Jackie Murray  
 Birgit Nielsen  
 Paul Pederson  
 Barbara Petkau

Jane Phillips  
 Pamela Polzen  
 Carl Rampersad  
 Juanita Sahl  
 Jane Scodellaro  
 Catherine Smith  
 Lynne Smith  
 Cheryl Steinhauer  
 Patricia Thiesen  
 Joanne Threlfall  
 Trudy Tinkham  
 Dorothy Watts  
 Richard Wilkinson  
 Betty Williams  
 Anne Wilson



**CONGRATULATIONS  
 TO THE SOUTH DELTA  
 GOLF TEAM**

James Brown, Steve Cowan,  
 Rex Hayes &  
 Richard Kirincic

For winning the DTA golf tournament on June 9th.



Please remember to return your DTA envelopes to the DTA office.

**TRAVEL  
 INSURANCE**

The BCTF has secured a voluntary [Supplementary Travel Insurance plan](#) for all BCTF members. This plan will pay first when members are out of province and have medical or emergency needs. The BCTF Travel plan will provide coverage for an unlimited number of trips per year to 17, 35, and 60 day's duration.

All application forms can be downloaded by going to the BCTF website at [www.bctf.ca](http://www.bctf.ca) under *Teachers' Pension Plan*.

**Carol is retiring!**

DTA office manager, Carol Gowan is retiring at the beginning of September. After 16 years of working for the DTA, Carol is looking forward to spending more quality time with her family. To honour Carol, a social is planned on **Wednesday, August 30<sup>th</sup>** at the Rusty Anchor Pub in Ladner. Please contact Debbie at the DTA for more details.

Enjoy the great outdoors!



**Organized Hiking/  
 Backpacking Trips!**  
 Contact Doug Woodroff at Burnsville School for more information and details.