



TODAY

Issue # 6

January 12, 2006

NEWSLETTER OF THE DELTA TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

President's Column

Happy New Year and welcome back to what promises to be an interesting remainder of the school year.

Update on the Ready recommendations:

The BCTF is issuing SIP rebate cheques as expediently as possible. The BCTF has the capacity to process approximately 1,000 cheques per day and there are over 33,000 cheques that need issuing. The goal of the BCTF is to have cheques in teachers' hands before the end of the month. Discussions with BCPSEA on grid harmonization will hopefully begin at the end of January.

Industrial Inquiry Commission (IIC):

Vince Ready was appointed the IIC by the Liberal government. He has been charged with determining a bargaining structure that will work in the K-12 system prior to the next round of bargaining. The BCTF has prepared its documentation which will soon be submitted to the IIC. BCPSEA will submit its proposal as well.

Class Size and Composition:

Class size and class composition remains at the forefront of the Round table discussions. Teachers are urged to continue the dialogue they began during job action with parents and the public on the importance of firm limits in class size and composition. The BCTF is hosting a conference in February entitled "Every Kid Counts" which will focus on class size and composition. All of the appropriate partners have been invited to participate and learn more about teachers' concerns.

Government Spends Teachers Money:

The DTA has been busy attending meetings to determine how best to spend \$587,000 for teachers (approximately 14 FTE teachers) to help alleviate some class size and composition issues for the remainder of the school year, \$819,000 for school resources and \$819,000 for district resources. At the School Board meeting on January 10,

*I reminded the Board that these monies were a direct result of teachers' job action and our continued demand that the government keep the money in the school system. The money was **not** a gift from the government.*

Also at Tuesday's Board meeting, a resolution was passed that will see a review of reconfiguration. The review will include public meetings, meetings with partner groups including the DTA, an information sheet for parents addressing enrollment and course selection issues and a survey to be sent to families in the four school catchment areas regarding the implementation of the 8-12 system. The proposed timeline for completion of this review is early February.

With these and other issues before the DTA, the holiday feeling is quickly disappearing!

Val

BCTF AGM Hyatt Regency March 11-15

Contact the DTA if you are interested in letting your name stand for election as a delegate.

DTA GENERAL MEETING Tuesday, February 7th Seaquam Secondary 4:00 p.m.

Agenda Items:

- *Election of BCTF AGM Delegates*
- *DTA Audited Financial Statements*
- *Current Issues*

Please plan to attend. If you require daycare, please call the DTA office
604.946-0391.



Federal Election January 23, 2006

Get in shape for spring! Dropping election leaflets and pounding signs are great calorie burning activities! Drop by your favourite candidate's campaign office and offer an hour or two. As well-organized professionals, teachers are always in demand, especially in the last days of the campaign.

Municipal Election:

We have a new school board!

HEATHER KING, Chair, FABIAN MILAT, Vice-Chair, KELLY GUICHON, GORDON MASI, DALE SAIP, TERESA TOWNSLEY and SIMON TRUELOVE, were elected as Delta School Trustees on November 19. Teachers, like anyone else, are welcome to attend public board meetings. The next regular board meeting is January 24th, followed by public consultation meetings for this year's budget on February 13, 15 and 16.

Have a PEAC:

Your Public Education Advocacy Committee is looking for fresh faces. If you are interested in making a contribution (modest or otherwise) give Pat Truelove a call at Sands. Happy New Year everyone!

Pat Truelove, PEAC chair



Canadian Cancer Society

Relay for Life

Participants & Teams Needed!

You are invited to the First Annual Delta Relay for Life, a fun-filled, non-competitive event that is a celebration of hope & survival. Teams consist of groups representing corporations or small business, community groups, families and friends.

Please join us in the fight against cancer.

**South Delta Secondary School
7:00 p.m., May 13, 2006**

For more information contact
Neil Corbett
at ncorbett@bc.cancer.com

LOWER MAINLAND PENSION SEMINARS

- Jan 21st North Van
- Feb 4th Richmond
- Feb. 11th Coquitlam
- April 1st Delta
- April 22nd Vancouver

For location information go online at www.bctf.ca/pensions or call the DTA 604.946-0391
~~All seminars start at 9:00 a.m. No registration required.~~

BCTF New Teachers Conference

To be held, **March 24 & 25** at the Radisson Hotel, Richmond. Registration February 1st, is on a first come first serve basis. This is a very popular conference.

Don't delay!



NEW TEACHER INDUCTION/STAFF REP. ASSEMBLY

Monday, January 30th 4:00 p.m.

Delta Secondary School
Staff Dining Room

An invitation is extended to all friends and colleagues of new teachers to attend.



Dates to Remember

- Jan 18th - ½ day PD Contacts Training R/C
- Jan 25th - Staff Rep Training R/C 8:30 – 3:00