



NEWSLETTER OF THE DELTA TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

President's Column

What follows is a memo to BCTF Local Representatives from Moira MacKenzie on **Bill 42 and Bill 7**.

Government attempts to stifle free speech

"The Gordon Campbell government has introduced two pieces of legislation in **an attempt to stifle free speech** for a full five months before the provincial elections and to put a damper on community organizing between local government elections.

Bill 42, Election Amendment Act, currently before the legislature, significantly expands the definition of third-party advertising and extends the period to which the rules apply to five months before the provincial election. Previously, the election advertising rules applied to the 28-day official campaign period. Campbell's legislation has added 120 days to that campaign period. Bill 42 also disenfranchises the homeless, who have greatly increased in numbers since 2001, by introducing new proof of residence requirements.

This legislation has met with opposition from a very broad range of groups and organizations, including CanWest Global media, the Trial Lawyers Association, the BC Civil Liberties Association, the BC Federation of Labour, political commentators, public sector unions, and the Independent Business and Contractors Association. In fact, Gordon Campbell himself was a very vocal opponent of this type of "gag" legislation when he was in Opposition. The legislation does not limit contributions to political parties or limit self-congratulatory government advertising, which can be expected to increase considerably as the province heads towards an election.

Bill 7, Local Government Statutes Amendment Act, requires groups and individuals organizing around issues which could have an impact on local government elections to register, set up a separate bank account, name a financial agent, and file a disclosure report in each municipality. This bill specifies no time period, making it in effect for the full three years between local government and school board elections. The government made the legislation retroactive to March 5, 2008, but has not yet produced any handbook, guidelines, or forms to clarify the rules."

To quote Vaughn Palmer in his Vancouver Sun column on Wednesday May 7, 2008: "Campbell himself made the case for what amounted to an absolute right of third parties to engage in political advertising. This government has decided that it knows better than anyone else to what extent someone should be able to participate in a democratic process, he preached. Anything the government does that restricts expression . . . undercuts the very purpose of a modern, open Election Act. Elected officials should not be deciding the rules by which they're elected." So said Campbell on the floor of the legislature, July 4, 1995.

The government plans to invoke closure to ensure passage of these bills when the legislature ends sitting on May 29. Is this the current government's view of democracy?

If teachers are to make education a vote determining issue in the next election, we need to be able to inform the public of the reality of our classrooms. Bills 42 and 7 will stifle our ability to get that message out to the public.

The BCTF is looking at pursuing legal avenues to challenge **Bills 7 and 42** should the Liberal government use their majority to ram them through.

**2008 -2009 DTA Executive Committee
Elected May 13, 2008**

President/LR	Val Windsor
1 st VP/Bargaining Chair	Paul Steer
2 nd VP/Grievance Support	Richard Kirincic
Treasurer	Chris Yang
Secretary	Phyllis With
Local Reps	Richard Kirincic
	Pat Truelove
Alternate Rep	Paul Steer
Members at Large	Angelika Hedley
	Patricia Hillary
	Simon Isbister
Teacher on Call Rep	Susan Yao
Adult Ed Rep	Marianne D'Souza
Committee Chairs:	
Professional Development	Jacque Schierer
Public Education Advocacy	Pat Truelove
Health & Safety	Greg Stafford
Social Justice	Sukhy Dhillon

**Delta Teachers' Salary Grid
July 1, 2008**

Step	Cat 4	Cat 5	Prov Cat 5+ Cat 6	TQS 6 Cat 6+
0	\$ 40,939	\$ 43,911	\$ 47,152	\$ 48,291
1	\$ 42,920	\$ 46,425	\$ 49,860	\$ 51,029
2	\$ 44,900	\$ 48,938	\$ 52,567	\$ 53,767
3	\$ 46,881	\$ 51,452	\$ 55,274	\$ 56,505
4	\$ 48,861	\$ 53,965	\$ 57,982	\$ 59,243
5	\$ 50,842	\$ 56,479	\$ 60,689	\$ 61,982
6	\$ 52,822	\$ 58,992	\$ 63,396	\$ 64,720
7	\$ 54,803	\$ 61,506	\$ 66,104	\$ 67,458
8	\$ 56,783	\$ 64,019	\$ 68,811	\$ 70,196
9	\$ 58,764	\$ 66,532	\$ 71,518	\$ 72,934
Max after Harmonization 2008	\$ 62,567	\$ 71,117	\$ 76,168	\$ 77,942

All members will receive a 2.50 % grid lift to salary. At the same time a second process will result in a 2.50 to 3.00% increase to *maximum* salaries on the grid.

In Delta, all pay categories except Category 5+ max (PB+15) will receive 3.0% extra while Category 5+ max will receive 2.62%.



The PD Perspective

Jacquie Schierer, PD Chairperson



REFLECTION – thinking about what we do before, during and after our actions – is our cognitive guide for growth and development, a way of thinking that we should engage in continuously. Yet it is not unusual to hear people say they don't have time to reflect. We can make reflection habitual by setting time aside specifically for this purpose: coaching, dialogue, journaling, questioning, self-assessment and the use of personal professional development plans all encourage participants to reflect on their work. Such habits of practice become habits of the mind.

(from *Leadership Capacity* by Linda Lambert, 2003, pg. 22)

“TAD” BOYES Scholarship



Application forms for the “Tad” Boyes Scholarship are available from the DTA office or can be downloaded from the DTA website (www.deltateachers.org). Applicants must be the son or daughter of a Delta teacher and graduating from a public school in BC. The scholarship is \$750.00 and the criteria is based on academic excellence. **Deadline is June 20th.**

DTA Retirement Reception

Monday, June 9, 2008

4:00 – 5:15 pm

Delta Town & Country Inn

All district employees are invited to attend this reception to honour our retiring colleagues.

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

DTA GOLF TOURNAMENT

Friday, June 6

Tsawwassen Golf Course

\$35.00

This is a fun event! Format is “best ball”. There are lots of prizes to be won.

Register your team with the DTA office. Talk to your Staff Rep or call 604-946-0391 for more details.

If any member has a contact for prizes please let Richard Kirincic know at rkirincic@deltasd.bc.ca.