



TODAY

President's Column ~ Susan Yao

Date: October 27, 2022
Issue : #2



The cold, wet weather this past few days is welcome, especially in light of the drought conditions and the continuing fires that have blanketed the province with smoke and have put many communities on high alert from fire or drought or both. So, I went in search of my sweaters and warm pants this weekend.

Searching for fall/winter clothes prompted deep reflections to that time way back in my childhood when girls were suddenly—with little ceremony that I can recall—allowed to wear pants to school. Of course, we had been allowed to wear snow pants to school on the rare occasions when it snowed in the Lower Mainland. I remember navigating the snowy fields of Annieville Elementary in heavy snow gear that weighed even more as it soaked up water from the deep slush on Annieville's upper and lower fields. Standing in the cloakroom removing boots, jacket, mittens (attached to strings so they couldn't be lost) and then there were all of the girls in our shortish 60s and 70s dresses. When the green light came allowing us to wear pants, there were the immediate advantages of warmer legs and pockets (absent in most skirts and dresses of the day). It still surprises me that I lived both pre and post the era of being allowed to wear pants to school!

In Iran recently a woman was arrested for her hair showing from under her headscarf. She died while in custody and we are seeing now the outrage following her detainment and death. There is a whole movement stemming from this injustice and the rules and regulations that seek to control how women and girls dress.

What are the dress codes here in Delta's school system? The DTA is aware that some school planners may make reference to dress codes and that these may be extremely out of date or outmoded in our current context. If your school is struggling with issues of who can wear what, please reach out to the DTA for advice and support rather than choosing to forge ahead.

One purpose of the BC Human Rights Code is to promote a climate of understanding and mutual respect where all are equal in dignity and rights.

Last year the Kamloops-Thompson School District's dress



code was in the news after a student was sent home based on an out-dated dress code. That school district has since reviewed and amended their dress code. While we know that teachers care deeply about the welfare of their students, it is not okay to tell students what they are wearing is inappropriate if—for instance—it is about how their body looks in it. Chilliwack Secondary has this phrase in their handbook: *Clothing should demonstrate a respect for the school community and the B.C. Human Rights Code.*



It is best practice to seek out advice before taking action which may impact the health, safety and dignity of students. Seeking advice from the DTA when you have specific concerns also protects you and allows the DTA to find solutions to problems (especially before they come to the notice of the Employer in a disciplinary process or similar).

Municipal Elections

The DTA thanks all of the school trustee candidates who attended our All-Candidates meetings and who submitted responses to the DTA's Political Action Committee's (PAC) questionnaires. The DTA looks forward to working with the elected trustees and thanks them for being appreciative of our issues and being willing to serve the interests of Public Education in Delta.

We are also thankful for those DTA members who assisted in preparations for those meetings and the questionnaires. The DTA is especially grateful to the two teachers (Mahima Lamba and Toby Mundy) who served as moderators for the two evenings.

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Your School Trustees



Erica Beard
Ammen Dhillon
Nimmi Daula
Nick Kanakos

Val Windsor
Masako Gooch
Joe Muego

Donation News!

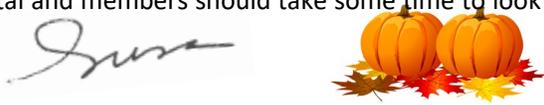
At the October meeting of the DTA Executive Committee, a motion was approved for a donation to the Union Protein Project (NWDLC) - \$800.00 (requested the funds be directed to the Delta Assist Foodbank).

Donations* made by the DTA are guided by the DTA Constitution and Bylaws in Article 26 and allow for donations to organizations that provide services which are consistent with the goals of the DTA/BCTF.

***Please note:** the DTA's donation policy is covered by Article 26 of the DTA's Constitution and By-laws and is an amount equal to one-half of one percent of the annual DTA budget.

Bargaining

While the District and DTA completed local bargaining long ago, we are all still waiting for the Provincial parties (BCTF and BCPSEA) to finish. There are new proposals on the BCTF Members Portal and members should take some time to look at these.



TTOCs Experience Transfer Date

Teachers Teaching on Call can transfer their experience two times a year. The next date is **November 15**. In accordance with Article C.4 of the Collective Agreement, TTOCs also working in part-time teaching positions must request transfer of TTOC experience credit.

1. Transfer of experience is **only** from TTOC silo to contract silo.
2. Transfer can only be made in whole months (17 days of TTOC experience).
3. Transfer is for the entire amount in a TTOC bank with the exception of any days left over from whole month calculations (1 to 16 days).
4. One month TTOC credit will count as one month in the contract silo when transferred.
5. Transfer must be applied for before June 30 to take effect August 31 and November 15 to take effect December 31.

The form for this is on Teams under teacher info/forms and info/payroll at the bottom of list.



DTA Calendar November/December 2022

- **Nov 8** EC Meeting, 4pm - Virtual
- **Nov 9** Staff Rep Training, 4pm - DMEC
- **Nov 14** Staff Rep Meeting, 4pm - Virtual
- **Nov 15** PD Committee Meeting, 4pm - Virtual
- **Nov 16** Maternity Leave Workshop, 4pm - Virtual
- **Dec 6** EC Meeting, 4pm - DTA
- **Dec 7** PD Committee Meeting, 4pm - DTA



DTA Scholarship Recipients

Burnsview	Kai Glass
Delta	Alia Madsen
Delview	Baray Sidhu
North Delta	Anureet Grewal
Sands	Julie Burden
Seaquam	Saanya Toor
South Delta	Madeline Brosinski

F.C. "Tad" Boyes Scholarship

Congratulations to Hayden Powell, who is the 2022 recipient of the F.C. "Tad" Boyes Scholarship. Hayden, the son of John Powell, plans to attend UBC's Sauder School of Business.

Teachers' Pension Plan Online Courses and Webinars

Find answers to your pension questions by taking an online course or participating in an instructor-led webinar.

Getting to know your pension

Are you new to the plan or thinking of joining? Here's an introduction to the value and benefits of plan membership.

Making the most of your pension

Are you establishing your career or several years away from retirement? Learn how the decisions you make throughout your career can affect your pension when you retire.

Approaching retirement

Are you planning for or within five years of retirement? Understand the important decisions you need to make about your pension.

Link to online courses and webinars:

<https://tpp.pensionsbc.ca/online-courses-and-webinars>

In Memoriam

Louise Mary Pollock passed away on August 30, 2022. She taught for over 30 years and loved teaching, making great connections with her students and colleagues.

Terry Alan Lindsay passed away on June 10, 2022. He was a caring & dedicated educator believing that every student had the potential to succeed.