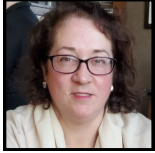




TODAY

President's Column ~ Susan Yao

Date: May 17, 2023
Issue: #6



This week the DTA held its' Annual General Meeting at Seaquam Secondary. Thank you to everyone who showed up to pass the DTA budget, review the committee reports and elect or acclaim positions on the Executive Committee and other committees. I am grateful –this year in particular—to the hard work and support of Alison Roche, 1st VP and Kathy Macfarlane, 2nd VP. Their continued support makes my job much easier, especially with the several rounds of illness that I had this year. Part of what makes the DTA office run so smoothly is the team-work and dedication of everyone here. I am very happy to serve the membership for the upcoming school year, along with Alison, Kathy and the new and continuing members of the Executive Committee and all other committees.

The released table officers (myself, Alison and Kathy—on an ad hoc basis) are supported by DTA Office Manager Jane Randazzo and DTA Admin Assistant Brianna Redwood. I am very grateful for the wise counsel of the DTA Executive Committee members also. And of course, there are the many Staff Reps at school sites who bring issues and concerns to our attention. So much of the work done by so many is voluntary and I know that without that generosity of spirit, the work would be much more difficult. So, thank you!

The DTA has been greatly served this year by DTA 2nd Vice President—and NDSS teacher—Kathleen Macfarlane who has been coming into our office at least once a week and is helping with the backlog of calls, emails and issues. Her insights as a secondary teacher are invaluable. Example—the saga of the “Secondary Futures” this year as secondary schools discussed the future of next year’s schedule. We trust we will hear from members as this unrolls in 2023-2024.

This week we are in the cycle of staffing and the DTA is busy with calls about postings and questions about qualifications and the post and fill language (E.25 and E.27). DTA advice: make sure what you apply for is



2023 - 2024 DTA Executive Committee

President/LR	Susan Yao
1st VP/Bargaining Chair	Alison Roche
2nd VP/Grievance Support	Kathleen Macfarlane
Treasurer	Mahima Lamba
Executive Secretary	Trish McCullough
Local Rep: (2 year)	Kathleen Macfarlane
Local Rep: (1 year)	Matt Huang
Alternate Rep	Sandra Cadez
Members at Large	Jeff Hacker Elen Nikas Louise O'Brien Sukhi Aujla
Members at Large (BIPOC)	
Committee Chairs:	
Aboriginal Education	Jessica Le Brun
Adult Ed, Itinerant and Non-Enrolling Teachers	Jason Sall
French as First or Working Language	Elen Nikas
Health & Safety	Sandra Cadez
Professional Development	Jeanie McKay
Political Action Committee	Vacant
Social Justice	Amar Sull
TTOC	Tanja Cvekic



DTA Retirement Social
Monday, June 19th 4:00 - 5:30 pm
Tsawwassen Springs Ballroom

All district employees are invited to attend this social to honour our retiring colleagues. Appetizers provided and Cash Bar

HAPPY PRIDE 2023!

something you want to teach! By virtue of applying for a position, if you are chosen, you have accepted the position.

The DTA is still doing school visits and we are seeing a great turnout. While we finish our tour by the end of May, it means we have less time for calls as one of the busiest times in the office is lunchtime. But be persistent and call again!

What comes up in our visits are the issues schools are dealing with and that they share with us. With 34 worksites and over 1,100 members (even more when we consider the many TTOCs in the system!), it is a matter of triage for Alison and I (and Kathy when she's in) to prioritize which issues are most critical and time-sensitive. And while your whole staff may know what's happening at your school, we don't always know.

The DTA recently heard from a school staff about a critical incident that occurred and the confusion about what supports were available to teachers and CUPE staff. While the DTA released officers are not counsellors with expertise in dealing with the aftermath of a critical incident, we do have advice and resources to share. These include and are not limited to the District EFAP (Employee

and Family Assistance Program) provided to ALL District employees by Lifeworks and the extended health benefits for teachers in positions of 0.5 or more. If you or someone you know is suffering, LET US KNOW. We apologize if we don't return your call or email right away. Do be persistent because your issue is important.

Next month the DTA is holding its' Retirement Social and Dinner at Tsawwassen Springs. It's a great venue and the food does not disappoint. We already have a list of DTA retirees who will be invited to the dinner and also invited are EC members, Staff Reps and some District staff as well as the CUPE President. This event is big and splashy and we want you there to be part of the fun to celebrate those retiring and to socialize with your peers. Come celebrate for the "Social" part of the event (4-5:30 pm). There will be appetizers and a no-host bar.

Summer: do your plans include coursework or other PD events? Get your PD applications in early and then you can relax! If you still have outstanding applications you haven't been paid out for, get your documents in to our office.

Just six more weeks, everyone! Stay healthy!



Condolences

The DTA extends our deepest sympathies to the family, friends and colleagues of members who recently passed away:

From North Delta Secondary:

- * Al Haynes
- * Sigfried (Sig) Kuehn
- * Sid (Cyril) Samphire passed away on April 12th
- * Rick Wilkinson passed away on May 3rd.
- * Lise Streit passed away on April 15th at the age of 78. She taught in a few different schools in South Delta.



Applicants must be a child of a Delta teacher graduating from a public school in BC. The scholarship is \$1,000.00 and the criteria is based on academic excellence.



"Tad" Boyes Scholarship

Application forms for the "Tad" Boyes Scholarship are available on the DTA website at www.deltateachers.org, under Resources/Forms.

Deadline is June 30, 2023

Social Justice Book Club

Their last meeting for the 2022/23 school year is on May 31st, where we will conclude with a discussion of "So You Want to Talk about Race" (Ijeoma Oluo). We have been having some deep and thoughtful discussion with a small yet dedicated group and look forward to wrapping this book up and beginning a new one. We welcome any member to join our committee so we can have even more voices and connections to deepen our learning and our practice. Thank you to all of you who have made time in your busy schedules and we have enjoyed learning alongside one another.

PD Reminders

Have you attended a workshop, or completed a course and have not received your reimbursement?

The deadline for submitting receipts is **June 30**. As cheques are posted, please confirm your mailing address.

Are you planning on attending a course, conference, or workshop during the summer or the first week of September? Please submit your application to the DTA office by **June 15** to ensure approval prior to the summer break.

"The beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you." - B.B. King