

# 2025 03 12 #9 **LTA News**

We acknowledge with gratitude and respect that LTA members have the privilege of working on the unceded ancestral territory of the Coast Salish peoples, the Kwantlen, Katzie, Matsqui and Semiahmoo who have cared for this land for thousands of years, and who continue to care for this land.

# President's Message

Dear Colleagues,

Spring break is fast approaching! I hope you all have a restful and rejuvenating time with friends and family.

As a reminder, twenty-eight Langley teachers will be attending the BCTF Annual General Meeting in Vancouver as elected delegates during the first five days of spring break. This year's meeting is particularly significant to the composition of the BCTF Executive Committee, as we will be electing a new President. The AGM will also have contested elections for First Vice President, Second Vice President, and four Member-At-Large Positions. The results of the election will be announced on Wednesday, March 18, 2025. Thank you in advance to all our Langley delegates for their commitment and time to participate in the processes of our Provincial Federation.

Wishing you a wonderful spring break.

In Solidarity Taylor Fauteux

# February's Teacher Involvement Recognition

A huge congratulations to Diane Courtney for being the recipient of February's LTA Teacher Involvement Recognition. Diane has dedicated many years to our Association as a Staff rep, Health and Safety rep, and Executive Committee member. She is now working for the BCTF, facilitating Health and Safety workshops throughout the province.

Congratulations, Diane!

# LTA Calendar

March 13Joint ProD, 9am LTA officeMarch 15-18BCTF Annual General Mtg, Hyatt VancouverMarch 24-28LTA Office ClosedMarch 31LTA Office re-opensApril 1Executive Committee, 4pm Hybrid

## Contact Us

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# **Teacher Wellness**

As we round out the last third of the school year, teacher wellness becomes more important than ever. After months of hard work, dedication, and navigating the challenges of the classroom, it's essential for educators to prioritize their own wellbeing.

Taking time for self-care, whether through physical activity, connecting with loved ones, or engaging in hobbies, can help to recharge both the body and mind. This period also offers a great opportunity to reflect on personal boundaries and create space for relaxation, ensuring that teachers can finish the year strong and with a renewed sense of energy. It's a reminder that supporting students' success is deeply connected to the teacher's own wellbeing, and fostering a healthy balance is key to sustaining long-term passion

# Things to do in Vancouver March 2025

During March break and throughout the month of March, teachers in Vancouver can enjoy a wide range of activities to unwind and recharge. The city offers a mix of outdoor adventures, cultural experiences, and relaxation options.

For those who love nature, visiting Stanley Park for a walk or bike ride along the seawall is always refreshing, or they can explore the stunning trails of Grouse Mountain.

Vancouver's vibrant arts scene also offers plenty to enjoy, including exhibitions at the Vancouver Art Gallery or a performance at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre.

For a more laid-back experience, teachers can spend time exploring the city's diverse neighborhoods, such as Granville Island for local artisan goods, or indulge in a culinary adventure in the city's bustling restaurant scene.

With mild weather, it's a perfect time to soak in the city's beauty while also taking a well-deserved break.

For more ideas on events and activities happening around Vancouver this March, have a look at the following website: <u>Daily Hive</u> <u>Vancouver Events March 2025.</u>





The BCTF Pension Seminar is coming up on Thursday, March 20, 2025, from 4:00–5:15 p.m. Pacific Time via Zoom. BCTF

This seminar is intended to help members learn about how their pension plan works, factors to consider when planning for retirement, and their pension options.

The seminar will cover topics such as:

- How pension is calculated
- Eligibility for unreduced pension
- Pension options
- The retirement application process
- Post-retirement considerations.

If you are planning to attend, please register at the link below:

https://www.bctf.ca/topics/services-information/events-and-meetings/pension-seminar-registration-2025-03-20.

After registering, you will receive an automatic confirmation email with the Zoom link and details. If you have any additional questions, please contact jmawhinney@bctf.ca.

# Ways for Teachers to Access PSA Memberships

There are many ways for teachers to access a Professional Specialist Association (PSA) membership:

### 1. Purchase a PSA membership directly from the BCTF.

The easiest way to handle this is to have the member purchase their PSA membership directly from the BCTF Shopify store, and then reimburse the member for the purchase, if your Pro-D language supports this.

## 2. Participate in a PSA conference.

Most PSAs hold their conference on the October PSA day, but they may hold additional conferences later in the year or hold their main conference at an alternate time. Links to PSA websites and conference registration sites can be found at www.PSAday.ca.

## 3. Participate in a Local Induction Ceremony.

The BCTF provides a free PSA membership to each new inductee who attends a Local Induction Ceremony. Previously, these were done via paper form. The process has been streamlined, however. Now, locals collect the first name, last name, and email address of the inductee. The Local President and Vice-President have access to an upload process for the file containing that information that will then automatically email each member on the list with a code that they use at the BCTF Shopify store to sign up for a free PSA membership. Inquiries regarding the process can be sent to ternst@bctf.ca.

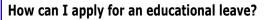
## 4.Upload a resource to TeachBC.

The first time a member uploads a resource to TeachBC, they are prompted to contact the BCTF for a PSA membership as a thank you. When they email the Federation, they are provided with a coupon code for the BCTF Shopify store for a free PSA membership.

#### **Questions?**

Please feel free to reach out to Jennie Slack, the Assistant Director responsible for liaising with the PSAs. You can reach her at psa-coordinator@bctf.ca.

# FAQ Section for the LTA





You can fill out an application form which is available on the school district site, by searching for

<u>Education Leave</u>. Educational leaves need to be submitted to Human Resources by March 31st preceding the work year in which leave is to be taken. You can find more information in our Collective Agreement under Article G.24.

If there is money left over or people decide not to take part in an approved educational leave you may apply for a leave of lesser duration than a full year during the current school year, by submitting applications to the Human Resources Department at the School Board Office by October 31st. Applicants will be short-listed, interviewed and notified of the selection committee's decision before November 30th. You can call Human Resources or contact the LTA to see if this is available each year. This current school year there are no more funds available for educational leaves for the 2024-2025 school year.