

# The NOSTA Rattler

May 2011  
Volume 3, Issue 4

Local 83 of the British Columbia Teachers Federation



## Upcoming NOSTA Events

- ◆ May 9 - AGM @DEC 4:15pm
- ◆ May 18 - Pro-D Committee Mtg. @ NOSTA 4:15pm
- ◆ May 20 - Pro-D day
- ◆ June 2 - TTOC meeting @ NOSTA 4:15pm
- ◆ June 6 - Exec Mtg. @ NOSTA 4:15pm
- ◆ June 13 - LRA Mtg. @ DEC 4:15pm
- ◆ June 15 - Retirement Dinner @ Elks Hall 5:30pm
- ◆ June 15 - Pro-D Committee Mtg. @ NOSTA 4:15pm
- ◆ June 30 - last day of school

## Recommended Resources & Pro-D

- [www.bctf.ca](http://www.bctf.ca)
- <http://bctf.ca/local83/>

## The President's Message

### Report from the provincial bargaining table:

The BCTF and BCPSEA met for their sixth bargaining session on April 28, 2011.

As agreed at our last session, BCPSEA brought forward more questions about our proposal. However, the questions were mainly related to PELRA.

Jim Iker said it was disappointing we had to answer the same questions again. BCPSEA spokesperson Jacquie Griffiths said that these questions had not been answered. Jim replied "I answered the questions many times. You just don't like my answers."

Jim reiterated the need to focus on our tabled proposal regarding the redesignation of the split of issues. The next scheduled meeting is April 29, 2011. At this meeting, we will give further rationale on each item as to their designation of local matter or provincial matter.

Jim Iker  
First Vice-president

21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning - Those who attended the Superintendent's Conference in November met again this week to discuss and review what we learned and attempt to set a direction for the school district to move in. There were conversations to set up an Educational Change Committee to discuss further changes in education in our district.

For more information on the Ministry of Education Service Plan and Personalized learning see the BCTF website [http://www.bctf.ca/uploadedFiles/Publications/Research\\_reports/2011-EF-03.pdf](http://www.bctf.ca/uploadedFiles/Publications/Research_reports/2011-EF-03.pdf)

Aboriginal Enhancement Agreement - The educational partners met on April 28 to begin discussions for a new agreement. It was agreed that more of these discussions need to take place.

Teachers should make themselves familiar with the Enhancement Agreement by going to the ministry website, because upcoming changes in the way the program will be delivered will require teacher vigilance. The Aboriginal Enhancement Agreement speaks to the collaborative work between bands, the board of Education and all school based personnel.

<http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/abed/agreements/>

Your Bargaining Committee, which consists of all members of the Executive, has been reviewing local priorities and our Collective Agreement intensively. Your Bargaining Team consists of 5 Executive members plus your Local President. The Team are the members who are at the Board table with the Board. They have worked intensely and exhaustingly on your behalf, adding many extra hours to their fulltime jobs in order to be prepared for negotiations with the School Board. They are an amazing team: Doug Brown, Christina McDermott, Brenda O' Dell, Betty Ross, and Maxine Davis.

SURT training for Staff Reps, Friday May 13<sup>th</sup>. At DEC 8:30am. Register on First Class or call Madi 250-832-1933.

Public opinion supports teachers' bargaining objectives  
Underfunding and oversized classes are key concerns about public education according to a recent province-wide poll on education issues and teacher bargaining commissioned by the BCTF. For more information see the BCTF website and Teacher magazine.



## MyBCTF, a secure portal inside bctf.ca, went live April 18, 2011

· Access to Advice to Locals and other secure site documents is now through MyBCTF portal. Therefore Local Officers menu bar has been removed from bctf.ca.

· The secure bargaining content will no longer be listed under Advice to Locals in the new member portal, but as a separate menu item under the For Local Presidents, Bargaining Chairs, and Local Representatives sections.

· Bookmarked links you may have set previously will no longer work and access to that content will be through the portal. You will be able to re-create new bookmarked links when you are in the portal.

Sign up instructions are as follows.

First-time sign up

1. At bctf.ca, click on “BCTF Members Only” tab.
2. At login page (“BCTF member portal”) click “First time here? Sign up now.”
3. Enter required fields and your BCTF member ID number (if known), OR your school district, and your school district employee number.

4. Click “Sign up.” The next screen shows your six-digit BCTF Member ID number in the top banner below the Member Portal title.

5. Record/remember your BCTF member ID number and password!

6. Having trouble? Try “Member Portal Help” at the top right corner of the portal sign in page.

7. If you are still having problems signing on, contact the BCTF at 604-871-2119 or toll-free 1-800-663-9163, ext. 2119, or e-mail portal@bctf.ca<mailto:portal@bctf.ca>.

(Note: The BCTF Member ID number is assigned to every member by our Membership system. Your number will be generated at First Sign up when you enter your name, district number, and district employee number. It can also be found on the stub section of BCTF expense cheques. Or, you can call the BCTF Toll free: **1-800-663-9163** for assistance. For privacy and security reasons, staff will ask you a few questions to confirm your identity before giving you the ID number.)

What’s in the portal?

Members will have access to:

- timely bargaining updates
- Advantage Program information
- collective agreements
- interactive tools, including discussion groups
- easy registration for conferences and meetings
- updating of personal information

## AGM 2011 Victoria

By Nancy Knickerbocker

Delegates voted for continuity of leadership at the helm of their union coming into this next challenging year of collective bargaining.

President Susan Lambert, First Vice-President Jim Iker, and Second Vice-President Glen Hansman were all re-elected by acclamation to continue in their respective positions.

Also elected to serve as members-at-large on the BCTF Executive Committee were: David Komljenovic from Kamloops, Joanna Larson from Prince Rupert, Teri Mooring from Quesnel, Paul Steer from Delta, and Christine Stewart from Vancouver.

For the first time in a decade, the minister of education addressed the BCTF Annual General Meeting, held over spring break at the Victoria Convention Centre.

See the rest of this article at <http://www.bctf.ca/publications/NewsMagArticle.aspx?id=22898>

**TTOC NEWS**

The last TTOC meeting will be held on Thursday, June 2nd at 4:15pm at the NOSTA office. It will be a BCTF Employment Insurance workshop as well as a little pizza party to celebrate the end of the school year. Please register on Inservice on the SD83 website.

***Many schools have Parent/Volunteer Teas in the near future.***

South Broadview - May 26, 2011 from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m.

North Canoe - May 16<sup>th</sup>

North Shuswap Elementary - June 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Bills 27 and 28****The Districts are eating what they have been fed.**

Caution: Reading BCPSEA tweets can increase the chances of heart attack and stroke. Do not read their tweets if you have high blood pressure, are nursing, pregnant or could become pregnant. Side effects can include swearing, head banging, choking and more...

[http://www.bcpsea.bc.ca/documents/publications/00-HJF-Q\\_A-BCSC-Decision-Bills-27-and-28-April-2.pdf](http://www.bcpsea.bc.ca/documents/publications/00-HJF-Q_A-BCSC-Decision-Bills-27-and-28-April-2.pdf)

[http://www.bcpsea.bc.ca/documents/publications/TeacherBargainingBulletin/No%203\\_RDN\\_BCSC%20Decision%20in%20Bills%2027\\_28.pdf](http://www.bcpsea.bc.ca/documents/publications/TeacherBargainingBulletin/No%203_RDN_BCSC%20Decision%20in%20Bills%2027_28.pdf)

**Bill 27 & 28 Decision—This Changes Everything**

The Supreme Court decision has rendered Bills 27 and 28 invalid. The BCTF position is that the provisions that were stripped, as a result of the legislation, are restored and in force as of the

decision, and locals should table improvements to the restored provisions. Locals have been advised to compare current class size and composition numbers to the requirements of their restored provisions and insist that boards base all spring staffing decisions on the restored provisions for class size, composition, staffing ratios, and caseloads.

Unfortunately, the court did not find that the vaporization of 10 local agreements under the Education Services Collective Agreement Act to be unconstitutional. However, language stripped from the imposed agreement is restored.

**Local News**

Your local bargaining team has met with the employer three times and we have signed a protocol agreement which outlines how bargaining will proceed.

Five more sessions at the table will occur by the end of May. We are hoping to agree on language regarding Health and Safety and Access to Worksite.

Two members of the bargaining team will be attending a meeting in Vancouver on May 6 to discuss the state of bargaining in the province with other locals.

**The Get Outside BC project is happening this summer for BC youth aged 14 to 18!**

This all-expenses-paid opportunity has 3 phases:

1. July 5 - 8 - Attend the Get Outside BC Youth Leadership Summit in Squamish with 40 other youth from across the province. Build leadership skills, go hiking, network, meet inspiring mentors, learn about cool green jobs, become a natural leader, and create an action plan to deliver your own outdoor event.
2. August 12 - International Youth Day - Plan and host your own outdoor activity event for other youth in a provincial or national park near your community.
3. October 2011 - Reunite with the Leadership Summit participants from your region to talk about your events, share your successes and make plans for future events.

Applications are due May 18th!

For more information and to apply, go to [www.getoutsidebc.ca](http://www.getoutsidebc.ca)



*Brought to you by BC Parks, Child and Nature Alliance, CPAWS-BC, Mountain Equipment Co-op and Parks Canada.*

## Desperately Seeking

Ok not that desperately, but next year will be an exciting one!

We are accepting nominations for the following positions:

- Pro-D (co-chairs)
- Health and Safety
- Members at Large (2)
- Communications
- Secretary
- TTOC

Please contact Madi or Lynda and attend the AGM



## Submissions

Do you have a funny story? Have you come across an excellent resource? Know of an upcoming event at your school or in our communities? Are you interested in sharing your ideas or experiences with colleagues? Know of pro-d opportunities in the near future? If so, please send your ideas and submissions for the NOSTA RATTLER to Madi at the NOSTA office. [mdunleavey@telus.net](mailto:mdunleavey@telus.net)

## Annual General Meeting

Monday May 9, 2011

4:15pm

District Education Centre

2960 Okanagan Ave SE,  
Salmon Arm

Guest Speaker: Kip Wood  
(BCTF Executive) about  
Bargaining



Agenda will include:

- Election of 2011/12

*Executive*

- 2011/12 NOSTA Budget

- Pro-D Budget

- Staffing

*There will be door prizes!!*

This will be one of my last issues of *the Rattler*. At the AGM we will be electing a new Communications chair to take over *the Rattler* and website. If you are interested in taking over this job please notify NOSTA. Thank you for everyone's contributions and support over the last few years.

- Amanda Bowlby

## Retirement Celebration

June 15, 2011

Salmon Arm Elks

Community Hall

3690 30<sup>th</sup> Street NE  
(pass Sullivan campus)

Cocktail Hour

5:30- 6:30

Dinner beginning at  
6:30

Tickets can be  
purchased from  
NOSTA for \$29



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We're on the Web!  
<http://bctf.ca/local83/index.html>