BCTF Kids Matter Teachers Care

Regional Social Justice Conference Fund 2026–27

Submission deadline: October 15, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.*

*Dependent upon approval of providing funds for the 2026–27 school yearh through the spring budget setting process.

BC TEACHERS' FEDERATION
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TFEU

Regional Social Justice Conference Fund

Purpose

These grants are designed to provide funding for social justice conferences to be held throughout the province. The intent behind these grants is to build capacity and support the growth of social justice in a given region. Funding occurs on a biennial basis.

Regional conferences must:

1. advance the priorities of the BC Teachers' Federation (BCTF)'s Committee for Action on Social Justice (CASJ) program
2. support and help develop the network of social justice contacts
3. advance the implementation and application of the Social Justice Lens
4. use BCTF conference funds to pay only for release time, travel, accommodation, per diem expenses for teacher participants, keynote speakers, and outside workshop facilitators for the actual conference
5. have approval of the BCTF Executive Committee (EC), on advice from a subcommittee of the CASJ for funding
6. plan for post-conference follow-up
7. not be scheduled in conflict with other BCTF meetings
8. rotate geographically around the province and within the zone
9. meet the needs of the zone, region, and/or local.

For more details on the above, please refer to the Regional SJ Conference Rubric at the end of the application form.

Regional conferences should:

1. be accessible to community members (students, other unions, grassroots networks, education partners, etc.) when appropriate
2. encourage local and/or community organizations to contribute to the planning and financing of the conference
3. be planned and run by locals in the zone in co-operation with CASJ and appropriate CASJ action group(s)
4. plan for media coverage.

Notes

1. Before undertaking a project/activity, locals/sublocals should submit completed Regional Social Justice Conference Fund applications to the BCTF for approval of the grant.
2. Sublocals may only apply via their locals and applications must be signed by the president of the local.
3. The host local may apply for up to $25,000, one-half of which will be sent to the local office. All conference costs will be paid for by the local. A budget report with original receipts will be sent to the BCTF and then the remaining monies will be released to the local. T4 slips must be issued for honorariums of over $500.

A final one-page report must be completed following the conference and send to Heather Kelley (information below). This report should include:

- a summary of how the money was spent
- a description of how the project unfolded
- a highlight of the successes and challenges of the project
- a description of the impact of the project.

Photos of the project are most welcome.
For further information on the application process, please contact:

Heather Kelley, Assistant Director, Social Justice
hkelley@bctf.ca,
Direct—604-871-1850
Toll-free—1-800-663-9163 (ext 1850)

Regional Social Justice Conference Rubric

This will be used along with your application form to assess the merits of each application.

Criteria	**Fully Meets Criteria**	**Minimally Meets Criteria**	**Not Within Criteria**
Advances CASJ priorities	Strong links to CASJ priorities	Some links to CASJ priorities	CASJ priorities and links to conference are unclear.
Supports and helps develop SJ networks	Includes specific components to build a regional network of SJ contacts and allows for networking opportunities afterwards	Begins to build capacity for SJ work in the region	No opportunity or structure for SJ activists to network and share ideas beyond the day of the conference.
Advances application of the *social justice lens*	All quadrants of the social justice lens explained clearly with connections to the conference content	Some quadrant connections are made; others are tenuous in nature	No consideration of SJ lens in planning or content of conference.
Application only covers allowable expenses	Covers allowable expenses with additional funding from other sources and/or organizations		Expenses include items that the BCTF does not pay for.
Plans for post-conference follow-up	Includes concrete plans for post-conference networking, events, sharing sessions, and possible article in the *social justice newsletter*		No post-conference follow-up plans.

Equity of access to funding by locals	provides all locals with equitable funding for teacher participation		unequal access for teachers in different locals to attend the conference.
Not scheduled to conflict with BCTF meetings (AGM, zone meetings, BCTF conferences, etc.)	does not conflict with BCTF meetings		conflicts with BCTF meetings.
Provides for collaborative planning by all locals in the region	all locals equally involved in planning conference focus and content	unequal planning and access for different locals	one local driving the agenda, others as signatories only.
Recommended by a CASJ subcommittee to the EC	unanimous recommendation by CASJ subcommittee to the EC	limited recommendation by CASJ subcommittee to the EC	lack of approval by CASJ subcommittee to the EC.

Regional Social Justice Conference Fund Application

Application deadline October 15, 2026.

Name of conference:	
Proposed date(s) of conference:	
Applicant information	
Name:	Email:
Address:	
Contact number:	Fax:
Host local information	
Name of local/sublocal:	Local association number:
Local President (LP):	LP contact number:
LP's email:	
Host local social justice contact's information	
Phone:	Email:

An applicant may wish to provide, on a voluntary basis, information as to whether they self-identify as a member of an equity-seeking group.

I self-identify as a member of the following equity seeking group(s):

Conference Description

Social justice focus for this conference

Please describe how your proposal advances the priorities of the BCTF Committee for Action on Social Justice (CASJ)

Capacity of network-building

How will your conference help build social justice networks within the local or the region?

Needs of zone, region and/or local

How will your conference meet the social justice needs of your zone, region and/or local?

Planning process

Describe how the different locals and community organizations are involved in planning.

Locals participating

Please state the nature of involvement, including in-kind donations from locals for specific items.

Local	Support given/in-kind donations

Post-conference follow-up

Provide any plans for follow-up, including networking, events, sharing sessions and articles.

Media coverage

Describe plans for media coverage of the conference.

Social Justice Lens
How socially just is your project?
Use these questions to help you plan your project. Please provide details on how your conference application fits within the Social Justice Lens.

Access: How do you ensure that there are no barriers to participating in this project?

Agency: How will this project empower participants to know their rights, voice their concerns, and create change?

Advocacy: How does this project help participants to develop concrete skills to effect change?

Solidarity action: How does the project allow for networking and coalition building among students, teachers, family, and community groups to effect systemic change?

Conference budget (Please attach a more detailed budget if needed)

	Expenses	Cost
Presenters' fees	Keynote speakers	
	Non-BCTF workshop facilitators	
Leaves of absence	TTOC release time for attendees within host region/local (_____ of attendees × $400/day)	
Accommodations	_____ of attendees × $_____/night)	
Per diems	_____ of attendees × $_____ per diem costs The current meal reimbursement rates while on BCTF business are as follows: Breakfast—$25.08 Lunch—$25.54 Dinner—$52.45 Travellers may claim these amounts without receipts. They may not claim any meals that were provided by their hotel (e.g., breakfast) or as part of any meal provided at the event/meeting.	
Travel costs	Flights	
	Ferry	
	Driving (see *driving reimbursement chart*)	
	Transit	
Additional costs		
Total expenses		

All additional cost items are at the expense of the local(s) or sponsors hosting this conference. We need these listed to help determine your total budget needs for this conference.

	Conference revenues	Revenues
Registration fees	_____ of teacher attendees × $_____(registration fee)	
	_____ of parent attendees × $_____(registration fee)	
	_____ of student attendees × $_____(registration fee)	
	Total registration fees	
Confirmed revenues from other sources	List organizations and amounts from each that have been secured by the application date.	
Total revenues		

The host local may apply for up to $25,000 to hold a Regional Social Justice Conference within the current school year.

Net amount of Regional Social Justice Conference Grant requested from the BCTF _____

Note: This application must be approved by a subcommittee of CASJ in order to be considered for funding.

_____ _____

Signature of Local President
(Hosting conference)

Print name

_____ _____

Signature of Local President
(Additional local in the region)

Print name

_____ _____

Signature of Local Social Justice Contact
(Hosting conference)

Print name

_____ _____

Signature of Local Social Justice Contact
(Additional local in the region)

Print name

HK:TSU/EL:TFEU