

NOTEBOOK

Issue #4 October 31, 2017



NVTA members take note! MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR PENSION

A free 2-hour workshop for mid-career members focused on how the decisions you make throughout your career can affect your pension when you retire. To view the complete schedule across the Lower Mainland, and to register online, please visit tpp.pensionsbc.ca

NOVEMBER 2017

8 5:00-7:00 Vancouver – Holiday Inn
Vancouver Centre
23 6:00-8:00 Burnaby – Accent Inns Burnaby

JANUARY 2018

17 6:00-8:00 Surrey – Comfort Inn & Suites
18 4:00-6:00 Coquitlam – Best Western
Coquitlam Inn

FEBRUARY 2018

16 5:00-7:00 North Vancouver – Seymour
Golf & Country Club

MARCH 2018

8 6:00-8:00 Vancouver – Holiday Inn
Vancouver Centre

APPROACHING RETIREMENT

A free workshop for members nearing retirement focused on helping you understand the important decisions you need to make about your pension as retirement approaches.

NOVEMBER 2017

9 6:00-8:00 North Vancouver –
Seymour Golf & Country Club

FEBRUARY 2018

17 9:00-11:00 North Vancouver – Seymour
Golf & Country Club
17 12:30-2:30 North Vancouver – Seymour
Golf & Country Club

To view the complete schedule across the Lower Mainland, and to register online, please visit tpp.pensionsbc.ca

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT: *Happy Halloween!*



Happy Halloween to you all. Incredibly, the year is already twenty percent over. Only 36 working days until the winter break! I know that change continues to come fast and furious, from new curriculum to reporting to restored language. Never before has so much change happened at one time and I appreciate how exhausting this must be.

Despite our incredible Supreme Court victory one year ago, there are still many classrooms that are in violation of the restored language. We continue to meet with senior District management to seek proof that in fact *best efforts* have been made. We are also finalizing our discussions on how remedy will roll out. Look for more information on remedy soon. Though the actual remedy process will not be clear until November, your class in October will still be part of the remedy calculation. Even if there is only one day in a month that your class violated the restored language, you will still receive remedy for that entire month. Please stay tuned for more information on the entire remedy process.

As the days grow shorter and the workload increases with report cards and parent/teacher conferences, make sure that you find time for yourself. We continue to encourage Wellness Wednesdays. On those Wednesdays when there is not a General Meeting, RA, or Staff Committee, leave work as soon as you can and do something for yourself. As a Star Wars fan, I like to think that sometimes we need to restore balance to the force.

AN ANNIVERSARY WORTH CELEBRATING!

One year ago, teachers around British Columbia celebrated the news that the years-long battle with the Provincial Liberal Government had ended in victory for the BCTF at the Supreme Court of Canada.

To acknowledge this milestone the NVTA will host an Open House at the NVTA office. Please come and join us for an appetizer or two and a glass of cheer!

Date: Friday, November 10, 2017
Time: 3:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Location: NVTA Office
240 – 233 West 1st Street, North Vancouver

North Vancouver Teachers' Association
240 – 233 West 1st Street, North Vancouver, BC V7M 1B3
Phone: 604-988-3224 Fax: 604-980-8092 Website: nvta.ca



KNOW YOUR RESTORED LANGUAGE

Article D.4.5.n

D.4.5.n. states that “Release time shall be provided to the receiving teacher(s) upon request, for school visitations, training, planning with the aide and resource teacher, meetings with associated personnel and parents, and such other activities related to the integration as the teacher(s) may request.”

What does this mean?

This is an important restored clause that creates incredible supports for our most needy students. While these activities may now occur both during or outside of the school day, those teachers who choose will be provided release time for a variety of reasons connected to designated students in their classrooms.

This includes, but is not limited to: IEP meetings, planning time with EAs and LSTs, meetings with parents and personnel connected to the designated student, specific workshops or training the teacher requests for enhancing skills connected to the designated student, school visitations to observe other classrooms that may provide increased skills or training for a teacher working with a designated student, or any such activity requested by the teacher that is connected to the inclusion of a designated student.

All teachers should have now received an email with a link to the proper District form to complete to request this release time. The title of the form is: **Teacher Request for Release Time As per Article D. 4.5.** Under *Reason for Absence* there is a drop down menu to choose from that lists all the areas for the release discussed in Article D.4.5.n. The absence code for ADT is 200. Please contact us at the NVTA if you have further questions or have any difficulty accessing this release time.

COMMITTEE CALL OUT

New NVTA Committees

- MyEd and Reporting: Secondary and Elementary teachers needed to review concerns on Reporting
- Caseload Committee: An NVTA committee to examine the issue of growing caseloads among our non-enrolling teachers, including, but not limited to, LSTs and counselors.

District Joint Committees

- Aboriginal Advisory (Enhancement Agreement Committee)
 - Band & Strings Advisory
 - Capital Planning Committee
 - Communications Committee
 - Education Weeks Planning Committee
- French Immersion District Review Committee
- Joint Education & Program Implementation Committee (JEPIC)
 - Mentorship Program Organizing Committee
 - Occupational Health & Safety Committee
 - Safe & Caring Schools Committee

Please fill out a Committee Application form for both the new NVTA committees and District Joint Committees and fax (604.980.8092) or email (btriggs.nvta@telus.net) it in as soon as possible. Forms can be found under the Forms and/or Committees tab at nvta.ca.



REMINDER TO ALL TEACHERS

Curriculum Implementation Day is Monday, November 6, 2017.

Start time is the same as at your school.

Curriculum Implementation Day concludes at 2 p.m. at all schools.