

# NOTEBOOK

Issue #9 February 15, 2017



## Pro D Conference *Diversity* Friday, February 24, 2017

### *What you need to know*

The Diversity Conference is just around the corner! Prior to the event, registrants will receive an "auto email communication" from Booking Central with information regarding the shape of the day.

Registration was brisk and many workshops are full, but there are still options available. Registration re-opened on February 15, and if you have not already done so, please register for available workshops, as well as for the Keynote address (the lunch order is based on this number).

If you require *registration assistance*, please contact NVTA Office Manager, Beth Triggs, at 604.988.3224 or by email at [btriggs.nvta@telus.net](mailto:btriggs.nvta@telus.net).

*Conference questions and enquiries* should be directed to NVTA Professional Development Chairperson, Carolyn Pena at the NVTA office, 604.988.3224.

### **REMINDER:**

**The Pro D Conference is a scent-free event! Please be considerate and refrain from wearing perfume, cologne, or any scented products.**

## RESTORED LANGUAGE

Ever since our stunning Supreme Court victory on November 10, 2016, teachers across the province have been eagerly awaiting the consequences of finally winning an exhausting 16-year battle with the provincial government. LOU #17 is the process that brought all parties back to the provincial table. The language is clearly restored. LOU #17 is simply about the timelines for the implementation of the language. As a first step, an interim agreement was reached in January that returned \$50-million to the K-12 Public Education system. For North Vancouver, this translated into \$1.3-million and approximately 35 FTE for the remainder of this school year. An *Issue Alert* has been sent out with the details on our local agreement. \$50-million is clearly not going to cover our restored language. The BCTF estimates the number is closer to \$300-million. With B.C. Budget day coming on February 21, 2017, the focus is now on getting full implementation in place so the government can demonstrate its complete commitment to the Supreme Court ruling by providing school districts with the necessary funding for the 2017-18 school year. In the meantime, look for an NVTA visit to your school on the restored language.

### REPORT FROM THE GENERAL MEETING

The following members were acclaimed as NVTA delegates to the BCTF AGM in March (in alphabetical order): **M. Aiello, T. Alexis, D. Arbez, A. Bennett-Fox, C. Bird, M. Boljuncic, A. Bulsara, N. Dash, S. Eglington, C. Fraenkel, I. Giese, O. Howell, R. Hunt, V. Jessiman, W. Lee, K. Russell and M. Stuble.** The delegates will join NVTA Local Representatives **R. Deleurme, S. Megahy and C. Pena** at the BCTF AGM March 18-21.

The delegation is meeting throughout February to review the *Reports & Resolutions* booklet and they will attend the March Representative Assembly (March 8, 2017) at Sutherland Library to present their report.

Congratulations to General Meeting door prize winner, Rhena Tevendale, and to the staff at Braemar, who won the pizza lunch for having the highest percentage of teachers in attendance.

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## NVTA TEACHER EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

One Five Hundred Dollar (\$500) scholarship is available for each of the following North Vancouver secondary schools: Argyle, Carson Graham, Handsworth, Mountainside, Seycove, Sutherland and Windsor.

The recipient of the NVTA Teacher Education Scholarship is chosen by the scholarship committee at each of the above schools. Students are not required to complete a special NVTA application form.

In order to be eligible, the student must be graduating from the Grade 12 program of a secondary school during the calendar year of the award. The student must also be planning to enter a teacher education program that would qualify the graduate to teach in the public schools of British Columbia.

The Teacher Education Scholarship is the only scholarship funded by the NVTA. Teacher Education Scholarship information will be sent in the milkrun from the NVTA after Spring Break to the scholarship committees and the Principals at each of the listed high schools.

## NVTA MEETINGS AND EVENTS

### FEBRUARY 2017

- 15 NVTA Rep Assembly (Sutherland Library)
- 24 District-wide Professional Development Conference
- 24-25 BCTF Conference for New Teachers

### MARCH 2017

- 8 NVTA Rep Assembly – dinner meeting (Sutherland)
- 11-26 SPRING BREAK**
- 18-21 101<sup>st</sup> BCTF AGM
- 27 Schools reopen

### APRIL 2017

#### **14-17 Easter Long Weekend**

- 19 NVTA Rep Assembly (Sutherland Library)
- 26 NVTA AGM & Social (St. Martin's Anglican Church)  
- elect NVTA Executive & Chairs for 2017-2018

### MAY 2017

- 8 Professional Development Day
- 17 NVTA Rep Assembly (Sutherland Library)
- 22 Victoria Day

### JUNE 2017

- 12 Retirement Tea (Seymour Golf & Country Club)
- 21 NVTA Rep Assembly (Sutherland Library)
- 29 Last day of school
- 30 Administration Day

## COMMITTEE CALL-OUT for RESTORED COMMITTEES

In order to prepare for the implementation of our restored language, the NVTA is accepting applications for the following committees:

- **Secondary Electives & Adapted Academics Committee** – Secondary teachers of elective courses and adapted academic courses are needed for this committee, to consider which courses would be allowed to exceed the limits set out in the class size and composition language based on the nature of the course. Two NVTA reps needed.
- **Special Needs Schools** – This committee will identify schools with significant social, emotional and economic needs to provide additional resources to. Three NVTA reps needed.
- **Mainstreaming/Integration Committee** – This committee will study the issue of mainstreaming, integration and inclusion across the district. Four NVTA reps needed.
- **Screening Committee** – This committee will begin to prepare to screen students for identification and resource allocation. Four NVTA reps needed.

## BOARD-INITIATED TRANSFERS

Last year, for the first time, the District used Board-initiated transfers to move teachers without any extenuating circumstances. A Board-initiated transfer is the transfer of an employee to another school or location at the discretion of the Board. Previously, Board-initiated transfers were appropriately used only in situations involving discipline or harassment. If you receive notice of such a transfer or are given any indication that the District is considering this for your position, please contact the NVTA immediately.