

NOTEBOOK

Issue #4 October 30, 2023



Mentoring Mondays

November 6, 2023, 3:30-5:00pm
ESC, Mountain View Room

Wondering where to start with teaching elementary Science? It's a common curiosity and a wonderful opportunity to engage students through hands-on activities. **Join David Barnum and explore a number of topics:** modeling the movements of Earth/Moon; kitchen chemistry, rocketry, ecosystems and the marble run. We will address questions about assessment, UDL learning environments and what inquiry might look like; with a bit of time to play and explore resources.

David Barnum was previously a Faculty Associate with the Okanagan School of Education (UBCO) and in the SFU Advanced Professional Studies programs. He is currently with the SD 44 Teacher Leader Team and is passionate about sharing engagement in Science, nature and place-based learning; as well as reflective thinking through journaling.

If you plan to attend, please email
teachermentorship@sd44.ca

Remembering Norm Nichols

January 7, 1952 – October 7, 2023

We were saddened to learn of the recent passing of Norm Nichols on October 7. Norm taught in North Vancouver for 42 years, and was a staunch supporter and activist for the NVTA and the BCTF throughout his career.

Many of us will remember Norm pacing the back of General Meetings and Rep Assemblies, always engaged and always working hard for his colleagues and for the best in public education. Norm was gregarious, funny, friendly, and enthusiastic about everything he took on.

Norm was a dedicated and talented teacher. He started his career teaching in elementary at Blueridge in 1974, later moving to secondary as a Social Studies teacher. He was keen on history and transferred that enthusiasm to his classes. Norm had a wonderful way with students. He was patient with troubled kids, his laid back style helping to put them at ease and gain acceptance from the other students. A fine staff member, Norm volunteered as a Staff Rep and an organizer of events large and small. You would be fortunate to have worked with him as a colleague.

Norm's contributions to the life and work of the NVTA were enormous. He was a social justice activist in the union and in his community. He served on the NVTA Executive Committee for many years, and was a Local Representative to the BCTF. Norm was instrumental in our campaign to unionize in 1987-88. He also served on the local Bargaining Committee and was Strike Coordinator during job actions. Norm was active on BCTF committees as well, notably heading up the effort to return the BCTF to membership in the BC Federation of Labour. In addition, Norm served as an elected Councilor for our zone on the B.C. College of Teachers.

We are blessed to have known and worked with Norm, and public education in North Vancouver is the better because of his life and contributions.

Our condolences are extended to Norm's wife Pat, a CUPE staff member in North Vancouver for many years, and to Norm's extended family.

A toast to Norm with your finest draft beer would be most appropriate.

NVTA CALENDAR 2023-2024

NOVEMBER

3-4 BCTF Representative Assembly

11 Remembrance Day
(Stat Holiday Monday, November 13)

15 NVTA Representative Assembly

DECEMBER

8 NVTA Christmas Party (Angry Otter Tap & Forno)

20 NVTA Representative Assembly

Dec 23, 2023 – Jan 7, 2024 - CHRISTMAS BREAK

JANUARY

8 Schools reopen

17 NVTA Representative Assembly

31 NVTA General Meeting
(elect delegates to the BCTF Annual General Meeting)

FEBRUARY

2-3 BCTF Winter Representative Assembly

16 Professional Development Day

19 Family Day Stat Holiday

21 NVTA Representative Assembly

MARCH

13 NVTA Representative Assembly meeting with BCTF AGM Delegates

Mar 16, 2024 – Apr 1, 2024 - SPRING/EASTER BREAK

16-19 108th BCTF AGM

APRIL

2 Schools reopen

17 NVTA Representative Assembly - followed by NVTA Executive All-Candidates Meeting

MAY

3 District-wide Professional Development Day

8 NVTA Annual General Meeting & Social
- elect NVTA Executive & Chairs for 2024-2025
NVTA Representative Assembly

20 Victoria Day

24-25 BCTF Spring Representative Assembly

JUNE

10 Retirement Tea
(Seymour Golf & Country Club – Tentative)

19 NVTA Representative Assembly

27 Last day of school

28 Administration Day



We are excited to invite all members to the

NORTH VANCOUVER TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

2023 Holiday Party!

Let us buy you a glass of holiday cheer 🍷

When: Friday, December 8, 2023

3:30 pm – 7:00 pm



Where: Angry Otter Tap & Forno
(1015 Marine Drive, North Vancouver)

You are invited to join the NVTA Executive for a drink, some delicious hot and cold appetizers, gift card door prizes and loads of fun times!

Would you like to earn an entry into the coveted NVTA Turkey Raffle (otherwise known as a grocery store gift card)? Make a cash or credit card donation at the event and earn an entry into the draw.

PENSION PLAN SEMINARS

BCTF will hold pension plan seminars every Wednesday, from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m., in November, starting November 1, 2023.

Members may access the live seminars via Zoom using the link below:

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87344950598?pwd=YWVqNkVvN25mRDBJTTA4aUJSZ1h3QT09>

If you are not able to attend the live seminars, the pre-recorded full webinars and mini-seminars will be available on the [BCTF YouTube channel](#).

Contact Sarbrinder Lalli at 604-871-1949 if you have any questions related to the Teachers' Pension Plan, Canada Pension Plan, and/or Old Age Security Benefits.