



BURNABY TEACHERS'  
ASSOCIATION

September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
Volume 4, Issue 1

# Report from Henning Drive

## BTA EXECUTIVE 2021-2022

President – Daniel Tétrault

1st Vice – Shanee Prasad

2nd Vice – Holly Lloyd

Past President - Leanne Sjodin

Treasurer – Patricia Jukes

Secretary – Rae Figursky

Local Rep – Ditta Cross

Local Rep – Alex Peters

Local Rep – James Sanyshyn

Elementary Representative –  
Heather Skuse

Secondary Representative –  
Donna Morgan

Elementary Member-at-Large –  
Renee Kerluke

Secondary Member-at-Large –  
Alana Sawatsky

Representative to the Labour  
Council – Sara LaBrash

Pro-D Chair - Ceri Brophy

Adult Educators Chair - Maria  
Kenward

Bargaining Committee Chair -  
Frank Bonvino

BIPOC Educators Chair - Sabha  
Ghani

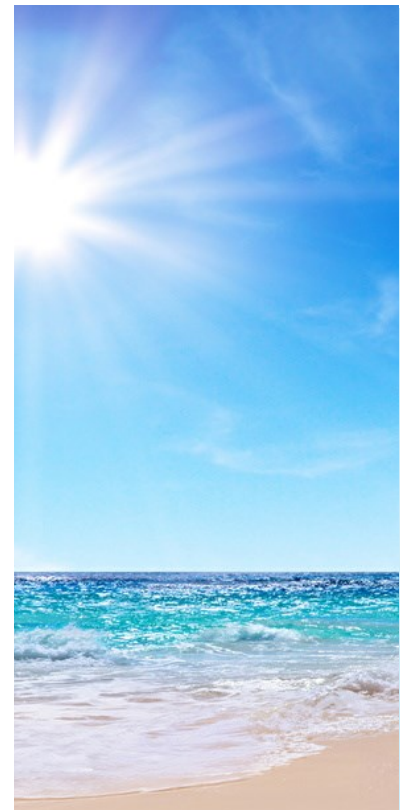
Health and Safety Chair -  
**(awaiting internal election)**

Indigenous Education Chair -  
**(awaiting internal election)**

Political Action/Public Relations  
- **(awaiting internal election)**

Social Justice Chair - David  
Blaeser

TTOC Chair - Katie Marsh



## UPCOMING EVENTS

• **GM**  
September 14 at  
4pm Zoom

• **Rep Assembly**  
September 21 at  
4pm Zoom

## BTA Office

Hours: 8 am–4:30 pm

604-294-8141

bta3@bctf.ca

www.burnabyteachers.com

## HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE/STAFF COMMITTEE

We hope that you have become familiar with your school-based Health and Safety and Staff Committee's, as they would have been instrumental in dealing with challenges regarding the Pandemic last year. Both the Staff Committee and the Health and Safety Committee are places where staff can bring concerns and questions regarding safe and effective operations in their school site. These two committees contractually allow for teachers to express ideas and concerns to the employer and gain effective solutions. As always, the BTA here is to support you in all matters, so please never hesitate to reach out.

### SCHOOL BASED HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

The school-based Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee (JOHS) is the most powerful tool you have to address health and safety concerns at school. However, if you see or experience a health and safety issue or concern, the first step is to notify the Principal or Vice Principal for an immediate solution. If there is no resolution to your issue, the JOHS will meet to determine solutions.

This committee is required by law to meet monthly and must contain members of the employee group (BTA and CUPE) and the employer. The job of the committee is to discuss a wide range of Health and Safety issues. In this school year this committee will be critically important in addressing issues relating to COVID at each school site. If you have concerns regarding H&S this is your starting place. Each school should have at least one BTA member on the school-based Health and Safety committee. Please forward the name(s) of your H&S member to the BTA office. Updates regarding COVID and other health and safety measures will be sent to this person. (Please see D.49 in our collective agreement

### REFUSING UNSAFE WORK

Unsafe work is defined as “undue hazard to the health and safety of a person”.

- You have a right to refuse unsafe work. Please remember some of the following points:
- It is a process which requires that you go to your employer (administration/principal) and identify the hazard. The employer must be given opportunity to fix the problem. You should also report your concern your site-based health and safety committee. If nothing happens then you can go onto the next level.
- In cases tested by law, exposure to a pandemic have not been successful in meeting the grounds for undue hazard.
- Refusing unsafe work is an individual action it is not a collective action.

For more information, check out WorkSafe BC guide to [refusing unsafe work](#).

### CLEANING PROTOCOLS

This school year, deep cleaning will occur once a day in classrooms. Some high traffic or high touched areas may be cleaned more often. The Clorax response team will also be in place again for certain situations and high risk areas. Questions and concerns regarding site-based cleaning protocols should be shared at site-based JOSH committees, as well you can contact the BTA for further support. (Page 32, <https://burnabyschools.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/BSD-Communicable-Disease-Prevention-COVID-19-Staff-Handbook-for-2021-09-03.pdf>)

### STAFF COMMITTEE

This is a contractual committee that creates the opportunity for teachers and administrators to discuss school-based issues. The Staff Committee meets regularly throughout the school year and is a place for staff to bring concerns to administrators. Any member of staff can participate in staff committee or bring issues to be discussed as part of the agenda. Please look at article H.33 of our collective agreement for more information.

#### BTA CONTACTS

##### **Daniel Tétrault**

President  
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##### **Shanee Prasad**

First Vice-President  
lx41vp@bctf.ca

##### **Holly Lloyd**

Second Vice-President  
lx41vp2@bctf.ca

##### **Ceri Brophy**

Pro-D Chair  
bta3@bctf.ca

##### **BTA Office**

604-294-8141  
bta3@bctf.ca

[www.burnabyteachers.com](http://www.burnabyteachers.com)

## TRAINING DAYS

Currently our scheduled rep training dates are tentative. If the below dates change, we will be sure to provide ample notice.

**Staff Rep training: for October 6 & 7**

**Professional Development Chair** training on Oct 13 or 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Joint Health and Safety** training (Josh) TBA

**Staff Committee Chair Training-** TBA

*To ensure you get the information please make sure the BTA has your up to date info, you can email us at [bta3@bctf.ca](mailto:bta3@bctf.ca)*

For school sites that currently do not have Staff Reps, please let us know how we can assist, to ensure that your school site has representation. Remember, you can rotate Staff Reps to attend meetings.

## DUTY FREE LUNCH

You are entitled to a duty-free lunch (Article D.27 in our Collective Agreement). This means that during lunch you do not need to be supervising students. In elementary schools where lunches are being staggered please ensure your instructional minutes have not changed. If you are not sure about the schedule or have concerns please call the BTA office and speak with one of the table officers.

## DETACHED DUTY

Detached Duty is a fund established by the Board for supporting teachers' professional development (see the Collective Agreement, E. 23). This year's budget is roughly \$250,000.00, which is shared among out 2,000 BTA members. In order to receive funds, teachers must complete an application form and submit it for consideration by the Detached Duty Committee. This committee meet monthly; meeting dates are posted in all school staffrooms. Please refer to the website [here](#) for further details.

October is traditionally the busiest month for Detached Duty applications, as many teachers make plans to attend a conference on the Provincial Specialist Association (PSA) Professional Development Day, which is held annually on the third Thursday of October. As the committee reviews hundreds of applications for this day, please ensure that your application is submitted by the due date. This year the committee meets on Thursday September 23. Applications to be reviewed at this meeting are due at the BTA Office no later than Tuesday, September 21 at 4:00pm. Application forms are available in all school offices.

Questions? Email the Detached Duty email: [detached.duty@burnabyschools.ca](mailto:detached.duty@burnabyschools.ca)

## MENTORSHIP

Burnaby has a dynamic [mentorship program](#) which functions to create connections for new teachers as they begin their careers in Burnaby. Mentors and mentees meet several times each year to discuss different topics of interest. There is also release time for participants to meet together, visit each other's classrooms and develop curriculum. If you are interested in joining this engaging program as either a [mentor](#) or [mentee](#), please click here for the application. We are always looking for new members!

## TOC CORNER

### Did you know....

That the District is no longer restricting TOCs to zones. If you are wanting to restrict your availability to certain schools or an area (elementary or secondary), contact Rogene Swanson at the District office.