

Issue 4

January 2004



SURREY TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

TOC NEWS

Dear Teachers,

Happy New Year!

I hope everyone had a good holiday and well-deserved break. There are some changes as of the new year. Firstly, subfinder is now online and secondly, TOC's will be paid for preparation time they teach. Read on for more information.



*Béla Kovach,
TOC Rep*

The TOC committee is working hard to voice concerns and organize events. The December Holiday social was a success. We loved meeting TOCs. Please feel free to contact us by e-mail or leave a message on the Hotline if you have a suggestion or concern. Welcome back.

Sincerely,

Béla Kovach

Your TOC Representatives:
**Bela , Elise, Sandra, Jill, Jazprite,
Susan, Bindy, missing Rick.**



Remember that there are many ways TOCs can stay informed.



TOC Hotline 604-592-8396
TOC Website www.surreyteachers.org
TOC Monthly Newsletter
TOC Bulletin Boards in staffrooms
TOC Listserv –virtual staffroom for TOCs (to register e-mail Bela at Belajoyk@hotmail.com with e-mail address, employee number and full name)

Upcoming Events:

<i>TOC Meeting</i>	<i>Mon. Jan. 19th (Conference Centre) 4:00 pm</i>
<i>STA General Meeting</i>	<i>Wed. Jan. 21st (Conference Centre) 4:00 pm</i>
<i>New Teachers Conference</i>	<i>February 20th & 21st, Richmond</i>

Important Websites:

<i>Surrey Teachers' Association</i>	<i>www.surreyteachers.org</i>
<i>B.C. Teachers' Federation</i>	<i>www.bctf.ca</i>
<i>Surrey School District</i>	<i>www.sd36.bc.ca</i>
<i>CISC: Teachers' Centre</i>	<i>www.sd36.bc.ca/sites/cisc/Teachercentre</i>

TOC Meeting

When: Monday, January 19th
4:00 - 6:00 pm
Beverages and snacks at 3:30

Where: Surrey Conference Center
9260-140 Street, Surrey

What:

1. Union Update
2. Two principals from Surrey are coming to talk to TOCs about
 - ◆ interview question
 - ◆ research TOCs should do in preparation for interviews
 - ◆ answer questions

Guest Speakers:

Bonnie Skobel, Principal from Westerman Elementary
Dennis Hugh, Principal from Princess Margaret Secondary

“Tips for successful interviews”

Come and get tips and hints for successful interviews from our local principals.

B. C. College of Teachers - Update



Given recent events, the last thing the Liberals, and in particular Christy Clark needed in the New Year was an unnecessary disruption in public schools. It was not too surprising then that the minister announced that she would, in effect, pay the fee for those of us who participated in the boycott.

We have gained much through our collective action:

- ◆ Elected representation on the 20 member college council has been increased from 8 to 12 seats, a majority.
- ◆ The minister has formally acknowledged that local processes must be respected by any complaints process.
- ◆ The minister backed down on the threat to require boards to remove

teachers from classrooms for non-payment of the fee.

However, there is still the very real potential for the current college council of political appointees to do a great deal of damage to our profession before the elected council takes over. Any bylaws adopted now will be entrenched (bylaw changes require 75%).

There are significant issues that must be dealt with before we consider advising members to pay the fee, or release the monies in the Democratic Fund.

- ◆ The minister must put a moratorium on new bylaws.
- ◆ The act must be changed to bring the duty to report misconduct in line with other colleges.

(Currently, we are the only group where failure to report misconduct is a criminal offence.)

- ◆ Election of the twelve members must happen ASAP.

The issue will be on the floor of the BCTF Representative Assembly on January 23/24. Currently, the BCTF executive is not recommending the release of the funds for the reasons above.

Everyone can now relax and feel satisfaction that our solidarity has already won us a better college. It will prove to be a pivotal moment in the history of our profession.

- John Wadge

TOC Preparation Time

Prep-time as defined under Article 25 of the Collective Agreement

Schools have been advised that a teacher's preparation time (Article 25) is also that of the Teacher-on-Call who has been dispatched to replace the teacher due to illness or a leave of absence.

There are, on occasion, times when Teachers-on-Call are asked to cover a class during their prep-time. Should this occur, please record the missed prep-time in Section A, and have it signed by the principal or vice-principal of the school.

There are also occasions when a Teacher-on-Call is given extra prep-time, i.e. a TOC is dispatched all day for a less than 1.0 assignment (i.e. 0.71 secondary) or has been dispatched as a non-enrolling teacher and one of the classes they are supposed to cover is away (i.e. field trip). These times should be recorded in Section B-No signature is required.

If the time recorded in Section A exceeds that in Section B, TOCs impacted are eligible to be reimbursed for missed preparation time.

Payment will be made in December and June of each school year.

Please return your forms to Mary Stewart, District Principal, Human Resources, Courier #481

Please be advised that if you are a secondary Teacher-on-Call who was dispatched for a full day assignment but the teacher has a less than a 1.0 assignment, the school may ask you to cover the extra blocks. These are not recorded in either section as you are being paid for a full day of work.

Note: forms are available in schools

Payment for Missed Preparation Time

Name _____ Employee# _____ Telephone (H) _____
 Alternate (Cell) _____

Teachers-on-Call - Missed Prep-time				
SECTION A				
DATE	SCHOOL	TIME (minutes)	REASON	AO SIGNATURE
Teachers-on-Call - Regained Prep-time (2003/2004)				
SECTION B				
DATE	SCHOOL	TIME (minutes)	REASON	

Please return form to:
Mary Stewart
District Principal
Human Resources
Department

On December 31
On June 30

Professional Development for TOCs

Many TOCs have enquired as to how and where they can access Pro-d information. The following is a list of places that provide important Pro-d info.

1. STA website – www.surreyteachers.org
2. Staffrooms – each one has a clipboard with up-to-date info. Feel free to browse through it.
3. BCTF website – www.bctf.bc.ca
4. The Langley School District offers many after school workshops at a reasonable price. You can access their guide at <https://apps1.sd35.bc.ca/workshops/>
5. CISC offers in-service events held mostly after school. You can pick up a brochure at the Teachers Centre or you can access the information through First Class.

Download funding application forms from the STA website and send it into the STA office. TOCs are allowed to access \$150 per person per year until the money is exhausted.

Don't forget to sign up for:

BCTF New Teachers' Conference
February 20-21, 2004,
Richmond, B.C.
<http://www.bctf.ca/NewTeachers/conference/>

Send in your funding application form ASAP to the STA office.

Call for BCTF AGM Delegates

Each year the BCTF holds its annual general meeting. Because it is impossible for all teachers to attend, each district elects delegates to go and voice each district's concerns. TOCs are welcome and encouraged to put their name forward to represent Surrey. The meeting takes place for four days during March break starting on Saturday the 13th and ending Tuesday the 16th. It is a great way to get involved with the union and meet others who are as well. You can put your name forward by calling the STA office. Electing the 57 delegates will take place during the January 21st Surrey General meeting. Candidate's statements are due by January 15th. For more information contact the STA office.



You can now access Subfinder by phone and on-line at

<https://subfinder.sd36.bc.ca>

If you have any problems or questions contact Dispatch at 604.599.7446 or 604.599.7496

The TOC newsletter will be published monthly for the 2003/2004 school year and mailed to the home address of every Surrey TOC for whom we have a current mailing address. It will also be posted on the STA web site at www.surreyteachers.org.

You can help us with our mailing costs. If you do not wish to have this delivered to your home, please call us (604.594.353), give us your name, and tell us not to send the TOC newsletter. If you'd prefer to receive notice of the mailings by email, call us and give us your email address, or send us a message with that information, to sta@surreyteachers.org