



NWTU

UNION NEWS

November 2018

President's Message

Eric Young

November is a month of remembrance, and as we enter into our third month of the school year I'd like to take a moment to pause and reflect. Over the past two months, we've successfully made it through all the challenges of school start up; through, unfortunately too many, class size and composition remedy meetings; through parent/student interviews; through Halloween; and soon for our elementary and middle school teachers, through Term One report cards. Fun fact! Though I miss teaching, I'm not planning on missing writing report cards this year! Just remember, winter break is not that far away.

In all that time the NWTU has been working hard behind the scenes to provide information and support to our members. I'd like to take a moment to thank all of our NWTU volunteers: executive members, school staff reps, school professional development reps and treasurers, school social justice reps, school health and safety reps, school aboriginal education reps, as well as all committee chairs and members for all that you do off the side of your desks. Your efforts are appreciated more than you know.

Lastly, I'd like to acknowledge that at our recent BCTF Representatives Assembly, our very own Neesha Blajberg ran for a recently vacated position on this year's BCTF Executive Committee. Although she was not the successful candidate, she accomplished her goal of raising awareness, demonstrated great courage, and was a strong voice for equity seeking members in our Union.

Important Dates

November 5 – Pro-d rep training – NWTU office

November 12 – schools closed for observance of Remembrance Day

November 13 – NWTU executive meeting – NWTU Office

November 14 – NWTU Social Justice SURT training – Union Office

November 20 – General Meeting – NWSS Library

November 29 – SALSA meeting – NWTU Office



REMEMBRANCE DAY
Lest We Forget

Know Your Pacific Blue Cross Benefits

Check out all the benefits you are entitled through on the Pacific Blue Cross website

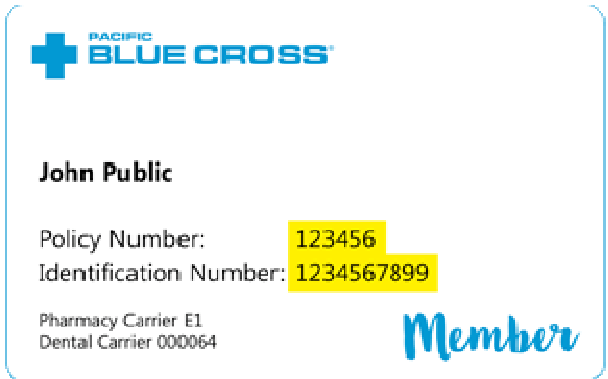
<https://service.pac.bluecross.ca/member/>

Have you visited the Pacific Blue Cross website lately? It's just gone through a re-design and it is worth your while to check it out.

Pacific Blue Cross also offers their Blue Advantage program, which gives members additional discounts when using a variety of vendors. For more information on this program, please visit <https://www.blueadvantage.ca/>.

As of July 1, many of our entitlement limits have increased. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

Massage Therapy	\$900/year
Chiropractor	\$900/year
Physiotherapist	\$900/year
Naturopath	\$900/year
Acupuncture	\$900/year
Psychologist	\$900/year
Podiatrist/Chiropodist	\$800/year
Speech Therapist	\$800/year
Prescription glasses/contacts	\$550 every 24 months
Orthopedic shoes	\$500/year
Hearing aids	\$3500 every 48 months



PACIFIC BLUE CROSS

John Public

Policy Number: 123456
 Identification Number: 1234567899

Pharmacy Carrier E1
 Dental Carrier 000064

Member

Do you want your reimbursements from your claims faster?

Have you tried the Pacific Blue Cross app for both Apple and Android devices?

Quickly upload your claim, and photos of the receipts, and your payment is processed rapidly.

Download this app from the iTunes or Google Play store.

Image taken from

<https://villageofnewcastle.ca/events-calendar/newcastle-remembrance-day/>

<http://www.bnfightingirish.com/attention-cheer-parents/>



Other Teacher Health Benefits:

EAP (Employee Assistance Program) through **Homewood Health**

1-800-663-1142 call 24 hours a day

<https://newwestschools.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/EAP-brochure-2.pdf>

Meet Your Executive Member

Sarah Wethered – Second Vice President



Hello, my name is Sarah Wethered and I'm honoured to be your second vice president this year.

I have been a teacher-librarian at NWSS for the last 19 years. Previously, I taught Social Studies, ELL, and English at a private international college in Burnaby. I am looking forward to the excitement of moving into our new building in 2020, but know that this move will also bring many challenges.

Previous to becoming 2nd VP, I was a staff rep, pro-d co-chair, and treasurer. I got involved with the NWTU because former president, Ruth Minto tapped me on the shoulder and asked me to run as pro-d chair. I have enjoyed working for my colleagues and will continue to do so as long as the members wish me to. As BCTLA Vice-President, I work with teacher-librarians throughout the province to promote library and teacher-

librarian issues within the BCTF.

The picture above shows me at my happiest. It was taken in October when I went to Saltspring Island with three friends whom I met at NWSS. We went on a knitting weekend and stayed at an Airbnb on a farm that had sheep. For a group of knitters, this was nirvana and I almost did not come home. I am happiest when I have a good book in my hand or my knitting needles are heavy with a project.

This year is full of new experiences for me and I look forward to working hard on your behalf.

THE FIRST NWTU GENERAL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 20, 2018 AT 3:30 IN THE NWSS LIBRARY.

PLEASE INFORM YOUR STAFF REP OF ANY CHILD CARE NEEDS: ALL CHILD CARE COSTS INCURRED FOR ATTENDING OUR GM WILL BE REIMBURSED BY THE NWTU.

BCTF FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT, TERI MOORING IS ATTENDING

THERE WILL BE UNION UPDATES AND NEWS, AND OF COURSE, PRIZES!

PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ATTEND.

