



NWTU UNION NEWS

MAY 2021

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Sarah Wethered

As May comes to a close, like most of you, I am counting down the days until the summer break. The better weather and COVID restrictions relaxing means seeing friends in COVID-friendly way and hopefully traveling to Vancouver Island to visit my family.

Congratulations to all those people who put their name forward in our recent elections. A full list of names is located further on in this newsletter. We have also created a new position – Equity and Inclusion Chairperson – and we will be electing this person at our June 15 special general meeting. If this is a position that you are interested in, please do not hesitate to contact me for more information.

I am happy to report that I was involved in a successful mediation this week. After several years of claiming that

the classes for NWSS low incidence special needs students were either not really classes or just modified English and Math classes, an agreement has been reached that the classes do meet the definition of a class within the School Act and have a class size of 10. I was so happy to see that the district, through a mediator, was able to get on the same page of the union.

As we head into June, I want to remind people to take care of yourself. Use our extended health benefits to see medical practitioners such as chiropractors and massage therapists to keep you healthy. Remember that we have the Employee and Family Assistance Program if you need to speak to a counsellor or would like to speak to a life coach. Homewood Health (our EFAP provider) can be reached at 1-800-663-1142 or online at homeweb.ca.

As always, I would like to end this message with a big thank you for all that you do to make our schools a safe, kind, and caring place for the students of my adopted home time.

~ Sarah

IMPORTANT DATES

June 8 - NWTU Executive Committee Meeting

June 10 - Retirement Tea via Zoom (link to be provided)

June 15 - Special General Meeting at 3:30pm via Zoom (link to be provided)

June 29 - Last day of School for students

June 30 - Administration Day

Sept. 7 - First Day of School for 2021/2022

CONGRATULATIONS CARMEN WOO!

by Kristie Oxley

As the New Westminster Teachers' Union continues to "punch above its weight", we would like to congratulate Carmen Woo on her recent five-year term appointment as Assistant Director, Coordinator of Francophone Services in the Professional and Social Issues Division of the BC Teacher's Federation will commence September 2021. Carmen has a long history of working in a range of positions as a union representative. While, provincially, Carmen has chaired the BCTF Advisory Committee for French Programs and Services and acted as a teacher representative on the Ministry of Education's Stakeholder Committee for French Education, she credits her ongoing local union engagement as the foundation for her journey. Carmen is currently the teacher-librarian at École Glenbrook Middle School, as well as our local French Education rep, Professional Development Co-Chair and one of the NWTU's representatives on the New Westminster School District's Anti-Racism Committee. This fall, Carmen was awarded the Regional Certificate of Achievement for the 2020 Prime Minister's Award for Teaching Excellence. Her ongoing engagement, advocacy and commitment to social justice and union advocacy will be missed throughout the district.



Photo provided by Carmen Woo.
Photographer Shane: www.shanefrancescut.com
613.809.4952

SPRING RETIREMENT TEA

Our sincere apologies to Deidre Wrightman of McBride Elementary whose name was accidentally left off this list.



Retirees 2021

Lorelei Reimer-Aiumu – École Qayqayt
Warren Bleaney – NWSS
Lori Cantafio – F.W. Howay
Sandra Hardy – École Lord Tweedsmuir
Jim Janz – NWSS
Shirley Laven – École Glenbrook Middle
Harmeet Mangat – École Herbert Spencer
Barabara Paul – Lord Kelvin
Rosemarie Schiemann – NWSS
Deidre Wrightman – Richard McBride
Cheng L. Yeo – Pearson, NWSS

As of May 27, 2021

Retirées 2020

Cheryl Baumann – École Lord Tweedsmuir
Kelly Cannon – Connaught Heights
Devon Codesmith – Richard McBride
Shirley Johnston – École Herbert Spencer
Helen McWhirter – Pearson ALC
Jennifer Madison – Pearson ALC
Linda Mannix – Queensborough Middle
Natalina Reich – Lord Kelvin
Nancy Shamley – Richard McBride
Kathy L. Shannon – NWSS
Paul Skolnik – Pearson ALC
Brian Speckman – École Qayqayt
Colleen Stebner – École Herbert Spencer
Teresa Teh – Pearson ALC

As of Jun 2020

NWTU EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR 2021-2022

Congratulations, and thank you, to those that put their name forward for nominations and elections for the positions listed below. The strength of the NWTU rest on the dedication and volunteerism rest of our Executive Committee.

Contact information has been provided for members who are serving this year and will be continuing to serve next year. Contact information for new Executive Committee members will be shared once their term starts.

Position	Name, Site & Email
President	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sarah Wethered, <i>NWTU Office</i> lp40@bctf.ca
1 st Vice President	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kristie Oxley, <i>District</i> lx40vp@bctf.ca
2 nd Vice President	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> D'Alice Marsh, <i>FRMS</i> lx40vp2@bctf.ca
Treasurer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rome Lavrencic, <i>NWSS</i>
Recording Secretary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jim Russell, <i>POWER Alternate</i> jimrussell604@outlook.com
Bargaining Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Darryl Schelp, <i>Lord Kelvin</i> dschelp@telus.net
Pro-D Chairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kristie Oxley, <i>District</i> lx40vp@bctf.ca
Health & Safety Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Karin Kruger, <i>NWSS</i> kruger.nwtu@gmail.com
Social Justice Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bertha Lansdowne, <i>NWSS</i>
New Teacher and TTOC Representatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Karin Krueger, <i>NWSS</i> kruger.nwtu@gmail.com Jelena Pecelj, <i>NWSS</i>
Aboriginal Education Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Connie Swan, <i>NWSS</i>
Local Representatives to the BCTF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bruce McCloy, <i>NWSS</i> bmccloy@gmail.com Dominic Pistor, <i>NWSS</i> dominic.pistor@gmail.com
Alternative Local Representative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sarah Wethered, <i>NWTU Office</i> lp40@bctf.ca
School/Site Staff Representatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each elected at their school/site this will take place in June or September
2021-2022 Bargaining Advisory Committee Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Darryl Schelp (Chair), <i>Lord Kelvin</i> Andre Kozak, <i>NWSS</i> D'Alice Marsh, <i>FRMS</i> Kristie Oxley, <i>District</i> Jim Russell, <i>POWER</i> Eric Young, <i>Lord Kelvin</i>
French Education Representative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vacant (Carmen Woo previously acclaimed this position, however, has vacated it after accepting a position with the BCTF. Congratulations Carmen!)
Adult Education Representative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vacant
New Westminster and District Labour Council Rep	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dominic Pistor, <i>NWSS</i>
Political Action Contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vacant
Local Elections Contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vacant

REMINDER

REMEDY FUNDS

A decision was made by the Executive Committee, during the EC Meeting held on June 18, 2020. The decision states that members with remedy funds remaining from 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 have until June 30, 2021 to spend the funds allocated to them.

Reimbursement Claim Form for Unused Remedy Funds should be sent to the NWTU Office for approval by June 15, 2021 to receive a timely reimbursement.. If you have any questions regarding remedy funds from the above years, please contact Yvonne, at nwtuadmin@telus.net.

SITE STAFF REP ELECTIONS

According to the [Constitutions and By-Laws of the NWTU](#) elections of staff representatives should occur in May or June (or early in the new school year).

3.E. Staff representatives shall be elected in school-based elections by active members at the school in May or June (or early in the new school year) for a one-year term from July 1 until June 30.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

If you find yourself living at a new address, please take the time to update the following:

- **BCTF:** Update through [MyBCTF: Member Portal](http://bit.ly/MyBCTFMemberPortal)
<http://bit.ly/MyBCTFMemberPortal>
- **New West School District:** Update through Gordana Ballarin (Manager of HR, Teacher/Admin), gballarin@sd40.bc.ca
- **NWTU:** Update through Office Manager, Yvonne, nwtuadmin@telus.net.

DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SHARE?

Do you know an NWTU member that has received special recognition for their work as an educator? Or do you know a member that you would like to highlight work they are doing in their school?

If so, please send an email to D'Alice, lx40vp2@bctf.ca, to have them included in an upcoming edition of the NWTU Union News.



STAY UP TO DATE

NWTU Email List

http://bit.ly/NWTU_email_list



NWTU Facebook Page

http://bit.ly/NWTU_Facebook



New Teacher & TTOC Email List

http://bit.ly/NWTU_NT-TTOC_Email



CONTACT US

- Sarah Wethered, President, lp40@bctf.ca or 778.789.5713 (cell)
- Kristie Oxley, 1st VP, lx40vp@bctf.ca
- D'Alice Marsh, 2nd VP, lx40vp2@bctf.ca
- NWTU Office: 604.526.8990.

