



NWTU

UNION NEWS

February 2019

President's Message

Eric Young

Hopefully everyone is settling back into their routines now that January is over, and the last half of the school year has begun.

This month I'd like to question that's been coming into the office about **Professional Development funds and Remedy**. If you have a class in violation of our Collective Agreement class size and composition language, you may have chosen to receive Pro-D funds as a Remedy. Although these funds are managed by the District, our Pro-D Guidelines and Pro-D Lens should both be followed. These funds are also separate from your normal Pro-D funds, so they should be spent this school year. If you have any questions please speak to your Staff Representative or contact our office.

Another hot topic is **Maternity Leave**. It can be confusing since federal rules have changed lately. In New Westminster we have a Supplemental Employment Benefits (SEB) on Maternity leave. Basically a Maternity leave is actually both a 17 week Maternity Leave and a Parental Leave for either 35 weeks (normal parental leave) or 61 weeks (extended parental leave). Mothers may receive 95% of their salary for the first 17 weeks on Maternity Leave. Attached is a document called **Pregnancy, Parental Leave and your Benefits** (<http://bit.ly/2DEdafM>) with a lot more detail. However, there is no substitute for doing your own research online (see attached links within the document).

Lastly, the NWTU is interested in hearing from you about our Local Collective Bargaining objectives. Please take 5 minutes to complete our new local bargaining survey on page 2.

Important Dates

February 6 – Bargaining Advisory Committee Training – NWTU Office

February 14 - NWTU executive meeting – NWTU Office

February 18 – Family Day

February 19 – NWTU General Meeting, 3:30, NWSS Library

February 21 – Bargaining Advisory Committee Training – NWTU Office

February 21 - NWTU Social 3:30, Rivers Reach Pub

February 22 – District Pro-D Day – NWSS

February 28 - LSA Meeting (formerly SALSA) – NWTU Office

Want to be up to date on local bargaining and other union issues? Subscribe to our NWTU EMAIL LIST with your personal email!

Click on the link

<http://bit.ly/2BDcKGi>

Search NWTU or (<http://bit.ly/2GqsosS>)



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Every February 20, we celebrate #WorldDayofSocialJustice to recognize our commitment to social action and to promote equal rights and opportunities for students in classrooms and teachers in the workplace.

The [CTF-FCE](#) also recognizes the contributions of the First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples of Canada. In honour of reconciliation in education, we acknowledge and give gratitude to the Indigenous peoples whose lands we are on today.

Resources:

- [CTF-FCE International and Social Justice Program](#) - <http://bit.ly/2V5BbDX>
- [Imagineaction](#) - <http://bit.ly/2V2U4Y1>
- [Speak Truth To Power Canada](#) - <http://bit.ly/2tmTiJz>
- [Publications Catalogue – Social Justice](#) - <http://bit.ly/2N8zCSS>

Join the conversation using the hashtag [#WorldDayofSocialJustice](#)

PLEASE TAKE FIVE MINUTES TO COMPLETE OUR
NWTU LOCAL BARGAINING SURVEY.

[HTTPS://BIT.LY/2IOCGS3](https://bit.ly/2IOCGS3)



^{Page 2} **NWTU General Meeting - February 19 – 3:30 pm - NWSS Library**

Topics to be discussed:

- **Bargaining**
- **Staffing**
- **NWTU Bylaws**
- **Election of BCTF AGM delegates**
- **By-Election of NWTU Bargaining Chair**
- **Committee Reports**

**Refreshments and
Door Prizes!!!!**

**Want to run as
a BCTF AGM
Delegate:**

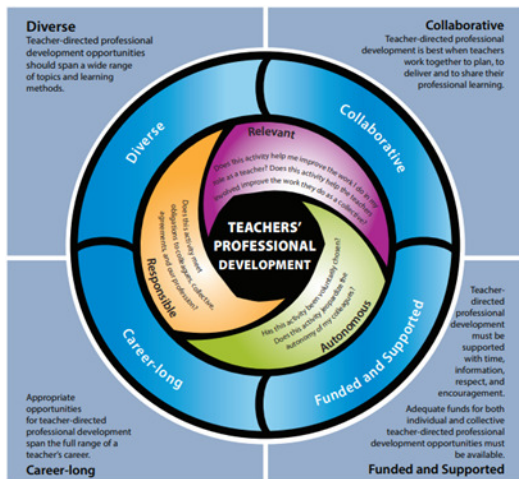
Complete the Curriculum Vitae (CV) Form ... <https://bit.ly/2TusT8e> ... and return to the union office by February 15. Members may also run from the floor of the meeting for election.

Meet Your Executive Member

Kristie Oxley – Professional Development Committee Chairperson

Kristie Oxley was elected NWTU Professional Development Chair at the May 2018 AGM.

As Professional Development Chair, she wants all NWTU members to be aware of the Professional Development Lens developed by the BCTF.



A copy of this infographic located on our NWTU website at <https://goo.gl/gJUUFa>.

The aim of the infographic is to support teacher's continued ability to select relevant professional development activities in a responsible and autonomous manner. Essentially, teachers fought for and won the right to choose their professional development

activities and we must remain vigilant in protecting these rights.



As Professional Development Chair, Kristie has worked with NWTU and CUPE members as well as district administrators to organize the upcoming District Professional Development Day on Feb. 22. She has also organized Professional Development training for school-based Pro-d Chairs and worked to review the district guidelines. She is available to answer Professional Development related questions and can be reached through district email or at oxleyk@live.com.

Kristie is also the president of the New Westminster Teacher-Librarians' Association (NWTLA) and the British Columbia Teacher-Librarians' Association (BCTLA). She believes that collaboration between teacher-librarians & teachers coupled with a fully resourced School Library Learning Commons are key to student achievement and should be part of every child's schooling experience. She is committed to advocating for teacher-librarianship throughout the province.

THE SECOND ANNUAL CROSS BORDER SOCIAL JUSTICE CONFERENCE IS TAKING PLACE ON MARCH 2, 2019 FROM 12:00-8:00 PM. THE THEME IS "TEACHING FOR JOY AND JUSTICE." FOR MORE INFORMATION, GO TO THE WEBSITE. REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

[HTTP://CROSSBORDERCONFERENCE.WEEBLY.COM/](http://CROSSBORDERCONFERENCE.WEEBLY.COM/)