



Please disseminate to all staff

Local and Provincial Bargaining: VTF General Meeting Update

Thanks to all who were present at the September 19th Vancouver Teachers' Federation General Meeting. It was a momentous occasion and several significant decisions were made that will impact every teacher in Vancouver.

Local Bargaining

In response to the 2010 survey of members, the local bargaining team brought 33 objectives to the bargaining table. The bargaining team was able to reach agreement on 5 of these items and Vancouver teachers have now ratified improved language in the following areas:

1. Access to Information (Article A.25)
2. Limits and support for teachers administering medication to students (Article E.34)
3. Personal Leave Without Pay (Article G.21.26)
4. Continuation of the current Employee Transit Pass Program
5. To limit the frequency and duration of administrator-called staff meetings (A.30)

Provincial Bargaining

The Memorandum of Agreement ratified by teachers in June contained new language with respect to leaves and a proposal for a Standardized Provincial Extended Health Benefits Plan.

Leaves

New leave provisions (Article G) are part of this language. Five of these provisions are either entirely new to the contract or represent clear improvements to our current language. These will become part of our new Collective Agreement.

- Family Responsibility Leave (New)
- TTOCs Conducting Union Business (New)
- Bereavement Leave (Improvement)
- Compassionate Care Leave (Improvement)
- Leave for Union Business (Improvement)

*The provision for Unpaid Discretionary Leave was brought to a VTF General Meeting for consideration. **The VTF General Meeting voted to retain our current language on Unpaid Personal Leave** as it is a superior local provision.*

Extended Health Benefits Plan

The Memorandum of Agreement also provided for a Provincial Extended Health Benefits Plan proposal that is optional for locals to adopt. **Vancouver teachers voted to retain our current Extended Health Benefits Plan** as it is significantly superior.