

PRESIDENT

KEN CHRISTENSEN

CTA Office

Teaching Experience:

2016-20 CTA President
2016 CTA Acting President
2014-16 CTA First Vice President
2013-14 CTA Second Vice President

Other Related Experience:

Taught at multiple middle and high schools
Bargaining committee and team
Local Rep to BCTF
Multi-time labour delegate & BCTF AGM delegate

Statement:

I certainly expected to be talking about Bargaining, maybe a concluded agreement in my statement this year and that proves true but, what I certainly did not expect to be discussing was a global pandemic and a total restructuring, even if only temporarily, of the education system across the province. The things we have had to look at, decide and act upon are unprecedented. This has been incredibly challenging and very difficult for everyone, teachers and officers alike. Teachers are now starting to embrace the new reality and there is discussion about how hard this new situation is on our kids, our families and our whole society. What lies ahead is an undiscovered country for us. We may well face an uncertain future in terms of how we will do our jobs and live our lives but, I do feel that teachers will do what teachers do and rise to the occasion, with positive solutions and kindness in their hearts. I thank you for your support over these many years and I look forward to serving you again in the days ahead.

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

KARA OBOJSKI

CTA Office

Teaching Experience:

2019-21 1st Vice President of the CTA
2016-19 2nd Vice President of the CTA
2015-16 Como Lake Middle 6/7 Core, 7/8 FSL
2014-15 Minnehada Middle School, Resource Teacher
2009-14 Grades 6-8 (Hillcrest, Moody, Citadel)
2008-09 Moody Middle School, Gr. 6/7 Core
2007-08 Citadel Middle School, Gr. 6/7 Core

Other Related Experience:

2016 –Present 1st and 2nd Vice President of the CTA, Bargaining Chair, Member of District Mentoring Steering Committee Liaison to TTOC and Committee of Action of Social Justice, Member of Policy & Procedure Committee, Negotiations Committee, BCTF Health and Wellness portfolio, DH&OS Committee, NWDL delegate, Federation Leadership Training, BCTF Bargaining training, Summer Leadership Institute, BCTF Bargaining conference, BCTF RAs and AGMs, zone meetings, contract enforcement, representing members through evaluations, grievances, investigations, and arbitration assessments.

Statement

We are always trying to enhance our communication and engagement with our membership through collective agreement issues, professional development opportunities, committee work, and union activism. There is also lots of advocacy work to be done with our educational partners, especially as we work together during this unprecedented time to support teachers and advocate for strong health and safety protocols in the work place. It's important that teachers feel supported, valued, and given opportunities to be empowered in the important work that they do.

SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT

DIETHER MALAKOFF

CTA Office

Teaching Experience:

2019-20 2nd Vice President of the CTA
2005-19 Centennial Science DH, Phys11, Sc9, Chem11, EF, Math 10
2004-05 Pinetree Essentials Math 10&11, Math 10P, Sc10, Chemistry 11
2004 Port Moody Sec. Earth Science 11, Math 9, Learning Support
2001-04 Gleneagle Math 9P, Math 10&11, Essentials, Sc. 9&10, Science & Tech 11

Other Related Experience:

2019 Local Bargaining Research and Support (Half-day secondment)
2014-19 CTA Policies and Procedures Committee (Fall 2014-10); CTA Treasurer (Fall 2016-19)
2012-19 CTA Member-at-Large (2012-2017); Local Rep to the BCTF (spring 2017-19)
2010 Staff Rep (Centennial)

Statement:

We are in for an anomalous year in September. As much as we are fortunate to have a good relationship with our employer in comparison to other districts, there remains the need to hold the district to account for decisions they make and to work with them to find solutions that are amenable to CTA members. This year, I have worked to support members in disputing investigation outcomes that were not fair. I have also learned that there is much work to do to fill the gaps within our contract and there is much that can be done through advocacy and persistence. I have been honoured to work on your behalf for this year and I look forward to continuing in this role for another year. Thank you for your continued support.

BCTF LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES

ANDY GILLIGAN

CTA Office

Teaching Experience:

1999-2014	Hillcrest Middle	Team Leader–Gr 6/7 Core
1998-1999	Summit Middle	Gr. 8 Core & Explorations
1997-1998	Banting Middle	Science & PE 9
1993-1997	McBride Elementary	Grades 4-7

Other Related Experience:

2014-present	Labour Relations Officer
2014-present	CTA Local Rep to the BCTF
2010-2015	BCTF Internal Mediation Service
2008-Present	BCTF AGM Delegate & 2008-2014 Staff Rep/Hillcrest

Statement:

In my view, the role of an LR is to represent the interests of Coquitlam teachers by listening to the debate at meetings and voting for or against various recommendations/resolutions with those interests in mind. I feel that I am well situated as the district's Labour Relations Officer to have a good sense on Coquitlam teacher's perspectives on various issues. Further, I have been an LR for the last six years and have a good understanding of the business of the meetings over that time period.

SANDRA COWAN

Seaview Elementary – 1.0 Grades K-5 Montessori

Teaching Experience:

2002-present	Seaview Elementary	Grades K-5 Montessori
2001-02	Blakeburn Elementary	Grades 1/2/3 Montessori
Spring 2001	Pinetree Way Elementary	Grades 3 & 4
1999-2001	TTOC	

Other Related Experience:

2012-present	Local Rep to the BCTF
2005-2012	CTA Executive Committee – member-at-large
2002-present	Seaview CTA Staff Rep
2016-Present	Chairperson for BCTF Rep Assemblies and General Meetings

Statement:

I have been advocating on behalf of members for 15 years. The BCTF Rep Assemblies are an important place for reps to share the concerns of Coquitlam teachers and have our local be heard. I have been raising those concerns at the mic. I am one of the few, in fact, the only elementary rep for Coquitlam. I would be honoured to continue in this position.

MEMBER-AT-LARGE – Person of Colour

HAYMEN LEONG

Port Moody Secondary – English, EAL

Coquitlam Learning – Humanities

Teaching Experience:

2017-Present	Port Moody Sec. English (MoE, IB):
2018-present	Continuing Learning Opportunities Ctr. Humanities (Law 12, Geog 12 CCiv 12, History 12)
2016-17	Riverside Secondary English, EAL
2015-16	Pinetree Secondary English EAL

Other Related Experience:

2017-present	CTA Executive Member-at-Large
2018-present	BCTF Finance Committee
2017-19	BCTF Teacher Magazine Advisory
2014-18	BCTF Assistance Society Director

Statement:

I see the continual defense of the Supreme Court ruling to restore our contract language and the insistent implementation of our most recent collective agreement as the major challenges in our profession and my primary responsibility as a member-at-large of the CTA Executive if I am elected. I am familiar with the new agreement and understand the complexities of realizing the new agreement from my work on the BCTF Finance Committee. If I am elected, I will work closely with all members of the CTA Executive and the school board to fight for what is best for classroom teachers. The CTA Executive must strive to ensure that both enrolling and non-enrolling teachers are staffed sufficiently and as efficiently as possible and that remedies are in place for teachers whose class compositions are not in compliance with the new agreement. If I am elected, I bring my experience and collegiality from working on other ministry, CTA, and BCTF committees to take on tasks delegated to me by the other table officers and a dedication to completing my assignments diligently and proficiently.

MEMBER-AT-LARGE - Indigenous

(no CV applicant)

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

BENSON CHANG

Suwa'ikh School – Secondary Math & Science

Teaching Experience:

2018-20 Suwa'ikh School – Sec. Math & Science
2017-18 SD43 – TTOC
2013-16 Sino Canada School (Suzhou, China) -
Secondary Math & Science

Other Related Experience:

2009-20 Strata Council (current position: president)
2018-20 PD Rep for Suwa'ikh School
2019 AGM Delegate

Statement:

After attending the AGM, it became evident to me that the local is both more relevant and impactful to most teachers in the district. Given the paradigm shift forced by the pandemic, this is a good year to jump in and contribute as it will likely be the genesis of new policies and best practice. What better time to both learn about and affect policies that will dictate the foreseeable future.

ANGELA LUNDIN

Roy Stibbs Elementary – Music/Student Services

Teaching Experience:

2015-20 Roy Stibbs Elem. – Music/Student Services
2014-15 Pleasantside Elem.- Music/Student Services
2011-14 Aspenwood Elementary – Music/Grade 2
2009-11 TTOC – K-12

Other Related Experience:

2020 Vulnerable Learners Team Lead/Student
Services Department Head
2019-20 CTA Executive Committee
2016-19 CTA Rep for Roy Stibbs Elementary
2013-20 Coquitlam Music Teachers Association
Executive (current CMTA president)

Statement:

As I navigated through my first years of teaching I was grateful for the mentorship from colleagues and administrators who were experts in the field. Many went the extra mile to ensure my success. I am also grateful for a strong teacher union who has fought for us time after time, ensuring our voices are heard and the needs of our students are met. In an effort to give back, I became a staff rep, where I would get better to understand our collective agreement. During this past year on the CTA's Executive Committee, I have begun to learn the processes that make up our rights as teachers. Our roles as educators go beyond the classroom and into the greater community. Teaching is an act of giving and as such, I would like to give my time again this year and be re-elected to the Executive Committee.

NATALIE MALAKOFF

Kilmer Elementary–1/2/4/5 French Immersion/Dept Head

Teaching Experience:

2007-02 1/2/4/5 French Immersion/ Dept. Head
2007 James Park – EAL/Skill K-5
2006-07 Irvine Elementary – K/1 Fr. Immersion
2005-16 Glenayre Elementary – 1 Fr. Immersion
2/3 English-4/5 English

Other Related Experience:

2017-20 Member at Large CTA Executive
2012-15 Member at Large CTA Executive
2007-20 CTA Staff Rep – Kilmer Elementary
2013/14 BCTF AGM Delegate

Statement:

I think it is important to be involved with what is going on in our schools, our district, and our province. I also think it is important to have many different voices in the CTA and I hope to continue to bring a voice for Elementary Teachers and French Immersion Teachers.

TRAVIS MENDGEN

Scott Creek Middle – Tech Ed./Challenging Program

Teaching Experience:

2017-20 Scott Creek Middle – Tech Ed/Challenge
Program
2017 Suwa'ikh - General Middle/Tech Ed.
2015-19 VSB/SD41 Summer School - created
Automotive Design course/Math 10 A&W
2014-15 Terry Fox Secondary Metal/Automotive/
Tech 9/Science

Other Related Experience:

2018-20 CTA Staff Rep for SCMS
2017-20 Health & Safety Committee for SCMS
2019 BCTF AGM
2010-11 BCIT TTED (Tech Teacher Ed. Program)
Set Rep

Statement:

I am not very experienced in union matters but the past two years have been a trial-by-fire learning experience as I reluctantly took on the CTA rep role when nobody else wanted the job. I felt as a less experienced teacher (only 4 years at the time) that it was strange to be in that role, but I am glad that I did take it on. I had always been interested in getting involved eventually, but only after I was much more experienced in teaching. If I hadn't been thrown into this role, it would have taken me years to learn everything I have in the past 2 years. Especially with this year being a Bargaining year and having the global pandemic, I had a very condensed timeline. My hope in jumping into this EC position is that it would be another accelerated learning situation. Thanks for considering me.

BEN WHIPPS

Coquitlam River Elementary – Grade 4-5

Teaching Experience:

2019-20 Coquitlam River – Grade 4-5
2019 (Term 3) Coquitlam, River – Grade 4-5
2018-19 (Terms 1&2) Godson (SD34) – Grade 4-5
2015-17 Engage Education-UK - TTOC

Other Related Experience:

2020 AGM Delegate

Statement:

I began my career in England where the teachers' unions have been decimated by the government. I saw firsthand the consequences that it had on my colleagues and the learning conditions for students. Teachers live in fear of the government that they work for, which not only has a negative effect on their mental health, but also their ability to do their jobs supporting students. That experience ignited a passion in me for strong unions that advocate for their membership. I believe that a membership who feels that their concerns are being listened to is an engaged and active one. An engaged membership is a powerful force for change. I am proud to be a CTA member, and I vow to advocate in the best interest of you, my new colleagues, and build on the strength of our union.

CHRISTINE WONG

Continuing Ed - English 12, Comm. 11/12, Foundations

Teaching Experience:

2010/11-20 Continuing Education
English 12, Comm. 11/12 Foundations
2009-10 SD43 Various TOC K-12

Other Related Experience:

2018-20 Bargaining Committee
2017-20 Executive Committee MAL
2014-20 Adult Ed Committee
2013-19 Attended BCTF AGMs

Statement:

In this unprecedented time, I think the health and welfare of Coquitlam teachers is a priority. We need to make sure all teachers have a say in their work environments and do not feel forced into conditions that put them personally at risk physically or mentally. I would also like to continue being a voice for Adult Ed teachers whose status and working conditions have not yet achieved parity in Coquitlam.