



Serving members by supporting effective leadership in education through representation, advocacy and leadership development.

BCPVPA pension update

BCPVPA retirement seminars in Victoria & Vancouver, Kamloops dated added

If you are interested in hosting a retirement seminar in your region contact Don Boyd at 604-689-3399 or don@bcpvpa.bc.ca

The **BCPVPA** will offer retirement seminars in Vancouver and Victoria this fall. Recommended for everyone who is considering retirement, or is within their last five years of employment, the seminars will walk attendees through pre-retirement package and retirement checklist. Pension options will be discussed, case studies presented, and there will be an opportunity to ask questions. Seminars are scheduled from 9 am to 12 noon as follows: **October 22, Victoria**, Rockheights Middle School; **November 26, Vancouver**, BCPVPA office; **December 3, Vancouver**, BCPVPA office; and **January 28, Kamloops**, location TBA. Spouses are welcome. To register email Corina Somerville corina@bcpvpa.bc.ca



Free Pension seminars from the Teachers' Pension Plan

Information/Registration: <http://bit.ly/2coRvxC>

Making the Most of Your Pension (2 hrs) (formerly *Your Pension, Your Future*)

Are you mid-career?

Maximize your pension by understanding how the decisions you make throughout your career can affect your pension when you retire

Approaching Retirement (1.5 hrs) (formerly *Thinking About Retiring*)

Are you approaching retirement?

Understand the important decisions you need to make about your pension

Leadership Opportunities continues next page

Surrey invites applications for District Principal, Student Services, with a primary focus on supporting all learners through a universal design model. Applications are due by 12 noon, Sept 26. <http://bit.ly/2cwnBFi>

Vancouver invites applications for elementary principals. "In this critical leadership position, you will work alongside the district management team in aligning school goals with district direction ... spearhead sustainable initiatives to improve student achievement and create a safe and caring school culture. Fostering an environment of instructional excellence based on research and best practices will be high on your list of priorities." Applications should be received by 4:30 pm Sept 30. <http://bit.ly/1orihGA>

Click to join the BCPVPA's 3470+ followers on Twitter for short timely updates.



Leadership Opportunities
from previous page

Burnaby is seeking secondary principals and vice-principals with a “track record of success and experience working in an urban, culturally diverse community,” in anticipation of future vacancies. Applications are due by 4 pm, Oct 10. <http://bit.ly/1UeN59Q>

Central Okanagan invites applications for VPs at the elementary, middle, and secondary levels, plus dual track English/French immersion. Apply by 4 pm, Oct 21. <http://bit.ly/2cp8ShU>

Arts education professional learning

Stand Out! Putting Learning on the Centre Stage through the Performing Arts is a full-day learning experience for teachers on Friday, October 21 at the ArtStarts Gallery in Vancouver. This event will explore arts integration as an approach to teaching and include hands-on, skills-based workshops in the arts. The workshops will be followed by a plenary conversation, facilitated by educator Leanne Ewen, on how we can immediately put these newly learned art skills into action in the classroom. Learn more and register online at <http://bit.ly/1YcZcpU>

BC Green Games registration opens October 1

Science World's eco-storytelling contest opens October 1. Through the BC Green Games program, students and teachers connect with professional mentorship, new curriculum links, and a science centre field trip for all participants. Information: <https://www.bcgreengames.ca/contest>

Outstanding Principals
deadline is October 31

Canada's Outstanding Principals honours principals from across Canada who demonstrate innovation and entrepreneurial spirit. Recipients are brought to Toronto to attend a five-day executive leadership training program at the Rotman School of Management. Nominations for this year's program close on Oct 31. For information visit <http://bit.ly/2bMXTw4>

Ministry Resources

Ministry Outreach Team: As the K-9 curriculum is launched and the 10-12 curriculum is available in draft for feedback, the Outreach Team will work to support districts around the redesigned curriculum, assessment, and reporting. For information on presentations and/or facilitated discussions contact Suzanne Hoffman at Suzanne.Hoffman@gov.bc.ca or 604-418-5287.

Curriculum Implementation: Teachers looking for instructional examples to support the implementation of BC's new K-9 curriculum can access teacher-created instructional examples which are now posted on the Ministry's Building Student Success website. Searchable by grade and subject area, examples illustrate how teachers can design their instruction with clear connections to the Big Ideas, Learning Standards, and Core Competencies. First Peoples Principles of Learning and content are also included in some examples. Additional instructional examples will be posted on the website through Sept at <http://bit.ly/2cpdlB5>

Planning Ahead the Association's guide to
upcoming professional learning events is published in the 1st issue of the month



**Encorp
Return-It School
Program**



The Return-It School Program provides free recycling resources and support for all BC schools, while helping to educate students about the importance of recycling. There are two ways your school can participate. Sign up as a Certified Return-It School and get access to free educational resources, displays, presentations and beverage container collections bins. Alternately, you can sign up in the Return-It School Contest, competing against other schools across BC. You'll receive all the recycling resources you'll need to start collecting containers, with a chance to win bonus cash prizes. And regardless of how your school participates, you'll get to keep all the deposit refunds from the containers you collect. Learn more at: <http://bit.ly/1v1y53t>

**'The rule of law'
essay contest for students**

Open to secondary students who have taken, or are currently enrolled in, Law 12 or Civic Studies 11.

The Law Society of BC sponsors an essay contest for BC secondary students to reaffirm the significance of the rule of law and to enhance students' knowledge and willingness to participate actively in civic life. Essays should demonstrate an understanding of the rule of law, its principles, and its significance in civil society. The winner and runner-up will awarded \$1,000 and \$500, respectively. Both winners will be invited to an awards presentation event in Vancouver. For details visit <http://bit.ly/2bCfXMB>

Deadline for submissions is April 10.

**Connecting Landscapes for Learning
Learning Forward's 2016 Annual Conference**

Vancouver • December 3-7

Learning Forward's 2016 annual conference in Vancouver, December 3 to 7, provides educators with content and tools to bring powerful forms of professional learning back home. Participants will gain practical solutions to challenges and learn strategies to build school leader capacity. Innovative practitioners will present in more than 350 concurrent sessions on topics including social emotional learning; developing or shifting mindsets; visible learning; teacher leadership; quality feedback; presentation and facilitation skills; program evaluation; Aboriginal education; and more. Among the presenters are Tom Guskey and Joellen Killion; Tom Hierck; Marcia Tate; Jim Knight; Anthony Muhammad; and Linda Kaser and Judy Halbert.

A 20% International Group Discount (for 10 or more people) will be offered through October 1. This discount will apply to registrations for one through five days and can be taken on multi-day registrations of three or more days or more, in conjunction with the early discount of \$50.

Information <http://bit.ly/2bGHLg6>



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Address, position, or school
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**President Kevin Reimer on
funding, leadership
& fairness**

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<http://bcpvpa.bc.ca/president/>



As the school year progresses I hope that you, your staff, and students have settled into the return to school routines. This week, I had the great pleasure of visiting the Boundary and Burnaby school districts (*I am not visiting districts in alphabetical order in case you were wondering*) to hear about the exciting things happening in their districts. In next week's eNEWS I will share some of the highlights from those visits.

Earlier this week, I had the opportunity to represent the BCPVPA in a presentation to The Select All-party Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services. This committee holds province-wide public consultations on the next provincial budget. In preparing for our presentation (<http://bit.ly/2cz90JS>), the BCPVPA Board of Directors chose to make three recommendations to the committee:

That government institute a comprehensive review of education funding in British Columbia

Our belief is that the ongoing, and at times heated, debate over the adequacy of public education funding from a variety of stakeholders continues to erode public confidence in our exemplary system. We emphasized that the funding review should consider all aspects of funding, including student populations who face challenges, societal issues that impact learning, the geography and economic diversity of the province, as well as the impact of the transformational learning agenda that has been undertaken by the Ministry of Education.

That the Ministry of Education work with the BCPVPA and other partner groups to develop, fund, and implement a strategic approach to leadership in the K-12 system

Through my provincial and territorial connections with the Canadian Association of Principals it is clear that BC is one of only three provinces or territories that does not have a formalized approach to leadership development within public education. While we are encouraged that the Ministry has invited us to be a part of the newly-formed Leadership Development Working Group we know that there is a great deal to be done to develop a strategic, fully-resourced plan to support educational leadership in the province.

That government fund the cost of total compensation improvements for principals and vice-principals and removes the inequities in benefits packages between union and exempt staff

At the conclusion of my presentation there was an opportunity for me to answer questions from the MLAs that comprise the committee. Those questions were centered around their understanding of the compensation frustrations for principals and vice-principals. In the few minutes that I had, I tried to impress upon them the history of wage freezes and union contracts that

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2016 — 2017
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Address, position, or school
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<http://bit.ly/1O2vhMq>

have over the last decade created this significant *total* (wages and benefits) compensation imbalance between school leaders and the people that they lead. The committee members asked about examples and stories from the field to illustrate the extent of the concerns around compression/inversion and recruitment/retention.

I shared as many stories as I could from the field, and one that was personal. I informed the committee that I am married to an award-winning Kindergarten teacher and there are countless reasons why I am thankful that I am married to her. However, my reason for sharing my marital status was to inform them that my wife’s benefits plan, as a BCTF member, is better than mine, as a manager, and, in fact, the glasses that I wore when presenting to the committee were largely purchased through her benefits plan. While we both acknowledge our good fortune to have a benefits plan, it is easy to demonstrate that the union-based plan is superior to the management-based plan. I hoped that my glasses analogy provided a different lens for the committee members to look at the important investment that needs to be made in school leadership.

I will close my comments in eNews as I opened my comments to the committee. *Great schools have great principals and vice-principals.* To ensure that the province’s transformational public education agenda is achieved and public confidence is increased, then the best rate of return comes from investing in school leadership.

Have a great weekend, Kevin

\$10,000 scholarships for students in their final year of high school
deadline is October 25



The Horatio Alger Association of Canada provides \$650,000 annually in need-based scholarship support for deserving students. Scholarships of up to \$10,000 are awarded to full-time students in their final year of high school with financial need (family income less than \$65,000) who have demonstrated integrity and perseverance in overcoming adversity, a commitment to pursue a post-secondary education, a desire to contribute to society, and a good academic record. For information and to apply visit <http://bit.ly/2bCwM94>

Get connected/stay connected

BCPVPAEducator is the Association’s listserv and allows members to share their expertise and network with colleagues all across the province. This is an email-based service and membership currently stands at approximately 450. To subscribe email Richard Williams (rwilliams@bcpvpa.bc.ca).