



B.C. Principals' & Vice-Principals' Association

eNews

September 20, 2019

This Week in eNews

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A Message from BCPVPA President David DeRosa

On the Road Again

I can hear the sweet strains of Willie Nelson in my head: "On the road again ..."

I've said it before, but it bears repeating: the very best part of my role as President is the opportunity to be on the ground and to meet our members. I get to do that when we gather together at events, and I have the chance to breathe your air when I visit your communities.

This week I journeyed to the Central Coast, SD49, residing on the traditional territories of the Nuxalmc, Heiltsuk, and Wuikinuxv peoples. The district covers a vast area, and I landed in Bella Coola to be greeted at the airport by Dave, who was handing out keys from Bella Coola car rentals. But there were no cars to be seen: the #1 rental is the 4x4 Jeep Liberty... lots of colour choice though! It was a fun reminder that I just landed in the Great Bear Rain Forest!

My next stop was Bella Coola Elementary School where I was greeted by Principal Sharon Beloin. Sharon and I spoke about her transition to her role in the 'city', as she spent several years in Shearwater at a one-room school. She is now with students from Kindergarten to grade 4 at the only school in Bella Coola, and supervises both a Strong Start and a licensed day care centre. The kids are very excited about their new playground which is designed to be accessible for all.

I met with Sharon, Chapter President Kevin Gianakos and PLD representative Scott Barnes over dinner at Freddy's Restaurant in Bella Coola; I was sorry to miss Lela Walkus, who was out of town. It was a perfect opportunity to hear more about local contexts and how the responsibilities of these leaders connect them with their communities. This fulfils an important community value for all of them.

I began the next morning at Nusatsum Elementary in Hagensborg – just 'up the valley road' from Bella Coola – with Principal Kevin Gianakos. This is Kevin's second year at NES and his first year as Chapter President. An interesting personal connection: a good friend and former colleague of mine from Trail, Joel Tremblay, took over the teaching position at Shearwater on Denny Island when Kevin and his family made their move to Hagensborg.

NES is a Grade 5-7 school that was recently re-opened due to an increase in the student population. It's a close neighbour to the local high school, Sir Alexander MacKenzie Secondary, which is affectionately referred to as 'SAMS'. NES is even closer to the School Board office: the Superintendent's office is just down the hall from Kevin's.

After a visit and tour of the school, I met with Scott Barnes, Principal of SAMS. Scott is about 2 months into his new role and he is excited to be supporting staff and students in their 8-12 high school. One of the amazing strengths for both NES and SAMS is the close proximity to the extraordinary natural beauty of the Great Bear Rain Forest. The SAMS outdoor education class has created an outdoor classroom

that is also accessible for their neighbours at NES: sharing with each other and connecting with nature are consistent themes in this community.

I rounded out my visit with a chat with Superintendent Steve Dishkin. Steve is a former band teacher and he still enjoys engaging directly with the students in his schools. I was there on picture day and when it was time for the teachers to get their photos taken, Mr. Dishkin was off to help out! Steve and I talked about creating and sustaining opportunities for connection and networking and using BetterEducate.com to overcome the barriers of geography.

It was a beautiful day, and I could sense the relief at the airport terminal as the shuttle bus driver was told there was, '*no need to be on stand-by to run air passengers 'up the hill' to Anahim Lake*', as the plane was on its way. My visit to Bella Coola and Hagensborg came to a close with an iPad slideshow of Kathleen's new gazebo. Kathy is a long-time resident and at the airport for her sister-in-law's departure to Vancouver. When I return to Bella Coola, I have a standing invitation for tea.

Although the surrounding mountains, forest and waterways provide a stunning reminder of nature's beauty, it's the people of the Bella Coola valley that warmed my heart and made me feel at home.

Take Care,
David

David's Highlights

- *September 16-17 – Chapter Visit: Bella Coola SD49 (Central Coast)*
- *September 18 – BCPVPA Book Club – session 1*
- *September 19 – Leadership Standards & BetterEducate: Train the Trainer*
- *September 19 – Violence in Education Working Group Meeting*
- *September 19 – BCPVPA Board of Directors Teleconference*
- *September 20 – HELP Report CSL in BC*

On the Horizon

- *September 22-26 – Chapter Visits (Vancouver Island)*

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This Week's Highlight

PRESIDENT DAVID DEROSA WANTS TO COME TO YOUR COMMUNITY!

Chapter Presidents:

David would love to arrange a visit to meet with your members at an upcoming Chapter meeting. It's a great opportunity for your members to speak directly with the President about any concerns in your region, and to connect about your Chapter's ideas, goals and interests.

Please contact Sharon North sharon@bcpvpa.bc.ca to book your time: David still has times available to book in October, November and early December!



BCPVPA Updates

[Have you moved schools?](#)

If you have a new address, school or role this Fall, please use our online [contact forms](#)

Apply by September 27

Committee Opportunities

We have member opportunities on these committees:

Work Intensification and Wellbeing Advisory Committee
(Oct. 7th, 2019 / January 20, 2020)

Indigenous Leadership Advisory Committee
(Nov. 1, 2019 / February 10, 2020)

Budget Committee
(TBD - April, 2020)

Contract Advisory Committee
(Oct. 19-20, 2019 / January 23-24, 2020)

Apply here

Application deadline: September 27, 2019

BCPVPA Book Club

Thank you to our members who joined us on September 18 for the first BCPVPA Book Club, with a focus on Chapter 1 of Nuance by Michael Fullan. Carry on the conversation between Book Club meetings by using the hashtag #NuanceChat and tagging @bcpvpa!

If you would like to provide feedback about your Book Club experience, please email bookclub@bcpvpa.bc.ca

Next meeting is Wednesday October 16 at 7:30am PST: the link and guiding questions will be available in the October 11 eNews.

October 1 Registration Deadline - No Walk-Ins or Late Registration

Register Now for Connecting Leaders 2019

Cultivating a Climate of Leadership

Join us October 24 – 26 at the beautiful Penticton Lakeside Resort & Conference Centre for three days of connection, learning and discovery.

Our keynote speakers:

[Peter DeWitt](#)

Collaborative Leadership: 6 Influences That Matter Most

[Gabrielle Scrimshaw](#)

Reconciliation in Education: The Role Educational Leadership Plays in Transforming Canada

[Dr. John Chenoweth](#)

Finding Qwemqwam̓t: Re-storying Education For Indigenous People

There will be an amazing array of thought-provoking Breakout sessions, along with unparalleled opportunities for connecting with your colleagues.

[Register](#)

BCPVPA Retirement Seminars

Are you ready for retirement? Whether you are mid-career or in the final years of work, it's a great question to ask yourself. BCPVPA's Retirement Seminars address the question of retirement-readiness, the specifics of the Teachers' Pension Plan and any questions that you may have.

BCPVPA will offer two Retirement Seminar sessions at our Vancouver office:

Saturday September 28 – *there are still 11 spots available*

Saturday December 14 – *seminar is full, but a waitlist option has been added*

[Register for the Metro Vancouver Seminars](#)

Please contact emily@bcpvpa.bc.ca if you have any questions.

BetterEducate

Have you checked out BetterEducate's new dashboard? [Visit the site](#), click on the BCPVPA members icon and sign up for your free membership with the promo code **Bcpvpa123**.

Early Intervention Program (EIP)

The BCPVPA is pleased to announce that the Early Intervention Program (EIP) expands province-wide effective September 2019. The EIP is a professional support service provided by the BCPVPA at no cost to you and is completely voluntary and confidential. The program supports BCPVPA Benefits Plan members experiencing health-related personal and/or professional challenges.

[Find out more](#)

Leading a Culture of Learning: Level 1

Leading a Culture of Learning: Level 1 is an eight-month learning experience supporting leading learning through focused dialogue that is grounded in a clear vision, all to enhance a culture of learning in your school.

2019/2020 cohorts in Salmon Arm:

LCL Level 1 – Day 1: Friday, October 18, 2019

LCL Level 1 – Day 2: Saturday, October 19, 2019

LCL Level 1 – Day 3: Friday, November 15, 2019

LCL Level 1 – Day 4: Friday, February 7, 2020

LCL Level 1 – Day 5: Monday, April 20, 2020

[Register](#)

Contact amorie@bcpvpa.bc.ca

Leading a Culture of Learning: Level 2

Leading a Culture of Learning Level 2 is a five-day program over seven months that offers a practical extension to LCL 1.

2019/2020 cohorts in Metro Vancouver and Comox

[Register](#)

Contact amorie@bcpvpa.bc.ca

PowerPoint Template: The Role of the Principal in Your Child's School

The BCPVPA has a new resource, a PowerPoint presentation template that you can edit and adapt as a presentation for your own PAC meetings or other school events.

It can be challenging to communicate the scope of a Principal's work to the many contacts in our networks and to support their understanding of the responsibilities

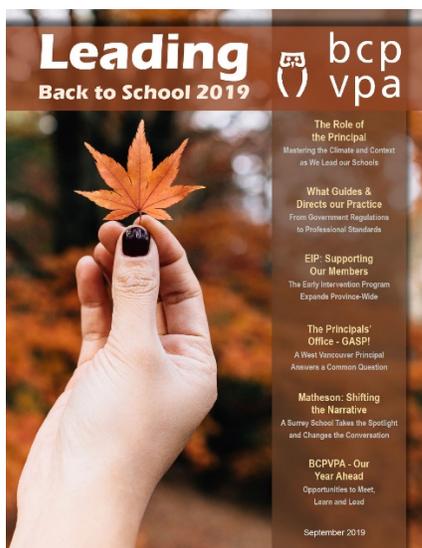
of the Principal in their school – this template gives you an opportunity to introduce yourself and your staff, provide an overview of the public education framework in BC and elaborate on your expertise and what is important to you.

The PowerPoint includes notes for each slide to help you to modify images and messaging. We hope that you find this resource to be helpful!

[Download the PowerPoint](#)

BCPVPA – Leading: Back to School

The BCPVPA welcomes our members back with a new annual digital publication [Leading: Back to School](#), a Fall guide packed with information, tips, ideas and inspiration for the year ahead.



BCPVPA Student Scholarships: Applications now closed

Thank you to everyone who applied for the BCPVPA Student Scholarships!

BCPVPA Webinar Series

We're excited about the upcoming BCPVPA Fall Webinar Series: we have an exceptional line-up, and more details will be available soon.

To view the webinars from our past series, visit bcpvpa.bc.ca/webinars.

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Member & Partner News

NEW

Free Pension Education

Online learning and workshops

Teachers' Pension Plan

[Find learning resources](#)

Free pension education

Getting to Know Your Pension

15 minutes of online learning for
new or potential plan members



Making the Most of Your Pension

45 minutes of online learning or
a 2-hour workshop for members
establishing their career or several
years away from retirement



Approaching Retirement

2-hour workshop for
members planning for or
within 5 years of retirement



Whether you take online learning or attend a workshop, you'll get the information you need to prepare for your future pension.

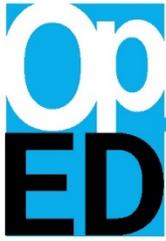
tpp.pensionsbc.ca > [Learning resources](#)



tpp.pensionsbc.ca Email: tppeducation@pensionsbc.ca Toll-free (Canada/U.S.): 1-877-558-5574

2004-029 TPP ARET MMYP ELEARN 2019.06.28

NEW BLOG



Charles Ungerleider

Will funding school boards for better school outcomes work? The panel advising the Alberta government on finance thinks so, but Charles Ungerleider is more skeptical. Read his take on the issue in his new blog [On.Education.Canada](#)

Charles Ungerleider is a Professor Emeritus of Education at The University of British Columbia and Managing Partner at Directions Evidence and Policy Research Group. *The views, thoughts and opinions expressed in the OpED articles are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views, policy or position of the BCPVPA.*

3rd Character Abbotsford Conference

Friday October 25, 8am - 4pm

Abbotsford Arts Centre and Abbotsford Senior Secondary

Keynote speakers: Mike Smith and Barb Stegemann

Learn from empowering leaders and organizations that have a proven ability to build community in their cities, schools, businesses, teams and neighborhoods.

Breakout sessions include *"Character in the Midst of Crisis: The Abbotsford Senior Story"* by Rob Comeau, Principal of Abbotsford Senior School, and one of Canada's Outstanding Principals.

[Tickets](#)

[Website](#)

BC Teachers' Council – Professional Standards for BC Educators

The BCTC has an update on their new Professional Standards for BC Educators: the BCTC has collaborated with the Ministry of Education, Corporate Communications Team to graphically design a version of the new Professional Standards document, along with a poster and handout. You can find the print-ready documents at these links:

[Professional Standards for BC Educators](#)

[Professional Standards Poster](#)

[Professional Standards Handout](#)

UFV CE Psychological First Aid Course

This course is for those who require in-depth knowledge and techniques to recognize and assist people in crisis after experiencing loss, grief, trauma, and stress, with an emphasis on self-care and personal protection.

ABBOTSFORD — CLEARBROOK CENTRE

Saturday Oct 5 8:30 am-4 pm or Saturday Nov 30 8:30 am-4 pm

Find the description and resources on [BetterEducate](#)

UFV offers team training opportunities – [find out more](#)

BCRPVPA Scholarships: Deadline Approaching!

The BC Retired PVPA annually awards up to five \$1000 scholarships to students who are graduating from the BC public school system and who will proceed to an accredited post-secondary institution in Canada. Students can apply to BC Retired PVPA Scholarships even if they have applied for a scholarship with the BCPVPA. Completed applications must be postmarked by September 30.

[Find out more](#)

BCRPVPA Membership Opportunities

The trouble with retirement is that you never get a day off – Abe Lemons

Are you or a colleague thinking of retirement soon? Please check the BC Retired Principals' & Vice-Principals' Association [website](#) for benefits offered to retired members, such as affinity, health & travel insurance, prestige coverage, pensions & other topics of interest, and you will also find a mail-in application form on the site. The BCRPVPA looks forward to hearing from you if retirement is in your near future!

[Contact us](#)

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NEW

**SD 73, Kamloops-Thompson
Assistant Superintendent (Elementary)**

Closing date is September 27, 2019

[Find out more](#)

**SD 62, Sooke
Principal, Royal Bay Secondary School**

Closing date is October 3, 2019

bit.ly/2kcwCuG

James Cameron Elementary School, Maple Ridge

Operated by the Fraser Valley Society for Children with Learning Disabilities

Principal

Posted until filled

[Find out more](#)

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The Deputy Minister's Bulletin

[Read the Deputy Minister's Bulletin for the week of September 16, 2019](#)

Your BCPVPA Board of Directors 2019-2020

President David DeRosa (Kootenay-Columbia)

dderosa@bcpvpa.bc.ca

President-Elect Darren Danyluk (Rocky Mountain)

darren.danyluk@sd6.bc.ca

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bcpvpa.bc.ca/enews



David DeRosa

President



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